

PSI

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An Assessment of Neighborhood Watch Groups in Memphis

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INTRODUCTION

The 2022–2026 Safe Community Action Plan spearheaded by the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission identified the need to increase the number of effective neighborhood watch groups within the city of Memphis. In response, the Public Safety Institute (PSI) at the University of Memphis was asked to assess the extent and efficacy of existing neighborhood watch groups (NWGs) within city limits, as well as assess the progress and needs of programs that may serve as a foundation for future expansion.

One of many factors in improving community safety is sustained citizen involvement. Within Memphis and Shelby County, residents have taken active roles in addressing local concerns and improving neighborhood conditions. NWGs in Memphis, for example, align with their respective police precincts to report suspicious or potentially criminal activity. These groups operate as a bridge between residents and law enforcement, creating structured opportunities for communication and problem-solving. Police precincts support these efforts by recruiting neighborhoods, facilitating monthly meetings, and providing education on crime prevention strategies at both the household and community levels. Notably, the Memphis Police Department has made significant and measurable progress in expanding NWGs, with a 46 percent increase from April 2025 to April 2026, supported by continued door-to-door outreach and training efforts, demonstrating strong momentum.

Beyond law enforcement, NWG leaders and residents are provided opportunities to engage directly with multiple city and county agencies, including code enforcement and public health officials, to address both criminal activity and quality-of-life concerns such as blight. These meetings often serve as a centralized forum for identifying recurring issues, coordinating responses, and maintaining accountability across agencies.

As part of this evaluation, the PSI conducted a mixed-methods assessment of neighborhood watch activity across Memphis. This included surveys of participants, focus groups with neighborhood watch leaders, and interviews with key stakeholders. In addition to assessing program effectiveness, the PSI worked to support operational improvements. Notably, this included facilitating the development of a citywide, searchable neighborhood watch map in collaboration with the Memphis Police

Department (MPD) Real Time Crime Center. This tool allows both law enforcement and residents to identify neighborhood boundaries, locate active groups, and improve communication and coordination. The map represents a step toward standardizing neighborhood watch coverage and increasing accessibility for residents seeking to engage with local safety initiatives.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The Neighborhood Watch Group (NWG) Movement

Neighborhood watch (NW) programs emerged in the United States as part of a broader effort to increase citizen involvement in crime prevention (Titus, 1984). At their core, these programs provide a structured mechanism through which residents can participate in local safety efforts, primarily by enhancing informal social control and surveillance within their communities. The underlying premise is that residents, when engaged and aware, contribute to the maintenance of social order in the places where they live. This concept aligns with foundational work emphasizing the role of community presence and guardianship in deterring crime and disorder (Jacobs, 1961; Williams, 1985). More directly, neighborhood watch efforts reflect principles from criminological theory, such as capable guardianship, as well as collective efficacy. Both concepts highlight the effect of neighborhood residents working together to guard their community.

As neighborhood watch programs expanded, a variety of terms emerged to describe similar initiatives, including block watch, apartment watch, home watch, citizen alert, and community watch. The primary approach that these groups take to reduce crime is for residents to report any suspicious activities to their police department in hopes to deter future criminal activity (Bennett, 1990).

Early empirical evaluations of neighborhood watch programs provide some evidence of their potential effectiveness. One of the earliest and most frequently cited examples is the Seattle Community Crime Prevention Project,

which began in 1973. Evaluations of this initiative indicated greater reductions in burglary rates in neighborhoods with active watch groups compared to those without (Cirel et al., 1977). Since the early 1980s, efforts to expand neighborhood watch programs have continued across the United States, often supported by national-level crime prevention organizations.

By 2000, neighborhood watch had become one of the most widespread forms of organized community crime prevention. According to the National Crime Prevention Council's National Crime Prevention Survey (2001), approximately 41 percent of the U.S. population lived in communities with a neighborhood watch program of some form. As noted in the report, "This makes neighborhood watch the largest single organized crime-prevention activity in the nation" (p. 39). At the same time, research on the effectiveness of neighborhood watch programs has produced mixed findings, with outcomes often dependent on factors such as resident participation, organizational structure, and the level of coordination with law enforcement.

Despite widespread adoption, research on the effectiveness of neighborhood watch programs has produced mixed results. Systematic reviews indicate that while some programs are associated with reductions in crime, approximately half show no measurable impact (Bennett et al., 2007). In some cases, initial reductions in crime have not been sustained over time, with effects diminishing after the first year of implementation. Other evaluations have found no improvement, or even increases in crime relative to comparison areas, perhaps due to increased reporting. Broader assessments have concluded that the overall evidence supporting neighborhood watch as a crime prevention strategy remains limited and highly dependent on program structure and resident participation (Holloway, Bennett & Farrington, 2013). Additionally, some studies suggest that neighborhood watch initiatives may increase fear of crime or operate unevenly across communities, raising concerns about their consistency and broader social impact.

Issue	Observed Impact	Typical NWG Response
Vacant / Abandoned Housing	Attracts vandalism, squatting, and illegal activity; signals absence of guardianship.	Monitor properties, report to code enforcement, track recurring issues, and coordinate with city agencies to push for remediation.
Poor Lighting / Environmental Design	Reduces visibility and increases opportunities for crime and concealment.	Identify problem areas, document conditions, and advocate for lighting improvements or environmental design changes.
Property Crime (e.g., theft, burglary)	Financial loss, increased fear, and reduced neighborhood cohesion.	Increase informal surveillance, share incident alerts, and promote target-hardening practices (e.g., cameras, locks, lighting).
Illegal Dumping	Creates health hazards, signals neglect, and encourages further disorder.	Report dumping incidents, organize clean-up efforts, and identify repeat locations or offenders for enforcement follow-up.
Lack of Community Cohesion	Reduces trust and willingness to intervene or report suspicious activity.	Facilitate meetings, improve communication among residents, and strengthen collective efficacy through relationship-building.
Suspicious Activity	May indicate pre-crime behavior; increases resident anxiety.	Share timely information, encourage reporting to police, and maintain communication channels (e.g., group messaging, meetings).
Youth-Related Issues (e.g., truancy, curfew violations)	Increased minor offenses with potential escalation if unaddressed.	Communicate concerns to families or authorities and connect youth with community-based programs where available.
Traffic / Speeding Concerns	Safety risks for pedestrians, particularly children and elderly residents.	Identify hotspots, report concerns to authorities, and advocate for enforcement or traffic-calming measures.

(Bennett, T., Holloway, K., Farrington, D., 2008; Branas et al, 2018; Bogar & Beyer, 2016; Bowman & Pagano, 2010; Garofalo, J., & Maureen, M., 1989; Gobster & Westphal, 2004; Garvin et al, 2013; Harcourt & Ludwig, 2006; Hessel, 2018; Jasanya, O., 2025; Keizer, Lindenber, & Steg, 2008; Kondo, South, & Branas, 2015; Wachter & Wong, 2008)

METHODS

Three primary sources of data were used for this project:

1. A survey of MPD neighborhood watch coordinators;
2. Focus groups with MPD neighborhood watch coordinators and local NWG leaders; and
3. A compilation of physical boundaries for all current NWGS.

Survey

First, a physical survey was distributed to MPD neighborhood watch group coordinators in Fall 2025. The survey included X Likert-scale items as well as open-ended response questions. A copy of the final survey instrument is included in Appendix 1.

Coordinators were asked to complete the survey at the conclusion of a monthly, citywide meeting of neighborhood watch coordinators representing precincts across Memphis. During this meeting, two members of the research team presented an overview of the project and explained the purpose of the survey to encourage participation. The survey was designed to capture key operational characteristics of NWGs, including meeting frequency and location, communication methods, and the primary issues identified by residents.

Physical copies of the survey were distributed at the meeting, and electronic versions were subsequently emailed to coordinators for further distribution within their precincts. Despite multiple modes of delivery and follow-up encouragement, response rates remained low ($n = 37$). Follow-up communication with coordinators indicated that some neighborhood watch leaders were hesitant to provide information through a formal survey format, citing privacy concerns.

As a result, the research team adapted its data collection strategy to incorporate more informal, discussion-based methods. Additional qualitative data were subsequently collected through focus group discussions conducted at the precinct level.

Focus Groups

Second, a series of focus groups were conducted with neighborhood watch coordinators and local NWG leaders. The coordinator focus group was developed in response to feedback from earlier meetings, where coordinators recommended a more conversational, face-to-face format for gathering information.

An initial focus group was conducted with coordinators (n = 9) in November 2025. This session was designed to both collect data and serve as a model for subsequent discussions with neighborhood leaders. The focus group followed a semi-structured format guided by the following questions:

1. Can you describe the neighborhoods or areas you support as a coordinator?
2. What challenges do NWGs face that limit their success or participation?
3. What are the biggest obstacles to expanding NWG participation in Memphis?
4. If you could change one aspect of the NWG structure, what would it be?
5. Are there resources, communication strategies, or incentives that might increase participation?

The session lasted approximately one hour, was audio recorded, and later transcribed. Responses were de-identified and analyzed to identify recurring themes.

Following the coordinator session, additional focus groups were planned with neighborhood watch leaders across all nine precincts of the Memphis Police Department, including Austin Peay, Raines, Mt. Moriah, Crump, Tillman, North Main, Airways, Appling Farms, and Ridgeway. Recruitment for these sessions was coordinated through precinct leadership.

Due to scheduling challenges and occasional meeting cancellations, focus groups were ultimately conducted in four precincts between February and March 2026. These sessions followed a similar semi-structured format, with questions including:

1. What successes has your program had in addressing crime?
2. What specific concerns does your area have regarding crime and response?
3. What resources would help your group be more effective?

Each session lasted approximately one hour and was audio recorded for transcription. Multiple members of the research team independently reviewed transcripts to

identify themes within and across groups. Responses were collated and de-identified to ensure that findings could not be attributed to specific individuals or neighborhoods.

NWG Boundary Map Data

The PSI research team and the MPD RTCC partnered with NWGs to develop NWG boundary data. North, south, east, and west boundaries of each neighborhood watch group were recorded and entered into an excel database and imported into ArcPro. Polygons of each NWG was developed and shared with MPD RTCC to overlay with crime data for internal use and to create a searchable database for civilians.

FINDINGS

Survey Results

Due to the low response rate, the survey findings may not fully reflect the broader population of NWGs. The results are presented below but should be interpreted with caution.

First, as seen in Figure 1, recruitment efforts seem to rely heavily on informal, community-driven strategies. Word of mouth is the most cited method (32), suggesting that personal connections and residing within the same neighborhood play a major role in attempting to bring in new members. More structured outreach methods such as flyers (23), social media (20), community events (18), and door-to-door efforts (17) are also used. This shows that while formal recruitment strategies are present, NWGs may benefit from having better coordinated efforts to complement the strong reliance on interpersonal communication.

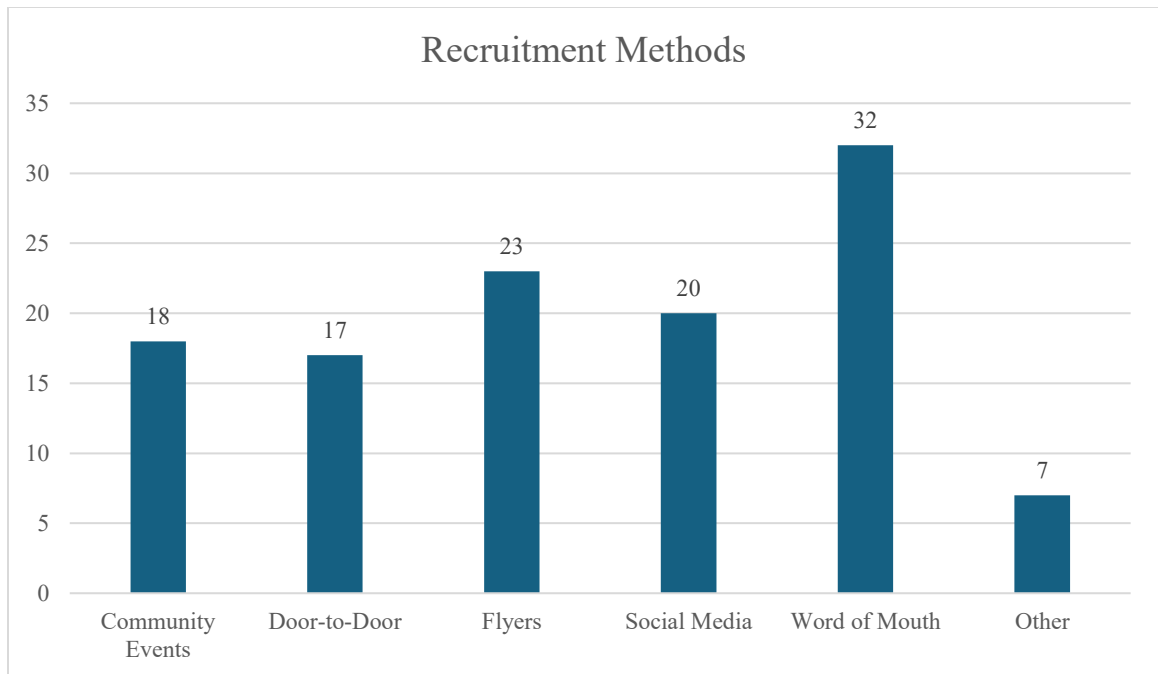


Figure 1.

Figure 2 shows that the meeting frequency varies, but most groups tend to meet on a monthly basis (16). Fewer groups meet quarterly (8) or fall into the “other” category (6), while very few meet weekly, bi-weekly, or annually (all at 1). The primary response for “other” was “as needed.” This does seem to suggest that monthly meetings strike a balance between having consistent meetings and the best feasibility for most participants, though the limited number of more frequent meetings could indicate challenges with sustained engagement. Another characteristic examined was the average attendance per meeting. Figure 3 shows that the largest portion of groups report 11-20 attendees (10), followed by 5-10 attendees (9). Smaller groups with fewer than five attendees (7) and larger groups exceeding 20 attendees (7) are equally represented.

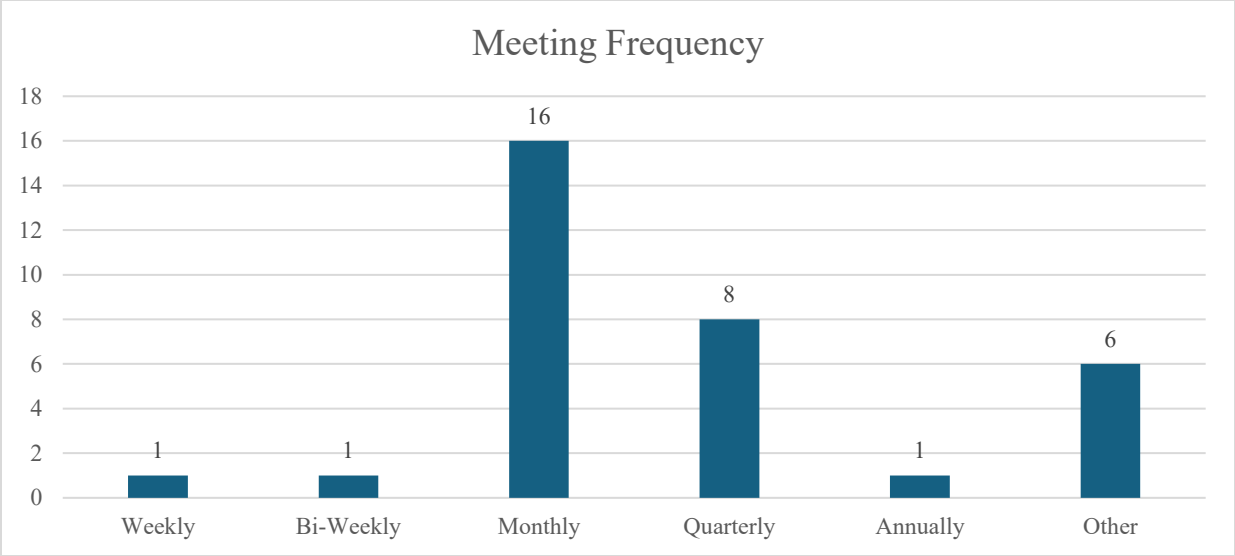


Figure 2.

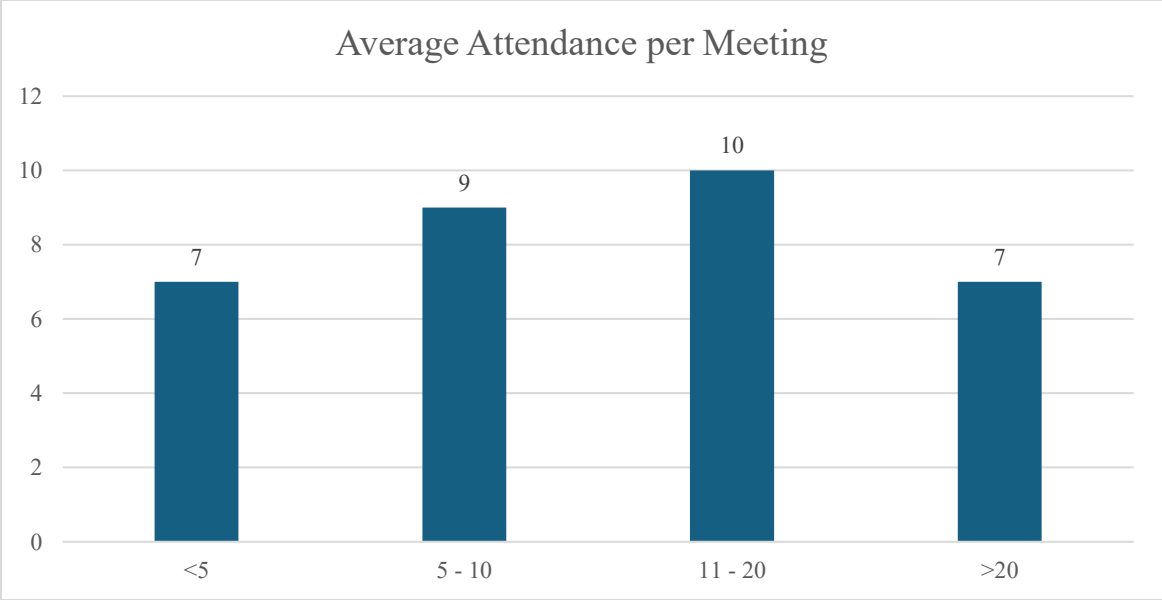


Figure 3

As for group activities Figure 4 examined the types of events that NWGs are partaking in, community events are the most common (23), suggesting a strong emphasis on building connections and engagement among residents – this also ties strongly into the fact that most of these groups are using a word-of-mouth recruitment strategy. Neighborhood cleanups (10) and other activities (9) also play a notable role.

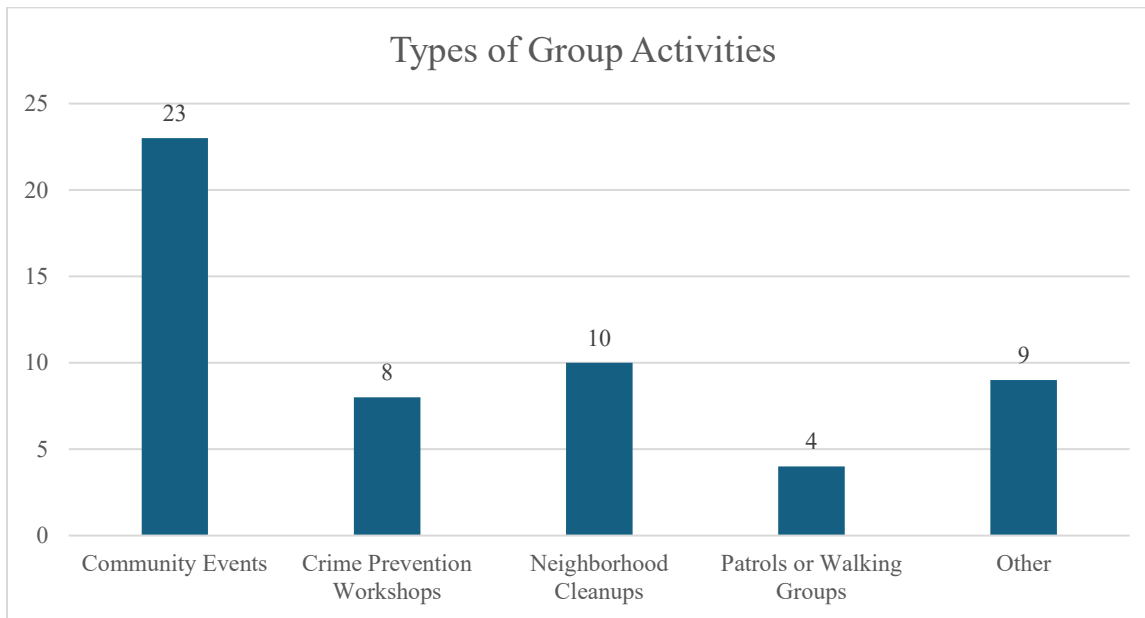


Figure 4.

In terms of issues affecting the neighborhood, Figure 5 shows that safety concerns dominate. Homeless encampments (20), property crime (19) and violent crime (17) are among the most frequently reported problems. Other significant concerns include blight/vacant properties (17), suspicious activity (15), and littering/illegal dumping (15). Less frequently cited issues include lack of police presence (3) and general “other” concerns (3). Figure 6 aimed to measure the perceptions of support from MPD, and results show a largely positive sentiment. A strong majority of respondents view MPD as very supportive (21), while others consider them somewhat supportive (5) or neutral (5). Notably, no respondents reported that MPD is not supportive. This shows that there is a generally favorable community-police relations.

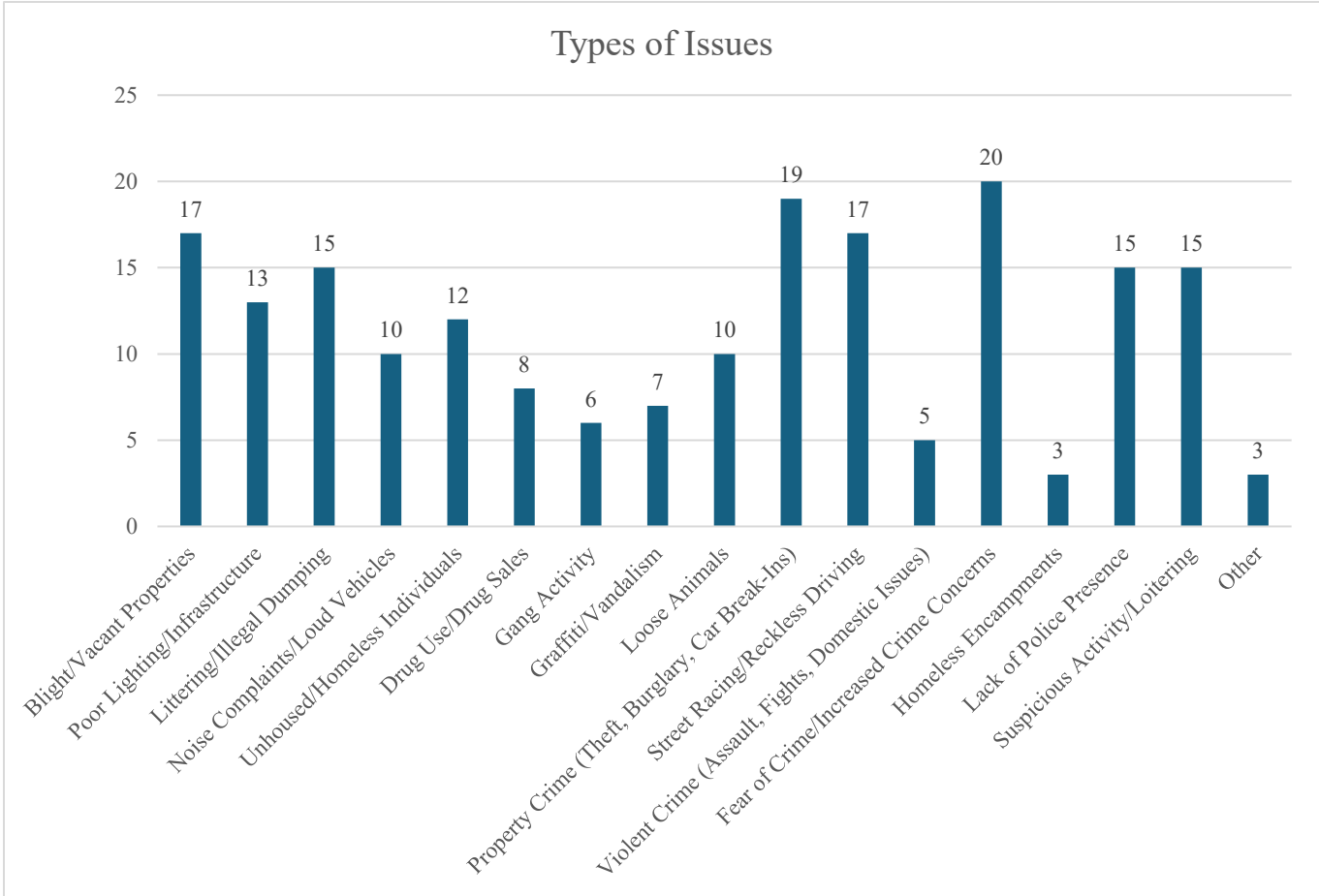


Figure 5

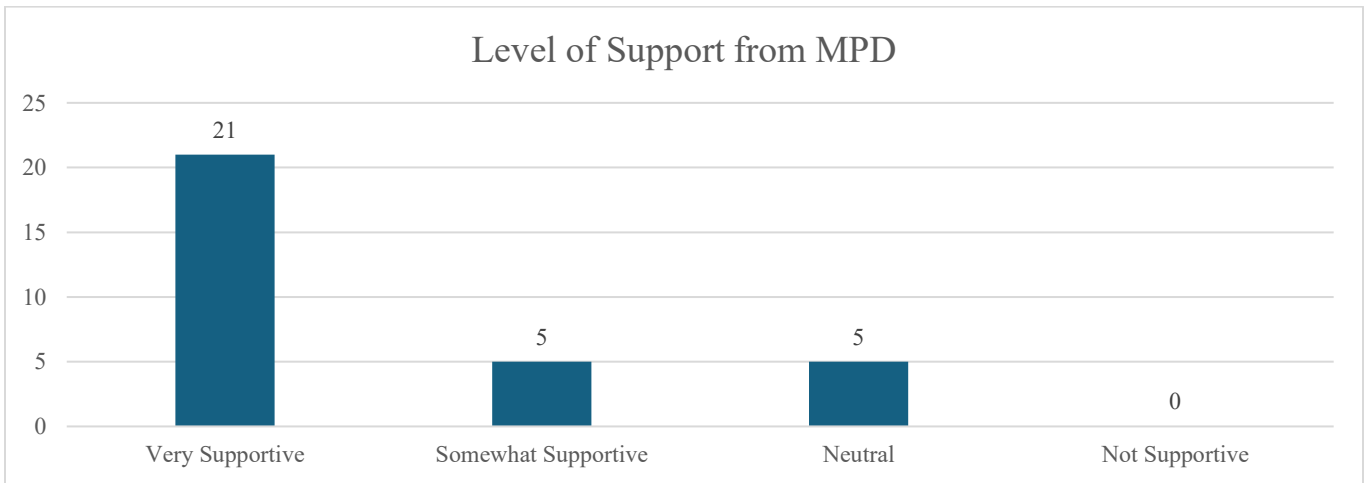


Figure 6.

Focus Groups with Memphis Police Department's Neighborhood Watch Coordinators

Several themes were the points of discussion for the neighborhood watch coordinators focus group: 1) recruitment and retention of group leaders; 2) increasing capacity for existing groups; and 3) information sharing between law enforcement and group leaders. First, coordinators discussed the barriers towards recruiting and retaining group leaders. Coordinators discussed the lack of morale among groups without having enough income to support their efforts or their team members. In addition, the lack of consistency among leaders suggested that coordinators found it difficult to retain quality and committed individuals towards the cause.

An additional concern came with increasing capacity for existing groups. Related to the first concern, not having funding for groups also increased the difficulty in advertising existing groups, such as marking properties with neighborhood watch signs, as well as advertising events on various media platforms. Social media such as Facebook was discussed as the primary form of contact, in addition to email, physical mail, and other forms of communication. Additionally, the ability to host events would be better supported with financial resources to offer food, giveaways, and other tangible benefits.

Finally, coordinators discussed the lack of communication between law enforcement and group leaders on recruitment, community events, and engagement with other groups. Groups are often unaware of each other, are not involved with separate Home Owners Association (HOA) groups, and do not hear from law enforcement about events run by the police department or that are supported for neighborhood watch.

Focus Groups with Memphis Police Department's Neighborhood Watch Group Leaders

While not substantially different, the individual focus groups of NWG leaders held at the four precincts revealed distinctive needs from each area. Broadly, five themes indicated issues centered around 1) support enhancement; 2) participation drive; 3) rental turnover and residential mobility; 4) government and institutional accountability; and 5) communication. As each of the four groups provided specific examples under each theme, each theme is discussed in further detail below.

Support Enhancement

First, all groups agreed that additional support, both financial and non-material, was crucial to future program success. The grant offered by the Memphis Police Department for a neighborhood watch group is \$2500. Individual leaders called for further and continued financial support for their work. Suggestions included having more funding opportunities so that group leaders could earn a salary and keep them motivated. An example of a successful initiative discussed during a session was using a portion of the \$2,500 funding to purchase dusk to dawn lightbulbs to provide landscape lighting in dark parts of the neighborhood. One highlighted need was the addition of technology that could assist in crime detection and sharing with law enforcement through the ConnectMemphis effort, including Ring or other type home security camera systems, as well as license plate readers (LPRs). One participant noted that a rash of property theft in the neighborhood ended when residents submitted Ring cameras to law enforcement and the thief was able to be identified from video. Other suggestions included being able to support cleanup of local public parks and installing speed bumps in neighborhoods.

Participation Drive

Second, the theme of participation reflected the very real frustration individuals felt at encouraging both initial and continued involvement. Participants noted that, particularly with younger residents moving in, it was difficult to encourage buy in for participation in neighborhood watch activities. Participants also reported that, despite encouragement, neighbors would fail to show up to meetings.

Participants emphasized that sustaining engagement over time was equally difficult. Even in neighborhoods with early interest, attendance often declined after initial meetings, leaving a small group of consistent participants responsible for ongoing activities. Leaders noted that competing time demands, lack of immediate visible outcomes, and limited feedback on reported issues contributed to declining participation. In some cases, residents expressed support for neighborhood watch efforts in principle but were unwilling to engage directly in meetings or organized activities. This pattern suggests that participation is not solely a function of awareness, but also of perceived value and responsiveness, where continued involvement depends on whether residents see tangible results from their efforts.

Rental Turnover and Residential Mobility

Harder to define was an identified need for connected and engaged neighbors. Some participants discussed how renters moving in and out of an area meant that they often didn't know their neighbors but also noticed when someone stood out who was new. Turnover also affected the success of neighborhood watch; one participant noted, "As our neighbors move in and out, so does the watch."

Conversely, having a history with neighbors and the connection of time seemed to provide a sense of community; as one participant put it, "The more we know about our folks, the more we can take care of each other." One participant also stated that, while the neighborhood has changed over time, "It's been really remarkable how the Neighborhood Watch has brought everybody together." Similarly, as neighbors have gotten to know one another, their support for each other has grown. One participant provided an example of how the neighborhood came together for a family when the husband and father had passed, bringing food and mowing their lawn, stating, "It actually comes back to you in an incredible way because our neighborhood is more solid than ever".

Government and Institutional Accountability

Leaders discussed how code violations, particularly among renters, were a problem in their neighborhoods, but unless the city council was involved, the leaders were ultimately powerless. Additionally, even with owners cited for code violations, particularly for renter disturbances, citation costs were so low as to not be prohibitive for future behavior. One participant noted that, while the citations were all the city could currently do, the city needed more power to hold landlords accountable. Despite the inability to make changes, at least one leader noted, "A lot of times the finger keeps pointing back at you on your block." Other comments highlighted issues within the 311 system were difficult for code enforcement to track reported cases, with two different systems often in conflict for reporting and communicating information to government entities; some participants noted that reports made through the 311 website would be closed without resolution days later. Being able to call on city council members, county commissioners, or code enforcement officers was identified as a necessary, if difficult, task.

These challenges point to a broader limitation in the effectiveness of NWGs, where resident-led efforts are often dependent on the responsiveness and capacity of formal

institutions. While neighborhood leaders play a critical role in identifying and reporting issues, their ability to address persistent problems, particularly those involving absentee landlords or repeat violations, is constrained without consistent follow-through from city systems. As a result, accountability gaps at the institutional level undermine resident engagement and long-term participation in neighborhood watch efforts.

Communication

Finally, communication was a central theme across multiple areas. Transparency with sharing what, how much, and what type of crime was occurring within the precinct from law enforcement to neighborhood watch leaders was expressed as an ongoing issue in terms of the means of sharing. While law enforcement reported numbers at regular meetings, participants expressed an interest within having an online database or tracking tool to be able to view crime real-time, as well as share with their neighborhood residents.

Participants also noted that delays or inconsistencies in communication reduced their ability to respond proactively and share timely information with residents. In the absence of accessible, real-time data, leaders often relied on informal communication channels, which could result in incomplete or inconsistent messaging across neighborhoods. This limitation was viewed as reducing both the effectiveness of neighborhood watch activities and resident confidence in the information being shared.

MAPPING OF ACTIVE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUPS

To improve accessibility and awareness of NWGs, an interactive map was developed to allow residents to easily identify whether they reside within an active NWG and to obtain the relevant contact information. This tool was designed to hopefully strengthen community engagement by reducing the informational barriers and making participation in neighborhood-level crime prevention efforts more accessible.

The mapping process was conducted using geographic boundary data provided by the Memphis Police Department. This data included the boundaries of existing NWGs

across the city. Each NWG was reviewed to determine whether sufficient and reliable location markers were available to accurately represent the group spatially. Only those NWGs with adequate geographic data were included in the final interactive map to ensure usability. An initial map with existing NWG boundaries is attached as Appendix 2.

The resulting interactive map would allow users to search by their address and visually identify any NWG boundaries within their area. When available, associated contact information for each group would be displayed, enabling residents to connect directly with NWG leaders. By having a centralized spot for this information in a single, user-friendly platform, the map can serve as a practical tool to enhance communication and encourage resident participation.

At the time of this assessment, the map represents a foundational tool rather than a fully realized outcome. Its long-term utility will depend on the continued maintenance and updating of boundary and contact information by the Memphis Police Department, as well as consistent input from neighborhood leaders. As with any data-driven platform, the effectiveness of the map is contingent upon the accuracy and timeliness of the information provided. Without sustained updates and oversight, the tool risks becoming outdated and less effective as a means of supporting communication and engagement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Establish a Dedicated NWG Priority Response Channel

A consistent theme across findings was the limited ability of NWGs to resolve issues once identified. To address this, the City of Memphis should consider developing a **dedicated reporting and response channel for NWG coordinators** to relay NWG leader concerns formally.

This could take the form of a restricted-access portal or liaison system that allows verified NWG coordinators to submit concerns directly to a centralized point of contact (e.g., Mayor's Office or designated personnel), who can coordinate responses across agencies such as the Memphis Police Department and 311 services.

Providing NWGs with a mechanism to elevate priority concerns would:

- Improve response times
- Increase accountability across agencies
- Reinforce the value of resident participation
- Serve as a meaningful incentive for engagement

2. Increase Funding and Incentives for NWG Participation

Sustained participation remains a challenge across NWGs. Increasing financial support, even at modest levels, may help stabilize and expand engagement.

Additional funding could support:

- Meeting resources and communication tools
- Community-building events
- Small-scale environmental improvements (e.g., cameras, signage, lighting)

Importantly, **pairing financial support with increased access to city systems** (e.g., priority response channels) may create a stronger incentive structure than funding alone.

3. Improve Communication Infrastructure and Data Accessibility

Participants consistently expressed a need for more timely and accessible crime information. While data is shared at meetings, the lack of real-time or easily accessible tools limits effectiveness.

The City of Memphis should explore:

- Expanding or publicizing access to user-friendly, real-time or near real-time crime data
- Integrating NWGs into existing platforms developed by the Memphis Police Department Real Time Crime Center
- Standardizing communication channels across NWGs (e.g., alerts, dashboards, or messaging systems)

Improved communication infrastructure would enhance coordination, consistency of messaging, and resident confidence.

4. Standardize NWG Structure and Administrative Processes

Variation in organization and record-keeping across NWGs limits overall effectiveness. Establishing basic standards would improve consistency and scalability.

Recommended actions include:

- Continuing and strengthening standardization of the process for registering NWGs
- Maintaining up-to-date records of boundaries, leadership, and activity status
- Periodic public updates from NWG coordinators to the Crime Commission and other entities
- Keeping updates live with the current interactive map that has been created

These steps would improve transparency, coordination, and long-term sustainability.

5. Expand Recruitment and Participation Strategies

Low participation and awareness remain persistent challenges. NWGs should adopt more proactive and varied engagement strategies, including:

- Regular communication through multiple platforms (email, messaging apps, in-person meetings)
- Outreach through local organizations (e.g., non-profits, neighborhood associations, churches)
- Increased visibility through signage and digital platforms
- Incorporation of community-based trainings and activities alongside crime prevention efforts

One type of training can be based on principles from **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)**. Such trainings can strengthen both recruitment and sustained engagement. Organizations such as SafeWays demonstrate how environmental improvements, such as lighting, visibility, access control, and maintenance, can reduce opportunities for crime while also increasing resident investment in their neighborhoods. SafeWays can assist with ensuring apartment

communities within a NWG are mitigating crime risks through environmental design. Coordinating NWG efforts with CPTED-based initiatives, including cleanups, beautification projects, and environmental assessments, may provide visible and immediate outcomes that reinforce participation and build long-term community cohesion.

6. Reinforce the Role and Scope of NWGs

Clarifying the role of NWGs is important for managing expectations and improving effectiveness. NWGs function best as **community-based, preventive, and communication-oriented groups**, rather than direct enforcement entities.

Efforts should focus on:

- Reinforcing their role in informal social contact and information sharing
- Strengthening partnerships with law enforcement and city agencies
- Ensuring residents understand the limits and strengths of NWG involvement

Clear expectations can improve both participation and satisfaction with NWG efforts.

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APPENDIX 1

Memphis Area Neighborhood Watch Group Assessment Survey

Instructions

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this survey. The purpose of this survey is to better understand the activity levels, coordination practices, and needs of Neighborhood Watch Groups (NWG) across Memphis.

The survey should be completed by the primary leader or assistant leader of your Neighborhood Watch Group. If neither is available, please designate a group member who is familiar with your NWG's activities and communication with the Memphis Police Department (MPD).

The survey should take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. Please answer all of the questions to the best of your knowledge. Your responses will be kept confidential and used only for research and program improvement purposes.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Max Helms with the Public Safety Institute at jmhelms@memphis.edu.

Group Information

1) Group/Organization Name: _____

2) MPD Precinct: _____

3) Boundaries of Area (List Streets):

North: _____

East: _____

South: _____

West: _____

4) Approximate Number of Residences in Neighborhood Watch Area: _____

5) Number of Residences You Have Direct Contact Info For: _____

Recruitment & Membership

6) Do you have a process to recruit new residents to your NWG?

Yes

No

7) Which recruitment methods have you used? (Select all that apply.)

Flyers

Door-to-Door Outreach

Social Media

Community Events

Word of Mouth

Other: _____

8) Would you like information on recruitment strategies?

Yes

No

Meetings & Participation

9) Meeting Frequency:

Weekly

Bi-Weekly

Monthly

Quarterly

Annually

Other: _____

10) Average Attendance per Meeting:

Fewer than 5

5-10

11-20

More than 20

11) Usual Meeting Time and Location Type (i.e. church, residence, etc.):

12) Member Participation Level:

- Very Active
- Somewhat Active
- Rarely Active
- Not Active

Group Registration & MPD Interaction

13) Have any of your members attended any of the following:

- Citizens Police Academy
- Clergy Academy
- Monthly MPD precinct Neighborhood Watch Meetings
- National Night Out
- Partnership Joint Agencies (PJA) Meetings

14) Are you satisfied with the current registration process to become a Neighborhood Watch group?

- Yes
- No

Leadership Contacts (Optional)

15) Leader/President Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

16) Assistant Leader/President Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Group Activities (Past 12 Months)

17) Select all that apply.

- Neighborhood Cleanups
- Crime Prevention Workshops

- Community Events
- Patrols or Walking Groups
- Other: _____

Primary Issues in Your Area

18) Select all that apply.

Quality of Life Issues

- Blighted / Vacant Properties
- Poor Lighting / Infrastructure
- Littering / Illegal Dumping
- Noise Complaints / Loud Vehicles
- Unhoused/Homeless Individuals

Crime/Nuisance Issues

- Drug Use / Drug Sales
- Gang Activity
- Graffiti / Vandalism
- Loose Animals
- Property Crime (Theft, Burglary, Car Break-ins)
- Street Racing / Reckless Driving
- Violent Crimes (Assault, Fights, Domestic Issues)

Concerns About Safety

- Fear of Crime / Increased Crime Concerns
- Homeless Encampments
- Lack of Police Presence
- Suspicious Activity / Loitering
- Other: _____

Coordination with Other NWGs

19) Do you collaborate with other Neighborhood Watch Groups? (If 'no' please skip to Question 22.)

- Yes
- No

20) How do you collaborate? (i.e. National Night Out, training events, etc.)

21) Methods of Communication (Select all that apply.)

- Email
- Phone
- Social Media
- In-Person Events
- We Do Not Communicate
- Other: _____

22) Would you be interested in more collaboration opportunities?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator/Police Communication

23) In the past 3 months, how many times has your group communicated with your Neighborhood Watch Coordinator?

- 0 Times
- 1 – 3 Times
- 4 – 6 Times
- More than 6 times.

24) Has an MPD officer attended one of your meetings in the last 6 months?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

25) How would you rate MPD's support of your group?

- Very Supportive
- Somewhat Supportive
- Neutral
- Not Supportive

26) What is the best way for your Neighborhood Watch Group to communicate with your Neighborhood Watch Coordinator?

27) What additional support would you like from your Neighborhood Watch Coordinator?

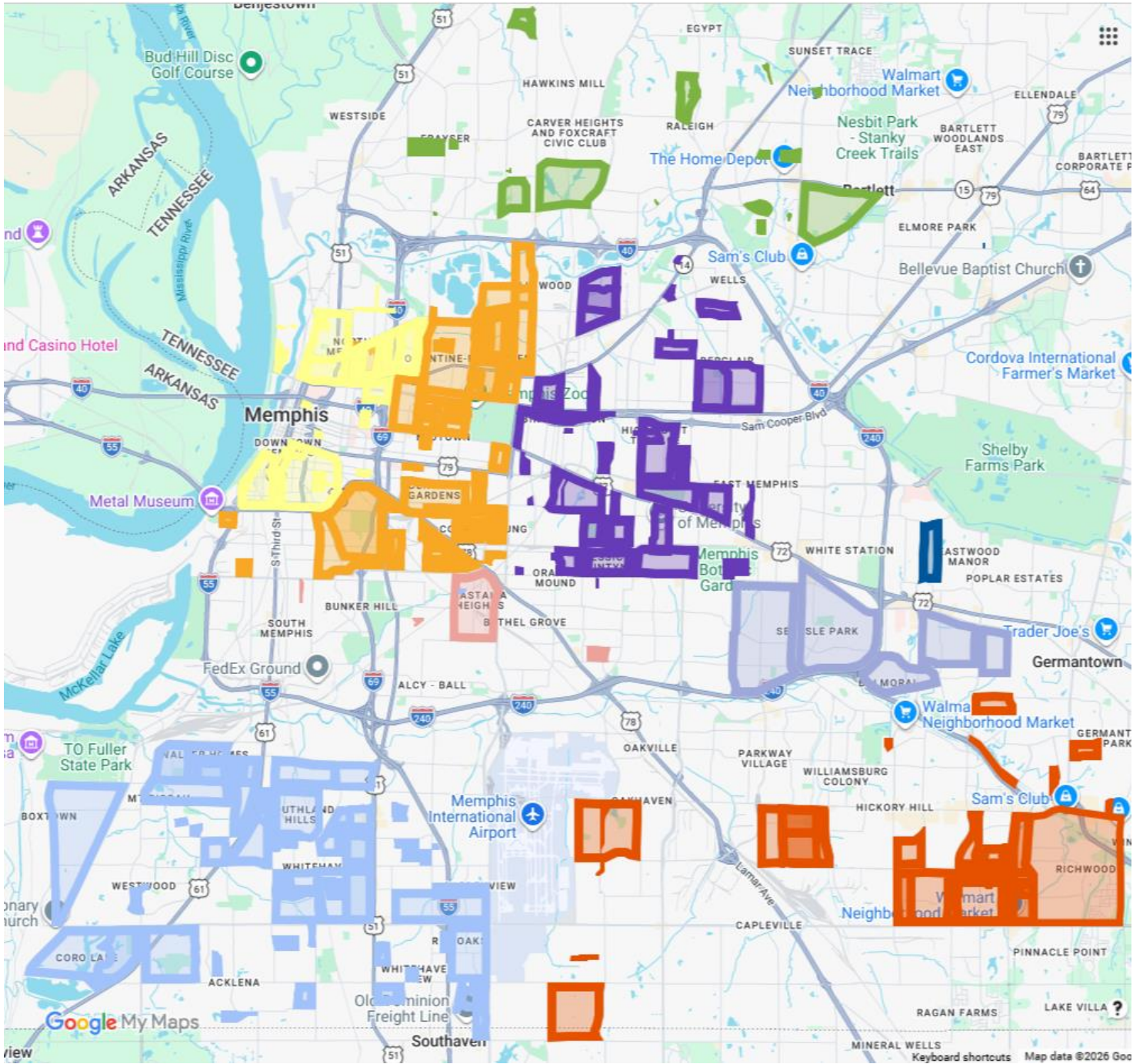
Support & Resources

28) What resources or support would make your group more effective?

29) Would you be interested in training opportunities (e.g., community engagement, crime prevention, active shooter training, domestic violence)?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

APPENDIX 2





The University of
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Visit our website at <https://Memphis.edu/psi>

PSI

The Public Safety Institute (PSI) at the University of Memphis is an interdisciplinary part of the university community committed to identifying and advancing best practices in the field of public safety.