

Response to Questions on the FY 2019 Budget

Request By: Supervisor Sharon Bulova

Question: Please recirculate the Gang Prevention presentation given to the BOS at the 1/9/2018 Meeting and provide this information to the School Board.

Response:

On June 13, 2017 staff presented Responding to Gangs: A Collaborative Approach which provided regional data and statistics on gang activity, discussed gang prevention efforts, and provided recommendations on how to continue to combat gang activity in Fairfax County. In a follow-up to this meeting, a second presentation was given on January 9, 2018, Gang Prevention in Fairfax County: An Updated Strategy to Address Recent Trends which outlined specific strategies on how to address gang prevention using identified carryover funding of \$500,000. The January 9, 2018 presentation is attached.



Gang Prevention in Fairfax County: An Updated Strategy to Address Recent Trends

Presentation to the BOS

Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee

Bob Bermingham, Director, JDRDC Court Services Unit

Jesse Ellis, Prevention Manager, Neighborhood and Community Services

January 9, 2018

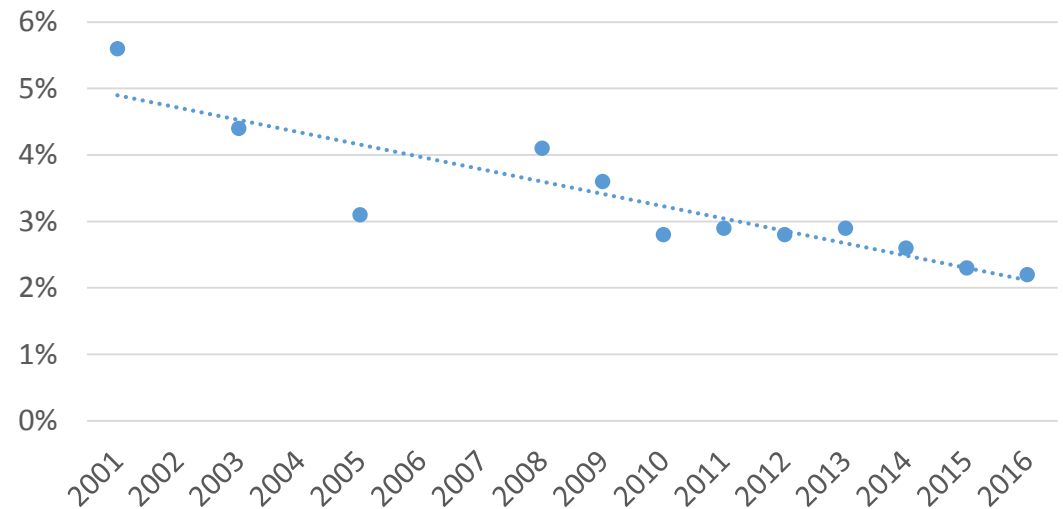
Fairfax County Gang Prevention Plan

- The Board of Supervisors asked for recommendations to be presented on gang prevention Carryover funding (\$500,000)
- The Leadership Team met from July through December 2017 to create a plan that builds on ongoing work, addresses gaps, and responds to emerging trends
- **ASK:** BOS approval to use Carryover funds to begin implementation in FY 2018 of an enhanced gang prevention strategy

Despite a recent uptick, gang activity overall remains low in Fairfax County.

- The Board’s ongoing investment in fighting gangs is highlighted by:
 - Primary **prevention** activities, such as the Middle School After-School program;
 - **Interventions** for individuals at risk, such as the Intervention, Prevention, and Education program; and
 - **Suppression** through a well-resourced and effective Gang Unit.

Lifetime Prevalence of Gang Membership, Fairfax County Youth Survey



Our existing strategy needs to be refined to adequately address recent trends.

- Gangs are exploiting young people who recently immigrated to the US to reunite with their families, targeting them for recruitment.
- Recruitment and gang operations are evolving with advances in technology and social media.
- Reductions in federal spending for regional coordination hinder prevention and suppression efforts.
- **Our proposed strategies are focused on addressing these issues in order to maximize impact.**

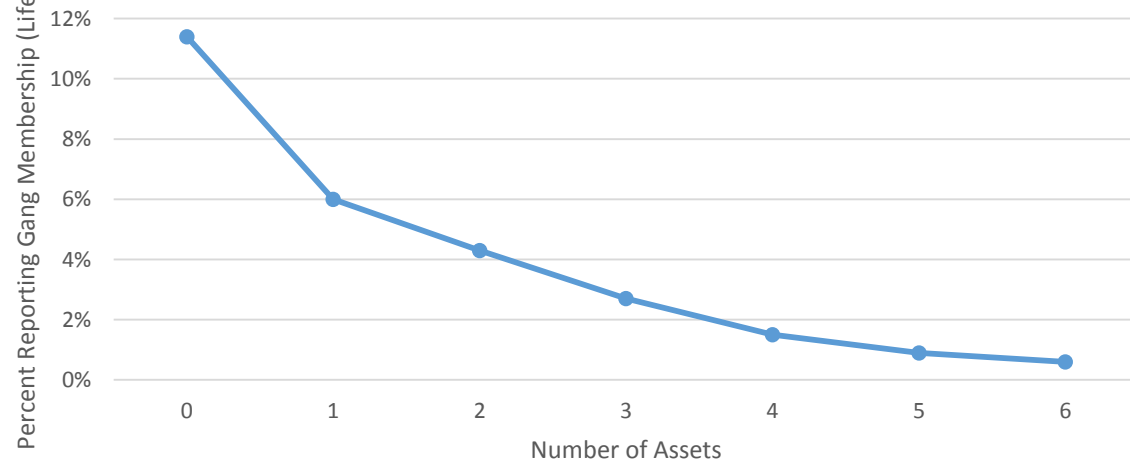
Education, Awareness, and Prevention

Current Work Includes:

- Presentations and awareness activities in schools and the community
- Gang prevention within the FCPS curriculum
- Out of school time programming, including Middle School After School Program
- Resilience development programming and messaging (e.g., Three to Succeed)

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Three to Succeed: Gang Membership,
8th, 10th, 12th Graders, 2016 Fairfax County Youth
Survey



Assets

- High personal integrity
- Performing community service
- Having teachers recognize good work
- Having community adults to talk to
- Participating in extracurricular activities
- Having parents available for help

Education, Awareness, and Prevention

Enhancement Objective: Target messaging and training to key youth and gatekeepers.

No New Funding Requested:

- Coordinated approach to supporting reunifying families*
- Updated gang prevention website
- Training and TA for after-school providers and community stakeholders
- Ongoing assessment of Middle School After-School Program

New Funding Requested:

Strategy	FY18	Recurring
Social media to counter recruitment	\$50,000	\$0
Targeted public awareness and outreach	\$100,000	\$25,000
TOTAL	\$150,000	\$25,000

*Future funding may be necessary. If so, staff will return to the Board with a proposal.

Targeted Prevention and Intervention

Current Work Includes:

- Intervention, Prevention, and Education Program
- Place-based initiatives (e.g., Opportunity Neighborhoods)
- Road DAWG summer camp
- Alternative Accountability Program (restorative justice)
- Reunification programs and services
- Domestic violence and sex trafficking efforts
- Trauma-informed services and systems

Targeted Prevention and Intervention

Enhancement Objective: Intervene with individuals most at risk for gang recruitment and involvement.

No New Funding Requested:

- Enhanced Road DAWG program

New Funding Requested:

Strategy	FY18	Recurring
Expanded Intervention, Prevention, and Education program	\$80,000	\$185,000
Expanded parent liaison services, including family reunification and parent education programming	\$80,000	\$140,000
Expanded intensive services for reunifying families	\$65,000	\$146,500
Targeted elementary school outreach	\$20,000	\$20,000
TOTAL	\$245,000	\$491,500

Enforcement and Suppression

Current Work Includes:

- Police Department Gang Unit
- Regional Gang Task Force

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Enhancement Objective: Improve the collection and use of data to support the continuous improvement and evolution of prevention and suppression strategies.

New Funding Requested:

Strategy	FY18	Recurring
Crime and other data analysis (1 FTE)	\$75,000	\$130,000

Data and Coordination

Current Work Includes:

- Police data collection and updates
- Regional Task Force coordination and cooperation
- Fairfax County gang coordinator position

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Enhancement Objective: Enhance interagency and regional coordination to address the issue.

No New Funding Requested:

- Cross-agency team
- Standardized data collection and reporting
- Advocacy for enhanced ORR data and info
- Advocacy for federal funding and support for regional task force

Proposed Funding Overview

Strategic Area	Number of Strategies	FY18	Recurring
Education, Awareness, and Prevention	7	\$150,000	\$25,000
Targeted Prevention and Intervention	5	\$245,000	\$491,500
Enforcement and Suppression	1	\$75,000	\$130,000
Data and Coordination	4	\$0	\$0
TOTAL		\$470,000	\$646,500