

Property Crime Initiative

Protect. Serve. Care.



Property crime has been the most sustained crime problem in Eugene for at least 10 years. The Eugene Police Property Crime Initiative will focus police resources to reduce the incidence of property crimes (Burglary, Theft of Vehicles and Theft from Vehicles). By instituting “Data-led Policing,” Eugene will change the way we make police deployment and operational decisions to better coordinate efforts to reduce problems plaguing our community.

Data-led Policing is used by agencies across the country to address their particular crime problems and Crime Analysis is at the core of Eugene’s efforts. By effectively analyzing crime, we will ensure police managers have information to direct officers to where crime is occurring. With technical tools such as crime mapping (GIS), on-line crime reporting for officers and citizens, and document imaging we will develop effective products to support analysis and decision making. The Property Crimes Initiative employs three strategies:

Intervention, Prevention and Accountability.

INTERVENTION. Officers will use standard community policing activities such as street contacts and talking with people in areas of high property crimes (hot spots) to thwart the efforts of property criminals. Specific information from crime analysis and police detectives will help officers focus on criminals in an area of high crime density.

CRIME PREVENTION. Crime prevention services are used to make it more difficult for criminals to break into our homes and cars, and to steal our property. Working with neighborhoods that are experiencing high concentrations of property crimes, crime prevention officers will share information designed to reduce residents’ risk of being victimized and will seek out those crimes that would have gone unreported, thereby increasing our understanding of the true nature of crimes in that neighborhood. Many different prevention strategies are used to “harden the targets” of crime, and we intend to use them all.

ACCOUNTABILITY. We want to hold those criminals who are most active in our community accountable through effective case follow-up, prosecution and incarceration. It is accepted in policing that a relatively small number of criminals commit a majority of the crimes. Coordinating police investigative, forensics, and evidence collection activities significantly improves our ability to tie cases together with the best evidence available. By focusing our inves-





tigative efforts on the most prolific offenders and aggressively prosecuting them with existing penalty enhancements, the courts will have the ability and interest in sentencing offenders to significant prison sentences. This stops a criminal's ability to further victimize our community. The ultimate goal is for offenders to return to the community, having made life-changing decisions to become law abiding citizens.

As far as we are aware, this kind of effort has not been attempted in any jurisdiction with the kind of police resource, prosecution and jail limitations facing our community. We are confident that making crime-fighting more focused and efficient will have a true impact on the property crimes that plague Eugene. We look forward to working for you and with you!

PROPERTY CRIMES INITIATIVE DATA-LED POLICING

