

# CSI: Community Safety Initiative

## Overview & Ranking Summary

On Thursday, October 25, 2007, a community forum on safety and crime was held in Fort Dodge. Approximately 100 people attended this event to provide insight, and to help prioritize solutions to make Fort Dodge a safer community. The following is a ranking summary of solutions for the highest priority initiatives.

### Question 1: What should we do to address our perception and reputation problem?

Solutions (in order of popularity):

- Develop a positive image presentation, focusing on “good statistics” and the good things happening in neighborhoods
- Work on drug problem
- Get tough on drugs
- Provide police with everything they need for the job
- Positive marketing program

### Question 2: How do we reduce our high crime rates?

- Neighborhood watch ‘with teeth’
- Curfew
- Reactivate neighborhood watch programs
- Creative activities for youth after school
- Increase resource officers for schools

### Question 3: How can we resolve our higher rate of social problems that have a direct or indirect effect on crime?

- Restore mental health services
- Provide education regarding self-esteem issues (character)
- Establishment of school police resource officer
- Reinstate DARE program or similar public service program for drug & alcohol prevention utilizing volunteers
- Youth programs in all levels of education
- Teen abstinence

### Question 4: How do we help to make our smaller-than-average law enforcement staff more effective?

- Coordinate and cross train staff of police and fire
- More citizen involvement/reserve police officers
- Restructure priorities of officer’s duties
- Use of criminal justice students for lower level deterrent jobs
- Dissolve bureaucracy from law enforcement staff & more inter-agency cooperation

Please click on the full presentation (titled “CSI Presentation”) to see the information presented to those in attendance at the community forum on safety and crime. Additionally, please contact the City Manager’s Office at #573-7144 with any questions or comments regarding this information.