

Reimagining Justice with Data-Informed Community Engagement



CVIPI
Community Based Violence Intervention
and Prevention Initiative

OJJDP Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention

NIJ National Institute
of Justice
STRENGTHEN SCIENCE. ADVANCE JUSTICE.

Office for Victims of Crime
OVC



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Reimagining Justice with Data-Informed Community Engagement

Moderator:



Michelle Garcia

Deputy Director, Programs Office, Bureau of Justice Assistance



Reimagining Justice with Data-Informed Community Engagement

- Overview of the Reimagining Justice Program
 - Test new or innovative approaches to achieving community safety that are alternatives to a traditional enforcement model for communities experiencing a precipitous increase in less serious and lower-level crimes.
 - Supporting community-led responses that meets the needs and objectives of community leaders, residents, and other stakeholders through a community engagement process.
 - Current Reimagining Justice Grantees
 - The Rutgers University's Newark Public Safety Collaborative (Newark, NJ) - FY22
 - Urban Alchemy (Central East Austin, TX) - FY23
 - Multnomah County, Oregon (Cully Neighborhood) - FY23
 - WestEd (Nicholtown Neighborhood in Greenville, SC) - FY23



Reimagining Justice with Data-Informed Community Engagement

Panelists:



Alejandro Gimenez-Santana Ph.D., Co-Executive Director, Newark Public Safety Collaborative / Rutgers-Newark



Christopher Keys, Director of Community Programming & Relations / Unified Vailsburg Services Organization



Colleen Smith, Director of New Jersey Programs, Newark Community Solutions

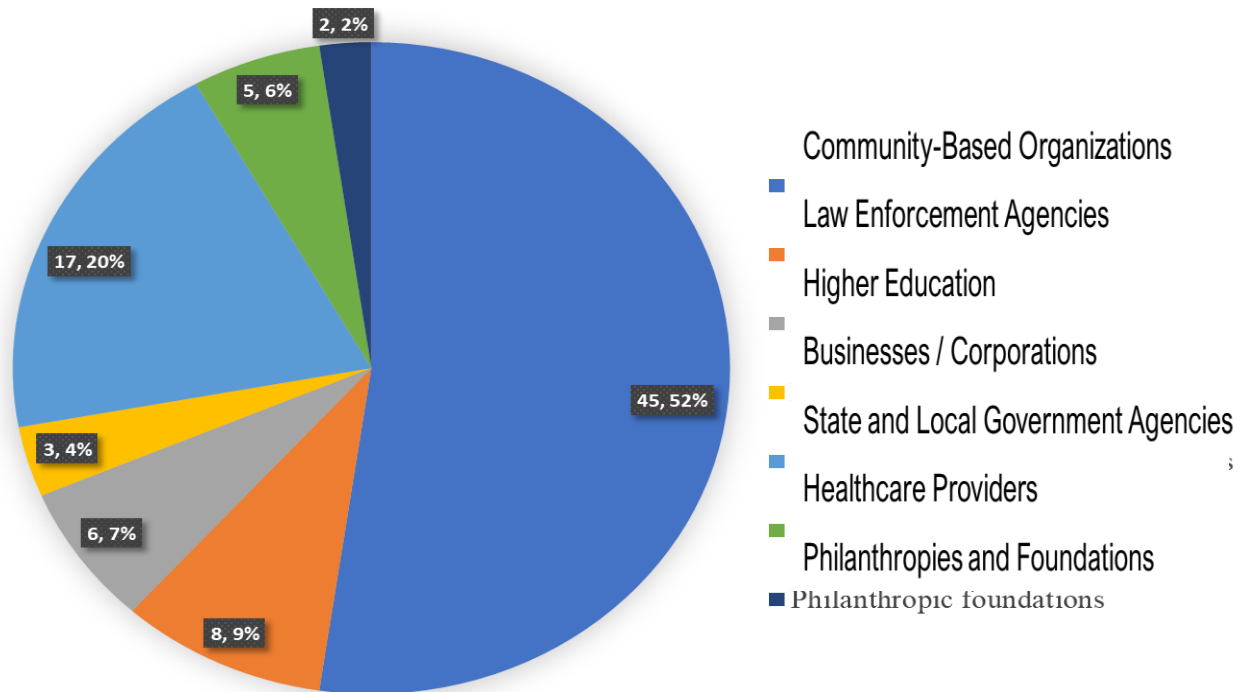


Warren Thompson, Community Organizer, Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District



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Newark Public Safety Collaborative Partners



- **The Newark Public Safety Collaborative (NPSC)** was launched in 2018 to prioritize crime problems with guidance from its community partners.
- It is housed in the Rutgers University - Newark School of Criminal Justice (SCJ) and convened by SCJ faculty.



Reimagining Justice with Data-Informed Community Engagement

DATA-INFORMED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1. **Democratize** the use of data and analytics,
2. **Mobilize community resources** and expertise to problem-solve Newark's most pressing crime issues.
3. **Empower community organizations to become co-producers of public safety**, and levels the playing field by soliciting and valuing the input of those who understand the local context and have the resources to help create sustainable solutions.



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MOBILIZE COMMUNITY RESOURCES

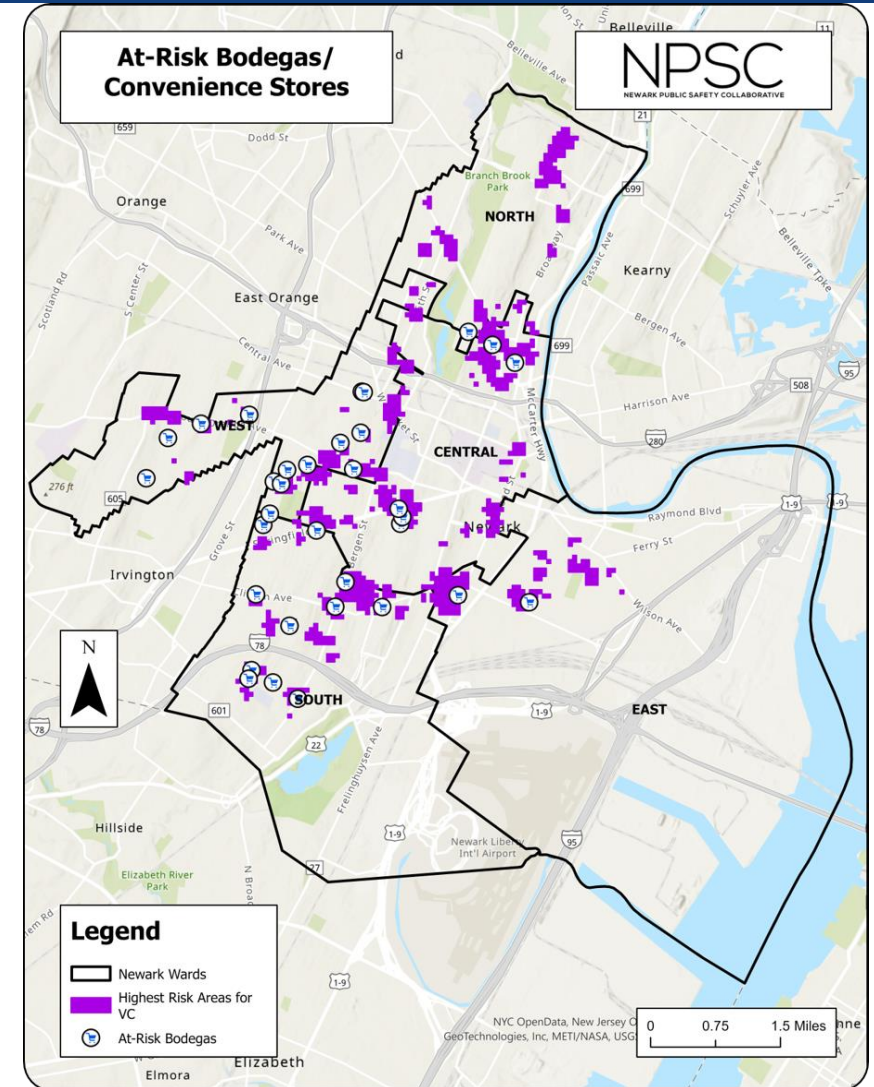
- DICE meetings begin with a discussion on crime trends, changes in the spatiotemporal distribution of crime, and multiple **placed-based analyses or Risk Terrain Modeling (RTM) analyses**.
- A data-informed discussion follows to:
 - **Unveil narratives** (*WHY is crime concentrating near certain places?*)
 - **Develop community-led strategies** (*HOW can we respond to this crime problem?*)
 - **Co-produce community responses to crime problems.**



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CONNECT PLACES WITH NARRATIVES TO INFORM ACTION

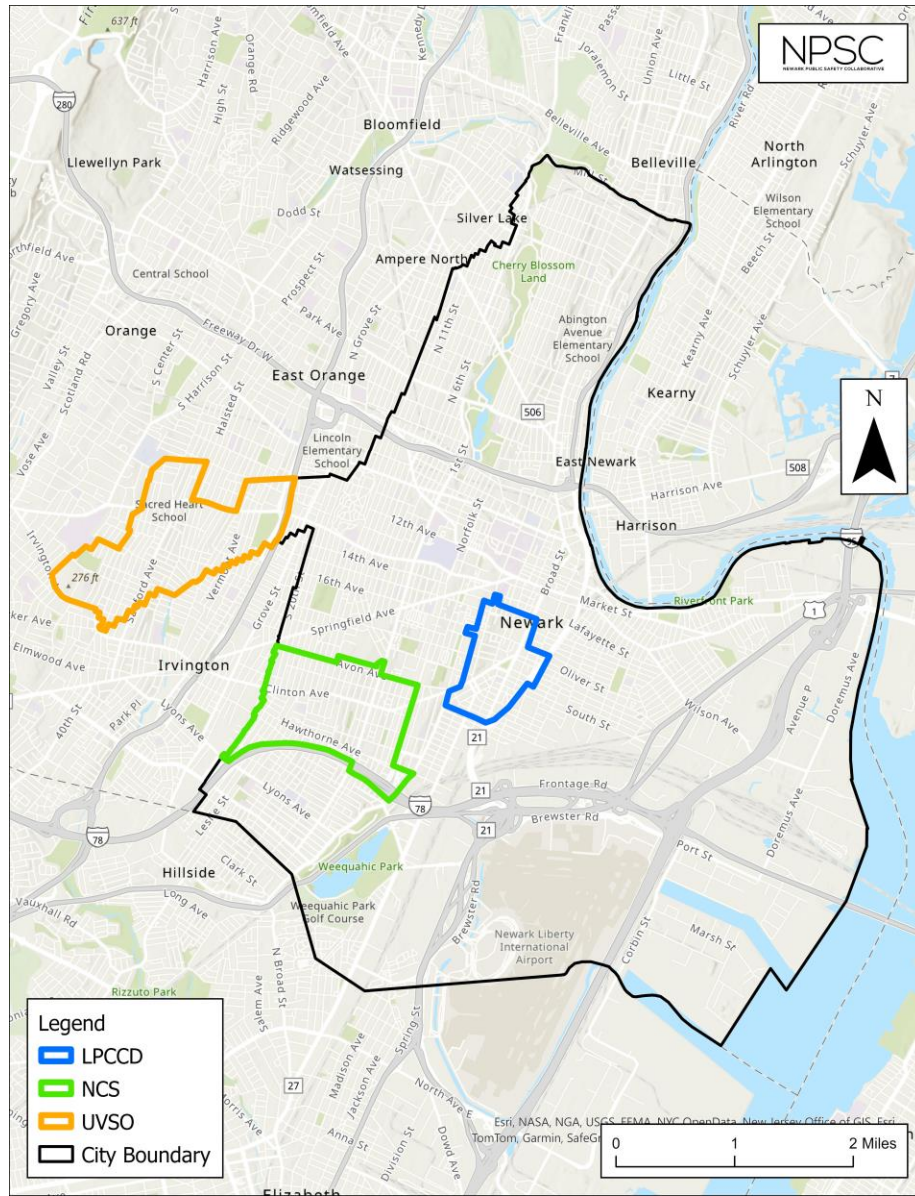
- The NPSC identified several bodegas/corner stores that experienced an increase in violence.
- These places are community hubs bringing people together to socialize and buy hot foods, but some of them also become a **magnet to fights and disputes**, as well as **other crime problems**.
- **Crime prevention strategies:** Organize community outreach activities, improve access to fresh produce, engage youth through dedicated programming activities, improve lighting conditions, among other strategies.



CO-PRODUCING COMMUNITY SAFETY



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NEWARK, NJ

- **Lincoln Park**
 - LPCCD's community area encompasses the vibrant community surrounding Lincoln Park, renowned as Newark's thriving arts and cultural district in the city's Central Ward.
- **Clinton Hill**
 - NCS' community area encompasses the Upper and Lower Clinton Hill neighborhoods of Newark, nestled in the city's South Ward and bordered by Irvington.
- **Vailsburg**
 - UVSO community areas serves the dynamic neighborhood of Vailsburg located within Newark's West Ward, adjacent to the neighboring towns of Maplewood, East Orange, and South Orange.

Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District (LPCCD)



- Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District (LPCCD) is a nonprofit organization that fosters and maintains the vibrancy of the Lincoln Park neighborhood located in the City of Newark, NJ.
- LPCCD facilitates the integration of arts and culture to advance local economic development, housing and neighborhood stability to support healthier, safer, and more vibrant neighborhood.



Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District (LPCCD)

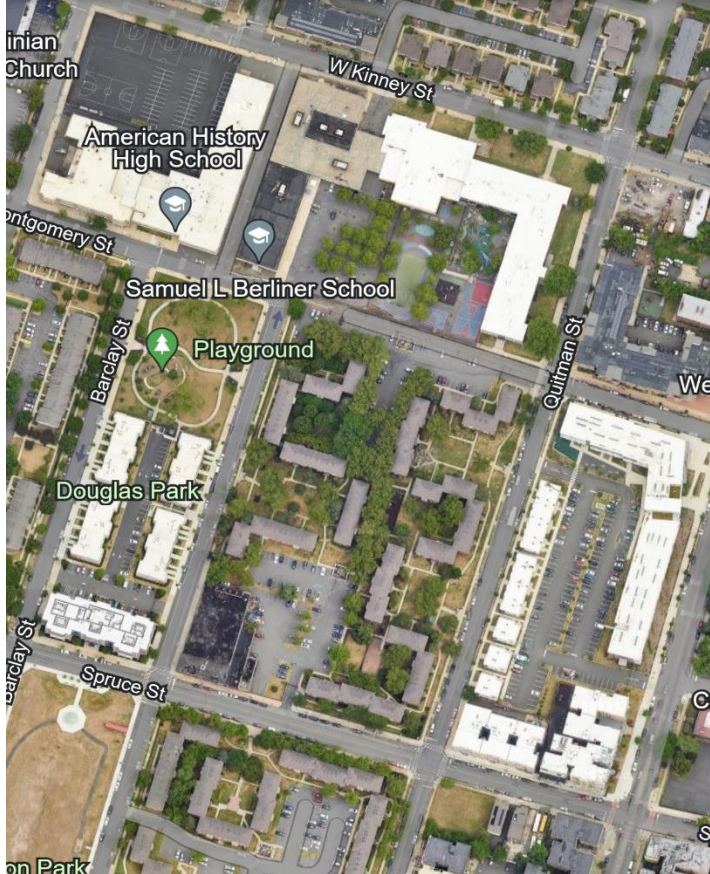
LPCCD is co-producing community safety with the following local organizations:



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Lincoln Park, Newark

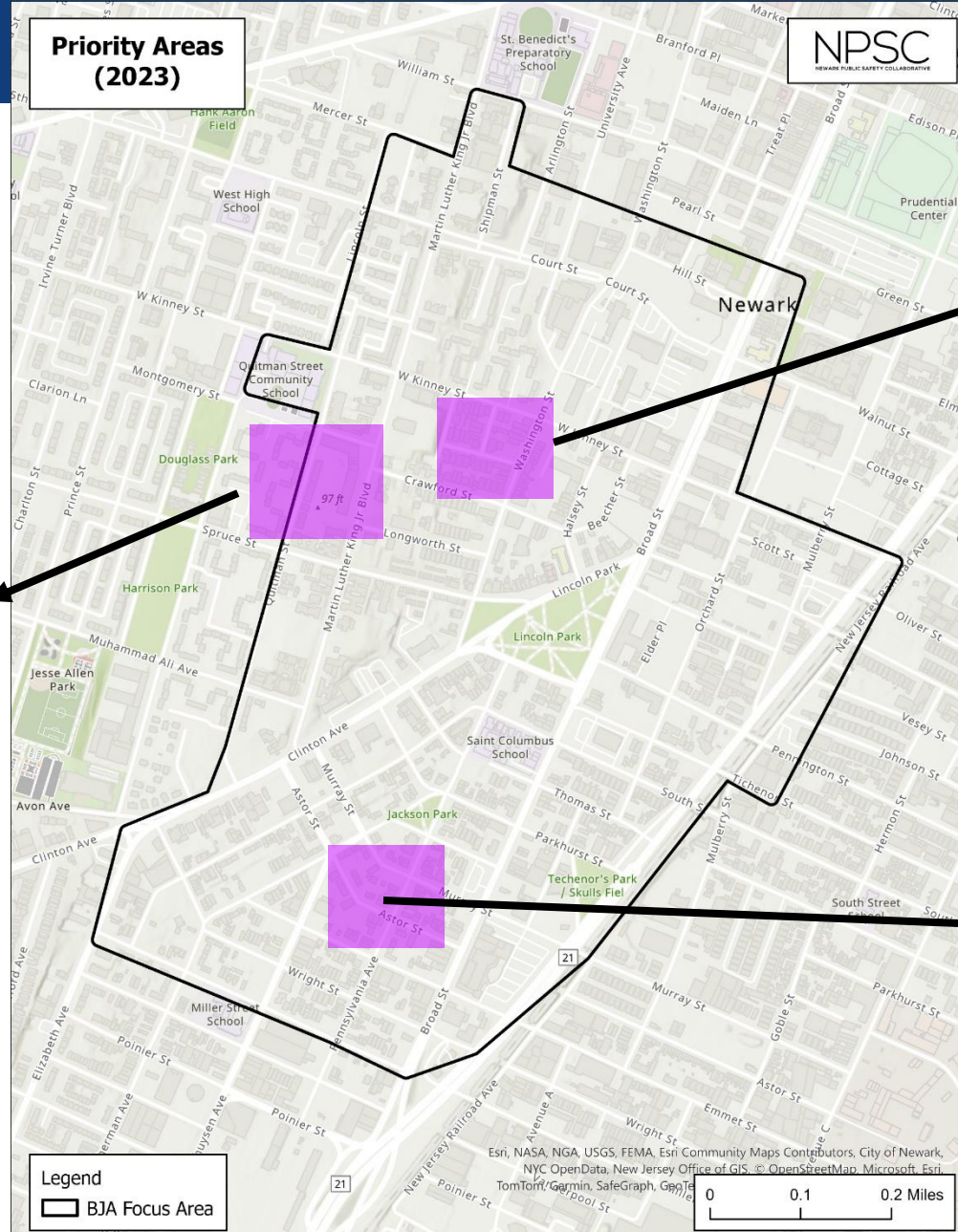
Quitman St



Crawford St



Astor St & Sherman Ave



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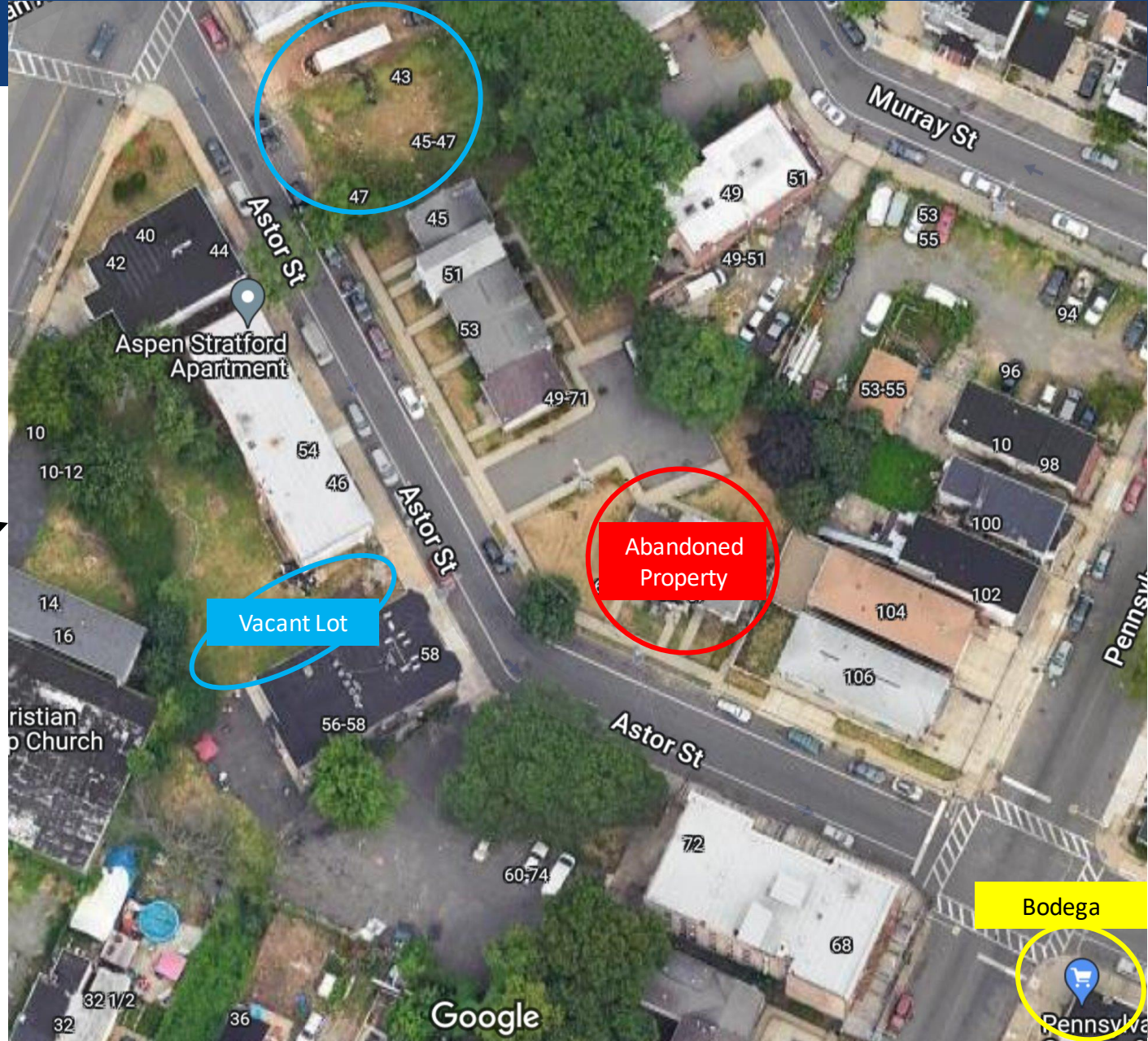
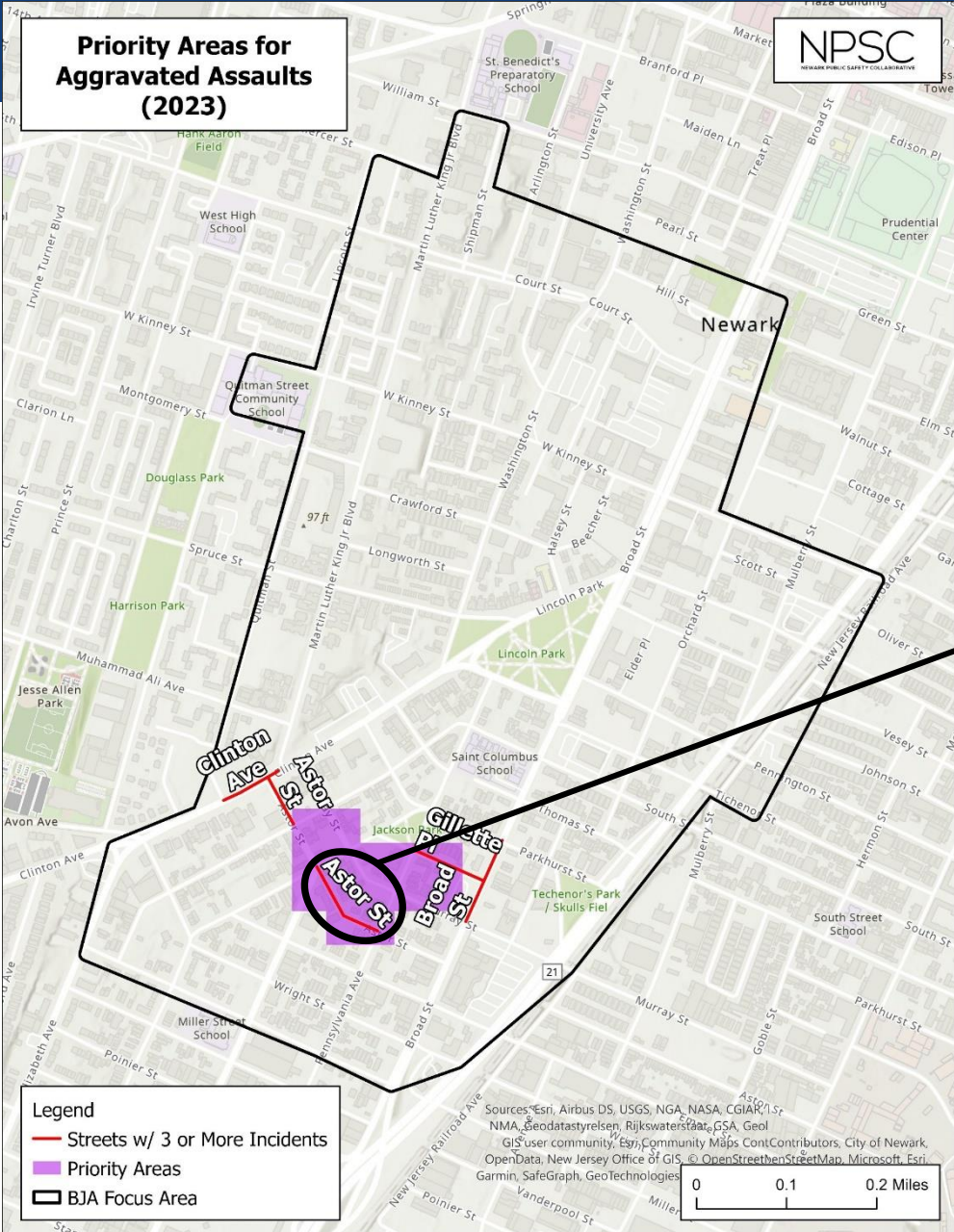
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EMPOWERING YOUTH TO BECOME CO-PRODUCERS OF COMMUNITY SAFETY

- LPCCD is engaging students at Newark's Great Oaks school in **Data-Informed Community Engagement meetings**.
- The LPCCD has facilitated two sessions to engage students, provide information on current crime trends, and, more importantly, learn from their lived experiences.



Lincoln Park, Newark



Newark Community Solutions (NCS)



- A project of the Center for Justice Innovation, NCS provides community justice programming in the criminal justice, housing, and youth service sectors.
- For more than a decade, NCS has conducted assessments, developed individualized service plans, and delivered social services for court-involved individuals with an understanding that people's needs are complex and require a holistic response.



Newark Community Solutions (NCS)

Principals of Community Justice

In 2022, The Center for Justice Innovation, with support from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, updated the principles of community justice to:

- Build upon its foundational principles
- Preserve the model's operational flexibility
- Infuse new ideas and practices
- Broaden the concept to include both court and non-court applications

Co-Create
Justice

Advance Equity

Put People First

Prioritize
Community-
Based Solutions

Promote
Accountability

Model
Innovation

Newark Community Solutions (NCS)

NCS is co-producing community safety with the following local organizations:

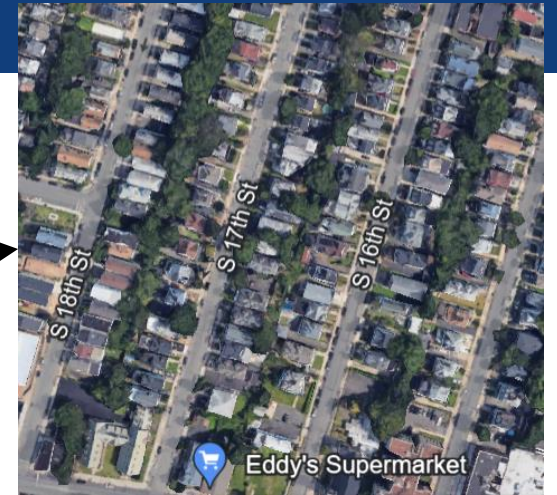
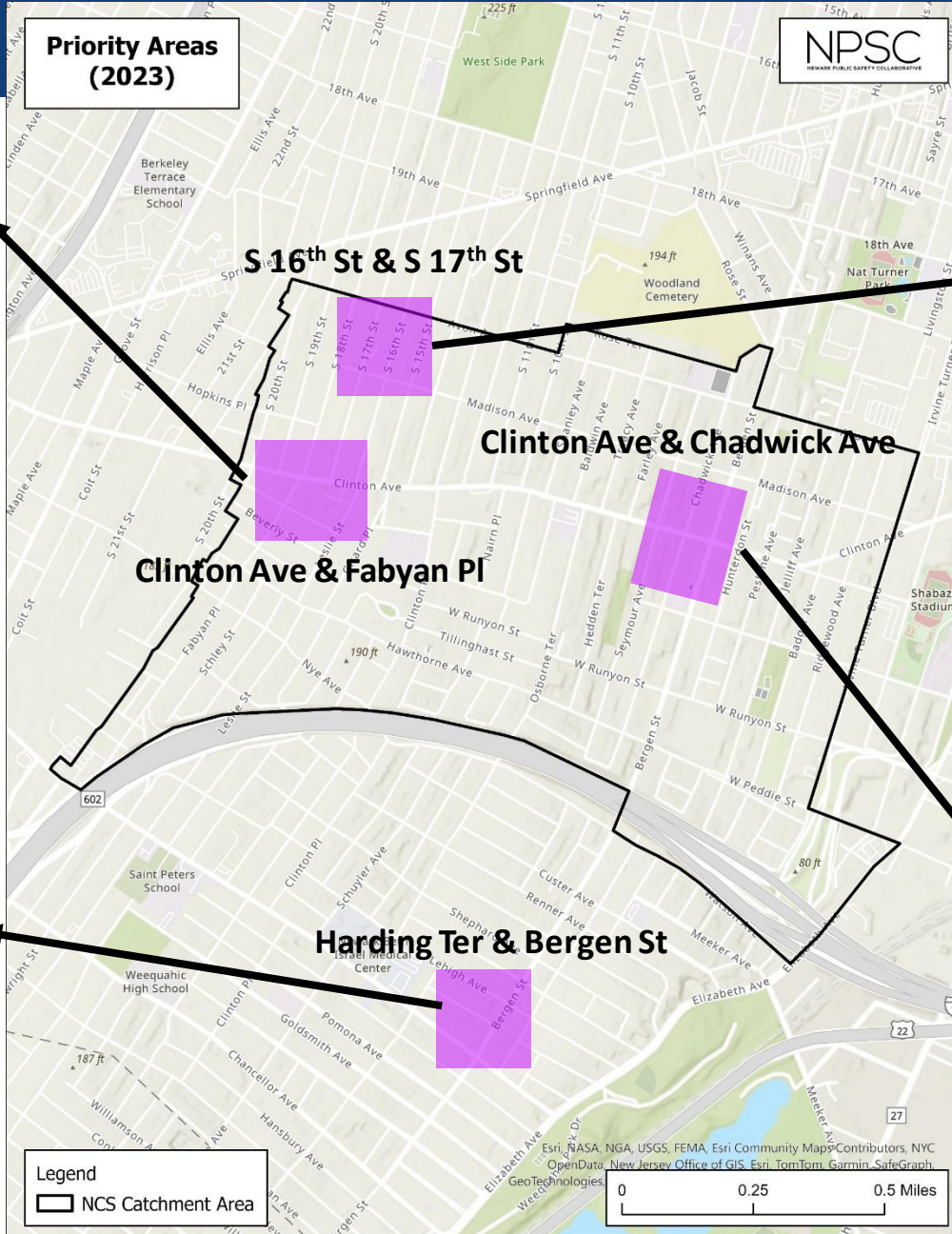


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Clinton Ave & Fabyan Pl

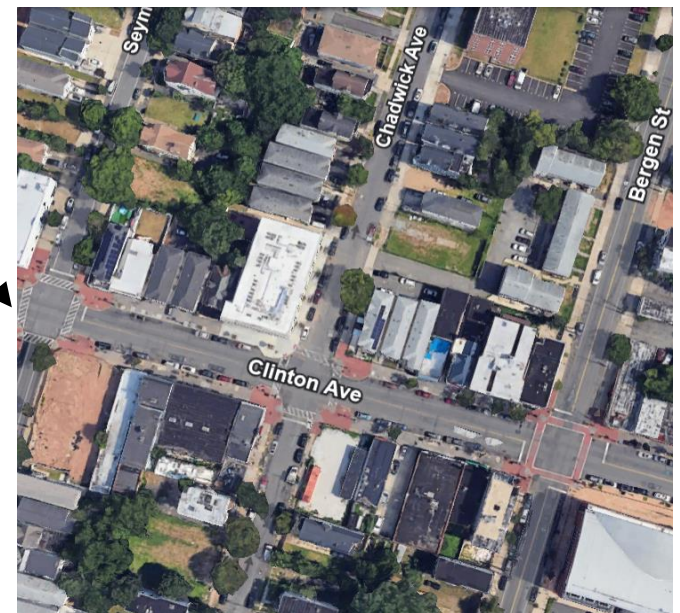
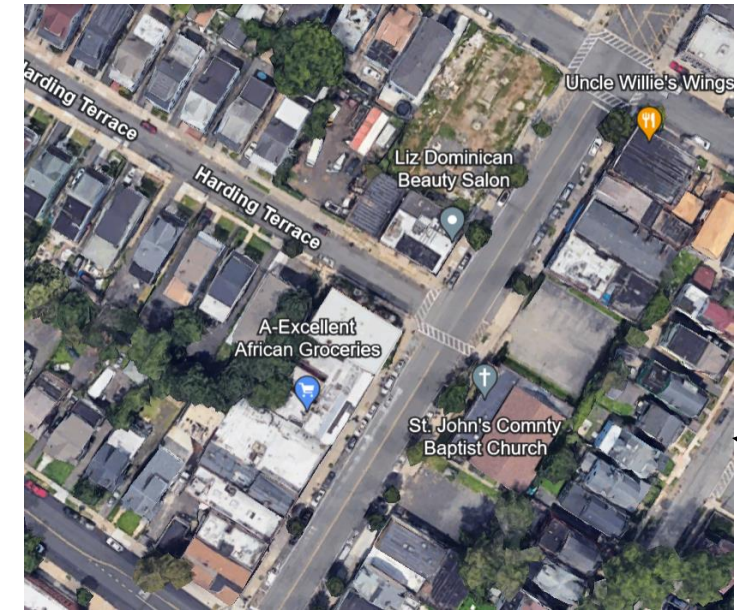
Newark Community Solutions (NCS)

S 16th St & S 17th St

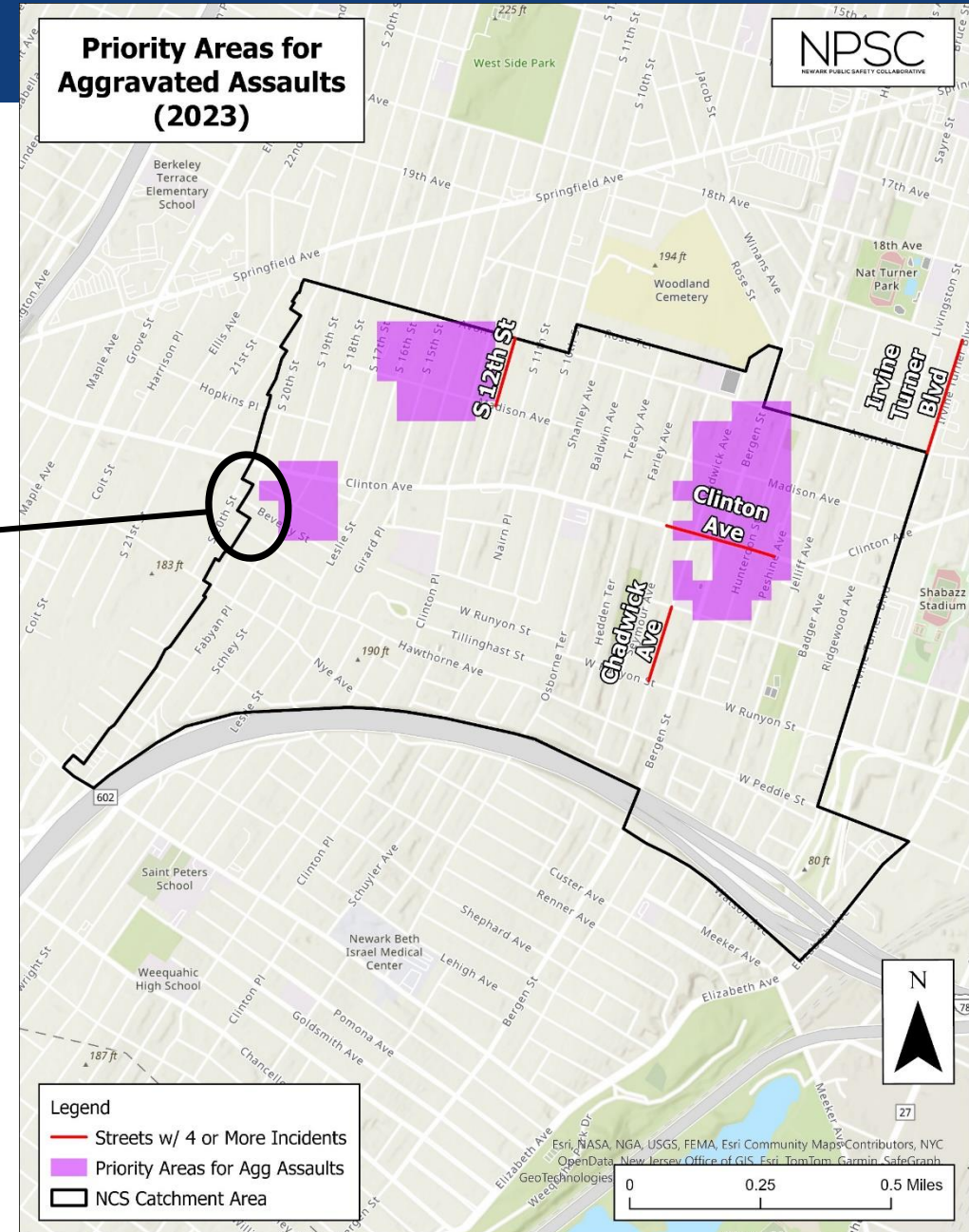


Harding Ter & Bergen St

Clinton Ave & Chadwick Ave



Newark Community Solutions (NCS)



Unified Vailsburg Services Organization (UVSO)



- Unified Vailsburg Services Organization (UVSO) was founded in 1972 by forward-thinking civic leaders and residents aiming to foster a resilient and empathetic community in the Vailsburg neighborhood.
- To achieve this mission, the UVSO provides services to children, teenagers, and families, along with initiatives promoting community engagement through neighborhood improvement and housing development.



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Unified Vailsburg Services Organization (UVSO)

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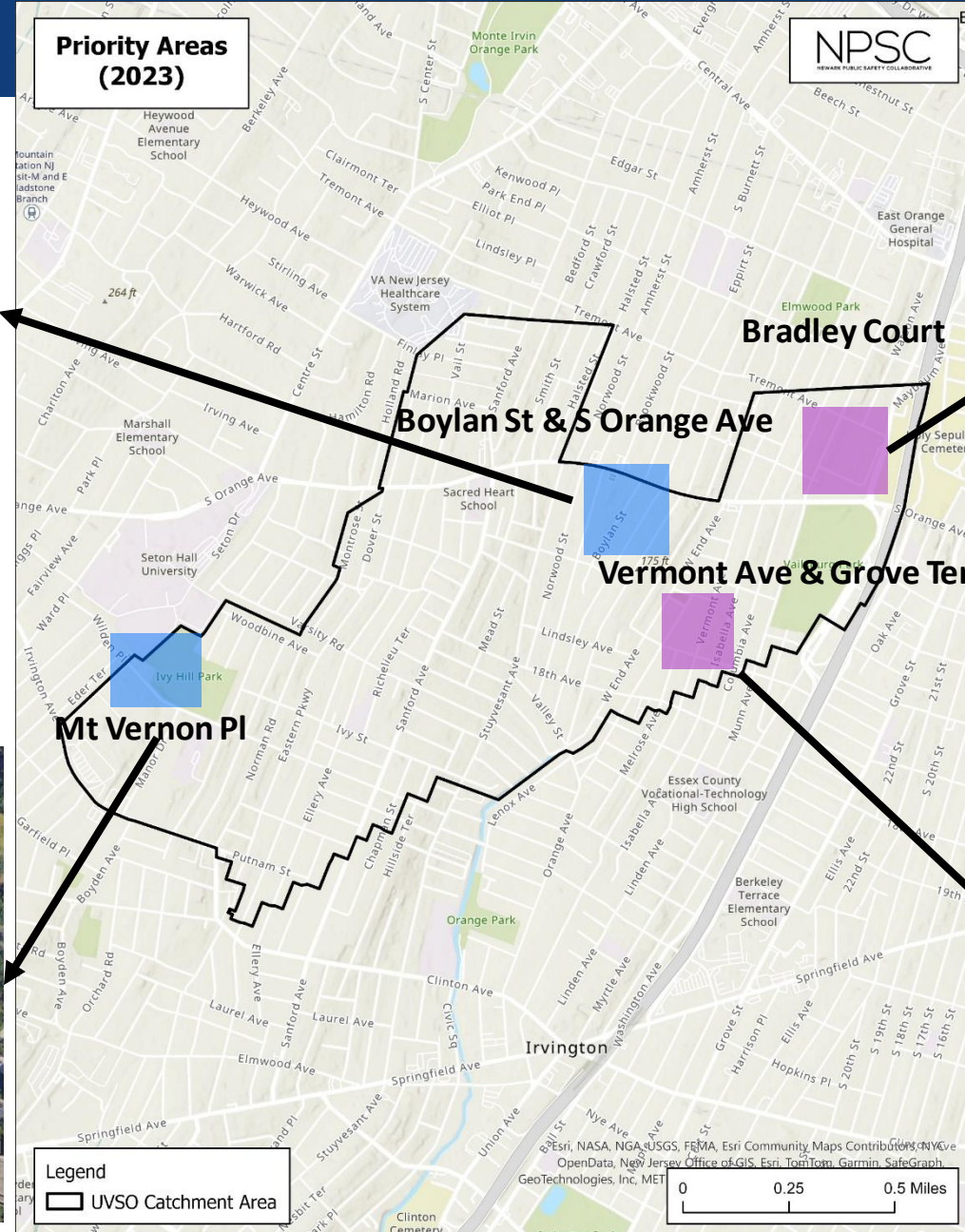
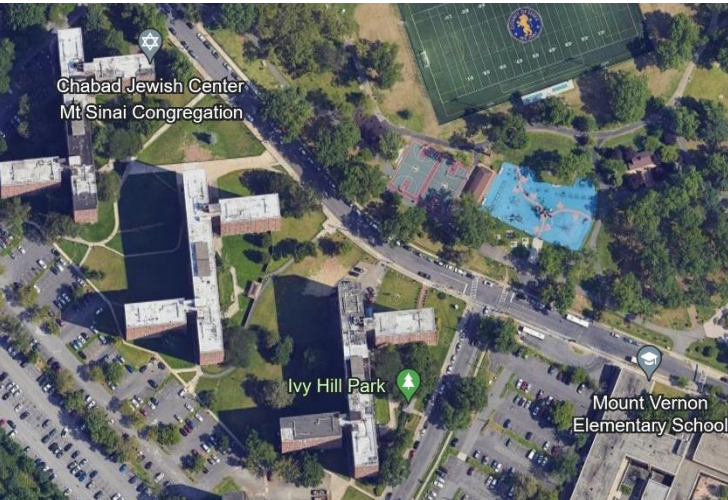
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Vailsburg, Newark

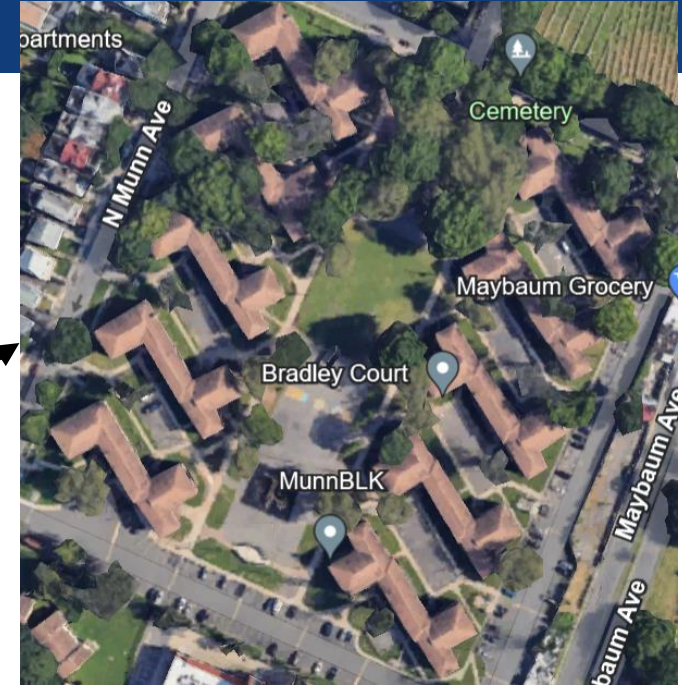
Boylan St & S Orange Ave



Mt Vernon Pl



Bradley Court

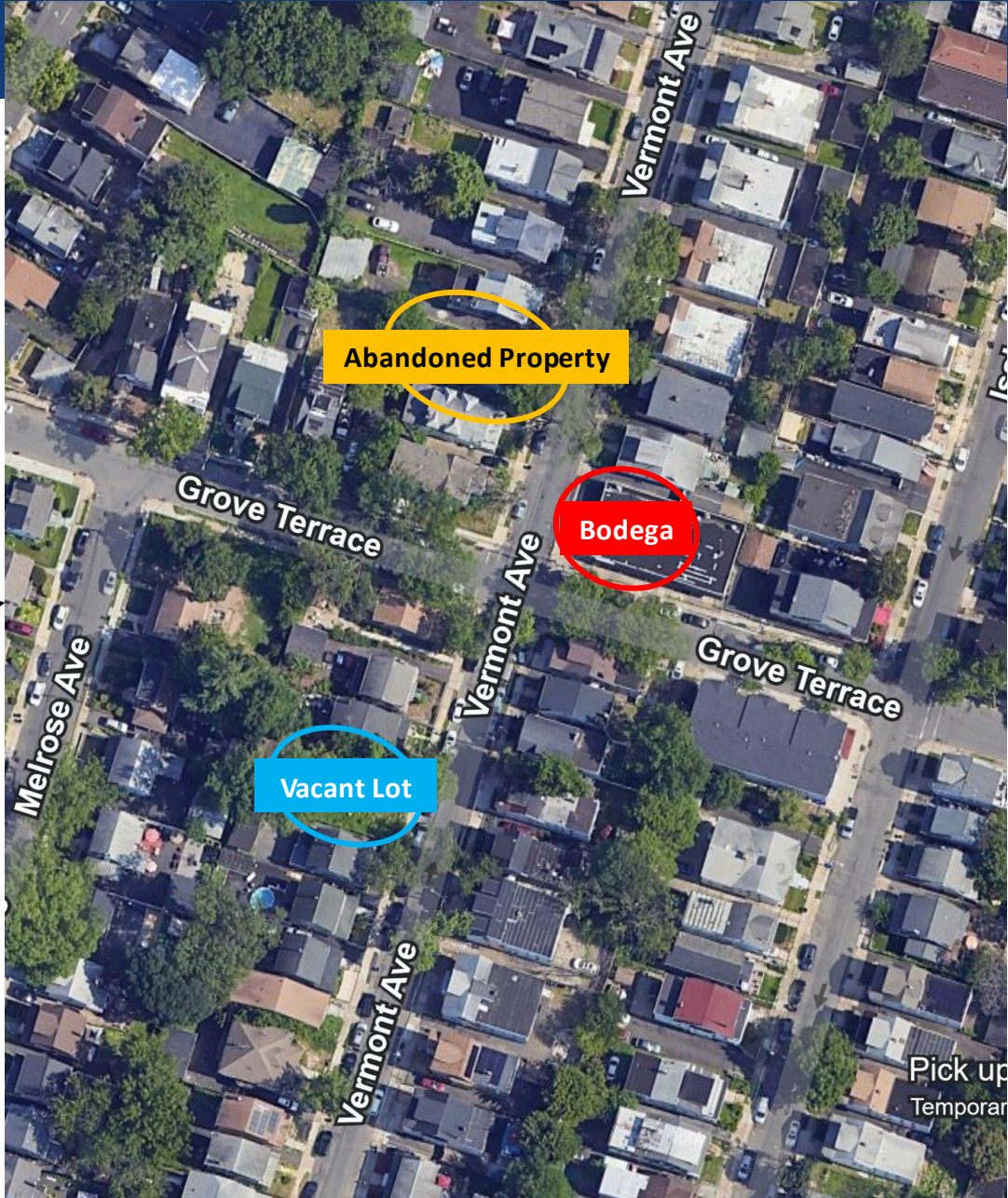
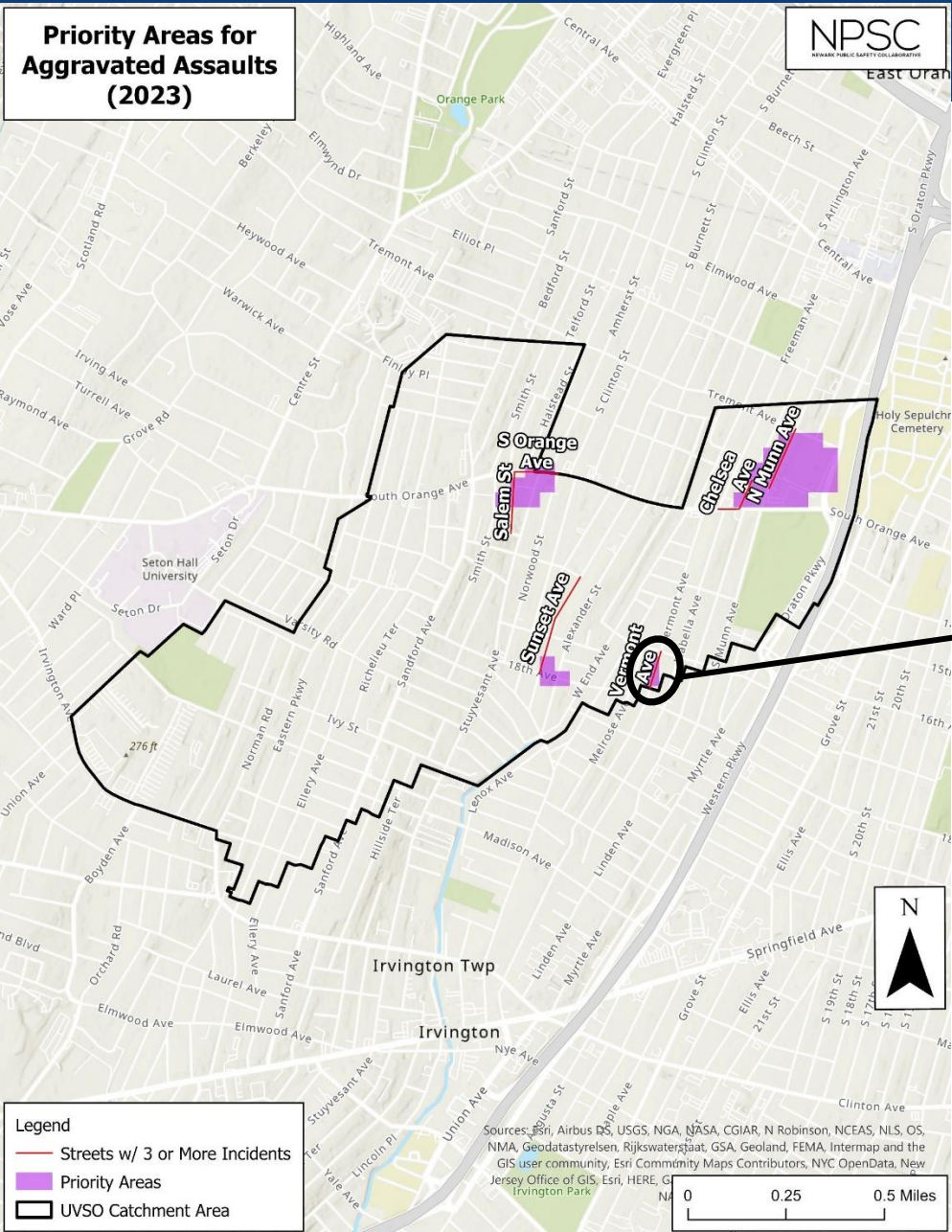


Vermont Ave & Grove Ter



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Vailsburg, Newark



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- Warren Thompson: warren@lpccd.org
- Christopher Keys: ckeyes@uvso.org

Resources:



Q & A





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