

Blueprint for Action: Minneapolis' Public Health Approach to Youth Violence Prevention

*Violence Prevention and Control: Theory, Research, and
Application PubH 6123*

Presentation by:

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Cycle of Violence

The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral.....Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars.

*Darkness cannot drive out darkness:
only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.*

*Dr. Martin Luther King Jr
Strength to Love (1963)*

Minneapolis: A Violent Landscape

- From 2003-2006, approximately 80 Minneapolis residents between the ages of 15 and 24 years died as a result of homicide.
- Homicide was the leading cause of death for Minneapolis residents in this age group, accounting for almost half of all deaths.

Minneapolis: A Violent Landscape - Continued

- During that same period, firearm related injuries for youth ages 8-24 increased from 106 to 159 per year.
- Incidents of juvenile violent crime increased in successive years from 687 in 2003 to 766 in 2006.

Recalibrating the Response: Adopting a Public Health Lens

- Policymakers recognized that an exclusive law enforcement response was not sufficient
- Minneapolis City Council Resolution 2006R-571 declared youth violence as a public health problem
- Resolution treats youth violence as a preventable disease
- Resolution mandates a multi-faceted long term solution, focusing on prevention

Public Health Approach: Six Parts

- Community-based methods to identify causes
 - Identifying risk factors and protective factors
 - Tracking trends that influence the prevalence and incidence of risk factors
 - Research-based Interventions (environment/behavioral)
 - Evaluation of interventions
 - Public Education to share information
- 

Prevention Strategies: 3 levels

- Primary or universal prevention
- Secondary or selective prevention
- Tertiary or targeted prevention

Mechanics to the Development of Blueprint

- A series of community wide events were convened to engage youth and residents
- Staff researched best practices as the foundation of strategies while also including ideas that emerged from the community
- Violence prevention experts were consulted and provided valuable counsel and feedback
- Advisory committees created to ensure community feedback

Building on Research and Existing Resources

- Adopted public health research and examples of proven efforts that demonstrated best practices
- Existing resources were modified to serve as building blocks for key strategies in blueprint
 - JSC, Youth are Here Buses, SRO's, Step Up

Community Based Executive Committee

- Ed Anderson, CUB Broadway
- Peter Benson, Search Institute
- Dale Blyth, Extension Center for Youth Development
- David Cress, North Memorial Health Care
- Timothy Dolan (ex-officio,)City of Minneapolis
- Eloisa Echavez, La Oportunidad
- Cam Gordon, City of Minneapolis
- William Green, Minneapolis Public Schools
- Frederick Huballa, Student
- Karen Kelley-Ariwoola, The Minneapolis Foundation
- Lydia Lee, Minneapolis Public Schools
- Richard Mammen, Minneapolis Park & Recreation
- Sharif Mohamed, Dar Al Hijrah Cultural Center
- Gary Reiersen, Greater Mpls. Council of Churches
- R.T.Rybak, City of Minneapolis
- Sondra Samuels, PEACE Foundation
- Efrem Smith, Sanctuary Covenant Church
- V. J. Smith, MAD DADS Minneapolis Chapter
- Mark Stenglein, Hennepin County
- Mai Moua Vang, Student
- Bill Ziegler, Little Earth of United Tribes

Blueprint Neighborhoods 2008-2009

- Folwell
- McKinley
- Jordan
- Hawthorne



Outcome: 4 Primary Objectives & 34 Supporting Strategies

- Connect youth to trusted adults
- Intervene at the first sign of risk
- Restore youth going down the wrong path
- Unlearn the culture of violence

Objective #1: Connecting with Adults

- Increase the number of quality mentoring opportunities for young people, along with proper training for mentors of all ages and backgrounds.
- Increase the number of private businesses providing jobs through the City of Minneapolis STEP-UP.
- Strengthen the coordination of public and private youth programs, services and opportunities.
- Increase the number of high-quality community-based youth programs, services and opportunities, including leadership training.
- Reestablish Minneapolis Police liaisons in Public Schools to give young people opportunities to build positive relationships with the Minneapolis Police and to strengthen coordination between schools, parks and police.
- Provide year-round youth buses.
- Give young people safe spaces for activities during out-of-school times by increasing the hours when Library, Park and School buildings are open.
- Provide young people with consistent, effective and meaningful violence prevention training by developing a shared curriculum and coordinated training program for the Minneapolis Libraries, Parks, and Schools.
- Increase the number of training and support programs for parents of teens.
- Increase teenage pregnancy prevention programs in Minneapolis.
- Reduce the number of second children to teen parents by connecting every teen parent with health, education and parenting resources.

Objective #2: Intervening at Early Signs of Risky Behavior

- Expand summer employment programs for at-risk youth and youth already in the justice system.
- Establish the juvenile supervision and service center and maintain the Minneapolis Police Department's juvenile unit.
- Develop a standard protocol for parks, schools and health care facilities in the aftermath of critical violent incidents.
- Establish and promote a youth help line to give young people a safe, confidential way to report trouble or seek help.
- Support alternatives to suspension and expulsion in Minneapolis schools.
- Increase the capacity of Hennepin County's truancy intervention program for students with mental health and chemical dependency issues.
- Create specific mentor programs for young people with an incarcerated parent.
- Expand street level outreach, including bold door-to-door outreach that engages families and re-connects youth exhibiting risky behavior with quality education and employment opportunities.

Objective #3: Restoring Youth

- Better coordinate different parts of the juvenile justice system to support young offenders.
- Expand the scope and increase the funding of juvenile probation to better integrate young offenders back into the community.
- Implement a comprehensive assessment tool that identifies a juvenile's mental health and related needs and connects them to available services without risking self-incrimination.
- Expand restorative justice programs for youth offenders.
- Ensure that each youth returning from out of home placement has a comprehensive plan to re-enter their community.
- Develop relevant and culturally appropriate rites of passage to support a more comprehensive process for youth offenders to re-enter the community.

Objective #4: Unlearning the Culture Violence

- Work with local experts and youth to develop a local public education campaign to ensure that young people and our entire community see their roles and responsibilities in stopping violence, while providing the knowledge and tools to reduce violence and safely intervene when violence occurs.
- Recognize that youth violence is a national problem and Minneapolis should lead the discussion by partnering with other mayors and leaders in other cities to form a national coalition against youth violence.
- Support sensible illegal gun laws and work to change community values around the acceptance of guns. This includes seeking stronger penalties for people who sell and distribute illegal guns, and profit from the sale and distribution of illegal guns to young people.

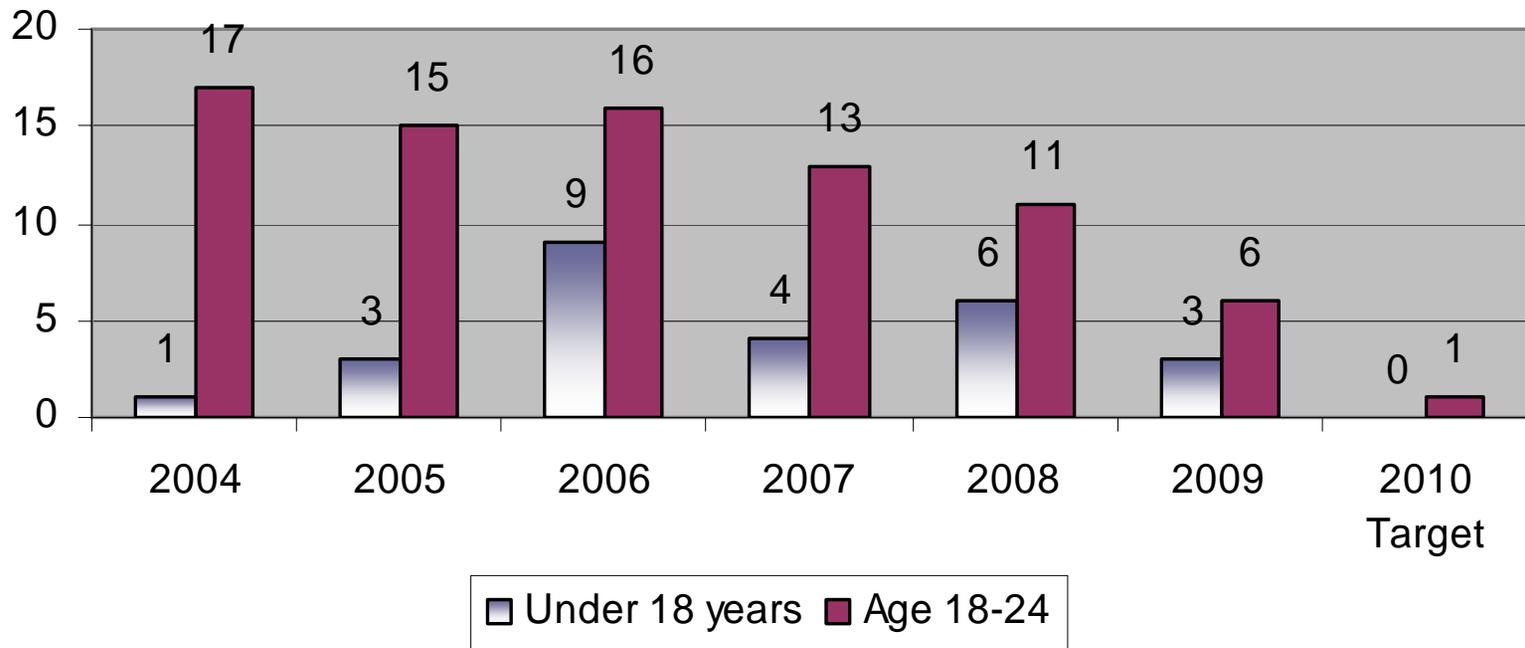
Measuring Progress

Indicators of the Blueprint:

- Homicide Victims (Ages 15-24)
- Aggravated Assaults (Ages 0-24)
- Simple Assault Arrests (Ages 0-24)
- Curfew/Truancy Pickups
- Weapons Possession Arrests (Ages 0-24)
- Teenage Pregnancy (Ages 15-17)
- High School Graduation Rates

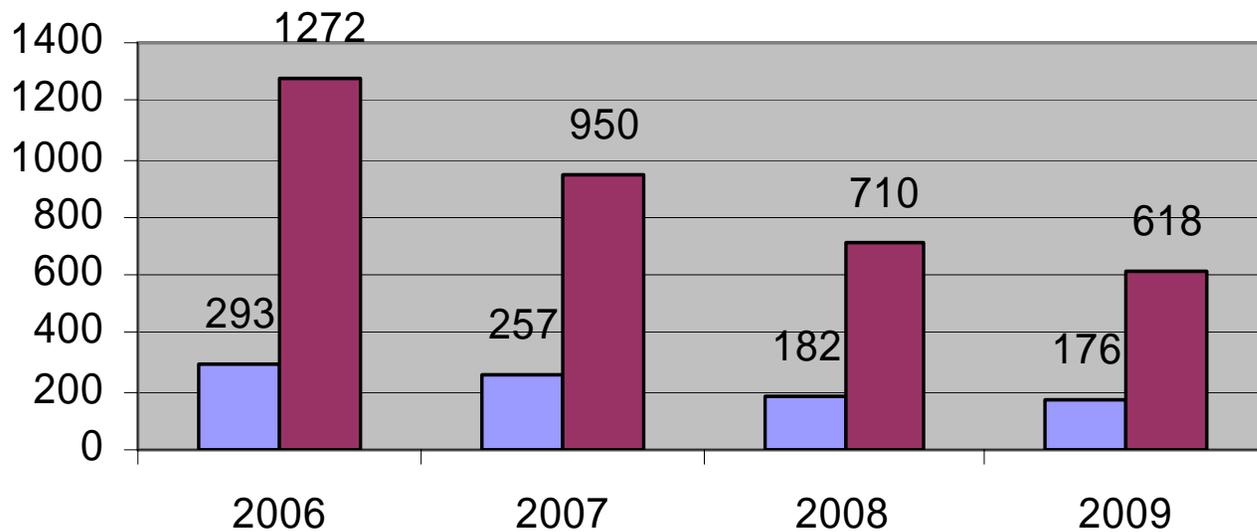
Juvenile Homicides

Homicides Occurring in Minneapolis (2004-2009)



Juvenile Violent Crime

Juvenile arrestees and suspects



■ Juvenile Violent Crime Arrestees ■ Juvenile Violent Crime Suspects

Aggravated Assault Arrests

Indicator 2: Aggravated Assault Arrests

Number of Arrests for Aggravated Assault

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Under 18 years	133	99	116	104	70	80
Age 18-24	238	254	221	199	212	240
Total 24 and under	371	353	337	303	282	320

Source: Minneapolis Police Department.

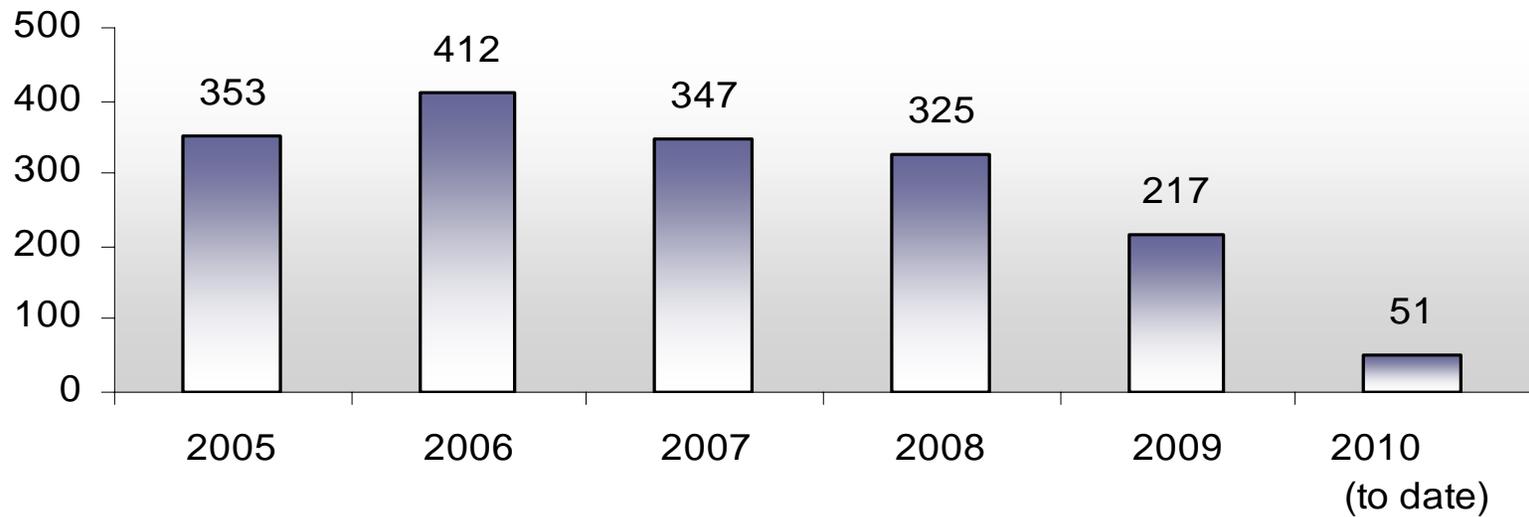
Indicator 3: Simple Assault Arrests

Number of Arrests for Simple Assault

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Under 18 years	675	621	653	417	297	300
Age 18-24	588	560	564	621	579	519
Total 24 and under	1263	1161	1217	1038	876	819

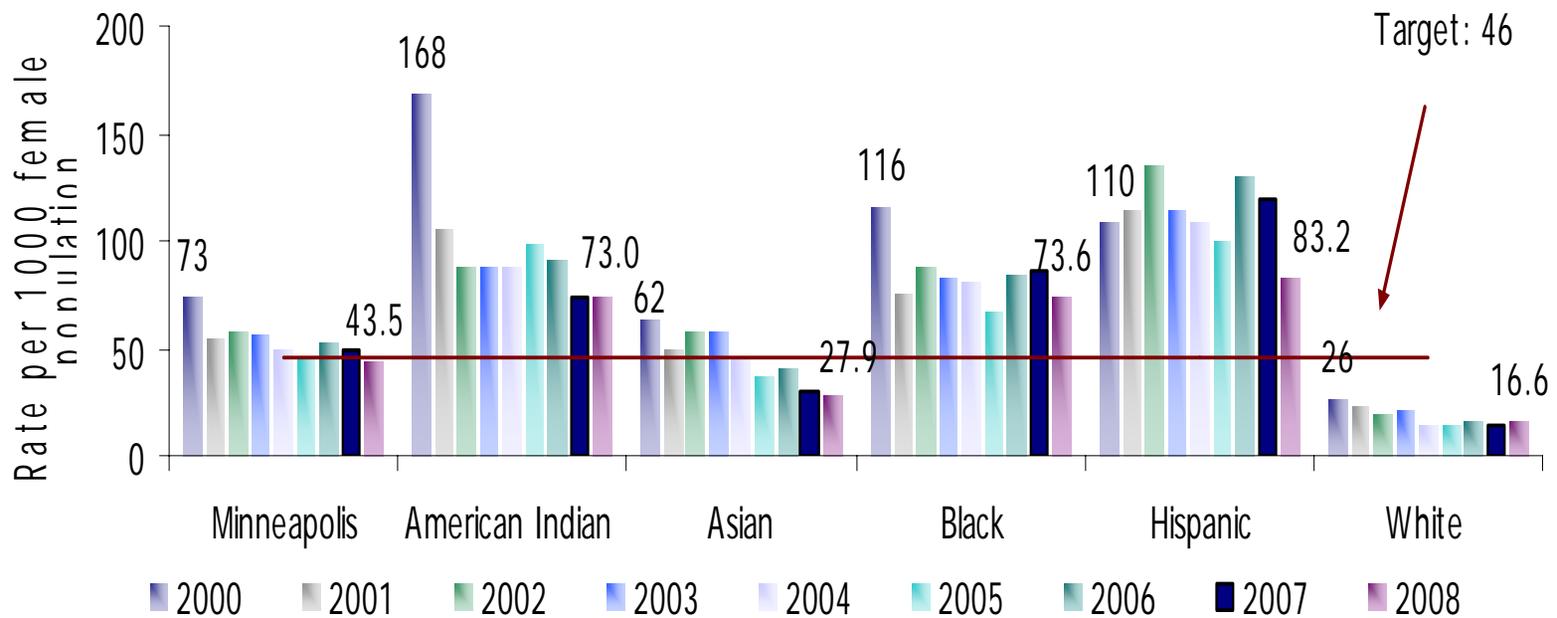
Incidents Involving Guns and Juveniles

**Incidents Involving Guns and Juveniles,
Any Role (2003-2009)**



Teenage Pregnancy

Minneapolis teen pregnancy rates by race/ethnicity during 1999-2008 (age 15-17)



Curfew/Truancy Violations 2008

Total Number of Juveniles brought to the Juvenile Supervision Center (JSC)

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Unduplicated number of juveniles brought to Juvenile Supervision Center (JSC)	200	194	226	223	227	185	179	153	113	157	131	105	2093
Total duplicated number of juveniles brought to Juvenile Supervision Center (JSC)	208	220	273	304	315	248	241	217	162	243	192	177	2800

Curfew/Truancy Violations 2009

Total Number of Juveniles brought to the Juvenile Supervision Center (JSC)

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Unduplicated number of juveniles brought to Juvenile Supervision Center (JSC)	209	279	270	212	235	142	114	109	120	90	114	99	1993
Total duplicated number of juveniles brought to Juvenile Supervision Center (JSC)	222	317	353	281	355	223	196	169	193	154	184	155	2802

Graduation Rates

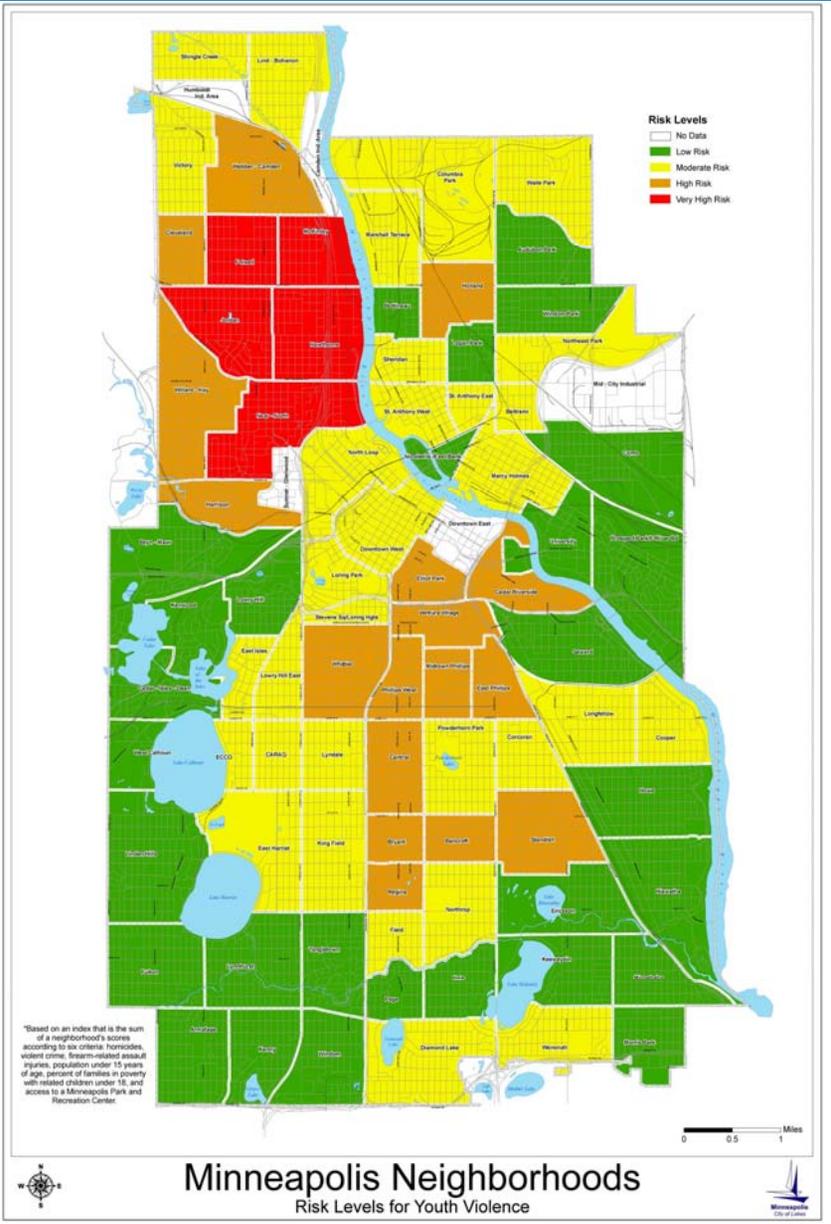
Minneapolis Public Schools Graduation Rate¹

➤ Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
➤ %	56.82	52.8	54.51	60.69	72.8

¹This does not include students attending alternative, charter, or private schools.

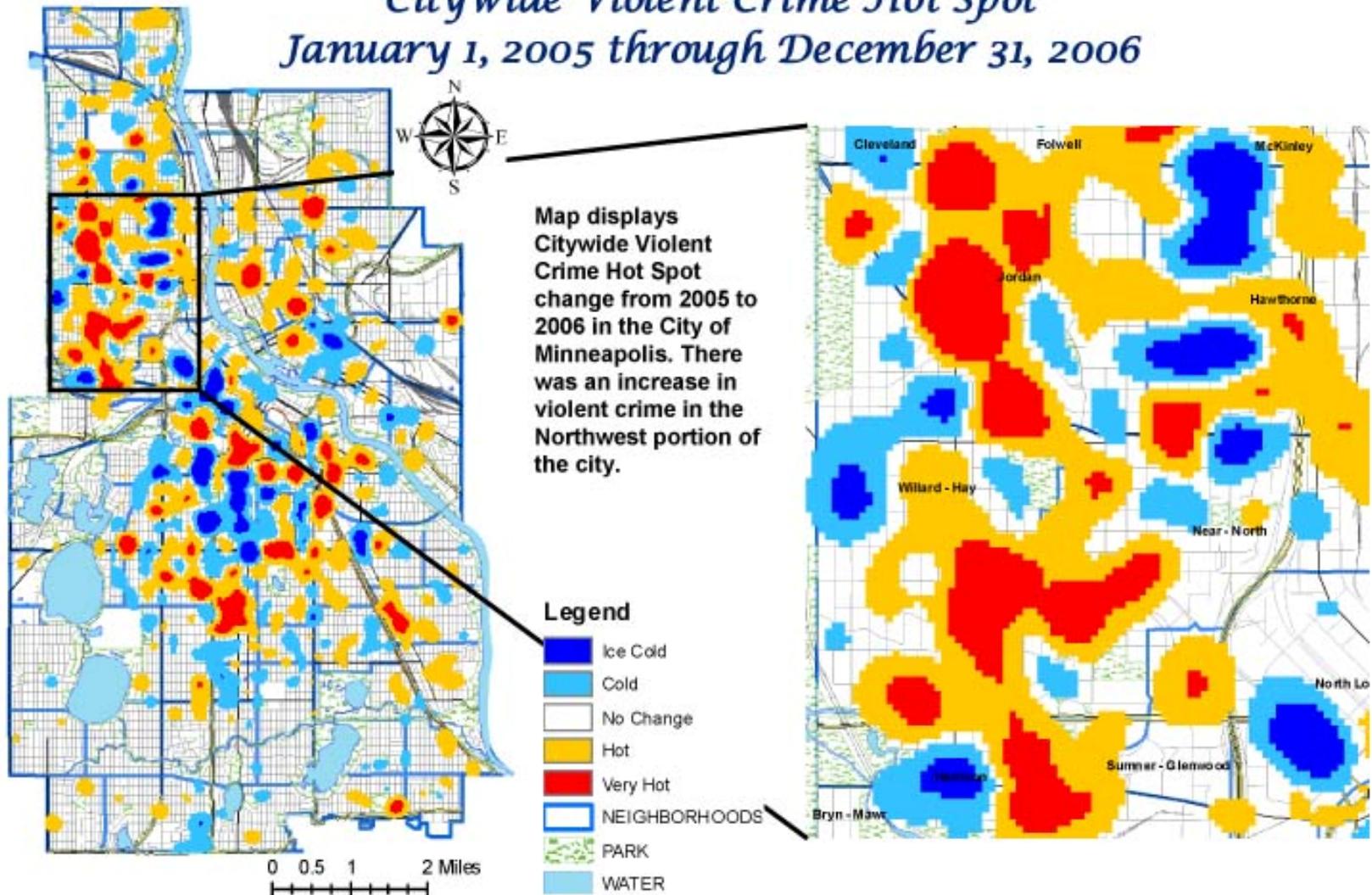
Evolution of Blueprint: New Neighborhoods and Partnerships 2010

- (Holland)
- (Cedar Riverside)
- (**Hawthorne, McKinley**)
- (**Folwell**, Webber-Camden, Cleveland)
- (**Jordan**, Willard-Hay, Near North, Harrison)
- (Whittier, Phillips West, Ventura Village)
- (Central, Bryan, Regina, Bancroft)
- (East Phillips)
- (Standish)

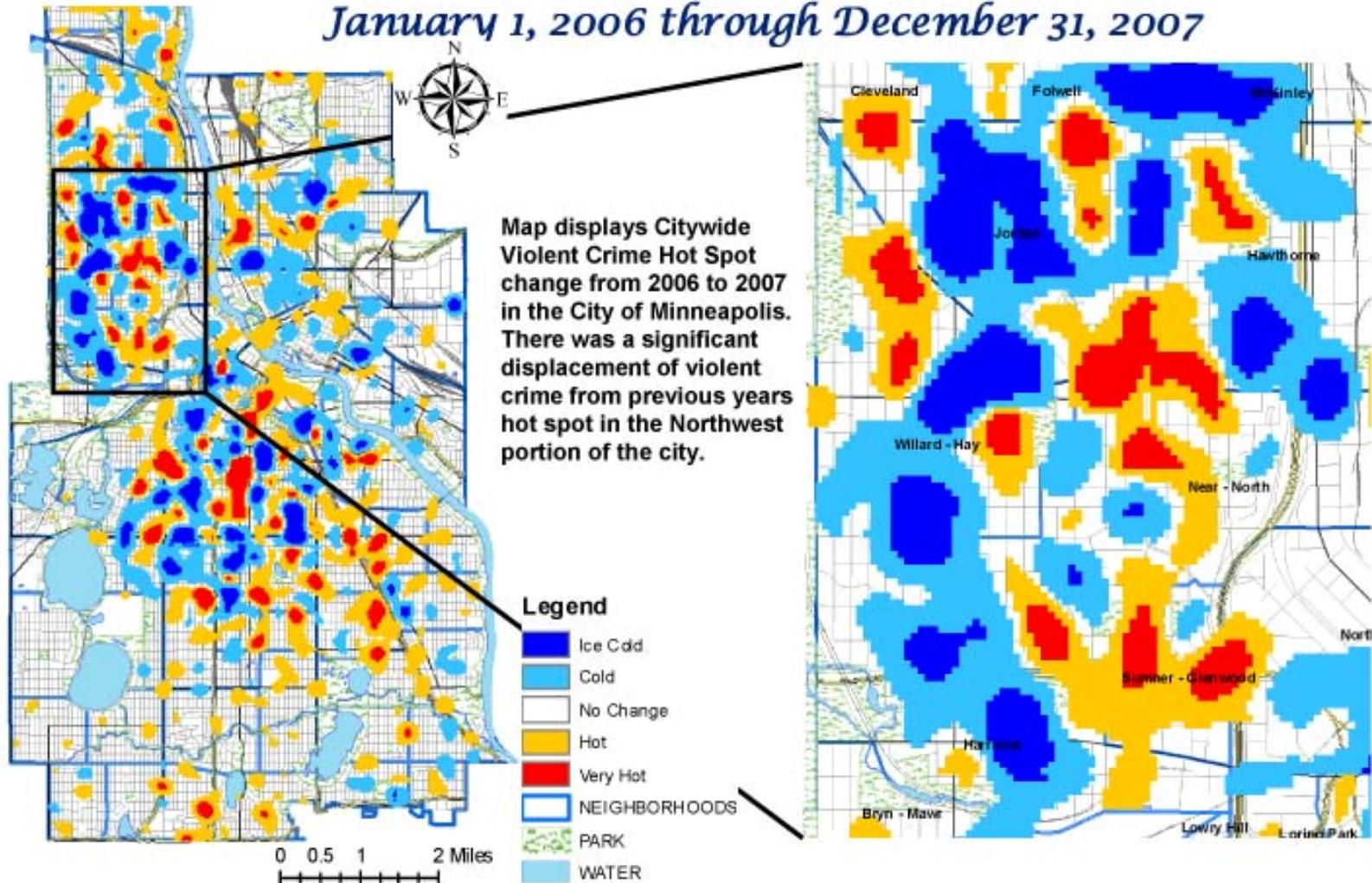


MINNEAPOLIS POLICE · CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT
STRATEGIC INFORMATION & CRIME MANAGEMENT DIVISION

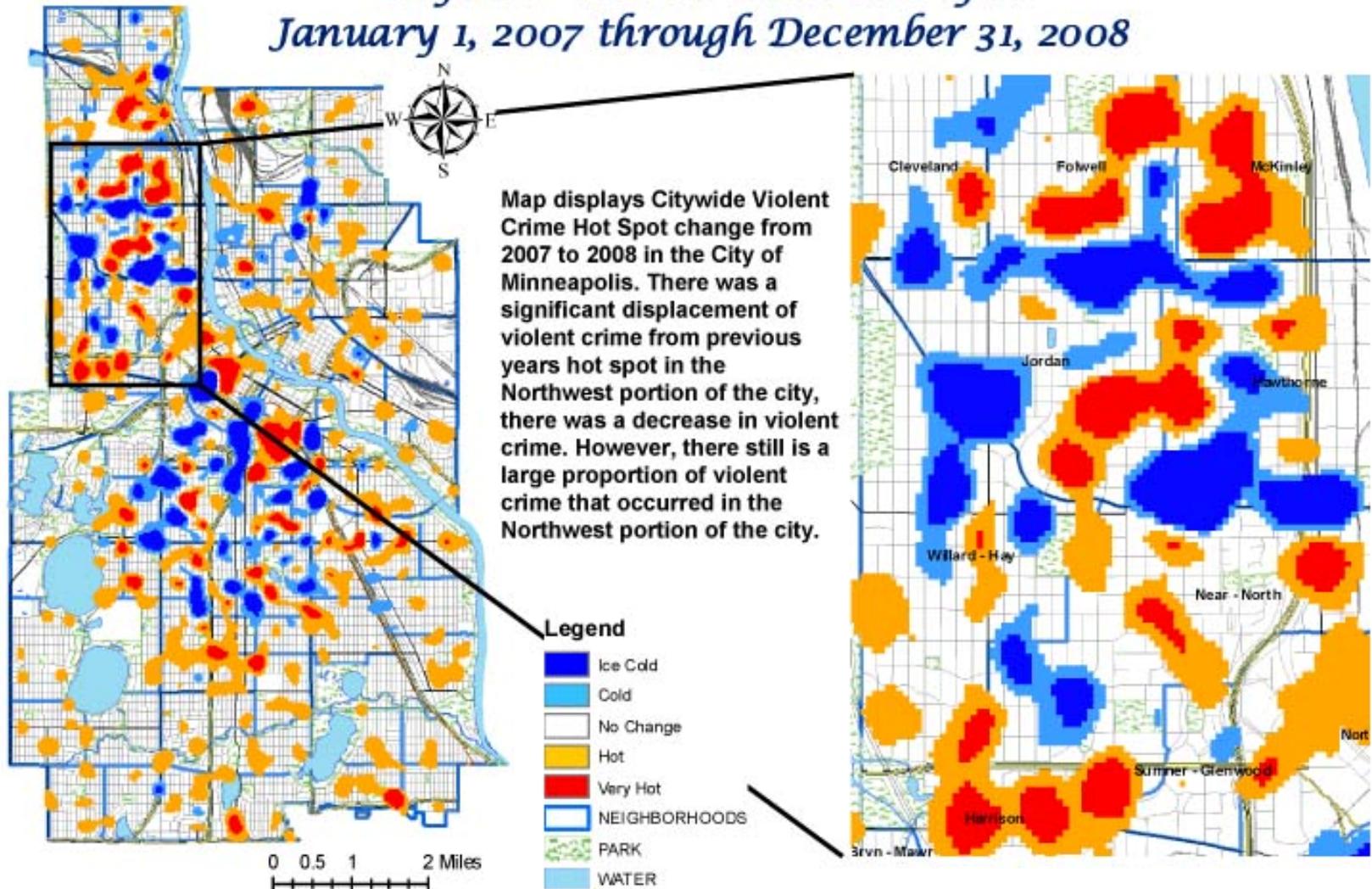
*Citywide Violent Crime Hot Spot
January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2006*



Citywide Violent Crime Hot Spot January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2007



Citywide Violent Crime Hot Spot January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2008



Innovation Through Community Partnerships

- StreetReach – Minneapolis Parks and Police
- Speak Up Minneapolis – Minneapolis Public Schools, Minneapolis Foundation
- Minneapolis Youth Violence Intervention Program (MY VIP) – HCMC and North Memorial
- Engagement Zones/Center of Excellence for Youth Violence – University of Minnesota

Legislative Activity

- H.F. 1328 Youth Violence Prevention Act of 2009
- Congressional Field Hearing
- Federal Priorities 2010
 - Amending the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act
 - Health and Human Service Funding Stream
 - **Creation of White House Council on Youth Violence Prevention**
 - Expansion of funding for Centers of Excellence on Violence Prevention

For more information:

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