



City of Somerville Police Department

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Charles Femino
Chief of Police

To: The Honorable City Council
From: Captain James M. Donovan, Patrol Division Commander
Meredith Willis, Senior Crime Analyst
RE: PHPS Meeting – Calls for service in the vicinity of I-93 underpass known to involve unhoused individuals
Date: February 28, 2024

The below information provides an estimate of calls for service for the population living under I-93. The location does not have an official address, so data is collected by the geographic area and further refined by associated notes. Some calls for service do not have enough notes to determine whether they are relevant, so these numbers provided are likely an underestimate.

Additionally, of the total 68 police calls for service identified as being relevant, 10 had notes mentioning the underpass under I-93. The remainder are simply incidents that *likely* involve unhoused individuals, some of whom presumably gather under the nearby I-93 underpass.

This data EXCLUDES directed patrols and outreach activity to the area meaning that officers are additionally spending time offering services; providing handwarmers, winter hats, socks etc.; transporting individuals to warming centers; and patrolling the area for criminal activity due to increased complaints.

Data Summary

The details of the data below include incidents from **12/1/23 – 2/21/24** (2 months 21 days). We’re looking at about 5.7 calls per week on average to that area involving unhoused individuals. In the last few weeks, many calls for service were incidents of aggression, primarily around Stop & Shop (a male wanting to fight people; an intoxicated male yelling threats; another giving people in parking lot hard time; another wanting to fight a stranger, etc.); intoxicated individuals; theft; and a sick party. When it comes to 60 Cross St E since December, we see unhoused individuals passed out, sleeping in vestibules of the building, one report of indecent exposure, etc.

Data Tables

Calls for Service by Month:

Month-Year	Total Select CFS
Dec-2023	26
Jan-2024	28
Feb-2024 (thru 2.21)	14
Grand Total	68

*Note that the previous number provided for December erroneously included some January data which is why this number is slightly different.

Calls for Service by Address:

Address	Total Select CFS
240 MYSTIC AV	1
5 MIDDLESEX AV	1
60 CROSS STREET E	10
779 MCGRATH HWY	45
MCGRATH HWY & MYSTIC AV	10
MYSTIC AV	1
Grand Total	68

Calls for Service by Call Type:

CFS Type	Total Select CFS
ARREST	1
ASSIST	2
CHK-COND	9
CITCONT	1
DRUNK	1
FIGHT	1
FIRE	1
INJPERS	2
PSYCH EMERG	1
SICKPRS	8
SUS PERS	2
THREATS	2
TRAFCOMP	1
UNWANTED	36
Grand Total	68

Respectfully,

Captain James M. Donovan, Patrol Division Commander

Meredith Willis, Senior Crime Analyst