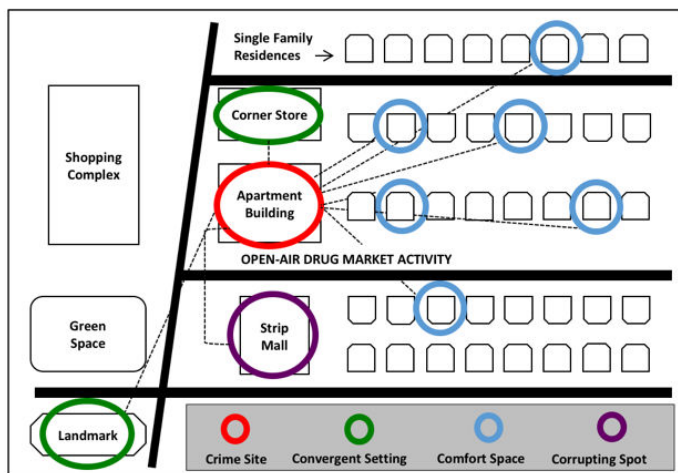


PNI SNAPSHOT

PNI (Place Network Investigations) is a citywide strategy to eliminate violence and other chronic crime problems. The strategy is grounded in evidence that suggests persistent crime patterns and violent hotspots are visible indicators of underlying crime place networks. Crime place networks consist of specific locations that offender groups use to conduct on-going illegal activities. These locations provide the “infrastructure” necessary to operate illicit markets and often promote violent interactions. Skilled PNI investigators, working in chronically violent micro-locations, identify crime place networks and build cases against individuals who own and operate network locations. Investigative findings are reported to City PNI Board members. Board members include police and other city department leaders who coordinate and strategically deploy existing city resources to dismantle crime place networks and disrupt offender networks operating in these locations. Eradicating deeply entrenched crime place networks produces the sustained crime reductions needed to support community redevelopment and long-term economic growth.



Crime place network supporting a chronic violent hotspot

CRIME PLACE NETWORKS

Crime place networks can include four types of places:

- **Crime sites** – specific high-crime places that facilitate offender and victim/target interactions
- **Convergent settings** – public places routinely used by offenders
- **Comfort spaces** – private places controlled by offenders and their associates
- **Corrupting spots** – businesses that support criminal activity in other locations

HIDDEN NETWORK PLACES UNCOVERING NETWORKS

Crime sites are identified through calls-for-service and crime incident report analyses; police and other city department investigations are used to identify three additional crime place network location types.

- Bars, parks, intersections, or other public locations where offenders regularly loiter are examples of *convergent settings*.
- Apartment units, storerooms, garages, or other private locations offenders use to meet, stage crimes, or store and distribute illicit goods and services are examples of *comfort spaces*.
- Businesses that launder money or sell, buy, or distribute goods stolen in other locations are examples of *corrupting spots*.

PNI uses a wide variety of investigative techniques to uncover crime place networks. For example, interviews with patrol officers, detectives, specialized units (e.g., violent crime, gang, vice, homicide), crime analysts, city department personnel, and community members and service personnel (e.g., postal service workers) can identify crime place network locations, their owners, and key players in the offender networks who use these locations. To build civil and criminal cases against place owners, managers, and serious offenders, investigations might involve observational activities (e.g., temporary surveillance cameras, site observations, undercover officers) and the use of additional sources of information (e.g., security personnel, management personnel, labor contractors) and confidential informants.

INNOVATION

PNI produces long-term and sustainable crime reductions by integrating and expanding existing prevention efforts, including (1) traditional police responses like directed patrols, (2) place-based approaches like situational interventions implemented at individual high-crime places, and (3) offender-focused interventions like focused deterrence strategies. PNI can be used to coordinate and enhance these strategies. The dismantling of entire crime place networks roots out the larger infrastructure offenders retreat to and then reemerge from once directed police patrols are deployed elsewhere. A focus on crime place networks, rather than individual crime sites, increases the time and effort involved in reestablishing the entire physical infrastructure needed to operate illicit markets. Crime place network investigations also help to identify key players in offender networks that might otherwise escape police attention.

PNI PRINCIPLES

- **GROUNDING IN CRIME SCIENCE RESEARCH**
Focuses on crime place networks small micro-locations that generate most city violence
 - *Initial findings:* Less than 2% of city land mass accounts for more than 40% of shooting victims
- **FOCUSED ON ALTERNATIVES TO ARREST**
Promotes strategic application of resource-intensive traditional criminal justice responses
- **DESIGNED FOR LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY**
Significant violence reductions (>80%) sustained through community engagement and complete crime place network disruption

IMPACT

COMMUNITY

- **Reduces harm** generated by over-reliance on arrest and aggressive crime suppression tactics
- **Stabilizes neighborhoods** to promote community resiliency and future development
- **Allows prioritization** of existing city resources to aid our most disadvantaged populations

POLICE

- **Lessens risk** in locations where officer injuries/assaults are also disproportionately concentrated
- **Reduces time** spent responding to repeat CFS and on crime scene/arrest/jail processing
- **Provides officers** with highly respected and desirable proactive investigative assignments

EXAMPLES OF CITY PNI BOARD DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES

City Manager/Mayor

Transportation
& Engineering

Community and Economic
Development Corporations

Legal

City
Planning

Fire

Buildings &
Inspections

Police

Health

Public
Services

Parks

Local
Councils

PNI INFORMATION

HERMAN GOLDSTEIN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROBLEM-ORIENTED POLICING | 2017

International award recognizing innovative and effective problem-oriented policing (POP) projects that succeed in resolving recurring crime, disorder, or public safety problems faced by police and communities
<https://popcenter.asu.edu/sites/default/files/17-15.pdf>

POLICE CHIEF MAGAZINE | 2017

Research in Brief <http://www.policechiefmagazine.org/research-brief-place-based-investigations/>

THE PIVOTPOINT DOCUMENTARY | 2018

24-time Emmy winning filmmaker, Zo Wesson
<https://vimeo.com/232898871>

REDUCING CRIME FEATURE | 2019

Podcast and Blog Post <http://www.reducingcrime.com/>