The Neighborhood Safe.

THE ROLE OF CITIES IN ASSURING SAFETY.

Government exists for a reason; the reason becomes clear in a disaster or emergency. The primary reason is to keep citizens safe in their homes, neighborhoods and elsewhere. Since planning is the art and science of anticipating events and taking actions to prevent or mitigate potential dangers, neighborhood plans must include a community health and safety element.

THE FULL RANGE OF SAFETY ISSUES.

Small cities and towns have experience with their police, fire and rescue teams to protect their citizens and businesses, but safety is a concern beyond "street crimes". The rising array of new challenges requires broader thinking and expanded capabilities. Personal and community dangers include not only crime, fires, emergency rescues and traffic accidents but also flooding and natural disasters, disease, health care and social abuses and, potentially, 5G internet system roll-outs. The medical emergency of 2020 is an object lesson for needed preparedness and response.

POLICE, FIRE AND EMT.

Small cities and towns devote a large portion of their budgets to police, fire and emergency service operations and equipment. The focus, as it should be, is on crime and fire prevention and response plus urgent calls to emergency medical technicians [EMT].

Prevention programs are important, such as Neighborhood Crime Watch and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design [CPTED]. Home inspections, fire safety classes, CPR courses and other pro-active steps are conducted by public safety organizations.

Public safety councils are useful.

Police, fire and rescue professionals have certification programs and equipment requirements that meet national standards.

Same day deliveries are convenient but the added number of new vehicles in the neighborhood changes the game. If they become autonomous, the game changes even more. Real-time deliveries mean more strangers in the neighborhood at all hours of the day and night compromising neighborhood safety.

TRAFFIC SAFETY.

Cities plan for transportation facilities using accident and congestion information. Prevention, or reduction, of traffic accidents due to congestion, drunk/text driving, poor road conditions and weather is possible. Traffic fatalities in vehicles are declining, in total.

FATALITY ANALYSIS REPORTING SYSTEM (FARS) ENCYCLOPEDIA………………NHTSA

	1998	2008	2018
Vehicle Occupants	33088	26791	24221
Motorcyclists	2294	5312	4985
Pedestrians	5228	4414	6283
Pedalcyclists	760	718	854
TOTAL	41501	37423	36560

LINK: https://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/Main/index.aspx

Traffic fatalities among motorcyclists, pedestrians and pedalcyclists are increasing. Motorcycle fatalities have more than doubled in 20 years; riders seem impervious to enforcement and education programs. Many communities are accelerating the development of bike/ped systems to improve the safety and mobility of non-vehicular travelers.

*Character **Neighborhoods***

ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY.
Cities, counties, state and federal agencies are increasingly called upon to respond to local floods, storm damages and other natural catastrophes. Prevention programs and shelters are useful but they cannot eliminate the devastation of a severe storm or flood.

Flood insurance maps and programs exist in most communities although these constraints to development are usually dealt with lightly. Flooding from normal or abnormal rain events is devastating to people with flooded homes. Unusual storm events such as tornadoes, hurricanes and "nor'easters" are becoming more usual and citizens depend on their local officials to provide warnings before the event and remedies afterwards.

SCHOOL SAFETY.
One could once depend on schools as safe havens; no longer. Shootings are rare but real; while bullying, sexual harassment and substance abuse are more common. Abuses happen in many places, including the home, and need to be addressed where they occur.

Schools pose a specific safety problem in a very public place. Small cities have a role in school safety. They provide safe travel to/from school. Local public safety officers work with school leaders. Schools also provide needed student meal programs and health/wellness education.

INTERNET INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY.
5G is being anxiously awaited by gamers, AV providers and many consumers. In addition to potential health issues, the placement of 5G antennae near residences, spaced at intervals more frequent than current cell tower spacing, creates some new challenges for local governments and utility providers.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS.
Neighborhood health programs include school clinics, convenient walk-in health clinics, education programs from local hospitals and other health care providers along with exercise and nutrition education and resources. Medical crises like the COVID-19 emergency offer a critical role for neighborhood associations.

PARTNERSHIPS.
Small cities and towns usually have limited resources. Partnering with professional organizations, other associations and nearby cities can be useful. A local council of municipalities, the town's community organizations and business groups are resources to utilize. Collaborations and cooperations are prudent and productive.

THE FUTURE IS ALMOST HERE.
Autonomous vehicles, home deliveries and 5G networks are appearing in many urban areas. Their impact on neighborhoods is thought to be predictable but their roll-out seems ripe for un-intended consequences. Each has is exigencies.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD SAFE actions include:
1. Establishing neighborhood associations as the front-line defenders of residents against crime, traffic, declining property values, environmental degradation, public health emergencies, bullying and personal abuses of children and women.
2. Supporting neighborhood school safety and health officers.
3. Assessing risks associated with all neighborhood infrastructure systems.
4. Inviting the city's police, fire, EMT, pollution control and public health officers into neighborhoods for training and education programs such as Neighborhood Crime Watch and CPTED.

Where Are the Safest Neighborhoods in Boston?

Raleigh Werner

Jumpshell Co-Founder

West Roxbury, Allston/ Brighton and Dorchester top the list for "safest" neighborhoods in Boston.

"Safe" is always a murky term since you can't quantify safety purely on the amount of crime in an area — however, a lot of renters who reach out to me asking about safety cite crime as the primary metric they're concerned about. I sifted through data from the Boston Police Department to compile an accurate list of the safest neighborhoods in Boston.

LINK: https://www.jumpshell.com/posts/safest-neighborhoods-in-boston

NOTE: A quick web-search reveals a similar post for every city of size in America. Safety and security are top-of-mind issues with many.

International CPTED Association

Welcome to the ICA

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is defined as a multi-disciplinary approach for reducing crime through urban and environmental design and the management and use of built environments. CPTED strategies aim to reduce victimization, deter offender decisions that precede criminal acts, and build a sense of community among inhabitants so they can gain territorial control of areas and reduce opportunities from crime and fear of crime.

CPTED is pronounced 'sep-ted' and it is known around the world as Designing Out Crime, defensible space, and other similar terms.

ICA Course Accreditation Program
The ICA Course Accreditation Program (CAP) is a product of extensive research and hard work of the ICA Accreditation Committee that started in 2015. The CAP builds upon our long-standing ICA Certified CPTED Practitioner Program for Individuals (ICCP).

This paper presents early work of the Accreditation Committee led by Gregory Saville. Our new program was launched in 2019. You can learn more about the CAP at:

LINK: https://cpted.net/

Example: Kirkland WA Neighborhood Safety Program.

> *The Kirkland program is a great example of a pro-active city working with neighborhood associations to improve the safety of their community.*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
2020 Neighborhood Safety Program Folio (PDF-3.7 MB)

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY PROGRAM OVERVIEW.
"The Kirkland WA City Council authorized the Neighborhood Safety Program (NSP) in June 2014. The purpose of the Program is to re-energize Neighborhood Associations by empowering them to work collaboratively to identify, prioritize and address pedestrian and bicycle safety issues in Kirkland neighborhoods."

WORK WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS.
"A primary goal of the Neighborhood Safety Program (NSP) is to reenergize Kirkland's Neighborhood Associations. Individuals, community organizations, and businesses are encouraged to work directly with their respective Neighborhood Associations to help identify, review, and prioritize NSP projects."

FIND YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION.
"To find your Neighborhood Association, go to www.kirklandwa.gov/neighborhoods and select Neighborhood Associations in the left navigation. Enter your address in the "Find Address" field located above the Neighborhood Association map."

PROGRAM OVERVIEW.
"The Program is funded by the voter approved 2012 Streets Levy ($150,000 per year) and City Council's Walkable Kirkland Initiative ($200,000 per year until 2020). Each year there is a total of $350,000 available for projects citywide under $50,000. Projects fall into the following categories:
- **Bicycle facility:** Bike lanes or trails.
- **Crosswalks:** New crosswalks, improved crosswalk ramps (ADA), crosswalk islands, and rapid flashing beacons.
- **Intersection improvement:** Signage, parking, and pedestrian "bump outs."
- **Traffic calming:** Traffic islands, speed cushions, pedestrian "bump outs," signage, and radar signs.
- **Walkway/sidewalk and trail:** Gravel trails, steps, curb, traffic delineators, and sidewalks.
- **Street lights:** On existing or newly installed utility or light poles.
- **Improvements are restricted to City property** including streets, parks, community facilities, and the Cross Kirkland Corridor."

"**The Neighborhood Traffic Control Program (NTCP)** funds eligible projects that provide the required data and conduct a public outreach process. Eligible projects compete for funding through the Neighborhood Safety Program."
LINK:
https://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/CMO/Neighborhood_Services/NSP.htm

PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS [PSN]

ABOUT PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS.

"Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide initiative that brings together federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement officials, prosecutors, and community leaders to identify the most pressing violent crime problems in a community and develop comprehensive solutions to address them.

"In an effort to reduce violent crime, the Department of Justice has taken steps to strengthen the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Program and other initiatives. Read the press release and see the corresponding memo to United States Attorneys to learn more.

- **PSN: Working Together to Stop Violent Crime and Make Communities Safer** - This video provides a short (7 minute) summary of the PSN strategy, highlighting how it is community-based, targeted, and comprehensive.
- **PSN One-Year Progress Report (March 2019)** – This report highlights elements of the PSN strategy, the status of implementation across the country, recent successes, and resources to support PSN programs.
- The site includes videos and PSN results [2000-2006]…April 22, 2019."

PSN STRATEGY.

"The foundations of the PSN strategy are:

- **Community-Based** –Each local program is contoured to fit the specific violent crime problem in that district.
- **Targeted –** Utilizes law enforcement and community intelligence, along with cutting-edge technology, to identify and target the most violent offenders for enforcement action.
- **Comprehensive** – Directs United States Attorneys to marry enforcement efforts with support of prevention and reentry strategies to truly combat violent crime in a lasting way."

U.S. ATTORNEYS PSN PROGRAMS.

"Every United States Attorney is implementing a PSN program that incorporates these standard features:

- **Leadership** by the United States Attorney to convene all partners;
- **Partnerships** at all levels of law enforcement and with the community;
- **Targeted enforcement efforts** that utilize the full range of available data, methods, and technologies to identify the offenders that are driving violent crime rates."

LINK: https://www.justice.gov/psn