

Information Item

Date: February 13, 2023

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Johnnie Taylor, Assistant City Manager
William L Royston, Recreation and Parks Director
Bryce Sherman, Youth Violence Prevention Manager

Subject: Presentation- Community Impact of Youth Violence Prevention Program

Strategic Focus Area: Safe and Secure Community

Strategic Objective: No

Strategic Plan Action Item: No

Key Work Item: No



In January 2022, the Recreation and Parks Department began working strategically to counter the growing concerns of youth and teen violence across our city. Our mission is to increase teen programming in “safe places” throughout the City of Winston-Salem. The department has partnered with local law enforcement agencies to collect data on crimes committed by juveniles. This data helps identify “hot spots” for crime and determine where programming is needed the most. Data suggests one of the best ways to reduce youth violence is quality and meaningful programming for youth. Over the past year, The Youth Violence Prevention Program has made tremendous efforts in implementing several new programs to ensure youth in the community have a healthy avenue to express themselves and remain engaged.

Throughout the included presentation, the Recreation and Parks department will highlight objectives and goals of the Youth and Teen Initiative, as well as positive outcomes from newly implemented programs.