

## **SUMMARY: ANALYSIS OF SAFER CROCKER**

- Analysis of Oakland Police Department (OPD) crime data shows a statistically significant decrease (~15%) of criminal activity during the first ~4.5 years (March 2016 through November 2020) of private patrols that are organized by Safer Crocker.
- When the analysis is extended through December 2022, the effectiveness of the patrols diminishes, due to spikes in incidents during the last three holiday seasons (the three months spanning November, December and January).
- In response to the increase in violent crime, in late May 2023 Safer Crocker added “hot spot” patrolling, focused on high-traffic entrances to our neighborhood.
- With more funding for patrols, Safer Crocker could
  1. increase whole-of-LHA patrols, a proven way to reduce crime
  2. rapidly deploy dedicated patrolling to respond to crises as they emerge (like in May 2023) or to disrupt known patterns, like the targeting of our neighborhood during the Holidays

## **WHAT PUBLISHED RESEARCH SAYS**

- Research from criminology and related fields finds that private patrols are an effective deterrent to criminal activity. Patrols not only reduce crime in the area serviced, but in the surrounding areas as well: crime is not displaced into non-patrolled vicinities.
- Research also shows that hot-spot patrolling can also lead to a reduction in crime.
- Literature indicates that the use of cameras enhances deterrence and can reduce crime.
- Not surprisingly, research shows the benefit of combining intervention measures (e.g, patrols and cameras) and the effectiveness of this approach in residential areas.

Prepared by: **Michael Pivovarov** <michael.j.pivovarov@gmail.com>