

Somerville Police Department – SARA Report

David Fallon, Chief of Police

Typed, electronic copy to be submitted to Crime Analysis
(crimeanalysis@police.somerville.ma.us) by the POC
no less than one week prior to any Assessment Review.



SARA # (See instructions): 19002333	Status:
Issue Title: Intersection of Summer and Cherry Street	
Assigned By/Date:	POC: W.Collette, NPO 5

Scan – Describe the general nature of the issue

Issue Description:	Traffic Safety at Summer Street and Cherry Street		
How Identified?	Ward 5 Alderman M. Neidergang		
Key Issue Date(s):	11/01/2018 to Present	Related Incidents:	
Key Issue Locations:	Intersection of Summer and Cherry Street		

Analyze – Conduct further research to better understand the nature of the issue

1. This intersection has been recently improved with all way stop signs, but motor vehicles continue to “roll” through the signs and into the crosswalks.
2. Peak traffic hours for this location are Monday through Friday, 7am to 9am and 2:30pm to 5pm.
3. The crossing guard is in place at this location for the morning hours of 7:15am to 8:30am and again in the afternoon for school dismissal at 2:30pm to 3:15pm. These hours are especially concerning due to the high volume of children going to and from school.
 - A. One crossing guard reported that a motor vehicle attempted to go around them in total disregard while she was crossing a pedestrian.
4. There are only THREE crosswalks painted on the streets at this intersection instead of four (see photos)
5. On street parking appears be to close to the intersections.
6. The stop lines appear to be to close to the crosswalks.
7. Motor vehicles on Summer Street, in both directions, have a tendency to speed due to the grade and straight away design of the roadway.

Response – Propose & implement steps to address the issue based on the Analysis

Further Police Response?	
<p>While the Police Department has monitored and enforced the rules and regulations at this intersection, the Police cannot solve these issues alone. They will require assistance from Traffic and Parking as well as the Planning Department.</p> <p>In addition to continued Police monitoring and enforcement of this location, I believe an upgrade to the physical environment would be beneficial. These suggestions for improvement are as follows;</p>	

1. Add a FOURTH crosswalk to assist pedestrians,
2. Enforcement of parking to close to the intersection and possibly add an additional restriction of 5 to 10 feet back from the existing distance ,
3. Repaint and set back the stop lines an additional 5 feet would provide a safer buffer zone before the crosswalk,
4. Add additional traffic signs prior to the intersection warning to “Slow” or “Pedestrians Crossing”,
5. Add additional lighting in the area for night travel,
6. Maintain tree trimming efforts around signs, and
7. The addition of a raised intersection, similar to the one installed at Summer Street and Willow Avenue, would help slow and calm the speed of traffic.

Assessment – What effect did the Response have? Is further action necessary?

Police should continue to monitor, enforce and issue fines as needed, as this would help in the short term efforts. However, in order to facilitate a longer range plan, the above mentioned, physical improvements will have a greater impact and longer lasting effect.

Somerville Police Department – SARA Report Users Guide

Charles Femino, Chief of Police



General Questions

What is the process for completing a SARA Report?

An officer may self-assign a SARA Report based on an observed ongoing issue (a crime or non-crime pattern or repeat problem) or be assigned an issue by a supervisor.

Begin by requesting a SARA in the CAD (365). Include a short (1-2 sentence) issue description. Each report should have one SARA; related Follow Ups can be called in as a Follow Up. Then, take a copy of the SARA Report (which will be placed on SPIN) and fill it out as directed below.

Is this the final format of the SARA Report?

No. Eventually SARA will be an Agency Document, much like the current FIO system.

How often is a SARA Report submitted/updated?

If the issue is self-assigned, submit a SARA Report to Crime Analysis (crimeanalysis@police.somerville.ma.us) with the Scan section completed. An Assessment Review will then be assigned by the Chief or a Deputy Chief; the officer should **submit an electronic copy of the SARA Report**, with Scan, Analysis, Response and/or Assessment fields completed as directed, **no less than one week before the Assessment Review**.

If the issue was assigned by a Supervisor, submit an electronic copy of the SARA Report, with the Scan, Analysis, Response and/or Assessment fields completed as directed, **no less than one week before the Assessment Review**.

Each Assessment Review might result in further Reviews (if the issue is large or unresolved); officers should **submit an updated SARA Report before each new Assessment Review**.

Administrative Fields

[SARA #] This is the eight-digit number assigned by CAD when a SARA call is entered.

[Status] The status of the SARA project. Typical listed statuses include:

Active: The project is ongoing.

Cleared: The issue has been resolved.

Inactive: The issue has not been resolved but the project is not currently operational (for example because the officer is out or serving on a task force).

A new SARA project should be designated as Active. Any change in status should include a new entry into this field with the new status and a date stamp.

[Issue Title] This should be short and descriptive; for ex. "150 Glen St. Groups in park."

[Assigned By/Date] Who assigned the report and when.

[POC] The SARA project leader (e.g. you).

Scan Fields

[Issue Description] Include enough information for any reader to know what the issue is. 2-4 sentences.

[How Identified?] Answers might include:

By Crime Analysis (through a review of repeat locations or significant incidents)

By Officer (yourself or a supervisor; indicate the officer)

By Citizen (a request made through a citizen contact; indicate the contact)

[Key Issue Date(s)] Dates of related incidents, or more likely a date range of issue activity.

[Related Incidents] Signature incidents related to the problem. Use the Incident/CAD/FIO number.

[Key Issue Locations] Likely one address, but possibly multiple addresses or an area (“Davis Sq.”).

Analyze Fields

[Analysis Blank Space]

The goal of the Analysis section is to understand the reason for the Scanned issue. For example, Noise is an issue that could be caused by loud parties **or** a business **or** construction, each requiring a different response.

Types of Analysis might include:

Data Analysis: For example, a review of Calls for Service.

Site Visit: An in-person observation, for example a review of MV speed on a busy street.

Interviews: FIOs, or discussions with affected residents or business owners.

Each analysis conducted and the result of the analysis should be posted on a new line, with the date (Example: “1/7-10: Site visit. Observed same group of juveniles each visit.”).

Response Fields

[Further Police Response?]

Is this issue one that the SPD should devote additional resources to?

If the answer is “no”, a reason should be given. Reasons might include:

Referred to Another Agency: The Analysis might indicate that the issue is better resolved by another City agency, such as Engineering for a traffic issue. If so, the officer should find a POC in that agency and that contact should be noted.

Unfounded: An analysis might reveal that there is not an issue (cars are not speeding on a street; neighbors are not being noisy).

Response Likely to be Costly/Ineffective: The Analysis might indicate that the problem is too small or spread out for a targeted response (1 call/month for Groups in a park spread out across a year).

If the answer is “yes”, the officer should justify the further use of Police resources and recommend the police (and possibly outside) resources necessary to resolve the issue.

[Response Blank Space]

The goal of the Response section is to describe each Response that was attempted. Each response should be posted on a new line, with the date/range of the response (“1/10-1/17: Assigned four officers to conduct FIOs in area. Conducted 10 FIOs over 8 man-hours.”).

Assessment Fields

[Assessment Blank Space]

The officer and Crime Analysis will work jointly to determine if the issue has been resolved (an arrest, reviews of Calls for Service, etc.). Multiple Assessments may be necessary, if an issue is a long-term, ongoing problem (Drunk/Unwanted in Davis Sq.) or unresolved.