



---

24-1945

**DATE:** February 6, 2024 (Item No. 36)  
**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Sara H. Cody, Health Officer/Director of Public Health  
**SUBJECT:** Report on Violence Prevention and Intervention Mapping

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Under advisement from June 27, 2023 (Item No. 20): Receive report from the Public Health Department relating to violence prevention and intervention mapping.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

On October 19, 2023 (Item No. 4), the Public Safety and Justice Committee (PSJC) received a preliminary report on strategies and recommendations regarding the cost of gun violence study, including geographic analysis of gaps and neighborhood resources, as well as discussion of County and cities distinct and complementary roles in violence prevention from a public health lens. Supervisor Ellenberg directed the Public Health Department (PHD) to return to the full Board with a final report clarifying the number or types of programs and data on the amount of time invested in each program or zip code.

On October 23, 2023 (Item No. 18), the Children, Seniors, and Families Committee received an identical report. Supervisor Arenas requested Administration provide an off-agenda report<sup>1</sup> that delineates the workplan to complete data analysis of gaps and neighborhood resources for the City of Gilroy, including the recognition of felony domestic violence for juveniles residing in South County that differs from the other cities in the County, and the correlation of domestic violence and gun violence. Supervisor Chavez further requested Administration include data organized by census tract rather than zip codes and the sources of information for the Spectrum of Violence Intervention framework mapping process in the final report.

---

<sup>1</sup> This off-agenda report, provided on November 20, 2023, is attached for reference.

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION AND BACKGROUND**

On June 27, 2023 (Item No. 20), at the request of Supervisor Chavez and President Ellenberg, the Board directed Administration to report to PSJC on October 19, 2023 relating to consolidation and alignment of strategies for gun violence prevention among cities within the County; restructuring resources as needed to strengthen those programs; and, a description of services that are provided by each program, including the budget, staffing, funding sources, and key performance metrics for each program. President Ellenberg further requested that Administration include in the report information relating to the local violence intervention model Advancing Peace. On October 19, 2023 (Item No. 4), PSJC received a preliminary report on strategies and recommendations regarding the cost of gun violence study, including geographic analysis of gaps and neighborhood resources, as well as discussion of County and cities distinct and complementary roles in violence prevention from a public health lens.

The goal of the current mapping project is to conduct a scan of community-based violence prevention and intervention efforts at a zip code and neighborhood level in order to identify gaps, misalignments, and opportunities to target future investment. A preliminary report was presented to the two above-mentioned Board Policy committees in October 2023 and contained data from the eight San José zip codes. The Committee Members requested that Administration return to a Board meeting in early 2024 to present a full report of the findings, including data from Gilroy's zip code and with information pertaining to additional guidance and clarifications requested by the Board. In addition, the findings from this scan will be used to inform the allocation of PHD's funding to the community to advance community-driven solutions in neighborhoods most impacted by gun violence.

This mapping focused on nine zip codes identified as areas with the highest rates of firearm injury or death, based on the Cost of Gun Violence Study released in 2022. In the December 6, 2022 (Item No. 30) Board Report, PHD used data from the Cost of Gun Violence Study to compile a list of the top five county zip codes with highest rate of firearm injury and a list of the top five county zip codes with the highest rate of firearm death. The current mapping project used those two lists (with duplicates removed) to derive the nine total zip codes.

Data collection focused on non-law enforcement led interventions that take place primarily in a community setting. Programs that operate predominately within various institutions and systems, such as the criminal justice system, educational system, healthcare system, and behavioral health system, were considered beyond the scope of this project. In addition, this mapping is interested in Community Violence Intervention (CVI), particularly as it relates to gun violence. CVI is specifically designed to respond to interpersonal violence that predominately takes place outside the home, between individuals or groups. Suicide and domestic violence are additional important issues with respect to gun violence. These areas

were not explored in-depth in the mapping; however, they were covered in the Cost of Gun Violence Study. Other County partners, such as the Behavioral Health Services Department and the Office of Gender Based Violence, are the leaders in these respective areas and are best suited to advance the knowledge base in their domain of expertise.

This scan is intended to provide a “lay-of-the-land” look at organizations and groups operating across the county, building a knowledge base for further strategic planning and research in the future. This full report contains maps developed by the PHD’s Science Branch. While the data are presented at a zip code level in these static maps for planning purposes, PHD intends to develop web-based maps at a future time, which will allow community partners and the general public to zoom in for visualization of census tract level data. In the next phase of PHD response, the findings from this mapping project will inform the planning process for the \$1,000,000 Board allocation to PHD for Fiscal Years 2023-2024 through 2024-2025. The goal of these funds is to invest in neighborhoods most impacted by gun violence by supporting resident-centered initiatives that advance racial and health equity and promote resilience and protective factors within a community. The grant committee will review the gaps and overlaps demonstrated in the maps to target investments, as well as identify potential collaboration and mutually reinforcing strategies that can be implemented. Grantees will be asked to align their proposals to the recommendations of the Cost of Gun Violence Study, particularly around advancing community-centered, place-based prevention strategies in neighborhoods facing concentrated disadvantage (Recommendation 4), and supporting excluded youth by expanding community-led social, recreational, behavioral, educational, and employment opportunities (Recommendation 7). In addition, priority will be given to strategies that demonstrate that their plan is not a duplication of existing services in the specific proposed geographic area based on the mapping herein.

The Public Health Department looks forward to working closely with Procurement and other County partners to issue and amplify the call for proposals, and to respond to gaps identified in this project through expanding the important work to keep our communities safer from the harms of gun violence.

**Background Context.** African/African Ancestry and Latino communities residing in Santa Clara County experience a disproportionately higher burden of gun violence. The African/African Ancestry group represents 2% of the county population but accounts for 13% of non-fatal firearm injury-related emergency department (ED) visits and 15% of non-fatal firearm injury-related hospitalizations. Similarly, Latinos represent 25% of the county population but accounted for 57% of non-fatal firearm injury-related ED visits and 56% of non-fatal firearm injury-related hospitalizations. Also, City of San José and City of Gilroy have the highest rates of firearm violence. All of the top five zip codes with the highest rate of non-fatal firearm injury were in the City of San José, while among the top five zip codes

with the highest firearm death rates, four were in the City of San José and one was in the City of Gilroy.

In August 2022, the Board approved the Cost of Gun Violence Study, which estimated the average annual public sector costs of firearm violence to the County to be \$72.5M. This report positioned Santa Clara County as a national leader in bringing this public health issue to the forefront of public discussion. The report also provided the Board and other decision-makers with recommendations for comprehensive strategies emphasizing policy, public awareness, disruptor, and prevention strategies.

### **CHILD IMPACT**

The recommended action may have a positive impact on children. This report provides an overview of community efforts to reduce gun violence's impact. The presence of gun violence within families and communities has direct and indirect adverse effects on children. The collective efforts among County departments have the potential to limit access and exposure to gun violence among children and improve access to programs and services to enhance factors to protect youth at risk for gun violence exposure.

### **SENIOR IMPACT**

The recommended action may positively impact seniors by increasing awareness of programs that work to prevent gun violence. Seniors are negatively impacted by harm to families and communities in which they live. Investment in communities may positively impact seniors by limiting unsafe access to weapons among unauthorized users, expanding crisis mental health services, and providing options for investment in programs and services to develop protective factors among seniors at risk for gun violence.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

The recommended action would have no sustainability implications.

### **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

Upon approval, the Clerk of the Board is requested to notify Jasmine Luna in the Public Health Department.

### **LINKS:**

- References: 115911: Receive report from the Public Health Department relating to gun violence prevention activities. (Referral from February 28, 2023, Board of Supervisors meeting, Item No. 9)
- References: 112267: Under advisement from May 24, 2022 (Item No. 25): Receive final report from the Public Health Department relating to the public costs of gun violence.
- References: 110756: Under advisement from October 19, 2021 (Item No. 35): Receive interim report from the Public Health Department relating to the implications of the

study on the public costs of gun violence.

- References: 107857: Under advisement from January 28, 2020 (Item No. 19): Receive report from Public Health Department relating to a study of the public costs of gun violence.
- References: 99826: Under advisement from October 8, 2019 (Item No. 15): Consider recommendations relating to conducting a study of the public costs of gun violence. (Public Health Department)
- References: 116408: Receive report from the Public Health Department relating to gun violence prevention activities. (Held from May 11, 2023, Item No. 7)
- References: 115269: Held from April 18, 2023 (Item No. 24): Receive report from the Office of the County Executive, the Office of the Sheriff, and the Office of the District Attorney, relating to increasing the number of County-sponsored firearm buyback events to a minimum of at least two annually.
- References: 116418: 116418

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Data Report on Intervention Mapping
- Violence Prevention and Intervention Mapping\_DataReportPresentation
- Off-Agenda Report – Intervention Mapping 11.20.23