

# Crime Prevention

## Introduction

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Crime Prevention is the first theme to be addressed in the plan because it is considered by the community to be the highest priority among the six themes. The community expressed the need to eliminate drugs and drug dealers and the need for more police patrols in the area as its main priorities. Additionally, the community wants more opportunities and outlets designed to keep children off the streets. Another concern in the NorthSide community is people “hanging out” on street corners, which may contribute to drug activity. The following objectives and action steps support the goal to create a safer neighborhood by collaborating resources with other agencies, empowering NorthSide residents to reduce crime by utilizing preventative measures, and incentives to get youth off the streets.

## Goal

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To create a safer neighborhood that promotes continued crime prevention and shows a reduction of crime in accordance with the City's overall crime prevention plan of a 3% decrease in Type I and Type II offenses.



## **Objective 1.0 – Collaboration**

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Collaborate resources with other groups and agencies to increase neighborhood safety.

### **Action Steps:**

- 1.1.** Utilize the NorthSide Neighborhood Association to speak for crime prevention in the NorthSide community.
  
- 1.2.** Partner with Safe Communities program to form a NorthSide community roundtable to discuss solutions to crime issues.
  
- 1.3.** Create a media/communication plan for residents to stay informed of the neighborhood association and community happenings. The plan should include a phone bank, email, flyers, Government TV, local TV stations, Internet and Radio (ex. 97.3 FM and 94.1 FM). Ask the Community Action Group to assist since they currently operate a communication plan.
  
- 1.4.** Produce a “Municipal Service Guide” that includes City services with phone numbers and make available to citizens in churches and businesses in the NorthSide.
  
- 1.5.** Request state and local officials to consider tougher jail sentences for criminals through petitions and letters.
  
- 1.6.** Enforce code violations and licensing violations on business owners who promote loitering around their establishments.



### **Action Step 1.1**

**Lead:** NSNA  
**Funding:** NSNA  
**Timeline:** 1 year

### **Action Step 1.2**

**Lead:** NSNA  
**Funding:** NSNA  
**Timeline:** 1 year

### **Action Step 1.3**

**Lead:** NSNA  
**Funding:** NSNA, City of Wilmington  
**Timeline:** 2 Years

### **Action Step 1.4**

**Lead:** City of Wilmington  
**Funding:** City of Wilmington  
**Timeline:** 1 year

### **Action Step 1.5**

**Lead:** NSNA, Elected Officials, Law Enforcement, DA's Office  
**Funding:** N/A  
**Timeline:** 1 year

### **Action Step 1.6**

**Lead:** NSNA, Business Owners, City of Wilmington  
**Funding:** N/A  
**Timeline:** 1 year





**Action Step 2.1**

*Lead: Wilmington Police Department*

*Funding: City of Wilmington*

*Timeline: 1 year*

**Action Step 2.2**

*Lead: City of Wilmington*

*Funding: City of Wilmington*

*Timeline: 2 years*

**Action Step 2.3**

*Lead: NSNA, City of Wilmington*

*Funding: City of Wilmington*

*Timeline: 2 years*

**Action Step 2.4**

*Lead: Wilmington Police Department*

*Funding: City of Wilmington*

*Timeline: 3-6 Months*

**Action Step 2.5**

*Lead: Wilmington Police Department, NSNA*

*Funding: City of Wilmington*

*Timeline: 1 year*



**Objective 2.0 – Prevention**

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Create a partnership between the Wilmington Police Department and NorthSide residents to empower the NorthSide community by promoting and utilizing preventative measures everyone can do to reduce crime.

**Action Steps:**

- 2.1. Establish at least one additional officer in the NorthSide through the “Officer in Residency” program.
- 2.2. Add brighter street lighting at: N. 5th Avenue east of Railroad tracks to Nixon Street, and N. 7th Street between Red Cross and Hanover Streets. If a street light is out, call Progress Energy with the pole number.
- 2.3. Support the relocation of the City of Wilmington Police Headquarters to the NorthSide community that could potentially increase police patrols in the area.
- 2.4. Schedule through the police department neighborhood empowerment programs that include crime prevention strategies individuals can do to reduce their risk of being a victim of crime such as Community Watch, Citizens Police Academy, Auto Theft Action Campaign (ATAC), and youth programs.
- 2.5. Encourage the Police Department to target the following identified nuisance corners: N. 12th Street and Chestnut Street, N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Chestnut Street, N. 7th Street and Red Cross Street, Red Cross Street and Anderson Street, N. 5th Avenue and Swann Street, N. 6th Street and Harnett Street, Nixon Street from N. 4th Street to N. 8th Street, and N. 4th Street and James Alley.

2.6. Call whenever criminal activities are taking place and make a report.

2.7. Trim trees and bushes in the following locations: In front of Dorothy B. Johnson Elementary School and the Boys and Girls Club on McRae Street, N. 5th Avenue median tree canopy that is hanging over the roadway, at N. 6th and Campbell Streets, and at N. 6th and Red Cross Streets. Continue to monitor areas where criminals could hide and then eliminate the hiding place.

2.8. Clear or clean up property at the following location: N. 5th Avenue and Swann Street. Continue to monitor the community.

2.9. Repair or condemn structures at the following locations: 914 and 916 N. 5th Avenue, Brunswick Street between N. 3rd and N. 4th Streets, Dudley School, and at McRae and Campbell Streets.

**Action Step 2.6**

**Lead:** NSNA

**Funding:** N/A

**Timeline:** 1 year

**Action Step 2.7**

**Lead:** City of Wilmington, New Hanover County, NSNA

**Funding:** City of Wilmington, New Hanover County

**Timeline:** 1 year

**Action Step 2.8**

**Lead:** City of Wilmington

**Funding:** City of Wilmington

**Timeline:** 1 year

**Action Step 2.9**

**Lead:** City of Wilmington

**Funding:** City of Wilmington

**Timeline:** 1 year





**Action Step 3.1**

**Lead:** NSNA, City of Wilmington, School principals, and Executive Director of B&G Club

**Funding:** B&G Club, City of Wilmington

**Timeline:** 1 year

**Action Step 3.2**

**Lead:** NSNA

**Funding:** Non-profit funding sources, Fundraisers

**Timeline:** 1 year

**Action Step 3.3**

**Lead:** NSNA, Non-Profit

**Funding:** Non-Profit, City of Wilmington

**Timeline:** 10 years

**Action Step 3.4**

**Lead:** NSNA, Non-Profit, City of Wilmington

**Funding:** Non-profit funding sources, Fundraisers

**Timeline:** 1 year



**Objective 3.0 – Alternatives for Youth**

The NorthSide community must work together with the entire community towards providing incentives that will get youth off the streets and pointed in a more positive direction.

**Action Steps:**

- 3.1. Arrange to have a resource network of materials and communication methods at local areas that youth frequent such as the Boys and Girls Club, Dorothy B. Johnson Elementary School, D.C. Virgo Middle School, New Hanover County High School, Head Start, Hemenway Center, Rankin Terrace, etc., to give input on types of services and programs needed to help youths.
- 3.2. The NorthSide Neighborhood Association will coordinate and work with youth groups in enhancing programs for youth and talent development.
- 3.3. Support a community resource center that offers recreation, education, and counseling opportunities to NorthSide residents. Request the support of the City Council and County Commissioners.
- 3.4. Organize a "Faith-Based Community Initiative" program that would provide existing facilities for educational and recreational programs.

