



CMPD Crime Reduction Units (CRU) in Corridors of Opportunity

Metro Division

Metro is tasked with three distinct Corridors of Opportunity to include Beatties Ford Road/Rozzelles Ferry, Freedom Drive/Wilkinson Blvd and North Graham/North Tryon. Our Crime Reduction Unit is tasked with the following:

- Identifying crime-driving suspects and locations
- Creatively and proactively preventing and addressing crime drivers.
- The Lakewood Community between Tuckaseegee and Rozzelles Ferry in 2019 and 2020 has seen an increase in Shootings (SIODs and ADWs) likely centered around the drug trade.
- The Beatties Ford Road corridor continues to be the primary focus for the CRU due to the persistent Robberies, Shootings and Burglaries (Part I offenses). N. Graham and N Tryon also has a considerable number of Part I offenses requiring patrol.

The CRU conducts a variety of operations to include Aggressive Driving prevention Operations, coordinating and managing undercover narcotics buys and surveillance, dynamic and non-dynamic Search Warrants targeting suspects with warrants for violent offenses or to recover stolen property and illegal weapons and high-visibility patrols and presence.

The CRU rotates their hours and schedules to best match and address the crime trends.

North Tryon Division:

The North Tryon Division CRU is tasked with the below responsibilities:

- Investigate Crime Stoppers Tips called in by citizens
- Focus on known chronic violent offenders in the Division that contribute to violent crime citywide
- Deploy and focus on known crime hotspots (Sugar Creek/I-85, Tom Hunter and N. Tryon, and The Plaza/Milton Rd). In short, CRU deploys to the areas where we have victims of criminal activity
- Tasked with multiple manpower requests for various special events
- Conduct drug interdiction based on the direct link to violent crime or victims of violent crime



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Freedom Division:

Overall, Freedom Division's Crime Reduction Unit's mission is violent crime suppression/investigations as well as repeat offenders, and drug activity.

Historically and geographically speaking our CRU is primarily focused in RA1 around the Thomasboro Neighborhood and more recently in RA2 in the neighborhoods around Moores Chapel and Little Rock as new growth has sparked new trends in violent crime in those areas (particularly shootings into occupied property).

As a division, we get on average 2-3 Crime Stoppers complaints about drug activity from our communities per week. CRU is tasked primarily with investigating those drug complaints. Our CRU is not a drug interdiction unit by design in that we respond to the community on their drug complaints but mainly focus on violent crime trends and use drug interdiction on violent/repeat offenders as a means to an end.

With regard to Corridors of Opportunity along Wilkinson Blvd, the Freedom Division CRU has mainly focused on the Wal-Mart shopping center and hotels. This area is primarily our response area 3 and neighbors Metro Division to the East, Westover Division to the South, and out RA1 and RA 2 to the North. The main deployment of our CRU here is the use uniformed officers and marked patrol vehicles in this area to combat intermittent acts of criminal activity; i.e. robberies from Wal-Mart or a shooting.

Recently Freedom Division Crime Reduction Unit wrapped up an extensive human trafficking investigation along the hotel corridor. Through the use of confidential informants and uniformed response, these officers were able to make multiple arrests of the individuals believed to trafficking young women and selling drugs. The officers also teamed with community coordinators to have educational meetings with the hotel management, which culminated in the termination of multiple employees who were suspected of being complicit in criminal activity, but probable cause could not be reached for arrest purposes.

Westover Division:

The CRU focus is on combating violent crime, specifically gun related violent crime as it has the highest potential for serious or fatal injury to the victim. They work closely with the division's detectives by sharing information and looking for suspects who have warrants for violent



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crimes. They also investigate Crime Stoppers tips that relate to drug and firearm complaints. To have the greatest impact on violent crime in the division, they focus on known locations that have a higher number of violent crimes and known offenders who have a history of violent crimes or who are actively involved in a series of incidents or one that would likely involve retaliatory shootings. Below are some of the specific areas within the City of Charlotte Opportunity Zone in Westover that they are and have focused on.

- West Blvd and Remount Rd:
 - Actively working with businesses (several partnerships that have led to access to cameras), coordinators, VICE, division detectives, and nuisance abatement to address the open-air drug market and accompanying violence.
 - They actively and strategically focus on the known players that have been involved in violent crimes and those that have a history of possessing/using firearms.
 - Their knowledge of the involved subjects (gang affiliation, ongoing feuds/beefs) has been instrumental in assisting detectives identify suspects and make arrests. They also proactively push out information on possible “retaliations” so we can deploy resources in attempts to interrupt the cycle of violence.
 - Their knowledge and case work surrounding drug and violent crimes at 1533 West Bv have been instrumental in the ongoing nuisance abatement meetings with the owners of the property, the Police Attorney’s Office, and the US Attorney’s Office.
- Reid Park:
 - Due to the uncharacteristic homicides and shooting into occupied properties on Reid Av during this summer, the CRU was tasked with working with homicide and division detectives to identify and pursue those suspects that were driving the violence.
- Southside Homes:
 - Southside homes has been a focus area for the CRU due to the number of shooting into occupied properties and homicides that have occurred in the complex this past year. Just like in the above-mentioned areas, they focus on identified locations and people that are either likely spots for retaliatory shootings, actively involved in an ongoing series, or have a history of violent crime.



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- Their knowledge of the area and great working relationship with the division coordinator, detectives, and SIOD/Gang task force has resulted in several arrests and seized guns that have links to multiple cases that have impacted additional areas across the city.

Eastway Division:

The Eastway CRU is tasked with deterring, preventing and investigating violent crimes within the division. These crimes include Robbery, Aggravated Assault and drug offenses that lead to violent crimes. Our goal is to use data provided by the Crime Analysis Unit to target known, violent offenders in the division using the nexus between drugs and violent crime to take these offenders into custody.

The Eastway CRU accomplishes this work by:

- Conducting directed patrols and saturation operations to ensure the most visibility possible in the areas that have experienced violent crime.
- In addition, the data we get from the Crime Analysis Unit often reinforces the intelligence the Eastway CRU obtains from our use of undercover assets and cameras. We use these resources to conduct surveillance operations and develop intelligence that leads to building cases to arrest violent offenders.
- Each of Eastway's three response areas have locations that have experienced and continue to experience violent crime and the CRU focuses their efforts on these areas. In response area one, these areas include the Belmont community in general and The Plaza near 35th Street in particular.
- In response area two, the focus area is in and around the 3100 block of Central Avenue. In response area three, the CRU patrols the neighborhoods, apartment complexes and businesses around the intersection of Central Avenue and Sharon Amity.
- Overall, the Eastway CRU remains flexible enough to respond to any violent crime pattern that develops anywhere in the division (or the city if needed).