

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Board Action/Information Summary

Action Information

MEAD Number:
200972

Resolution:
 Yes No

TITLE:

MTPD 2014 Part I Crime Report, January - June

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

The Metro Transit Police security report ensures crime information is publicly communicated to enhance the security of our customers and the protection of Metro employees. This security report will address and compare crime data from January through June, 2014.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the MTPD security presentation is to provide members of the WMATA Board with information and analysis of crime events in the Metro system. Further, the public report increases communication to enhance security of our customers and the protection of Authority employees.

DESCRIPTION:

Crime reduction is a performance measure included in Metro's Business Plan. For the purposes of this report, crime statistics used are in the major category designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as Part I Crime.

Key Highlights:

- Overall Part I Crime at Metro is at a five-year low.
- Part I Crime statistics for the first six months of 2014 have reduced by 31.6% compared to the same period in 2013.
- Part I Crimes on buses were reduced by 14.6%.
- A January spike in Part I Crime in Metro parking facilities caused an increase of 19.8% in overall crime in the lots compared to last year.
- The probability of being a victim of a Part I Crime while riding on Metrorail is 4.27 per million passengers.

Background and History:

In the United States, crime statistics are categorized and collected by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Each reporting law enforcement agency provides crime statistics for their area of responsibility. The Metro Transit Police (MTPD) provides crime statistics for incidents occurring on Metrorail, Metrobus, and facilities owned and operated by WMATA. In general, when police departments discuss crime statistics, they are referring to Part I Crimes. Part I Crimes include: Aggravated Assault, Arson,

Burglary, Homicide, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Thefts and Attempts, Rape and Robbery. In 2013, the FBI added two crimes involving human trafficking to the list of Part I Crimes.

Part I Crime has also become the measure by which we gauge the overall performance of the MTPD in providing a safe and secure riding experience for Metro customers, in alignment with Goal One of the WMATA Business Plan. The performance measure for CY2014 is to reduce Part I Crime with a target of less than 2,000 events.

Discussion:

Part I Crime recorded in the first six (6) months of 2014 is about 31% below events which occurred in the same period during 2013. The crime reduction may be attributed to several factors: severe winter weather, reduced ridership, MTPD deployment tactics, enhanced video capability, intelligence sharing with regional law enforcement partners, and public education and outreach.

Part I Crime is divided into two separate categories, crimes against property or crimes against persons. Crimes against property include theft, burglary, and arson. The most predominant Part I Crime in the Metro System is theft. Over the last few years, thefts involving the snatching of a cell phone or electronic device are the number one theft crime. This year thefts of cell phones have been reduced by about 49%. The MTPD has conducted several deployment strategies to include increased enforcement efforts. Along with enforcement, the MTPD shared intelligence department wide utilizing investigation of social media and identifying offenders using video evidence to create photographs for "Be On The Lookout" flyers. Since January, the MTPD Criminal Investigation Division (CID) has created and disseminated about 150 BOLO flyers. On-scene investigations of cell phone thefts regularly include the use of applications to track and recover victim's property.

Thefts of bicycles continue to be a challenging crime this year. Although bike thefts have been reduced by about 35% in the first six months, a total of 122 bikes have been stolen from our customers. Reducing the number of bike thefts has been a priority this year and the MTPD has used a number of strategies including casual clothes arrest teams, bait bikes, and using limited duty personnel to provide surveillance at hot spots. Increasingly, customers in the National Capital Region are using bicycles to travel to Metro stations. Sadly, the increased number of bicycles parked at stations is also enticing to thieves. To help mitigate, we created a web page to register our customer's bicycles. So far over 950 customers have registered on the web page. We have distributed over 500 recommended bicycle "U-locks" and instructional brochures to help protect customers' property.

Compared to last year, vehicle thefts have increased by about 47%. January and May this year were particularly troublesome months when vehicle thefts and attempts spiked to 14 and 15 events, respectively. Other parking lot crimes, including thefts from autos, also increased for this year, up about 32%. Even though parking lot crime has increased for the first six months, the probability of being the victim of a Part I crime in Metro parking lots is about 1.2 per million riders. The MTPD has responded to the increase in parking lot crime by increasing special attention uniformed patrols with marked police cars, motorcycles, bicycles and foot patrols. We have partnered with local police

departments to provide enhanced uniform presence in lots. We encourage our customers to actively help reduce crime by not being a victim, for example, securing all valuables out of sight in vehicles.

Crimes against persons are considered the most violent crimes because of the close interaction with victim and suspect. The most common occurrences of Part I Crimes against persons in the Metro system are the three (3) types of robbery: robbery fear, robbery force and violence, and armed robbery. In this reporting period, overall robbery is down by about 43% compared to 2013. In general, because robberies are similar to cell phone thefts, both involve taking of property from a person, many of the same strategies for reducing cell phone thefts are also used for robberies.

Over the last year, the MTPD has participated in multiple outreach opportunities. Outreach activities may be customized to particular crime concerns or generalized to address overall safety and security while travelling in the Metro System. Thefts of cell phones have been a hot topic for customers. The MTPD broadcasts alerts to customers in the rail system, encouraging awareness of surroundings while navigating through the system. We have partnered with Metropolitan Police Department in the “bricking” campaign, and worked with Congressional leaders to establish legislation for theft deterrence technology.

The MTPD partnership with WMATA Department of Customer Service, Communication, and Marketing (CSCM) resulted in the creation of a youth outreach campaign called, “Respect Your Ride.” In 2013 the campaign reached out to more than 5,700 regional students through school assemblies, youth council meetings, and a variety of outreach events to encourage safe riding behaviors and help minimize disruptions on both Bus and Rail. This year, we have coordinated eight (8) community events and thirteen (13) school visits in Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. In anticipation of the Silver Line opening, we visited schools within a five (5) mile radius of the new stations to discuss safety with new student customers in Virginia. Outreach events are planned for the new school year throughout the region.

Finally, in the months of September and October, the MTPD participates in national special attention events. During National Preparedness Month in September, the MTPD will distribute information regarding Metro riders’ guides to emergencies while travelling and overall safety on Bus and Rail. Numerous events are planned with Federal agencies, universities, private organizations, and at Metro stations throughout the system. In October, during Crime Prevention Month, the focus will be on outreach involving crime prevention for customers. Several outreach events are planned for that month.

FUNDING IMPACT:

System security is the primary mission of the MTPD and supported by the MTPD Operational Budget.	
Project Manager:	Chief Ronald A. Pavlik, Jr.
Project Department/Office:	Metro Transit Police Department

TIMELINE:

Previous Actions	<p>2013 - Partner with local jurisdictions for crime prevention and uniformed presence.</p> <p>2013 - Collaborate with WMATA Department of Customer Service, Communication, and Marketing (CSCM) to create the "Respect Your Ride" youth outreach campaign.</p> <p>2013 - Reorganize the MTPD to better align with security best practices.</p>
Anticipated actions after presentation	<p>2014 - Continue partnering with local jurisdictions for crime prevention and uniformed presence.</p> <p>2014 - Increase community and youth outreach, continuation of "Respect Your Ride" campaign.</p> <p>2014 - Open Security Operations Control Center.</p> <p>2014 - Continue analysis of crime to help determine strategies and tactics to mitigate crime in both MetroRail and MetroBus.</p>

RECOMMENDATION:

No action required. Information only.



Security Report: January – June 2014

Safety and Security Committee

September 24, 2014



MTPD Significant Facts

Overall Part I Crime at Metro is at a five-year low

Metrorail Part 1 Crime down 29% compared to 2013
4.27 crimes per million customers

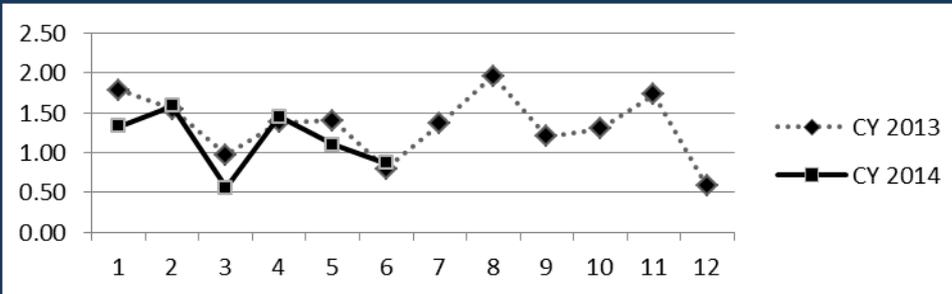
Lower rates attributable to:

- Reorganization/Deployment
- Customer education/Outreach
- Intelligence sharing/Technology

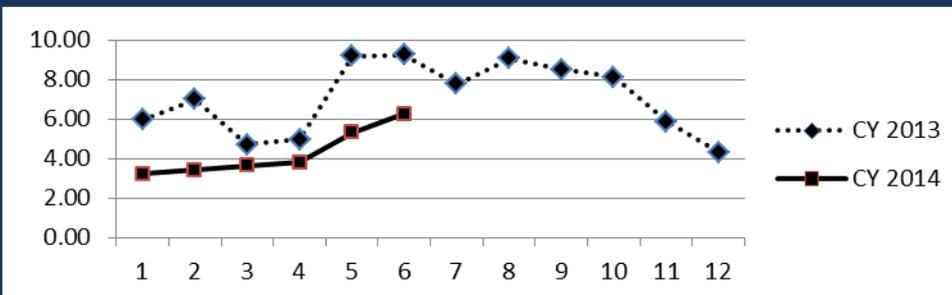




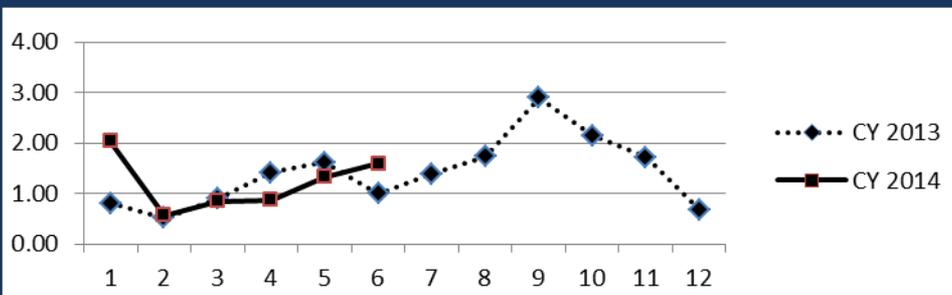
Monthly Part I Crime Rate Comparison 2013 vs 2014



Metrobus: steady reduction



Metrorail: significantly lower



Parking Facilities: higher this year



Part I Crime Against Property

Crimes Against Property	Type	Jan-June 2013	Jan-June 2014
Larceny/Theft	Snatch	323	166
	Pickpocket	24	26
	From Auto	63	83
	Bicycle	187	122
	Other	96	80
Auto Theft/Attempts		36	53
Burglary		0	2
Arson		2	1

Thefts of cell phones down by about 49%



Thefts from Autos up by 32%



Thefts of Autos up by 47%



Part I Crime Against Persons

Crimes Against Persons	Type	Jan-June 2013	Jan-June 2014
Robbery	Force & Violence	141	84
	Armed	58	33
	Fear	15	5
Aggravated Assault		51	52
Rape		0	1
Homicide		0	0

Crimes Against Persons Reduced By About

34%





Sexual Harassment Complaints

Classification	2013	2014
Criminal	19	21
Criminal Non-sexual	9	8
Harassment	22	19
YTD Total	50	48

 **4%**



IT'S NOT OK

REPORT SEXUAL HARASSMENT ON METRO



National Preparedness Month



“Be Disaster Aware,
Take Action to Prepare”



National Crime Prevention Month



Appendix



MTPD Crime Report

5 Year Comparison (January – June)

Part I Crime	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Aggravated Assault	55	51	68	51	52
Arson	0	0	1	2	1
Burglary	2	0	0	0	2
Homicide	1	0	0	0	0
Larceny	419	324	307	346	285
Motor Vehicle Theft/Attempts	84	69	57	36	53
Rape	2	1	0	0	1
Robbery (Armed, Fear, Force & Violence)	222	178	155	214	122
Robbery/Theft (Snatch & Pickpocket)	320	253	381	347	192
TOTALS	1,105	876	969	996	708