

VIOLENCE AND DISORDER IN MCEVOY PARK -COMMUNITY RELATIONS SQUAD-

The Team:

CPD's Community Relations Unit, CPD Special Projects, CPD District Three
Cincinnati Parks Staff,
Cincinnati Recreation Commission

Scan:

McEvoy Park is located on the northern edge of Cincinnati, in the College Hill neighborhood. It is a 27-acre park, comprised mostly of grass and meadowlands. Park amenities include a sheltered picnic area, play equipment, and athletic fields. Loud noise and disorder were common complaints. Occasionally, there were reports of shots fired nearby. A youth football leader reached out to the police and asked for help, as they wanted to ensure a safer environment for youth while practicing football.



Analysis:

Community Relations Unit officers visited the space and noticed physical design problems, such as inadequate lighting, parking, and disorganization in drop-off and pick-up.

Responses:

- 1) D3 increased directed patrols in the area
- 2) Officers worked to improve management of the space and reset expectations.
 - a. Vending issues were addressed
 - b. Standards were reset re: open container and low-level public disorder
- 3) Officers worked to build a positive relationship with youth and with parents.
- 4) CPD made recommendations for signage, lighting improvements, and traffic flow.

Assessment:

Anecdotaly, officers found that relationship between youth and parents engaged in football programming improved.

Safety considerations for youth football programming in Cincinnati is part of a larger, ongoing discussion, which includes encouraging organizers to more closely communicate and coordinate with partners to ensure a safe and healthy experience for participants.

