



Mount Rainier Police Department

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To: City Manager Braatz, City Council, Mount Rainier Community

Ref: Police Department Calls for Service Data

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Introduction:

- There has been recent discussion within the community about MRPD calls for service data. Any review of police calls for service should include the difference between calls for service and officer initiated activity.
- The following is a brief break down of the 2018 calls for service data.

Calls for Service:

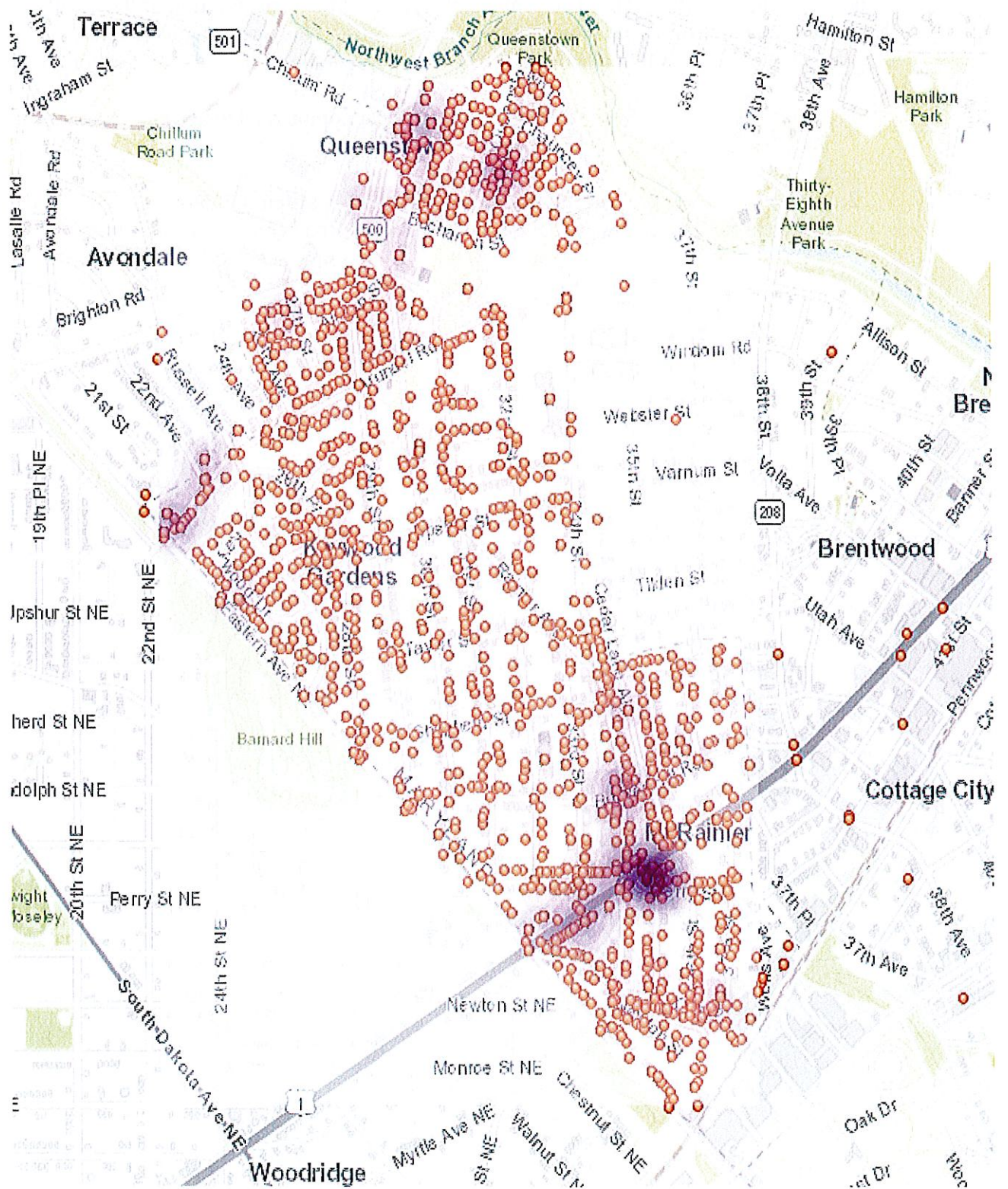
- We currently contract with Hyattsville City's dispatch center for our needs. When a citizen calls for police services that information is placed in the RMS/CAD system and an officer responds. That is the traditional way calls for service are handled.
- Officers can now also self-initiate, a call for service. An officer can put themselves on a business or premise check, foot patrols, traffic stops, welfare checks and several other calls for service using their laptop.
- There were 7,189 total calls for service in 2018. Out of the 7,189 calls for service 2,038 were premise checks. There were 983 combined parking and traffic related stops in 2018.
- The following graph is going to focus on where the criminal calls for service are occurring.

Analysis of Criminal Calls for Service:

- Criminal Calls for service take longer to investigate because an officer has to canvass to locate witness, take victim and witness statements, recover physical evidence, make an arrest, review video evidence, etc. Criminal calls for service where a crime has been committed also require a report on the incident to be written.

- Any analysis of calls for service must include the total amount of time an officer can spend on a call.
- I broke the criminal complaints for 2018 into the following categories: all domestic violence, assaults, thefts, stolen autos, robbery, breaking and entering, fights, sexual assaults, and we had no homicides last year. We had a total of 894 Criminal calls for service that fit the categories I reference above.

Figure 1. Density Estimates of Non-Traffic Police Calls, 2018



Note. – Some points may represent multiple calls at the same location throughout the year.

Figure 1 displays the reported location for all non-traffic calls that occurred between January 1 and December 31, 2018. The shades of purple represent the concentration of these calls where darker shades of purple represent densities of calls.¹ This map is a qualitative interpretation of clusters for calls in 2018. Specifically, Figure 1 suggests two general trends:

1. There appears to be a concentration of calls near commercial areas, including those on Rhode Island Avenue and Queens Chapel Road.
2. There appears to be concentration of calls around multifamily homes, which are adjacent to the Queens Chapel Road and Arundel Road commercial districts.

¹ For more details, see: ArcGIS Pro. "Understanding density analysis." Online as of May 16, 2019:
<https://pro.arcgis.com/en/pro-app/tool-reference/spatial-analyst/understanding-density-analysis.htm>.