

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES



Protective Services Division
(PSD) Security Survey

300 & 301 Van Buren
Street, NW

Date: August 8, 2019



Summary

During the past year, MPD crime statistics report that robbery without the use of a gun has increased in the areas of 300 and 301 Van Buren Street, NW. The current security posture of areas surrounding the Tacoma Recreation Center and the Community and Aquatic Center is poor, lacking fencing, security cameras, and lighting.

Site Information of Tacoma Recreation Center

Tacoma Recreation Center located at 301 Van Buren Street, NW, has been having altercations on their basketball court during the past year. See MPD crime statistics below.

Crime Type	8/2/2017 to 8/2/2018	08/02/2018 to 08/02/2019	Change
Homicide	0	0 [view map]	↔
Sex Abuse	0	0 [view map]	↔
→ Robbery Excluding Gun	1	9 [view map]	↑
Robbery With Gun	7	2 [view map]	↓
Assault Dangerous Weapon (ADW) Excluding Gun	1	1 [view map]	↔
Assault Dangerous Weapon (ADW) Gun	2	0 [view map]	↓
Total Violent Crime	11	12 [view map]	↑
Burglary	2	0 [view map]	↓
Theft	18	23 [view map]	↑
Theft F/Auto	79	65 [view map]	↓
Stolen Auto	4	6 [view map]	↑
Arson	0	0 [view map]	↔
Total Property Crime	103	94 [view map]	↓
Total Crime	114	106 [view map]	↓

Definition of symbols in "Change" column:

- ↓: Decrease in the number of crimes reported compared to the prior time period.
- ↑: Increase in the number of crimes reported compared to the prior time period.
- ↔: No change in the number of crimes reported compared to the prior time period.



Lighting and cameras need to be added alongside the walkway. Additionally, the brush needs to be cut down.

Cameras need to be placed on the flood light poles, and additional lighting is also needed.

Tacoma Recreation Center

Findings with Recommendations

Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) There are no cameras on the exterior of the recreation facility.

- Recommendation: Cameras need to be placed on 14-foot poles, along the walkway, at the rear of the recreation facility, and on the flood lights around the basketball court. The cameras should have vandal resistant domes around them.

Lighting

- Recommendation
Lighting should be added along the walkway located at the rear of the recreational center, and around the basketball court. The area lacks sufficient lighting, and more lighting will provide additional safety for recreation centers visitors. It is recommended that the light poles should be at a height of 14 feet, and be protected by tough polycarbonate. The lights should be LED, which gives extra illumination and promotes a sense of security.

Site Information on Tacoma Community and Aquatic Center

The Tacoma Community and Aquatic Center located at 300 Van Buren Street, NW, has been having altercations on their dirt walkway located in the wooded area adjacent to the center during the past year. See MPD crime statistics below.

Crime Type	8/2/2017 to 8/2/2018	08/02/2018 to 08/02/2019	Change
Homicide	0	0 [view map]	↔
Sex Abuse	0	0 [view map]	↔
→ Robbery Excluding Gun	1	12 [view map]	↑
Robbery With Gun	7	1 [view map]	↓
Assault Dangerous Weapon (ADW) Excluding Gun	1	1 [view map]	↔
Assault Dangerous Weapon (ADW) Gun	1	1 [view map]	↔
Total Violent Crime	10	15 [view map]	↑
Burglary	4	0 [view map]	↓
Theft	21	22 [view map]	↑
Theft F/Auto	57	56 [view map]	↓
Stolen Auto	4	8 [view map]	↑
Arson	0	0 [view map]	↔
Total Property Crime	86	86 [view map]	↔
Total Crime	96	101 [view map]	↑

Definition of symbols in "Change" column:

- ↓: Decrease in the number of crimes reported compared to the prior time period.
- ↑: Increase in the number of crimes reported compared to the prior time period.
- ↔: No change in the number of crimes reported compared to the prior time period.

Findings with Recommendations

Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) There are no cameras on the exterior of the Community and Aquatic Center and along the dirt walkway, or within the wooded area.

- Recommendation: Cameras need to be placed on 14-foot poles, along the dirt walkway, and staggered within the wooded area, and placed on the lighting poles.

Lighting

- Recommendation

Lighting should be added along the dirt walkway, and the wooded area.

The area lacks sufficient lighting, and more lighting will provide additional safety for visitors. It is recommended that the light poles should be at a height of 14 feet, and be protected by tough polycarbonate. The lights should be LED, which gives extra illumination and promotes a sense of security.

Fencing The Community and Aquatic Center has no fencing around the adjacent wooded area.

- Recommendation

Add fencing around the perimeter of wooded area. The fence should be a minimum of 8 feet in height.



Cameras should be staged along the dirt walkway, on top of lighting poles, or on the roofline of the center.

An 8-foot fence should be placed around the wooded area of the Tacoma Community Center and Aquatic Center. Additionally, lighting and cameras should be installed along the dirt walkway, and in the wooded area, and on the corners of the roofline of the center.

Summary Statement

During the past year there has been a large increase in the number of robberies committed around the Tacoma Community and Aquatic Center and the adjacent Tacoma Recreational Center. It has been noted that there is a youth gang of approximately twenty that has been committing the robberies. The Threat Management Section of Protective Services Division, TMS/PSD/ DGS, has recommended additional lighting and cameras around both centers, as well as fencing around the dirt path and wooded area next to the Tacoma Community Center, where many of the robberies have taken place. The Metropolitan Police Department, MPD, has placed a temporary camera in front of the Tacoma Community and Aquatic Center, and stated more patrols will be checking the area.