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SPECIAL ANNUAL REPORT Central West End Neighborhood Security Initiative



Letter from our Director

Greetings,

Despite the many challenges presented by the COVID-19 health crisis in 2020, including significant impact on police personnel and disruption in the criminal justice system, I am pleased to report that crime statistics for the CWE were down for the year compared to 2019. This continues a favorable trend that, while encouraging, still leaves much to be done. We remain focused on improving our effectiveness for the CWE community, and also serving as a model for others seeking to address crime in their neighborhoods.

During 2020 the NSI continued to upgrade equipment and expand the coverage areas of our security camera system, which has proven to be invaluable in assisting police in their efforts to identify and arrest those responsible for criminal behavior. As we continue to search for new, more effective strategies, we view technology as the area of greatest potential.

In addition, we have engaged the services of a professional consultant who has led the NSI staff and Board of Directors through an in-depth strategic planning process intended to enhance capacity and help clarify objectives and priorities going forward.

As we enter 2021 we are grateful for the ongoing confidence and support of our participating partners, and especially for the dedication and leadership of our Board. We pledge to continue our mission to address crime and to foster a safe and inclusive community for all.

James Whyte
Executive Director
CWE NSI

137

Camera Reviews in 2020

44 Sites

The NSI Camera Project Manager oversees 44 camera sites that cover portions of the Central West End, Forest Park Southeast, and DeBaliviere Place neighborhoods.

293 Cameras

Each camera site has an array of cameras used to capture information for review when a crime has occurred.

Quick Stats

In 2020 the Camera Project Manager conducted 137 camera reviews in response to reported crimes. These reviews led to 33 arrests, 10 persons placed Wanted, and 3 vehicles placed Wanted. Those numbers are comparatively low compared to previous years. This is largely due to temporary COVID-19 law enforcement and Circuit Attorney Office procedural changes.

Privacy is Key

The Central West End Neighborhood Security Initiative understands that confidentiality is critically important in our line of work. We work with victims daily and we want to make sure they feel safe and supported. But we also value and respect public privacy concerns.

In order to reconcile privacy and protection, the CWE NSI has adopted a robust camera policy that restricts who is eligible to see our footage and how long we keep it. We review footage when a police report is submitted. If we find something of interest, the footage is narrowly focused, timestamped, and given to the proper authorities. This typically means the SLMPD and Circuit Attorney's Office. The footage is then archived. Any footage that is not reviewed within 30 days is automatically deleted.

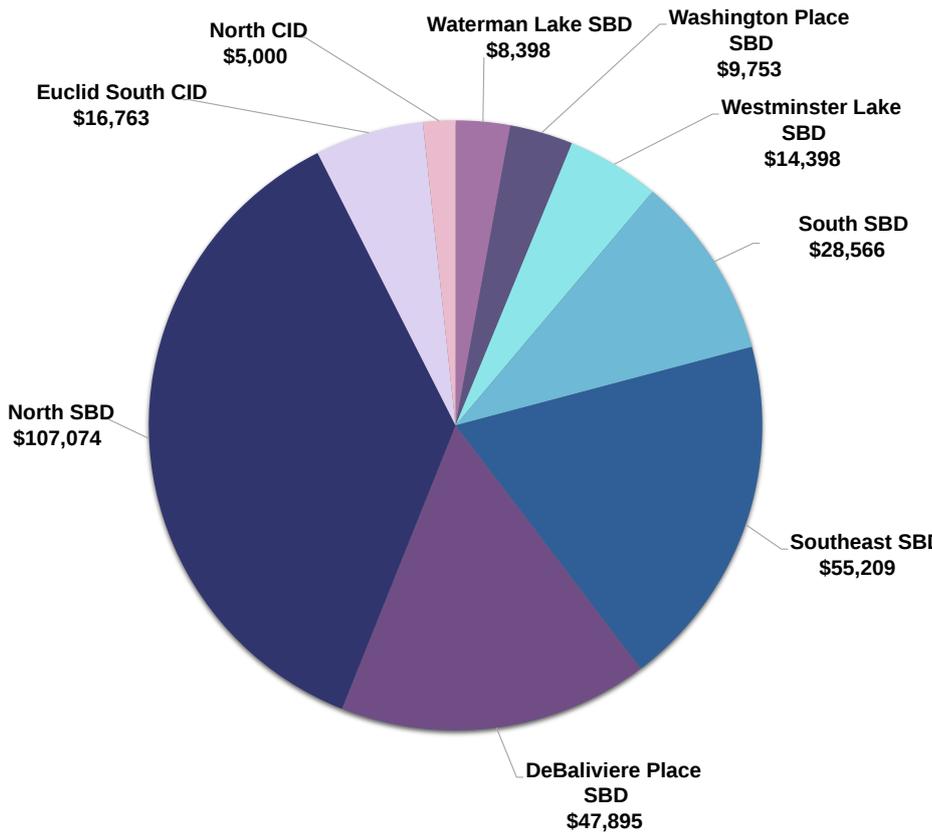


**\$401K
BUDGET**

Financial Review

In 2020 our operational budget was \$401,164. This included general office operations, staff salaries, various insurance policies, vehicle maintenance, accounting services, and a reserve fund for emergency secondary patrol services. The camera maintenance budget is a separate account and the 2020 budget was \$78,421.

2020 SBD and CID Contributions



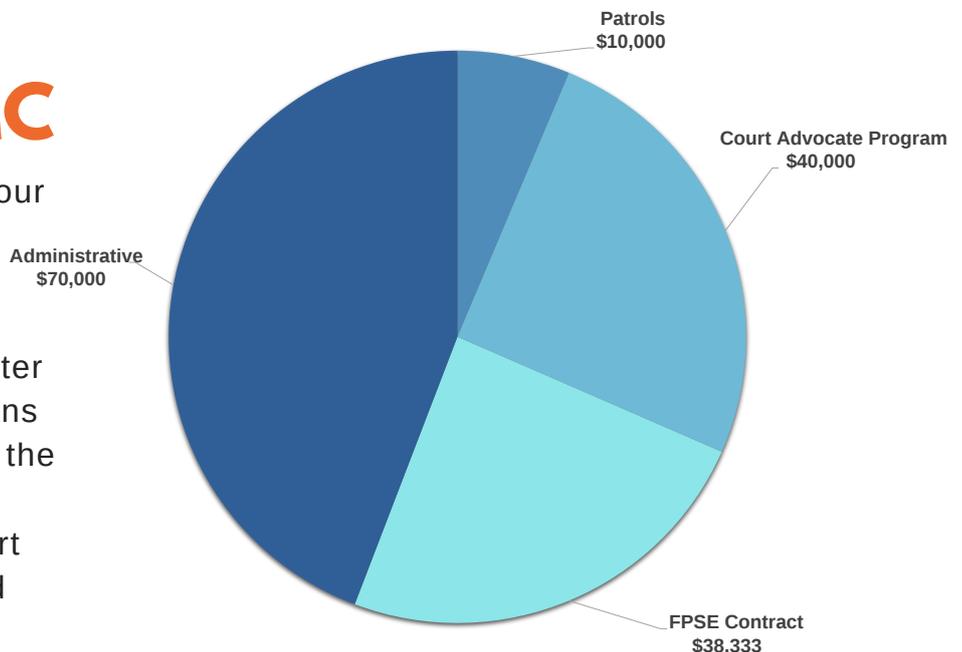
65% Public

About 65% of our 2020 annual revenue was provided by local Special Business Districts (SBDs) and Community Improvement Districts (CIDs). These contributions cover both our services and camera maintenance for the Central West End and DeBaliviere Place neighborhoods.

2020 WUMC Donations

35% WUMC

The remaining 35% of our 2020 revenue was contributed to us by the Washington University Medical Center (WUMC). Their donations help cover services for the Forest Park Southeast Neighborhood, our court advocacy program, and office administration.



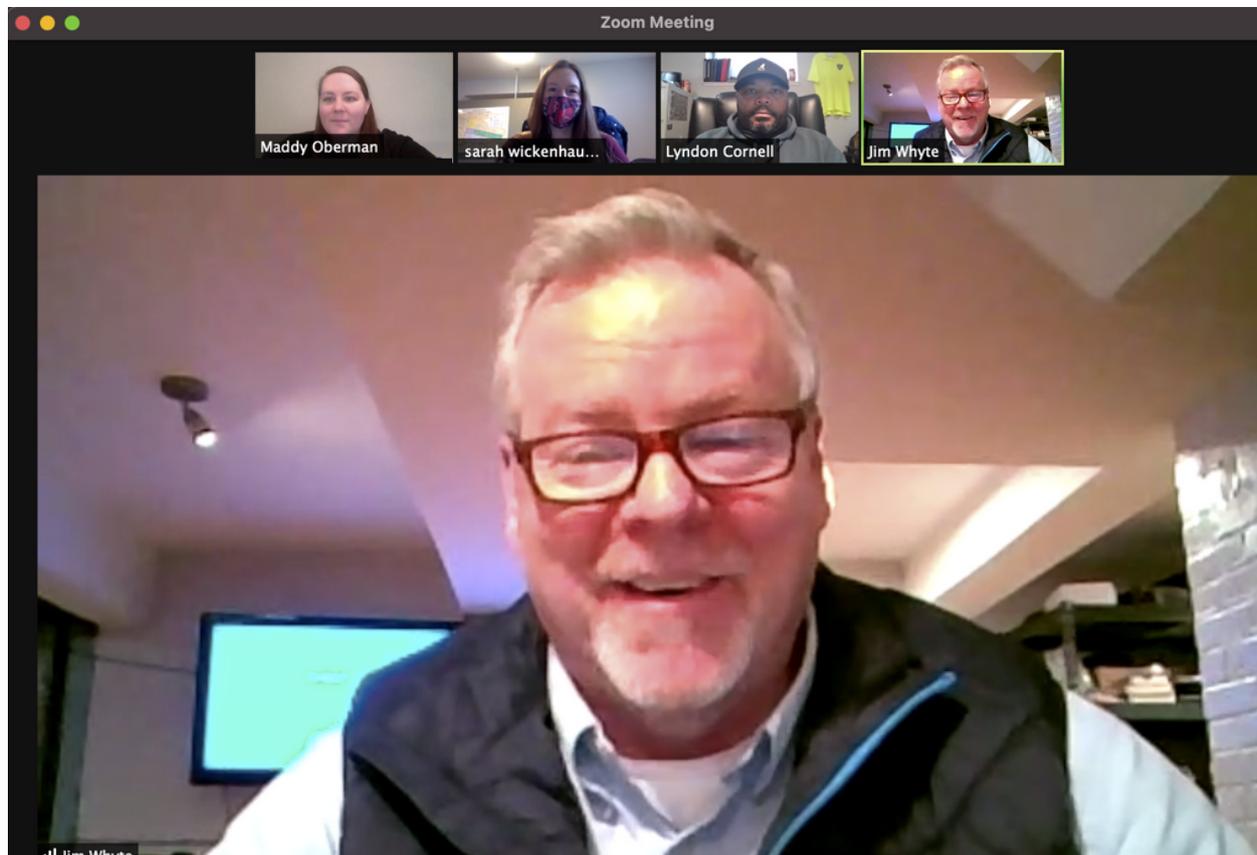
Mask Up

The COVID-19 pandemic forced the CWE NSI and our partners to alter some of our initiatives in the interest of public safety. Unable to host or attend public safety meetings in person, we met online instead. Unable to attend court proceedings in person, we wrote letters and hired lawyers to lobby against proposed legislation that would limit nonprofit organizations' ability to help the community.



To minimize health risks, we closed the office to visitors and limited in-person staff. We bulk ordered sanitizer and conducted frequent office disinfections.

As we enter 2021, we are still disinfecting the office frequently, social distancing, and requiring people to wear masks. We continue to limit the number of people inside our office and we are using Zoom to host our traditionally in-person meetings.



The CWE NSI team is pictured from left to right: Madeline Oberman, Neighborhood Court Advocate; Sarah Wickenhauser, Deputy Director; Lyndon Cornell, Camera Project Manager; and Jim Whyte, Executive Director.

ONE STONE

Professional Development

The Central West End Neighborhood Security Initiative had been considering utilizing the services of a professional development leader for some time.

One Stone Development Company, LLC was recommended to the Central West End Neighborhood Security Initiative. After a thorough interview process and approval by our Board of Directors, One Stone was hired in July 2020.

One Stone met with our team one-on-one and assessed our strengths and identified areas for improvement. They studied how we function as a group, how our board members assist us, and the resources we have at our disposal. Over the course of many months, One Stone helped the NSI formulate achievable organizational goals, reorganize our meetings for more efficiency, and develop strategies to invigorate our social media presence.



WHO WE ARE

WE ARE A COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION
DEDICATED TO NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AND
ADVANCEMENT, CONTRIBUTING TO THE
COMMON GOOD



OUR PURPOSE

IS NEIGHBORHOOD LIVABILITY AND VITALITY
FOR ALL WHO RESIDE, WORK, OR VISIT



OUR VISION

CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR HAS STEADILY DECLINED.
OUR NEIGHBORS AND NEIGHBORHOODS
THRIVE BENEFITTING FROM LEADING-EDGE
NEIGHBORHOOD AND SAFETY INNOVATIONS.

These instagram posts were created by One Stone to help us jumpstart our social media. You can follow us on instagram at www.instagram.com/safestreets314. You can also follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/centralwestendnsi and Twitter at twitter.com/safestreets314.

Court Advocacy

The COVID-19 pandemic substantially disrupted the criminal justice system across the country. Police became overworked, jailhouses were emptied in the interest of public health, and many courts ceased to hold hearings in person.

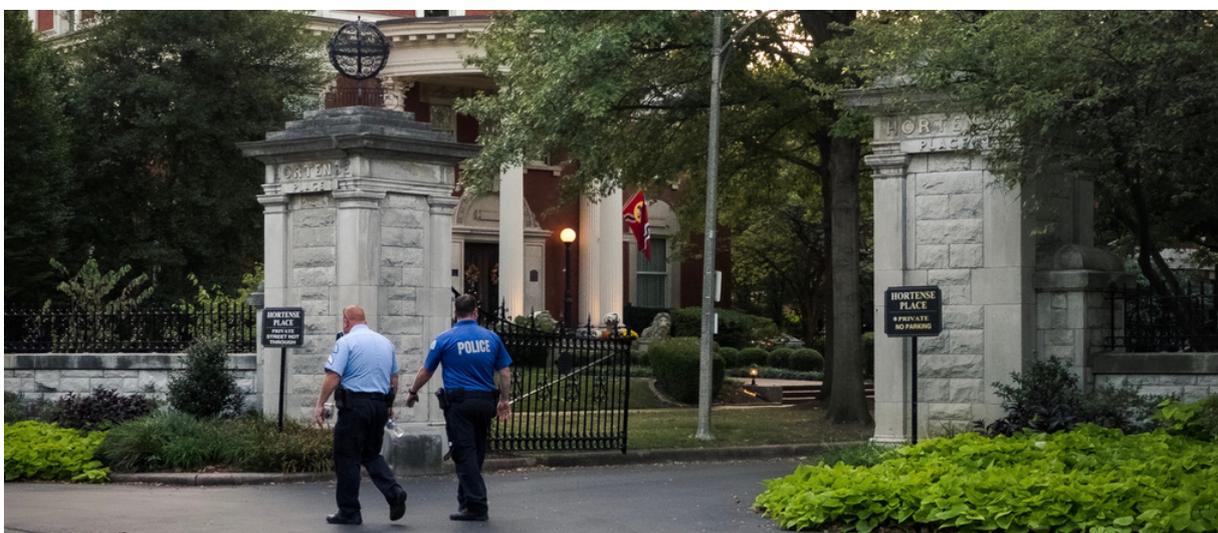
COVID
19

In a normal year, the CWE NSI Court Advocate manages a caseload of criminal cases involving crimes that took place inside the CWE NSI's coverage areas. As the criminal justice system can be a cold and confusing place for victims, one of the advocate's main jobs is to accompany victims to court and help them feel supported through the process.

Since 2014, the CWE NSI's Court Advocate has attended over 460 court hearings, tracked more than 450 criminal cases, and written more than 370 impact statements.

Unfortunately, the pandemic has made this level of advocacy difficult to maintain. While some cases continued through the use of phone calls and video chatting, others have gone an entire year without an update. Due to limited resources in both the police department and the Circuit Attorney's Office, cases in 2020 took longer to move from police record to court hearing. During the pandemic, our advocate instead shifted largely to letter writing, updating victims through email and phone calls, and spent time assisting the CWE NSI in other capacities.

We are looking forward to the new year and are hopeful society will return to normal soon. Until then, if you are interested in volunteering to write letters in support of victims of crime, please reach out to Madeline Oberman at moberman@cwensi.com for more information.





Crime Trends

The conventional way to review crime statistics in your neighborhood is by examining the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Part 1 crimes: Aggravated Assault, Arson, Burglary, Homicide, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft, Rape, and Robbery. UCR is a universal system that is now used across governmental entities. This information is publicly published by the FBI each year.

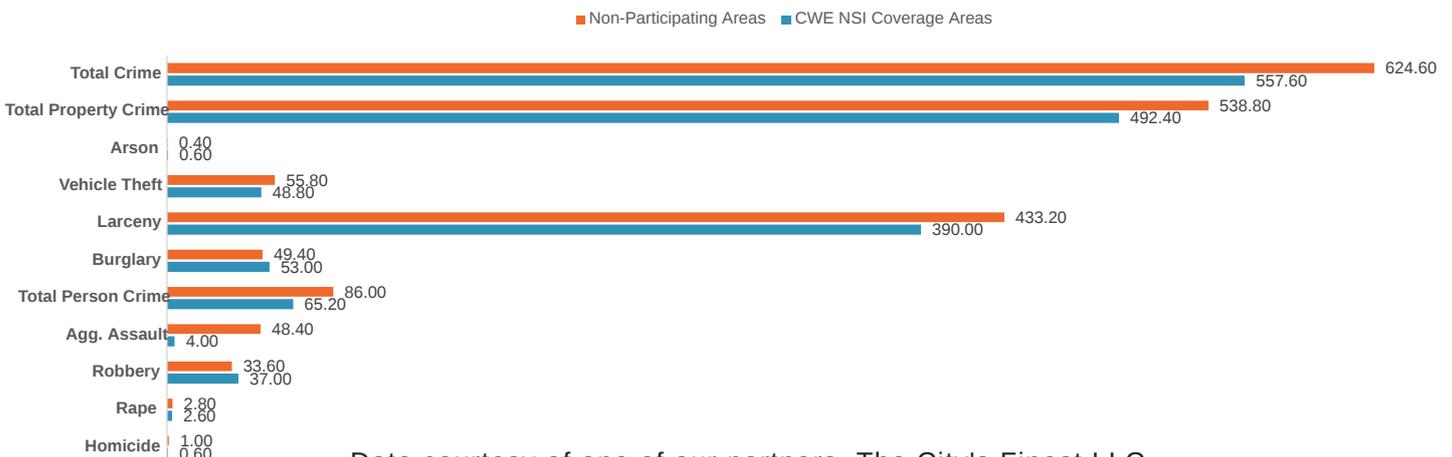
In 2020, the **Central West End (CWE)** Neighborhood ended the year with fewer UCR Part 1 crimes than the rolling five year average for the neighborhood. The Central West End was also down in crime when compared to 2019 in most categories. Total UCR Part 1 person crime was down 9.55% and total property crime was down 4.38%. Overall Part 1 crimes were down 5.08%.

CWE 2020 PART 1 CRIMES VS. 5 YEAR AVERAGE

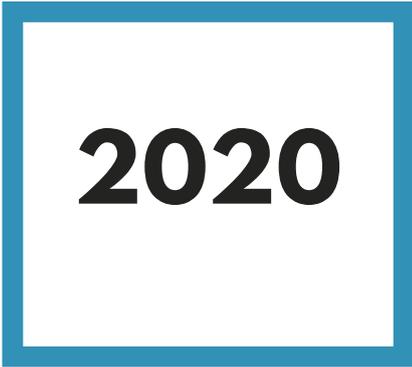


Additionally, it is important to note that the CWE NSI does not provide safety and security services to the entire Central West End neighborhood. Statistics show that CWE NSI coverage areas in the Central West End have experienced lower rates of crime than the rest of the neighborhood.

CWE NSI Coverage Areas vs. Non Participating Areas Five Year Crime Average



Data courtesy of one of our partners, The City's Finest LLC.

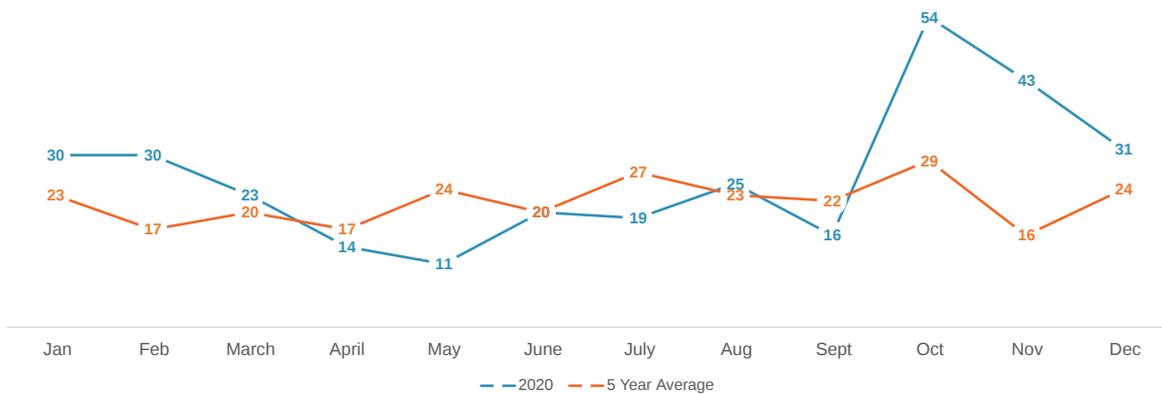


Crime Trends

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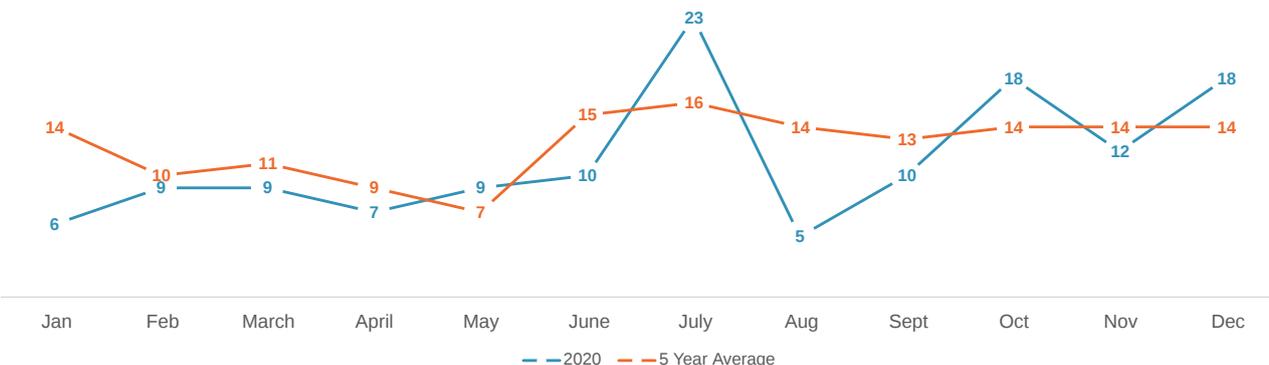
In 2020, the **Forest Park Southeast (FPSE)** Neighborhood ended the year with slightly higher UCR Part 1 crimes than the rolling five year average. Total UCR Part 1 person crime had no change from 2019 and total property crime increased 1.90%. Overall Part 1 crimes were up 1.61%.

FPSE 2020 PART 1 CRIMES VS. 5 YEAR AVERAGE



In 2020, the **DeBaliviere Place** Neighborhood ended the year with more UCR Part 1 crimes than in 2019. Both property crime and person crime increased. However, the DeBaliviere Place neighborhood has seen substantial decreases in crime when measured over the last few years. While higher than 2019, the total number of crimes reported in 2020 was the third lowest rate when compared to the last five years. Both robberies and burglaries had the second lowest rates recorded in the last five years in the neighborhood.

DEBALIVIERE PLACE 2020 PART 1 CRIMES VS. 5 YEAR





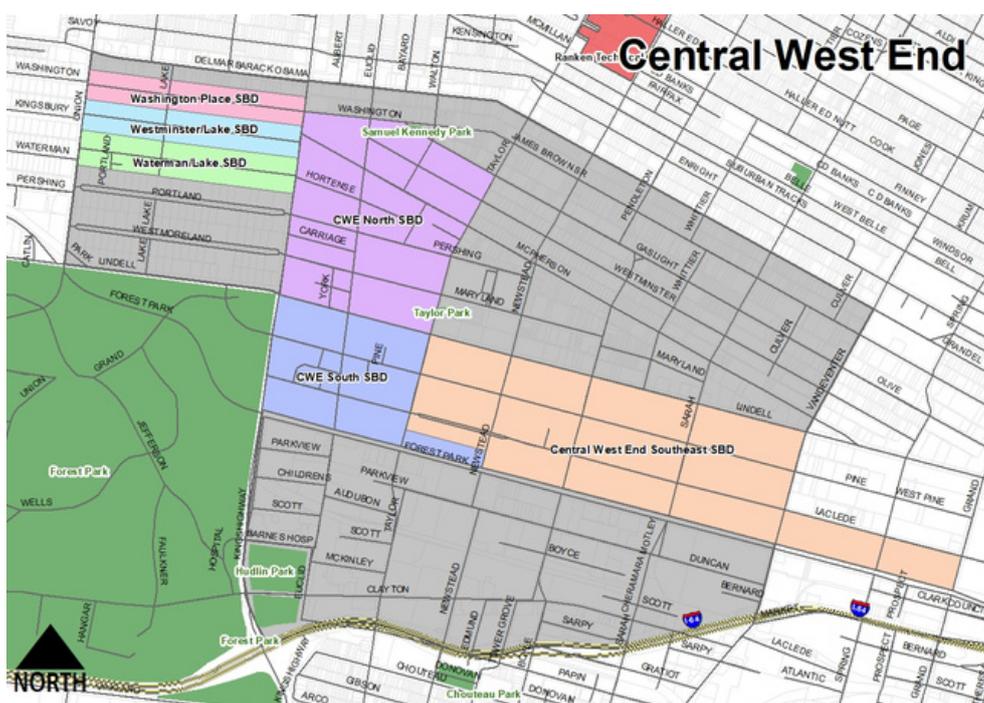
Coverage Area: Central West End

Within the Central West End Neighborhood boundaries, the Central West End Neighborhood Security Initiative coverage areas include the North Special Business District (SBD), South SBD, Southeast SBD, Washington Place SBD, Westminster

Lake SBD, Waterman Lake SBD, Euclid South Community Improvement District (CID), and the North CID. The CWE NSI provides the SBDs with our three main services: camera management, secondary patrol management, and court advocacy. The CWE NSI provides the CIDs with camera management and court advocacy.

Camera Success

The Central West End Neighborhood Security Initiative was contacted by the SLMPD about a burglary that had taken place at a business in the 300 block of North Euclid Ave. The police had been notified by the burglary alarm and upon arrival found the front glass of the business shattered. The manager assisted the SLMPD and observed that 30 pairs of expensive jeans had been stolen from the property. Our Camera Project Manager, Lyndon Cornell, conducted a review of the camera footage in the area and identified a suspect. Shortly after the event the suspect was spotted by members of the CWE NSI walking around the neighborhood and was arrested by the police. The suspect is a chronic offender with a history of stealing, burglary, and robbery.



FPSE

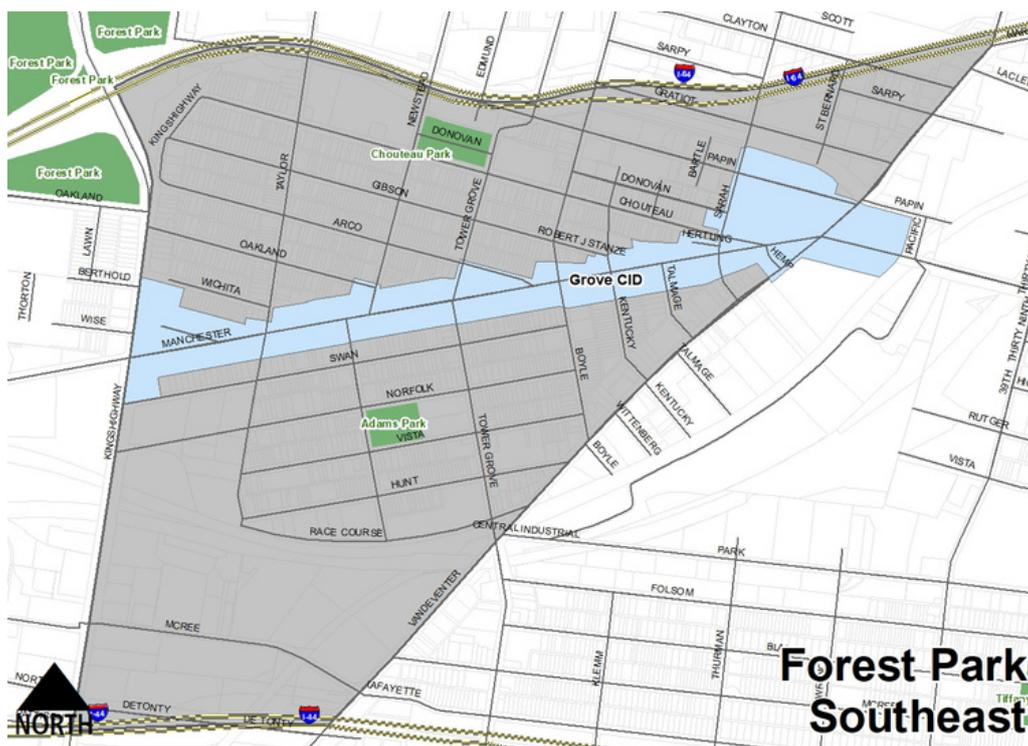
Coverage Area: Forest Park Southeast

The Central West End Neighborhood Security Initiative is contracted through WUMC to manage the camera network, secondary patrols, and court advocacy for the Forest Park Southeast neighborhood, as well as the camera network built in the Grove District.

As of 2020, the CWE NSI no longer manages the secondary patrol services for the Grove District.

Camera Success

The Central West End Neighborhood Security Initiative was contacted by a business manager about a burglary that took place in the early morning in the 4100 block of Manchester Avenue. The business was damaged, large quantities of liquor as well as large umbrellas were stolen from the property. Our camera project manager reviewed the footage and a suspect was observed on camera carrying the business's umbrellas and bottles of liquor. The manager identified the person as a former employee who had performed odd jobs at the business. The manager also explained that the former employee is known to carry a gun. The CWE NSI relayed this information to the SLMPD, who took over the case from there.



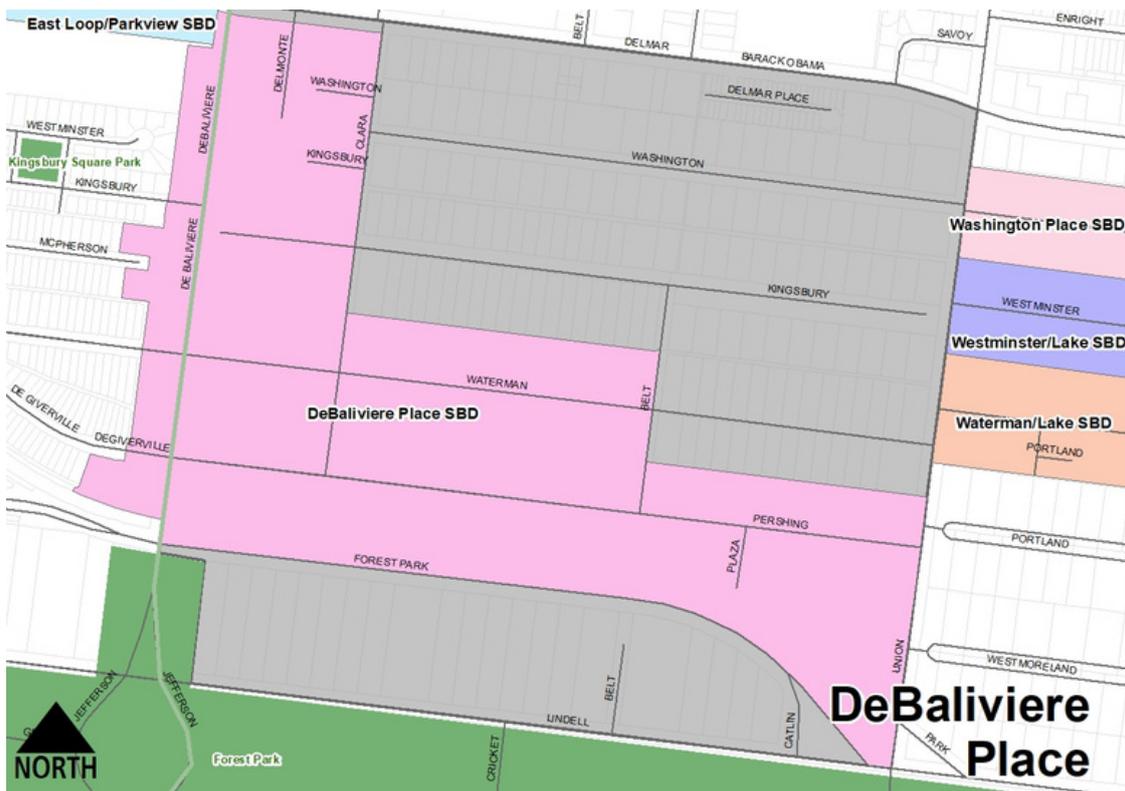


Coverage Area: DeBaliviere Place

The DeBaliviere Place Special Business District was formed in 2016 and joined the CWE NSI two years ago. The CWE NSI is contracted to manage the cameras, secondary patrols, and court advocacy for the neighborhood.

Camera Success

The Central West End Neighborhood Security Initiative was contacted by SLMPD about a shooting on the 300 block of DeBaliviere Avenue. Officers responded to a 911 call and found the victim suffering from gunshot wounds to his upper left thigh, groin, and collarbone. The victim explained that the shooting had taken place at the bus stop at Pershing and DeBaliviere. After the victim was taken to Barnes by EMS, the SLMPD officers collected shell castings at the bus stop. Our camera project manager reviewed camera footage in the area and the incident was captured on camera. The victim had approached the shooter at the bus stop and an altercation ensued. During the altercation, the suspect pulled out a gun and fired it at the victim multiple times. The suspect then took off on foot. While on route to Barnes, the victim identified the suspect, who was later apprehended and arrested.





Commissioners

The Central West End Neighborhood Security Initiative is mainly funded through local special taxing districts in the form of Special Business Districts (SBDs) and Community Improvement Districts (CIDs), as well as Washington University Medical Center (WUMC). Entities that contribute to the CWE NSI are represented on our board of directors.

Our 2020 Board of Directors was represented by the following board members:

President **Kate Haher**, representing the North CID

Vice President **Ashley Johnson**, representing the South SBD

Vice President of Finance **Jim Dwyer**, representing the North SBD

Secretary **Yusef Scoggin**, representing the Southeast SBD

Henry Edmonds, representing the North SBD

Gina Heagney, representing the Westminster Lake SBD

Bill Latz, representing the Washington Place SBD

Todd Mandel, representing the South SBD, later replaced by **Pete Rothschild**

Brian Philips, representing the WUMC

Eric Weber, representing the Waterman Lake SBD

Bobbie Butterly, representing the DeBaliviere Place SBD



This picture was taken in December 2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic.

From left to right: Jim Whyte, Sarah Wickenhauser, Bobbie Butterly, Ashley Johnson, Madeline Oberman, Maggie Malcolm (former Commissioner), Todd Mandel, Yusef Scoggin, Henry Edmonds, Jim Dwyer, Kate Haher, Brian Philips, Lyndon Cornell, and Bill Latz.

The CWE NSI is located at 447 N. Euclid Ave, St. Louis, MO 63108. Our phone number is 314.454.5808 and our website is www.cwensi.com.