# Sparks Police Department Community Response Unit



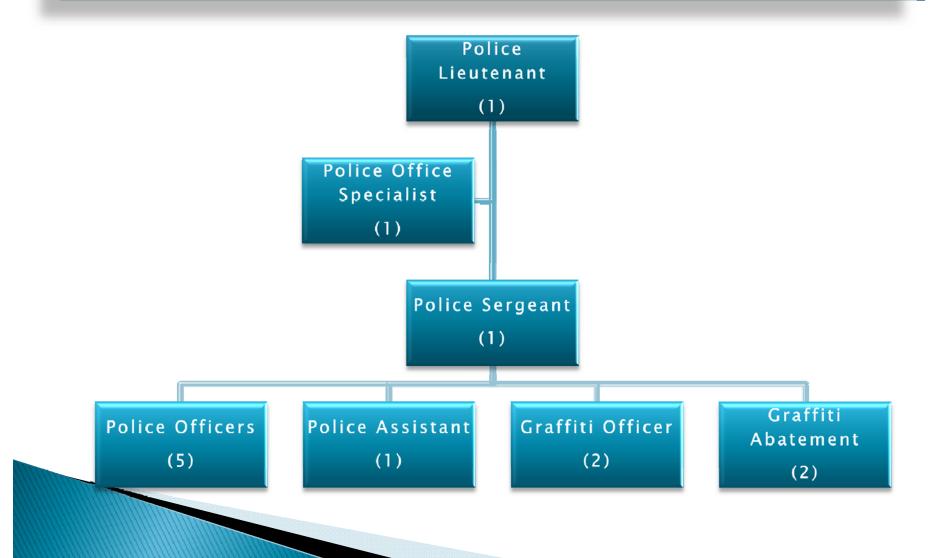
## **Presentation Outline**

- Community Response Unit (CRU) functions
- Organizational chart
- Mission
- Problem identification
- Response and solutions
- Measurable outcomes
- Resources needed
- Funding

# Community Response Unit Functions

- Police Department driven unit.
- Improve quality of life issues city-wide.
- Address graffiti, parking, and certain code enforcement violations to improve appearance of neighborhoods.
- Reduce the fear of crime.
- Measure results and report findings.

# Community Response Unit

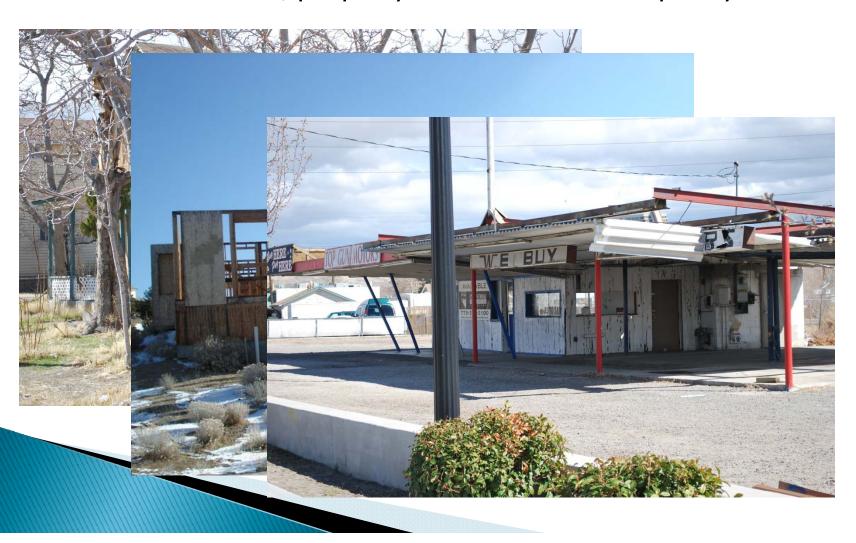


### **CRU Mission**

To improve the quality of life for residents, businesses and visitors within the city by addressing and responding to all aspects of graffiti; parking issues and neighborhood appearance.

# Problem - Vacant Homes

Fear of crime; property value decline and quality of life



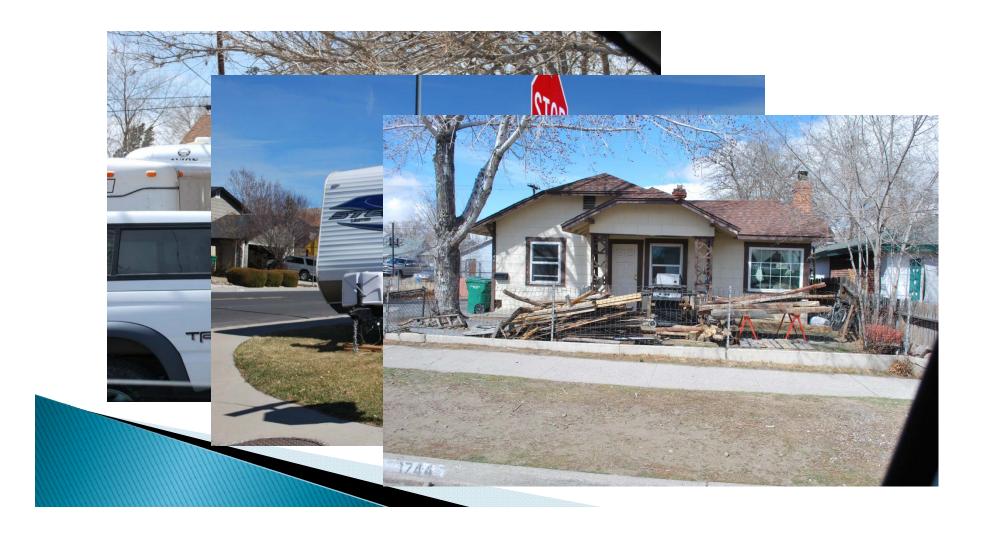
# Problem - Graffiti

Fear of crime; property value decline and quality of life



### Problem - Neighborhood Appearance

Fear of crime; property value decline and quality of life



# **Other Pictures**



# Response and Solution

- Develop a specialized unit within the P.D.
- Revise applicable ordinances
- Establish an advisory board
- Create neighborhood partnerships

## Graffiti Measureable Results

#### Education

- # of school presentations
- # of media stories

#### Intelligence

- % of city-wide graffiti captured for analysis
- # of intelligence briefings to department

#### Enforcement

- # arrests adults/juvenile
- # of cases assigned for investigation

# Parking Enforcement Measureable Results

- # of calls for service
- # self-initiated contacts
- # citations issued
- # verbal warnings
- # marked and tagged
- # towed

# Neighborhood Appearance Measurable Results

- Before and after pictures
- \$ amount spent on maintenance
- \$ re-cooped through liens/assessments
- # citations issued
- # warnings issued
- # calls for service
- # self-initiated activity
- # overall crime statistics
- % fear of crime before/after

# Steps Taken

- Developed structure and concept of unit.
- Applied for 5 police officer positions with the COPS Office under the COPS2012 grant.
- Coordinated with Senator Reid's Office for potential funding.

# **Existing Resources**

#### Facility and Equipment

- PD facility (computers, desks, etc.)
- (1) Patrol marked vehicle
- (1) Police assistant van
- (1) G.R.I.P. vehicle and equipment

#### **Personnel**

- (1) Graffiti abatement worker\*
- (1) Police assistant

<sup>\*</sup> From Community Development

# **New Needs**

	Personnel Needed	Approx. Costs
(1)	Police Lieutenant	\$ 138,055
(1)	Police Sergeant	\$ 121,402
(5)	Community Response Officers	425,935
(2)	Graffiti Officers	170,374
(1)	Graffiti Abatement Specialist	60,656
(1)	Police Office Specialist–Abatement*	63,733
	Total – Personnel New	\$ 980,153
	* Partially funded through P/T Community Development	t position
	Equipment Needed	Approx. Costs
(9)	Officer Start-up Equipment	100,000
(8)	Vehicles – Patrol	440,000
	Total Equipment	\$ 540,000

# Partial Funding Source to Consider: Raising the Property Tax Rate

- Per NRS 362.140 the property tax rate is capped at \$3.64 per \$100 of assessed valuation
- SB 507 ('03 Legislature) added a total of 2 cents outside of the cap, which effectively raising the rate cap to \$3.66 per \$100 assessed value
- The City of Sparks current property tax rate is \$3.6163 per \$100 of assessed value
- This means that the City of Sparks total tax rate is \$0.0437 (4.37 cents) under the maximum rate allowed of \$3.66 per \$100 of assessed value

# Partial Funding Source to Consider: Raising the Property Tax Rate

- The City Council has the authority to raise the property tax rate for the City of Sparks by \$.0437 per \$100 of assessed valuation
  - A separate ballot vote is not required
- Each penny that increases the tax rate will generate approximately \$189k of additional tax receipts for the General Fund after abatement is calculated
- Increasing the property tax rate to the maximum of \$3.66 per \$100 of assessed value will generate approximately \$825k of General Fund revenue

# Closing

I suggest City Council supports and allocated funding that would create the Community Response Unit, providing the citizens a neighborhood of safety, security and pride.