



**505 Grand Avenue
Bellingham, WA 98225**

---Chief Cliff Cook---

Samish questions for Chief Cook

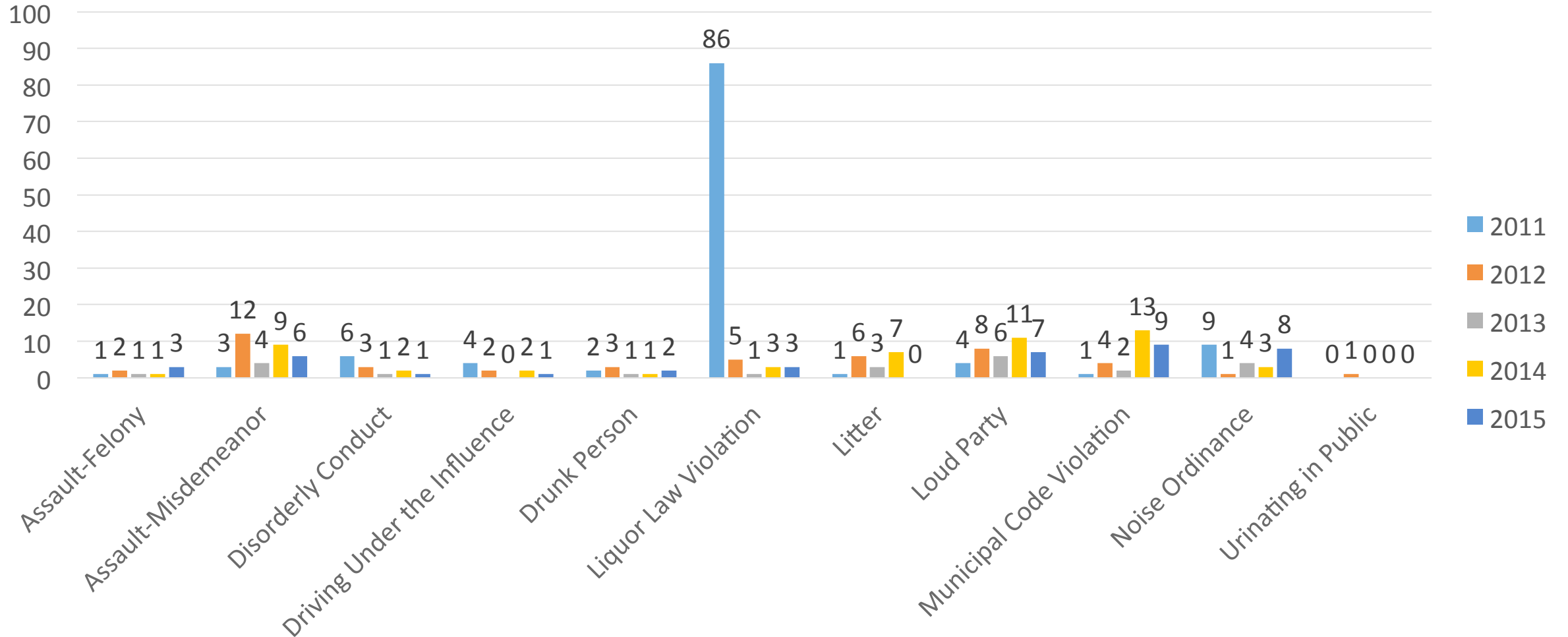
- Do you believe that the legalization of marijuana is leading to an increase in crime in Bellingham? If so, in what areas are you seeing an increase? Is marijuana-related crime different from other “under the influence” violations? What problems, if any, are you having trying to deal with this?
- What’s being done to control homeless camps? When one camp area is closed another area seems to spring up somewhere else. What should residents do, and what can residents expect from the police, regarding homeless camps? Do you believe homeless camps are both a social and a law enforcement issue? If so, how is the issue being addressed in Bellingham?
- Is a call to 9-1-1 only for emergencies? What can a resident who calls 9-1-1 expect from the operator who answers the call?
- Patrol officers answer calls using an agreed-upon priority hierarchy. Can you tell us what this is and what kind of calls fall into each priority level? Who sets priority for incoming calls?
- Quite a few residents have noticed drivers going very fast along Samish Way and even on some of the neighborhood residential streets. What can be done to control this? How can residents help you?
- What’s the manpower situation in our police department now? Do you need more officers? If you could have more, in what areas would you put them?
- I think you now have a new system that claims to help predict unlawful behavior. Can you describe it for us? How is it working for you?
- This may be too personal, but why did you choose law enforcement as a career? What did your career path, ending at Chief of Police in Bellingham, look like?

The following crime statistics information is pulled directly from our website at the link below.

<http://www.cob.org/gov/dept/police/news/Pages/crime-stats.aspx>

Samish Neighborhood Crime Stats 2011-2015

2011-2015 Crime Statistics Comparison



Samish Neighborhood Crime Stats 2011-2015

Crimes/Complaints	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Grand Total
Assault-Felony	1	2	1	1	3	8
Assault-Misdemeanor	3	12	4	9	6	34
Disorderly Conduct	6	3	1	2	1	13
Driving Under the Influence	4	2	0	2	1	9
Drunk Person	2	3	1	1	2	9
Liquor Law Violation	86	5	1	3	3	98
Litter	1	6	3	7	0	17
Loud Party	4	8	6	11	7	36
Municipal Code Violation	1	4	2	13	9	29
Noise Ordinance	9	1	4	3	8	25
Urinating in Public	0	1	0	0	0	1
Grand Total	117	47	23	52	40	279



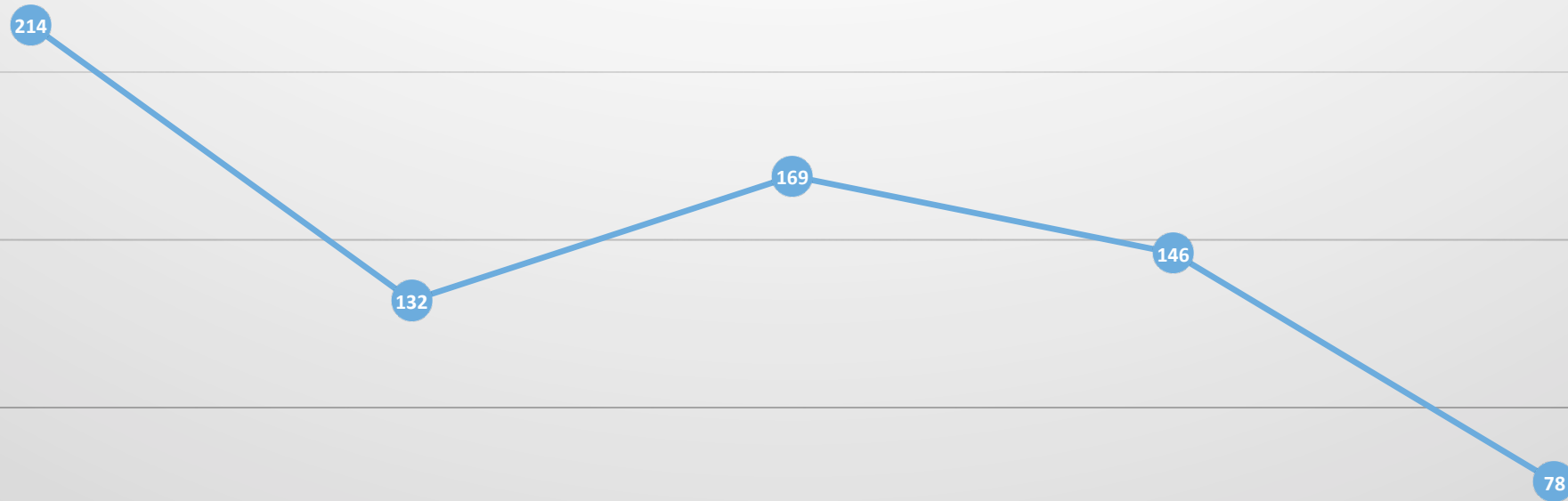
Crime Rate Comparison of Neighborhoods during 2015

Reported Incidents		York	Sehome	City Center	Happy Valley	Samish	Puget
1	Alcohol Offenses	12	20	313	4	3	4
2	Assault (Felony)	1	2	27	2	3	4
3	Assault (Misdemeanor)	7	23	106	26	6	24
4	Auto Theft	11	10	12	8	3	12
5	Burglary (Residential)	19	37	28	31	8	30
6	Crimes Against Person	4	6	20	18	6	8
7	Crimes Against Property	5	14	25	10	0	14
8	Domestic Violence	22	48	54	64	19	85
9	Drug Offenses	4	14	75	17	8	14
10	DUI	23	18	51	9	1	22
11	Homicide	0	1	0	0	0	0
12	Malicious Mischief	29	60	232	40	12	40
13	Public Order Maintenance	151	304	775	205	65	184
14	Robbery	1	7	3	2	0	2
15	Service Calls	172	409	1290	326	163	371
16	Sex Crime Reports	3	16	9	10	2	12
17	Theft	96	116	256	170	22	158
18	Traffic Accidents	28	39	89	32	6	47
19	Traffic Offenses/Complain	52	117	264	53	22	90
20	Vehicle Prowls	46	39	39	58	38	66
21	All Others	40	104	245	71	46	95
GREEN = Lowest of all Neighborhoods							

Aloha Motel Closure 100-400 Blocks of N Samish Way



COMPARISON OF CRIME TOTALS



SEPT 2011-FEB 2012

SEPT 2012-FEB 2013

SEPT 2013-FEB 2014

SEPT 2014-FEB 2015

SEPT 2015-FEB 2016

Bellingham Neighbors Together



The beginning of building a healthy and involved volunteer group

BNT will provide Bellingham residents the opportunity to volunteer with the Police Department in an observer or assistance capacity.

Currently in the process of hiring a part time volunteer coordinator who will help design and manage this program.

We expect to start our first class this Spring involving our current pool of volunteers. By late Summer, early Fall we will expand the program and begin building our volunteer group from all of Bellingham's neighborhoods.

Bellingham Neighbors Together



Mission Statement

Bellingham Neighbors Together(BNT), a voluntary citizen organization in partnership with the Bellingham Police Department, are committed to a visible public presence to reduce crime, educate residents, and promote safe and secure neighborhoods.

Goal

Creating a safer community by building healthy relationships and strong neighborhoods.

Objectives

Educate neighbors on how to secure their homes and reduce their chances of being victims of crime utilizing CPTED principles.

Assist our neighborhood residents to meeting and communicating with each other.

Train residents to recognize suspicious activity and how to correctly report it to the Bellingham Police Department.

Continue open communication between neighborhood residents and the Bellingham Police Department.

Deter crime through neighborhood resident participation and presence.

Bellingham Neighbors Together



Thanks, Neighbor!

(More next page)

Here's my name:

Neighborhood (if known):

Here's where I live:

My email:

My house phone:

My cell phone:

My age:

In my house: Adults ___ Ages ___

Kids ___ Ages ___

Activities I do now in my neighborhood: Walk (typical routes) (How often)

Bike (typical routes) (How often)

Drive (Typical Routes) (How often)

Here are things I might do: (I understand I can opt out from any task I have checked!)

Be a Communicator. (One person per block or perhaps more area) Communicators will be given a job outline, some training, and contact lists before beginning.

Be a casual patroller while I'm on my regular routes. Casual patrollers will get handouts and training about "things to notice".

Be a formal Patroller as I am available. Patrollers will be given training by our Police Department and will receive a formal screening; details will be given upon request.

I am retired and/or available to help my neighbors with small "handyman" incidents that are beyond the skills of the elderly or handicapped. Your local Communicator may occasionally ask you to help out a neighbor.

I'm not sure at this time. But contact me for a program meeting where I can learn more.

Hi!

We're **BELLINGHAM NEIGHBORS TOGETHER** trying to improve our neighborhoods, help one another when needed, and do our best to keep this City so wonderful!

Our community has a lot of great things to offer us, including beautiful parks, great schools and wonderful neighborhoods. And now we are organizing a new way for us to get together, have fun, and meet new friends.

BNT offers us a chance for Bellingham area residents to meet, organize, and act together to help address common goals such as safety, conflict resolution, and making our neighborhoods more family friendly and welcoming.

BNT will deal with little annoyances before they become big problems, and use shared solutions to tackle big problems.

Want examples of how this might work?

We expect eventually to have "BNT Communicators" in each of our City's 25 neighborhoods, trained who to call, and what to do, for any kind of ordinary problem that isn't being solved and --- even more important --- the Communicator will be informed (or can find out) what is going on with stuff already "in the works".

Can you imagine how this person could be a resource for you and your neighbors? And if your neighbors have a great idea, the Communicator can share it with the rest of the City. We all benefit!

The City Staff (they're our neighbors, too) are helping us organize this new volunteer force of BELLINGHAM NEIGHBORS TOGETHER in each neighborhood who can watch for odd things... perhaps like some vandalism or graffiti, or some place that's beginning to attract possible criminal activity.

We're not expected to be police; we're simply ordinary neighbors who been clued in on what to look for we they take our strolls, walk our dogs, and drive through our own neighborhoods, and what to do if we are concerned about something!)



We also hope to have a few more serious, trained patrollers who can partner with Bellingham Police in more directed efforts based upon current neighborhood concerns.

Here's another example: If you are part of BELLINGHAM NEIGHBORS TOGETHER you might even get called by your neighborhood volunteers and asked if you can help find a lost kid. (That's something that happened recently in Vancouver, Washington, which has an established program like this one. There, in just 25 minutes, they had located the lost child --- that's about the time the police had gotten teams out other than the first one or two officers mobilized!)

And, of course, we'll know who to invite for a neighborhood party for the fun of it, and we'll be alert to who among us may need special attention because of age or disability --- for the humanity of it!

You can check our website,
www.cob._____

or check with the volunteer in your neighborhood for the full information kit. It includes a list of activities in which you might help,
some of which are just doing what you already do!

You, too, can be part of **BELLINGHAM NEIGHBORS TOGETHER.**

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BNT will let little annoyances be dealt with before they become big problems, and big problems be reduced as possible, with shared solutions.

Want examples of how this might work?

Turn the page!

You can check our website,
www.cob._____

or check with the volunteer in your neighborhood,

for the full information kit. It includes a list of activities in which you might help, *some of which are just doing what you already do!*

You, too, can be part of
BELLINGHAM NEIGHBORS TOGETHER.



Primary Business Address
Your Address Line 2
Your Address Line 3
Your Address Line 4
Phone: 555-555-5555
Fax: 555-555-5555
Email: xyz@cob.com

I'd like more information and am considering joining BELLINGHAM NEIGHBORS TOGETHER!

Here's my name: _____ Neighborhood (if known): _____

Here's my address in Bellingham: _____ Zip: _____

My email: _____ My house phone: _____ My cell phone: _____

My age: _____ In my home: Adults _____ Ages _____ Kids _____ Ages _____

Activities I do now in my neighborhood:

- Walk (typical routes) (How often)
- Bike (typical routes) (How often)
- Drive (daily typical Routes) (How often)



Town-Gown



- This is still in the Development Phase
- We have submitted a grant to the state in hopes of funding the initial Pilot Phase
 - Town and Gown Program will utilize a coordinated approach to address issues associated with off-campus housing and behaviors by addressing
 1. Noise and Parties
 2. Litter
 3. Parking and Traffic
 4. Illegal, unpermitted rental units and inappropriate uses in single family zones

Coordinated means that the Bellingham Police will partner with Planning and Community Development, Campus Community Coalition and other city departments in order to educate students living off campus and enforce ordinances if necessary. The solutions will primarily focus on education, both of off campus students and residents, and will follow up with enforcement if the negative behaviors continues.



Town-Gown



What's next?

- Members of Bellingham PD, Planning and Community Development and Campus Community Coalition continue to meet and discuss ideas and programs brought up by neighborhood residents and by studying successful existing programs like the one at Colorado State University, Ft. Collins.
- We hope to hear from the State if our grant is approved soon
- The Town-Gown group has already conducted interviews with the managers of these programs, as well as, attended a webinar on Town-Gown Programs
- In 2016 we plan on sending the Town-Gown Group to Colorado State University in order to meet with our counterparts at CSU and Ft. Collins, to study and gather the necessary information to implement a successful program here
- This program was presented to the Mayor and City Council, who support our efforts

CRIME PREVENTION Through ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN(CPTED)



Interior Lights & Radio

A couple of lights and the sound of a radio can make it seem as though someone is home.

Door Eye Viewer / Window

Ensure both adults and children can see out before they open a door.

Sliding Glass Doors Secured

Cover with security window film to help prevent shattering.
Use track locks to prevent removal of door.

Casement or Double Hung Windows

Use various types of window stops for windows.

Exposed Fence Hinges

Ensure "pin" side is installed on inside of fence or fill with pins that cannot be removed.

Trim Hedges and Trees

Trim hedges below 2' and tree canopies higher than 6'.

Alarm System Sign

A simple sign or decal may make a would-be criminal think twice.

Mark Your Valuables

Use an identifiable mark or number such as your driver license number to mark your valuables.

23% of burglars enter through a first floor window

2% of burglars enter anywhere on the second floor

22% of burglars enter through the backdoor

9% of burglars enter through the garage

81% of residential intrusions occur through the first floor

34% of burglars through the front door

12% of burglars through an unlocked entrance

Reinforce Door Frame With Wood

Fill space between door jamb & studs with a solid piece of wood and shims to prevent it from being pried back.

Porch / Front Door Lights

Use high efficiency lights with motion sensors or a timer.
Use a white light source that offers good color rendering.
Lights should be installed out of arm's reach of a would-be criminal.

Deadbolt Locks on Doors

Deadbolt at least 1" into door frame.
Install at least 3" screws in strike plate and hinges.

Driveway and Walkway Lights

Use high efficiency lights with motion sensors or timers.

Garage Door Securely Locked

Do not leave a spare key outside your home. Leave with a trusted friend.

Easily Readable House Number

It's easier for police and other first responders to locate your home when the house numbers are large & well-lit.

Reinforce Basement Windows

Ensure there is a quick-release mechanism for easy exit in case of emergency.

