




Office of the City Manager

March 25, 2014

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Christine Daniel, City Manager 
Subject: City of Berkeley Police Beat Analysis

The Berkeley Police Department is currently undertaking a review of its beat structure and reevaluating that system to ensure that the most efficient and effective police service is being provided to those who live, work and visit the City of Berkeley. To that end, the Matrix Consulting Group has been retained to conduct a study of the Berkeley Police patrol deployment strategy and make recommendations to optimize deployment of field personnel based on current data.

This memo will provide information about the study and also requests that Councilmembers:

- (1) Distribute a survey to community members (online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TJJHDBS>); and
- (2) Host a community meeting in each Council district of the City.

The survey and the meetings will provide opportunities for additional community input into the analysis. Further detail about these requests is provided below.

Background: In May of 1993, the Berkeley Police Department adopted a system whereby the City was divided into 18 police patrol beats. This beat system was based primarily on crime trends, calls for service, crime statistics, and staffing levels. While there have been changes over the last 20 years related to crime trends, calls for service, and staffing levels, the Department continues to operate with the same beat system designed in 1993. In light of the changes that the Department, and the City, have undergone since that time, the Department retained the Matrix Consulting Group to analyze its beat deployment strategy.

Matrix will analyze population, geography, patrol deployment, staffing levels, officer workload, calls for service, proactive patrol time, response times, crime data, industry standards and best practices and the need for flexible units to respond to identified

crime trends, as well as the costs associated with service delivery. Additionally, Matrix will assess community perceptions and priorities through the use of surveys and community meetings.

Any recommended changes to the geographic beat areas will take into consideration an even distribution of workload across beats, boundaries which utilize efficient routes of travel, the minimization of natural barriers and the minimization of neighborhood divisions. Any proposed changes will be brought to the City Council for review and discussion.

As part of this analysis process, the Berkeley Police Department requests input from members of the public that live, work and visit the City of Berkeley through participation in the link to the attached survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TJJHDBS> .

Staff is requesting the City Council's assistance in distributing this survey to ensure broad community participation. **Responses are requested to be returned by Friday, April 11, 2014.** Additionally, a link to the community survey will be advertised on the front page of the City of Berkeley's website, the Berkeley Police website, through the email distribution lists, via neighborhood groups and through local media.

Finally, staff is requesting that each Councilmember host a community meeting in her or his Council District at which Matrix and BPD staff will present information about, and seek community input, the beat analysis. **To confirm a date and time for that meeting, please contact Thelma Brewer, Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Police, at tbrewer@cityofberkeley.info.**

Thank you for your assistance with this important project. We look forward to the presentation of the results at a Council meeting before the end of the fiscal year.

Attachment: Community Survey

cc: William Rogers, Deputy City Manager
Michael Meehan, Chief of Police
Ann-Marie Hogan, City Auditor
Mark Numainville, City Clerk
Matthai Chakko, Public Information Officer
Thelma Brewer, Admin. Assistant, Police Dept.



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The City of Berkeley has retained the Matrix Consulting Group to conduct a study of the patrol services provided to the community and to identify improvement opportunities through changes to the current beat structure. This survey has been developed to provide citizens and businesses of the City with input into the study. Community input is important for this study – to help the consultants understand concerns about the availability and responsiveness of police patrol resources. Because the study is designed to ensure the best allocation of existing patrol resources rather than add new staff the views of the widest spectrum of citizens and businesses is critical to the success of this study.

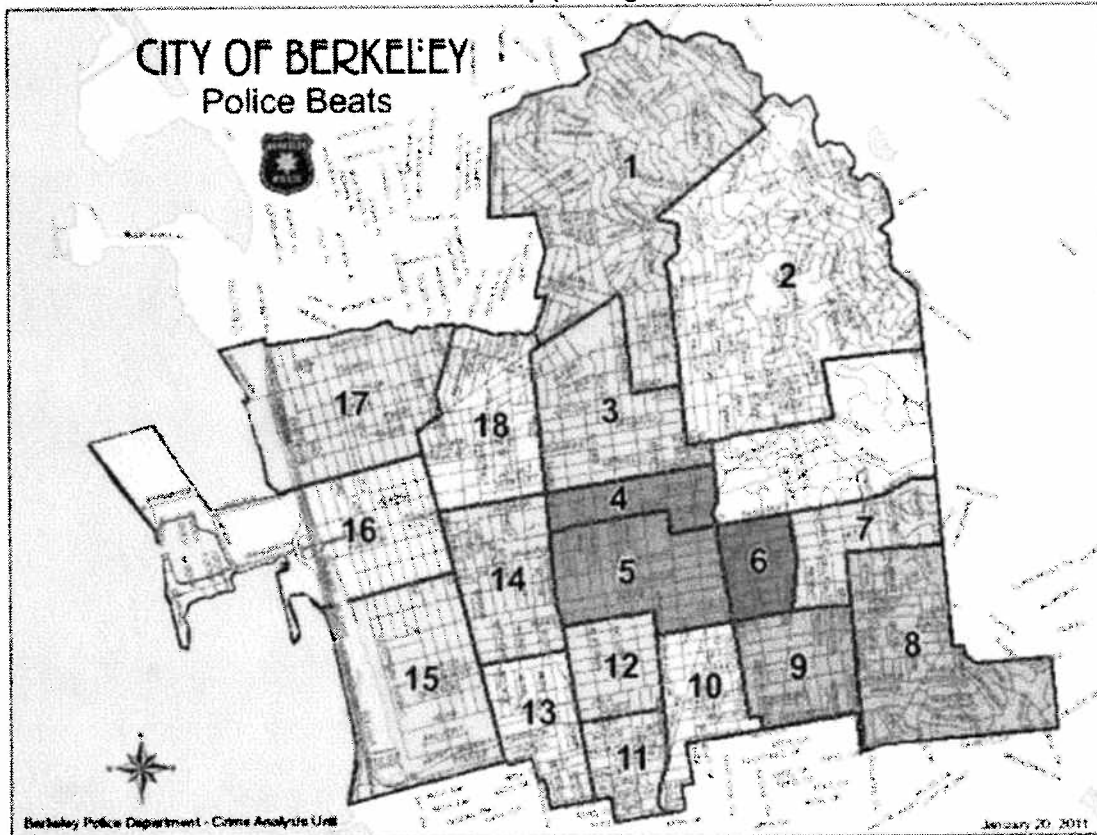
Please take advantage of this opportunity to provide your views on patrol services in Berkeley. In completing the survey, note that it is anonymous – there are no identifiers.

If you have any questions about completing the survey, please feel free to contact our project manager, Richard Brady, at 650.858.0507 or via e-mail at rbrady@matrixcg.net.

Please return your completed survey no later than April 11, 2014.

1. How long (in years) have you lived or worked in Berkeley? _____
2. In the past year have you had any contact with Police Officers in the field (i.e., not at the Headquarters)? _____
3. To the best of your ability please list the police beat (#1 – 18) of the City in which you live / work: _____

Current Beat Map (Dating from 1993)



Please evaluate each of the statements below and indicate your response. If you have no opinion, check "No Response."

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Response
4. I feel safe in Berkeley.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. The Police Department provides a high level of law enforcement service to Berkeley.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Berkeley Police Officers staff are professional in my contacts with them (answer "no response" if you have not had any contacts).	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. I have a high opinion of the Police Department services in the City.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. The Police Department staff are responsive to our law enforcement needs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. The Department does a good job anticipating service needs.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Officers are prompt in responding to problems raised by the community.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. I receive regular police patrol in the area where I live.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. I see regular police patrols in the area where I work in Berkeley.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. It is important to me to regularly see an officer in my area.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

14. I would be OK with one of the following two choices of patrol beat deployments:

- A bigger beat that is always staffed
- The smaller beat that is sometimes unstaffed

15. Please use this space to provide additional explanation to any question:

Thank you for completing this survey.