



# Harrisonburg Police Department

## DDACTS

Data Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety



### Program Overview

DDACTS is an operational model that uses integration of location-based crime and collision data to establish effective and efficient methods for deploying law enforcement resources. Using geo-mapping to identify areas that have high incidences of crime and collisions, DDACTS uses traffic enforcement strategies that play a dual role in fighting crime and reducing collisions and traffic violations. Drawing on the deterrent of highly visible traffic enforcement and the knowledge that crime often involves the use of motor vehicles, the goal of DDACTS is to reduce the incidence of crime, collisions, and traffic violations across the country (DDACTS National Website). DDACTS analyzes and addresses long-term crime and traffic collision trends, unlike CompStat, which is designed for short-term crime issues. Information and case studies on DDACTS are available online and have demonstrated the value of DDACTS, in crime and collision reductions. Select link: [Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety \(DDACTS\) | National Highway Traffic Safety Administration \(NHTSA\)](#)

### Definitions

DDACTS Zone: a specific geographic area for DDACTS program enforcement and community education and partnership, determined through data analysis of specific crimes and collisions for a five year historical period. This area is typically smaller than the designated patrol geographical areas.

Directed Enforcement Area: an area determined for short-term enforcement, based on data analysis of recent spikes of crimes and/or collisions in specific geographic areas, and reported during the weekly/monthly district activity reports. Directed enforcement is typically based on a single month of information.

ILP: Intelligence Led Policing Meetings. ILP's include CompStat reports, DDACTS reports, Intelligence & Analysis, Traffic Directed Patrol Activities, Crime Suppression Team Projects, and Drug Trends.

## Goals

- **One Year:**
  - Increase enforcement contacts by 20% in DDACTS Zone
  - Increase community reporting and involvement in DDACTS Zone
  - Reduce targeted crimes in DDACTS Zone by 10%
  - Reduce collisions in DDACTS Zone by 5%
- **Long Term; End Goal:**
  - Maintain above listed goals with an evaluation every six months
  - The development of a second identifiable DDACTS Zone

## Program Management

DDACTS in Harrisonburg, VA is operated utilizing the seven guiding principles of DDACTS, set forth by DDACTS Operational Guidelines and training workshops. This includes:

*(1) Partners and Stakeholder Participation*

*(2) Data Collections*

*(3) Data Analysis*

*(4) Strategic Operations*

*(5) Information Sharing and Outreach*

*(6) Monitoring, Evaluations, and Adjustments*

*(7) Outcomes*

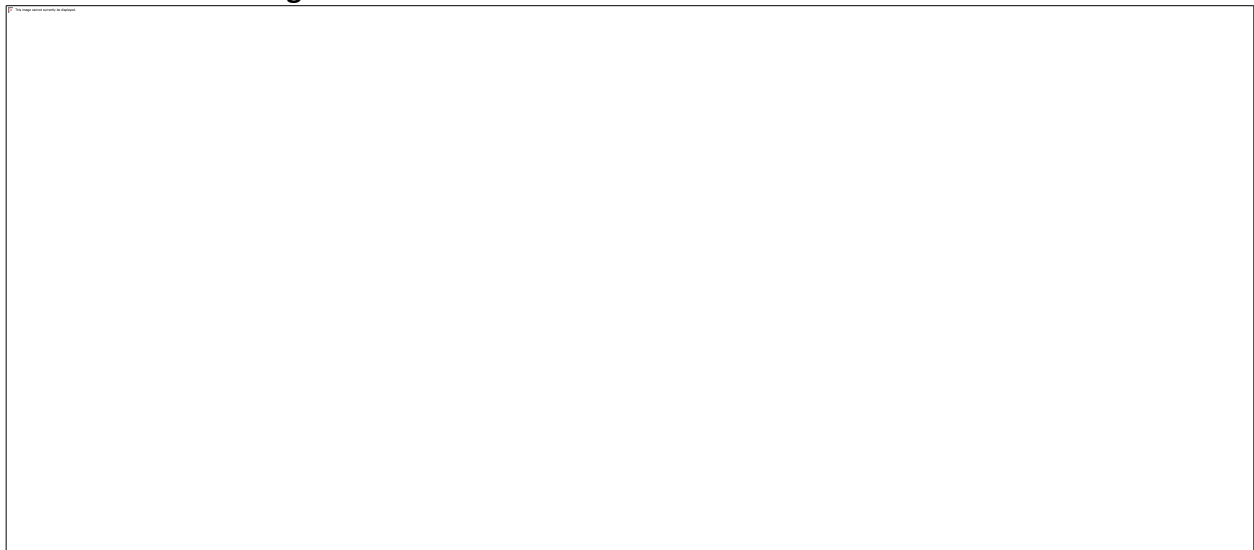
DDACTS is managed within the Special Operations Division by the Special Operations Division Commander. The Special Operations Division includes the Traffic Unit, the Gang Unit, the Community Action Team, and the Intelligence Unit. The Special Operations Division Commander has overall operational management responsibilities. The Special Operations Division Commander has the primary role in planning and developing the DDACTS Operational Plan, and implementing the plan within the department. Planning will be done in consultation with the Special Operations Bureau Commander's, and information provided by the Crime Analysis Unit and other stakeholders (Major Crimes Unit, Patrol, Records, etc). The Special Operations Division Lieutenant is responsible for communication to the affected public within the determined DDACTS Zone, for community education and support, as well as responsibility for managing the tactical plan and enforcement. Community education will be done through HOA's, Chamber of Commerce, media, and other public or professional groups to be affected. The Special Operations Division Commander will provide monthly progress reports at the ILP meetings, as well as a six month comprehensive evaluation report on the program.

### **Intelligence Gathering and Data Analysis**

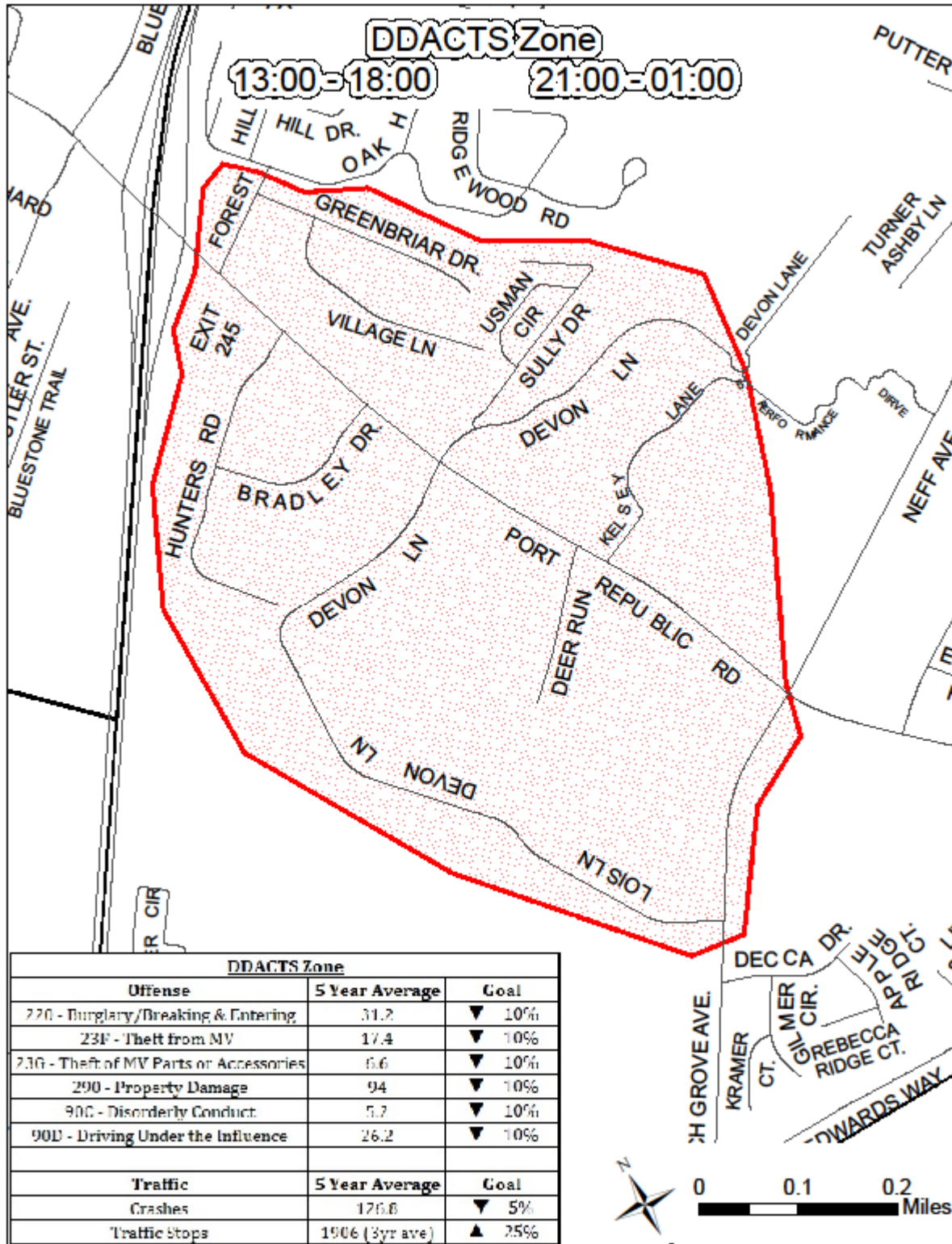
One of the primary units within DDACTS is Crime Analysis Unit. The Crime Analysis Unit, as related to this program, is responsible for gathering five years of historical data on collisions and crime. The specific crimes being analyzed under this program are: Burglaries, Theft from Motor Vehicles, Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts, Property Damage, Disorderly Conduct, and Driving under the Influence. An analysis of crime and collisions will determine where the merged areas of crime and collisions are occurring, so DDACTS Zone can be determined for better efficiency and effectiveness in enforcement and community education, in an effort to achieve the goals of the DDACTS program.

- The HPD Crime Analyst has extracted the data for the period of January 2011 through December 2015, providing a five year historical average, and mapped the clusters of crimes and collisions. Further, the unit has analyzed the data and created a merged, geo-based DDACTS Zone for enforcement and education related to this program. The DDACTS Zone will be an approximately half a square mile area in the City of Harrisonburg, located within District 5. This area comprised of approximately 3% of the total square mileage of the City of Harrisonburg and averages approximately 2.6 Burglaries, 1.45 Theft from Motor Vehicles, 0.48 Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts, 7.83 Destruction of Property, 0.43 Disorderly Conducts, 2.18 DUI's, 10.57 Traffic Crashes, and 123.9 Traffic Stops per month, for a 5 year average. The zone map and the statistics for the DDACTS zone are shown below and on the following page.

**Table 1: 5 Year Average of DDACTS Focus Crimes & Traffic Data**



Map 1: Designated DDACTS Zone



The Crime Analyst has the responsibility for the initial, historical evaluation of the specific crimes and collisions, but also will conduct ongoing gathering and analysis of the data to provide information on the work being done within the DDACTS Zone. Initially, specific crime and collision information will be provided to the tactical planners by the Crime Analyst, and tactical plans will be created to accomplish the program goals within the zone, specifically in regards to public communication and enforcement tactics. Once implemented, the Crime Analyst will track the enforcement statistics within the DDACTS Zone, and provide the information to the Special Operations Division Commander for analysis, reporting, and direction on tactical planning, strategic deployment, and/or adjustment of resources and tactics. Reporting will occur at monthly Intelligence Led Policing meetings in the form of monthly reports cards and a six month comprehensive evaluation report. The comprehensive evaluation will provide the necessary information to the Special Operations Division Commander to direct continuance of operations within the zone, adjustments to the plan for the zone, or create a different plan based on the information provided. The process will continue its cycle in the current zone, an altered zone, or additional zones as required per the analysis and information provided.

### **Enforcement**

The enforcement times for the DDACTS Zone have been established as 1300-1800 hours and 2100-0100 hours. Enforcement actions will be implemented through a department wide approach. The Special Enforcement Team (Bike Unit), the Community Action Team, and the Traffic Unit will schedule and conduct patrols and enforcement initiatives within the DDACTS Zone as part of their normal duties. It is requested that these units dedicate at least 20% of their monthly work time to the DDACTS Zone during the scheduled DDACTS hours.

The Patrol Division will have a partially direct and partially indirect involvement in DDACTS Enforcement. The DDACTS Zone coincides with the District 5 Patrol area. District 5 officers shall incorporate DDACTS enforcement into their normal patrol duties. In addition, other District Officers shall attempt to perform 30 minutes of directed patrol in the DDACTS Zone during the DDACTS scheduled enforcement hours. Patrol Supervisors should coordinate these added patrols with their officers to ensure a continuous police presence is in the identified DDACTS Zone.

All officers who are conducting DDACTS enforcement will notify dispatch of their time entering the DDACTS Zone and shall notify dispatch upon their time leaving the DDACTS Zone. A clearance code will be established for the DDACTS Zone that will allow for the tracking of total hours spent in the DDACTS Zone on a monthly, semiannual, and annual report.

**Table 2: DDACTS Timeline**

Month	Meeting	DDACTS Phase
<b>Sept. 2016</b>	ILP Command Staff	DDACTS Education (Department & Community) Preview of DDACTS Zone
<b>October 2016</b>	ILP	Implementation of DDACTS Initiative
<b>Oct, Nov, Dec 2016 &amp; Jan, Feb, March 2017</b>	ILP	Monthly Reports of DDACTS Zone
<b>March 2017</b>	Command Staff	6 Month Evaluation of DDACTS Zone; Adjustments as needed
<b>Apr, May, June, July, Aug, Sept. 2017</b>	ILP	Monthly Report of DDACTS Zone
<b>Sept. 2017</b>	ILP	Final Comprehensive Evaluation of DDACTS Activities

**Reporting**

Although communications will be ongoing throughout the program, official program reporting will occur in the ILP Monthly Meetings. The DDACTS reports and comprehensive evaluation will be briefed by the Special Operations Division Commander or designee, and will address the following:

- DDACTS Zone (work area).
- Objectives
- Tactical Plan
- Outputs/Outcomes:
  - Results/performance to goals
  - Subject Stops
  - Traffic Stops
  - Dispatched Calls for Service
  - Officer Initiated Calls for Service
  - Pin map combining focus crimes and collisions in DDACTS Zone

## Defined Goals

The Harrisonburg Police Department will conduct analysis each month to determine if the goals and objectives of the DDACTS initiative are being met. It is also understandable that goals and objectives are better evaluated on a six (6) month and yearly assessment. The monthly evaluations will be used to assess the enforcement strategies and the deployment of officers. The six (6) month and yearly assessments will be done to determine change in strategies, change in DDACTS Zone times, and the overall success of the program.

Identified goals and objectives for the first year are as follows:

1. Reduce Burglaries by ten percent (10%)
2. Reduce Theft from Motor Vehicles by ten percent (10%)
3. Reduce Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts/Accessories by ten percent (10%)
4. Reduce Property Damage by ten percent (10%)
5. Reduce Disorderly Conduct by ten percent (10%)
6. Reduce Driving under the Influence by ten percent (10%)
7. Reduce Traffic Crashed by five percent (5%)
8. Increase Traffic Stops by twenty-five percent (25%)

## Char 1: Harrisonburg Police Department DDACTS Program Communication and Work Flow



## **Additional DDACTS Reference Material**

<http://www.nhtsa.gov/ddacts>

[http://www.nhtsa.gov/Driving+Safety/Enforcement+&+Justice+Services/Data-Driven+Approaches+to+Crime+and+Traffic+Safety+\(DDACTS\)](http://www.nhtsa.gov/Driving+Safety/Enforcement+&+Justice+Services/Data-Driven+Approaches+to+Crime+and+Traffic+Safety+(DDACTS))

[http://www.smartpolicinginitiative.com/sites/all/files/Webinars/DDACTS\\_OpGuidelinesMarch14.pdf](http://www.smartpolicinginitiative.com/sites/all/files/Webinars/DDACTS_OpGuidelinesMarch14.pdf)

[http://www.policechiefmagazine.org/magazine/index.cfm?fuseaction=display&article\\_id=1839&issue\\_id=72009/](http://www.policechiefmagazine.org/magazine/index.cfm?fuseaction=display&article_id=1839&issue_id=72009/)

<http://www.nij.gov/topics/law-enforcement/operations/traffic/Pages/ddacts.aspx>

<https://www.iadlest.org/Projects/DDACTS.aspx>