

RESOLUTION NUMBER 311
The Lafayette Square Security and Safety Model

WHEREAS, the residents of Lafayette Square have always been proactive in maintaining a positive, thriving neighborhood in an urban setting. Community activities, ranging from annual house tours and a nationally recognized bike race to movies and concerts in beautiful Lafayette Park, have made Lafayette Square a destination neighborhood. As more people visit and move to the area, the Lafayette Square community strives to provide a safe and enjoyable environment. However, their quality of life was threatened in late 2009 when an increase in crime affected residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2009, in an effort to create a safer neighborhood within the city of St. Louis, a Neighborhood Mobile Patrol Program was initiated. The program utilizes a combination of resident volunteers and state-of-the-art technology, working with and under the guidance of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. Resident volunteers canvas the neighborhood focusing on safety concerns and suspicious activity that require a call to the police; and

WHEREAS, the mode developed a bond of trust and communication with the 4th District Police and Circuit Attorney's Office, keeping us abreast of any crimes that occur and enabling us to take proactive measures preventing future crime. They built a smart neighborhood model that utilizes technologies, resident volunteers, and trusted relationships with the police department, Circuit Attorney's Office and judges. This model has improved their quality of life by increasing communication and decreasing crime. They are currently helping surrounding neighborhoods adopt models that work for their demographics; and

WHEREAS, they have put up 40 surveillance camera signs informing individuals that cameras are used in the neighborhood. They created a secure 4th district police substation on Park Avenue, which was St. Louis Police Board approved. The substation gives police easier access to the information they require to do their jobs more efficiently and effectively, and has resulted in an increased police presence in the area and faster response times; and

WHEREAS, the model hosted several safety and neighborhood watch classes throughout the year. Nearby neighborhoods were invited to attend. guest speakers at the monthly neighborhood meetings have included the 4th district police specifically Captain Kenneth Kegel and Officer Brian Min; Neighborhood Watch and Mobile Patrol Sergeant Catherine Dennis; Community Outreach Sergeant Demetrius Elston; Gang Unit Detective Alfonso Hayes; Chief Legal Counsel Susan Guerra; Chief Deputy Juvenile Officer Catherine Horejes; and Judges Jimmy Edwards, Paula Bryant and Mike Stelzer; and

WHEREAS, five residents graduated from the St. Louis Police Citizens Academy, where they gained a better understanding of the processes, procedures and daily issues of the police as they work to serve and protect. Three residents have submitted their applications to attend the upcoming March 2011 class. Residents met with various judges to understand their roles and to learn how we can help. Tony Krawat wrote Neighborhood Impact Statements to judges to aid in prosecuting anyone who is caught offending in our neighborhood. He continues to do so when needed, although has not had to recently because of the decrease in crime; and

WHEREAS, residents attended court cases on individuals who committed crimes in Lafayette Square. Three criminals are now serving time in the Missouri Correctional Facility because of their efforts. They currently have six Neighborhood Order of Protections on individuals who have committed crimes in Lafayette Square. The Circuit Attorney's Office trained seven residents for the Lafayette Square Victim Support Group, which is led by Betty Randa. The group reaches out to crime victims, whether residents or visitors. The objective is to help victims through their trauma and to stress the importance of being a witness.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the success of the Lafayette Square Security and

Safety Model and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 10th day of February, 2011 by:

Honorable Kacie Starr Triplett, Alderwoman 6th Ward
Honorable Phyllis Young, Alderwoman 7th Ward

Adopted this the 10th day of February, 2011 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen