

CASE STUDY:



Kenyattah Robinson leads September 2016 community safety meeting alongside civic and agency partners.



The 5th and Mass National Park Service (NPS) “bowtie” parks, known locally as Chinatown Park and Milian Park, were designed in the 1790s as part of the initial L’Enfant Plan to serve as one of four primary gateways to the Mount Vernon Square District.

In the summer of 2016, Seaton Park (south of Mass, aka “Chinatown Park”) and Milian Park (north of Mass) were suffering a fate endemic of many urban public spaces that are underutilized and overrun with illegal and uncivil behavior. Criminal activity in and around these shared community green spaces was prevalent even in broad daylight. These spaces were not safe or welcoming for children or adults.

Working with our NPS and United States Park Police (USPP) partners, the MVT CID implemented measures to regain the safety, cleanliness and usability of these spaces, including multiple operations by USPP uniformed

and plainclothes personnel.

In mid-September 2016, the MVT CID organized a community safety meeting attended by representatives from multiple local and federal organizations to update stakeholders on their roles and action plans and to take direct questions for almost two hours from attendees.

Through the partnership forged between the MVT CID, its stakeholders and its local and federal partners, a successful model for reclaiming these once-troubled spaces was created and implemented, enhancing stakeholder value and providing peace of mind to the community. These valuable assets, including the public sidewalks and accompanying right-of-ways, can now be safely used and enjoyed by all. We would like to extend our appreciation to the following organizations for their work



“As a realtor, I know the CID’s recent improvements to safety and security add thousands of dollars in value to every home in the Triangle.

As a neighbor, I also consider my CID membership the best value in town. The streets get cleaned, graffiti is quickly removed, and when a streetlight goes out it gets fixed. The CID is our own advocate to the city. If we just had ourselves to count on, I’m afraid we’d be lost in the shuffle.”

Thais Austin is a longtime resident of Mount Vernon Triangle and a realtor who represents many buyers and sellers in the MVT CID.

