



CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT

ANALYSIS OF ORBIT JUPITER ON CRIME IN TEMPE NEIGHBORHOODS

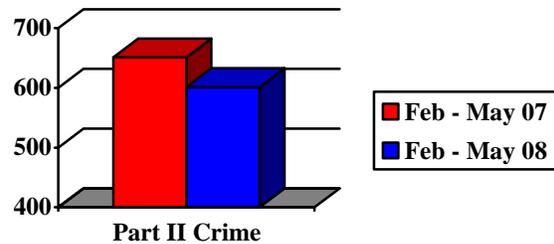
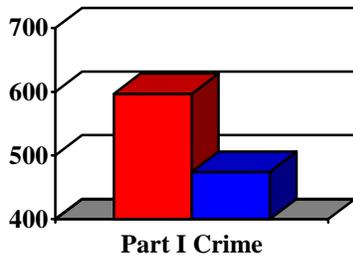
Background

During the June 5, 2008 Issue Review Session, a request was made for an analysis of the impact of the Orbit on crime in neighborhoods within and adjacent to the Orbit Jupiter route. Transportation identified an Orbit Jupiter Study Area that included 53 reporting districts (i.e., neighborhood areas) bordered by Apache Boulevard, US 60, Mill Avenue, and McClintock Drive (see attached map). In addition, a request was made to analyze a subset area within the larger select area that included the 16 reporting districts running along College Avenue.

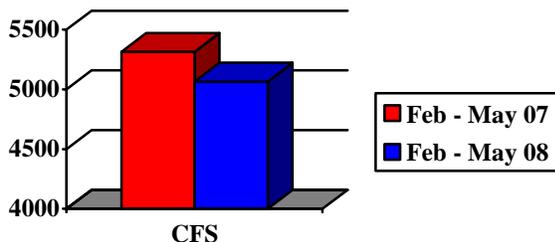
The analysis that was conducted focused on Part I and Part II crimes as well as police Calls For Service (CFS) comparing February through May 2007 (the time period before the Orbit was in service) with February through May 2008 (the time period during which the Orbit was in service). This comparison took into account any seasonal variation in criminal activity and the data analyzed came from the Tempe Police Department’s record management system.

Orbit Jupiter Study Area

Crime: As is evidenced in the charts below, both Part I and Part II crimes decreased in the Orbit Jupiter Study Area comparing February through May 2007 with February through May 2008. Specifically, Part I crimes¹ decreased 20.6% and Part II² crimes decreased 7.7% across these two time periods.



CFS: The analysis of calls to the Police Department yielded similar results as CFS decreased in the Orbit Jupiter Study Area when February through May 2007 was compared with February through May 2008 (see chart below). Specifically, calls decreased 4.7% across the two time periods.

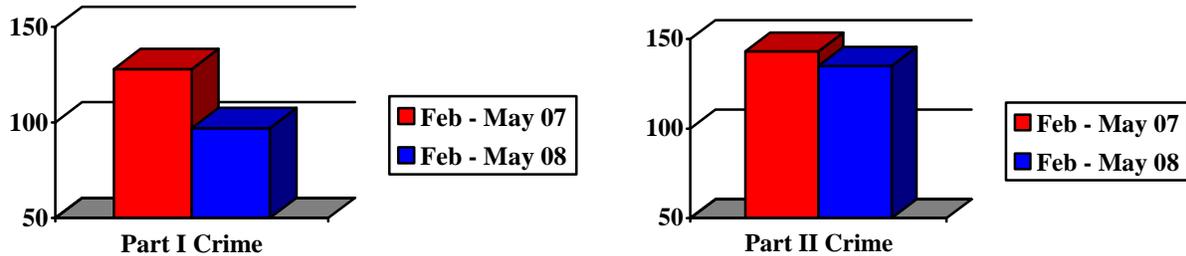


¹ Part I crimes include Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Theft, Auto Theft, & Arson

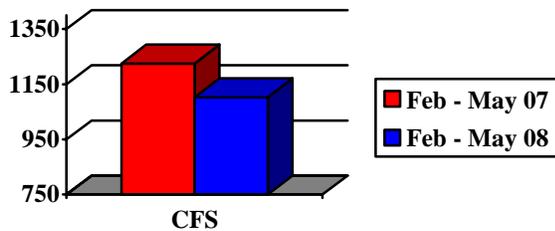
² Part II crimes include all non-Part I crimes (e.g., Vandalism, Drug Possession, Prostitution etc)

College Avenue Subset Area

Crime: As is indicated in the charts below, both Part I and Part II crimes decreased in the College Avenue Subset Area comparing February through May 2007 with February through May 2008. Specifically, Part I crimes decreased 24.2% and Part II crimes decreased 5.6% across these two time periods.



CFS: Similarly, the analysis of calls to the Police Department indicated that CFS decreased in the College Avenue Subset Area comparing February through May 2007 with February through May 2008 (see chart below). Specifically, calls decreased 10% across the two time periods.



Specific Concerns

Specific concerns and objections to the Orbit Jupiter were submitted by residents to Transit through telephone and web surveys conducted in April 2007 as well as directly to city staff and council. A request was made for the Police Department to evaluate these concerns based on crime and CFS data within the College Avenue Subset area.

Aside from general concerns regarding increased crime, the largest portion of comments reflected concerns regarding strangers entering the neighborhood, an increase in transients, and an increase in individuals loitering in the neighborhood. However, comparing February through May 2007 with February through May 2008 within the College Avenue Subset area:

- Calls to the police regarding Trespassing decreased 33.3%.
- Calls to the police regarding Suspicious Activity decreased 15.7%.
- Calls to the police regarding Transients (a subset of Suspicious Activity) decreased 14.3%.

Another portion of comments reflected concerns regarding an increase in criminal danger to children/families and child predators in the neighborhood. Comparing February through May 2007 with February through May 2008 within the College Avenue Subset area:

- The number of reported Sex Offenses did increase from 1 to 3. However, one case involved individuals who knew one another and another case involved an individual who lived in a nearby neighborhood. Additionally, there was little information on the final suspect other than he looked like a jogger.

Finally, the remaining portion of comments reflected concerns regarding an increase in general property crime, criminal damage, auto theft, burglary, and theft in general. Comparing February through May 2007 with February through May 2008 within the College Avenue Subset area:

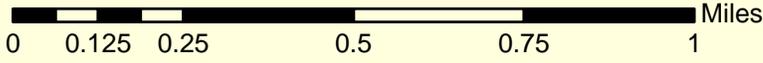
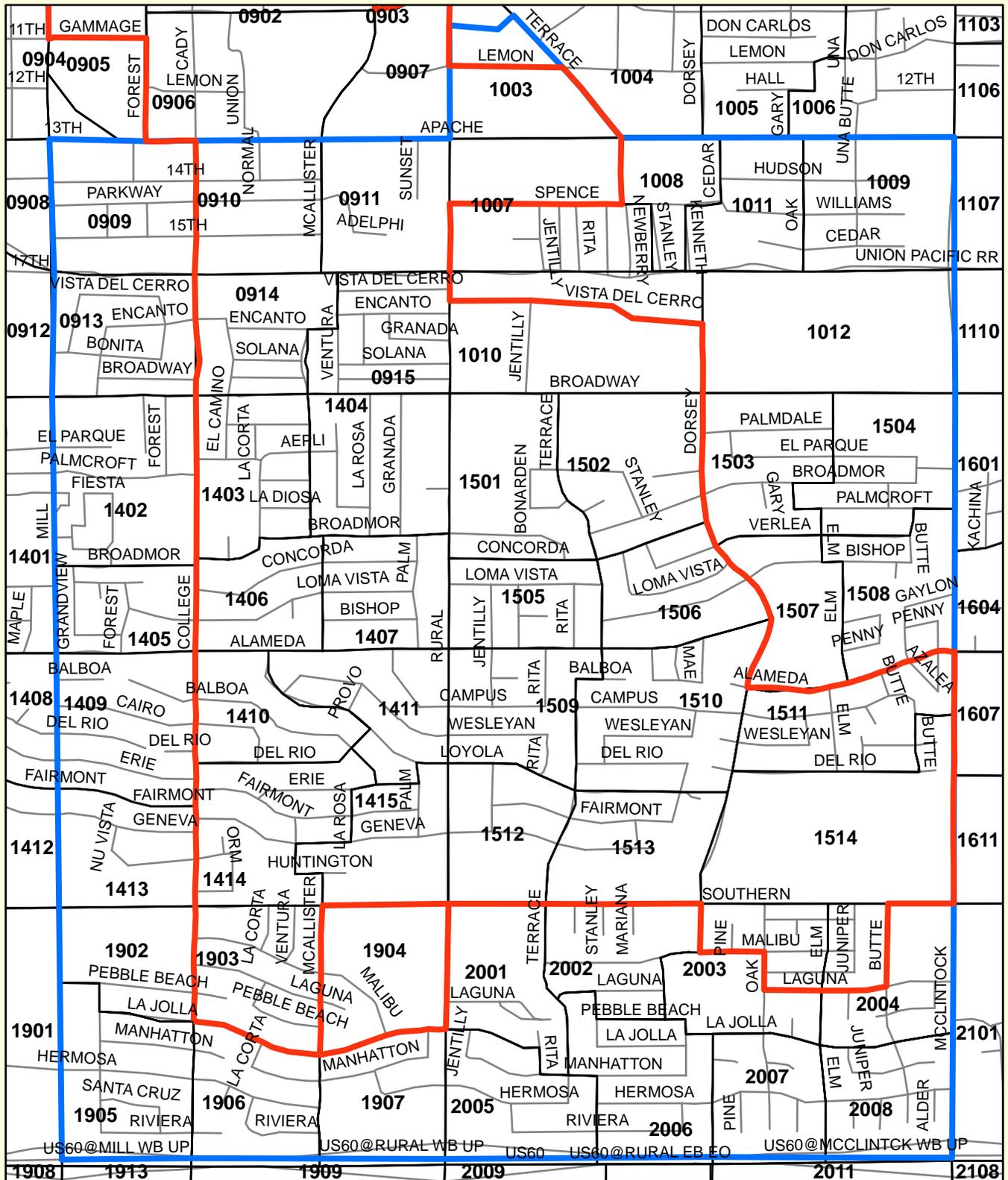
- The number of Vandalism crime reports was exactly the same for both time periods.
- The number of Motor Vehicle Theft reports decreased from 19 to 7.
- The number of Burglary reports decreased from 18 to 15.
- The number of Theft reports decreased from 83 to 68.

Summary

Although only four months of data is available for the time period during which the Orbit has been in service, these preliminary analyses suggest that the Orbit Jupiter has not had an adverse impact on the crime and calls to the police in both the Orbit Jupiter Study Area and in the College Avenue Subset Area. As more data is collected, further analysis should be conducted to continue to assess the impact of the Orbit on criminal activity in neighborhoods within and adjacent to the Orbit Jupiter route.



Orbit Jupiter Study Area



Legend

-  Study Area
-  Jupiter Route