MAYOR ADAMS TERM IN REVIEW PORTLAND SAFETY

In the two and a half years that Mayor Adams served as Police Commissioner, we have partnered with Chief Reese to pursue lasting change in the Portland Police Bureau. Our efforts have included the recruitment and retention of police officers who reflect our community, providing officers with the tools and training needed to meet the safety needs of our city, and ensuring effective, timely oversight of the bureau and its actions. Our approach has been hands—on and proactive with the goal of continuous improvement of PPB.

Public Safety Priorities - Combating Gangs, Guns, Drugs, and Human Trafficking

Gangs in Portland and across the nation often operate on resources derived from the illegal trafficking of guns, drugs, and human beings. The interconnectedness of these public safety issues lead to violent crime that disproportionately impacts communities of color in Portland.

Through the <u>Gang Violence Task Force</u> and partnerships maintained through our <u>Office</u> <u>of Youth Violence Prevention</u> (OYVP), we're working diligently to reduce crimes related to illegal guns, drugs, and human trafficking as part of our <u>strategic efforts to reduce the prevalence and impact of gangs in Portland</u>. We have continued to take a <u>360-degree approach</u> to ending gang-violence that includes offering <u>safe summer activities for youth</u>.

Illegal Gun Activity

In order to crack down on the illegal use of firearms in Portland, City Council approved new and improved gun laws to address the issue of gun safety. The five new or enhanced laws directly address the ubiquitous nature of guns in our communities and the ability for criminals to use them illegally. Additionally, we've been partnering with Ceasefire Oregon and Mayor's Against Illegal Guns on stricter national gun legislation, enhanced regional and state enforcement, and local gun turn in opportunities.

Illegal Drug Impact Areas

In April 2011, the Illegal Drug Impact Areas (IDIAs) <u>resolution</u> was passed in response to increasing concerns from <u>Old Town Chinatown</u> community and business leaders about the drug activity in the area. This plan increased patrols in the area, added a Deputy <u>District Attorney</u> specifically to prosecute drug crimes and created high-impact zones that convicted drug dealers and sellers are required to stay out of as part of their conviction package. The <u>community has reported</u> that these changes have been successful.

Human Trafficking

The Mayor's Office has been actively involved in the effort to both raise awareness of and reduce the incidence of

human trafficking in our region. This effort has included collaborating with regional leaders through the <u>I-5 Public Safety Summit</u> to passing statewide legislation that helps us prosecute pimps and johns. The City has also made a commitment to funding local community partners such as Janus Youth, the Sexual Assault Resource Center, and LifeWorks Northwest that directly serve the victims of these horrific crimes. This work is informed by the strong collaboration between the City and Multnomah County through the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) team, which guides our agencies' engagement with community services and policy.

Systematic Support for PPB to Fight and Prevent Crime

On October 29th 2012, the Police Bureau had its Grand Opening of their new Community Policing Training Center. This is a major step forward in public safety as the Police Bureau has never had its own dedicated Training Center. Having all Bureau training disciplines beneath one roof will significant save time and monev. Additionally, a new citizen Training Advisory Council (TAC) has been created. The TAC, one of the first of its kind in any jurisdiction in the country, will increase accountability for police training and provide recommendations to the Chief of Police regarding training content, delivery, tactics, policy, and tools.

Regional and Federal Partnerships

JTTF – When we began the process of considering <u>Portland's relationship with the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF)</u>, our goals were to assess the City of Portland's membership status in the JTTF. Following

significant public discussion and input during Town Halls and Council work sessions, City Council unanimously approved Resolution 36859, which had support from the FBI and the ACLU. Additionally, Portland did not sign the FBI's Standard Memorandum of Understanding. Instead, our city negotiated several safeguards to address civil liberties concerns and create a partnership that our community supports.

LPSCC – In 2005, the <u>Local Public Safety</u> Coordinating Council (LPSCC) initiated a process to examine opportunities for efficiency through joint regional planning for operations and funding of law enforcement activities. Unfortunately, the recommendations that resulted from that analysis were never fully implemented due to budget cutbacks. On November 6th, collaborated 2012. we with County Commissioner Judy Shiprack to revive the initiatives in the 2006 report and begin a intergovernmental public new safety planning and budgeting process through the LPSCC executive committee.

Public Safety and Political Protests

In 2011 Portland saw an increase in community activism around issues of social justice, income disparity, poverty and the perceived failure and deceit of Wall Street. With the Occupy movement's focus on widespread economic inequity, it challenged our community to focus on the way we invest public resources and regulate lending policies to ensure equity for all.

From the beginning, we pledged our support of public demonstrations that are conducted peacefully and with respect to the rights of others. We have also been committed to supporting the needs of our entire community to move safely and without disruption through the city. Responding to the calls for change, we pursued a new responsible banking and investment policy for the City, worked to address the foreclosure crisis that left our community with many vacant or distressed properties, and pledged our support to bring war dollars home to domestic priorities.

Community Involvement

The North Albina and Killingsworth collaboration is a great example of how a community, working in tandem with PPB to improve safety, can get results. Although this has historically been a vibrant area, it has been plagued with gang violence, drug dealing, and quality of life issues. In a 2011 analysis by the Portland Police Bureau, this area was identified as one of the hotspots in the city with regards to homicide and gun violence between 2006 and 2011. With the community frustrated and grassroots efforts struggling, the Police Bureau teamed up with community partners such as the Albina Killingsworth Safe Neighborhood Commission, the <u>Humboldt Neighborhood</u> Association, Portland Community College, Rosemary Anderson High School, the 11:45 initiative, the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) and the Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI) to identify areas that could use improvement and additional law enforcement support. As a result of these actions, crime is down in the area.

Suicide Prevention

Suicide is the 9th leading cause of death in the state of Oregon but each of these deaths can be prevented with the support of the Portland community and mental health professionals. The City unveiled a <u>new partnership</u> with <u>Lines for Life</u> and a new suicide prevention hotline (503-972-3456) in the hope of preventing more of these tragedies. Lines for Life has a 98% success rate in de-escalating calls they receive from those in crisis. The service is also open to anyone who may be worried about a family member, friend, co-worker, or neighbor

Bias Crimes and the LGBTQ Community

from community Stemming concerns related to safety in the LGBTQ community, the Mayor's Office and the Police Bureau implemented several new policy changes (additional training for officers, enhanced patrols in LGBTQ bars and the Entertainment district, Q Center partnerships, assignment of an LGBTQ Police Liaison) and created an anonymous online bias and hate crime reporting system with the Oregon Attorney General. The Police Bureau continues to work closely with their Sexual Minorities Roundtable (SMRT) to stamp out these crimes and increase support for community resources for foot patrols.

Lasting, Sustainable Reform

Our office's intent was to set in place sustainable reforms in the Police Bureau, informed by sincere and expansive community and outside expert feedback, which will ensure continued improvement of the bureau now and in the future. Alongside Commissioner Dan Saltzman and community leaders, we began this work with the invitation of the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division (DOJ) to review the Portland Police Bureau for patterns of bias.

In September, 2012, the DOJ released a 42page letter detailing the findings of their 14month investigation. It included a critique of our financially-starved, community-based mental health system. It states, "Our findings take place against a backdrop of a mental health infrastructure that has a number of deficiencies...including insufficient options for adequate community based mental health services." In Portland, our rising tide of chronically mentally ill citizens without access to adequate treatment, a doubling of suicide calls over the last ten years, and increasing populations of addicts and those with behavioral health issues has taxed our mental health care system to a point of exhaustion.

This led City Council to unanimously authorize the Mayor with the authority to enter into an agreement with the United States Department of Justice that lays a clear and accountable path for the Police Bureau to address its deficiencies and improve its practices. The agreement lays out clear expectations for the City's involvement in the redesign of the provision of community, crisis, addiction, and mental health care services.

While much reform was spelled out in the specifics of the DOJ agreement, we didn't wait for the 2012 DOJ findings to begin a new kind of administration of the PPB. Over the last two and a half years, we have <u>pursued new local laws and</u> safety programs to combat gun, drug, and human trafficking related to gangs. We pursued enhanced partnership with regional cities and law enforcement agencies, as well as the federal government. We sought to involve the community in the provision and ownership of community safety. And we sought to keep the peace in our community as national tensions related to the economy, access to opportunity, and housing came into focus locally.

This administration has been honored to work with the Portland Police Bureau and to represent our community in negotiating an even better future for public safety in Portland. With sustainable and vetted systematic changes established, and police bureau leadership committed to continuous improvement, Portland is poised to have the best police force in the country and will remain one of the safest cities nationwide.