

# Campus Safety

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Associated Students of the University of Washington

**ASUW**

**W**

# Context:

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1. UW is unique due to having a separate Police Department (UWPD)
2. In 2020, BSU and a substantial portion of the student body demanded the defunding and eventual abolition of police presence on campus.
3. Relationships remain tense as crime rates remain high within the University district.





# Jurisdiction Continued:

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UWPD responds to minor complaints including noise.

SPD responds to any criminal calls.

Problem: This complicates the relationship and most students would prefer to deal with University Police than SPD



# UW Alerts – communication between SPD/UWPD:

- ❖ Students receive notifications of criminal incidents in the U-District.
  - ❖ This help students avoid areas that are unsafe and help collect information to help investigations.

## Problem:

- ❖ Areas just outside of UW jurisdiction don't get communicated effectively and knowledge of UW alerts is not given to SPD when communicating to UWPD.
  - ❖ Several instances this year with notifications not going out due to inaccurate communication or no communication due to jurisdiction.



# Police Contracts:

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- Unarmed security has demonstrated to be the most effective way for individuals to feel safe within community spaces, campus housing, patrols around U-District, etc.. Unfortunately, union's view this as taking jobs away from police.
- Safety should not be about jobs but what makes the community feel safe.
- Contracts should evolve with the times to allow flexibility in the way University Districts, due to their uniqueness, can respond to safety.



# Property Crime Responses:

- Students feel that property crime is not taken seriously by SPD.
- Majority of individuals living in U-District are low income.
- A stolen car or broken window can be detrimental for Students and their finances.
- Often very long response times



# Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility:

- ❖ Students want to ensure that safety responses and measures are catered to the UW's and university district's diverse community and experiences and are not influenced by their identity or implicit bias.

## Communities served:

(includes, but is not limited to)

- Undocumented/non-us-citizens
- Disabled people
  - Mental impairments
  - Physical impairments
- BIPOC communities
- LGBTQ+ communities
- Female-identifying people
- Domestic violence victims
- Sex-crimes/reporting
- Unhoused communities





# Historical Acknowledgment

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- Students want UWPD & SPD to acknowledge the history of police brutality that have historically and continue to harm marginalized communities within the Greater Seattle Area.



# Actions we Would Like to see:

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- Annual meetings regarding jurisdiction with UWPD.
- Advocacy to ensure Mental Health Professionals are leading calls related to individuals facing Mental Health Challenges.
- Crime Victim Fund for SPD and UWPD.
- Increased measures of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility.



# THANK YOU



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