

Review of Hate Crime Prevention, Response, and Reporting in Seattle

JANUARY 23, 2018

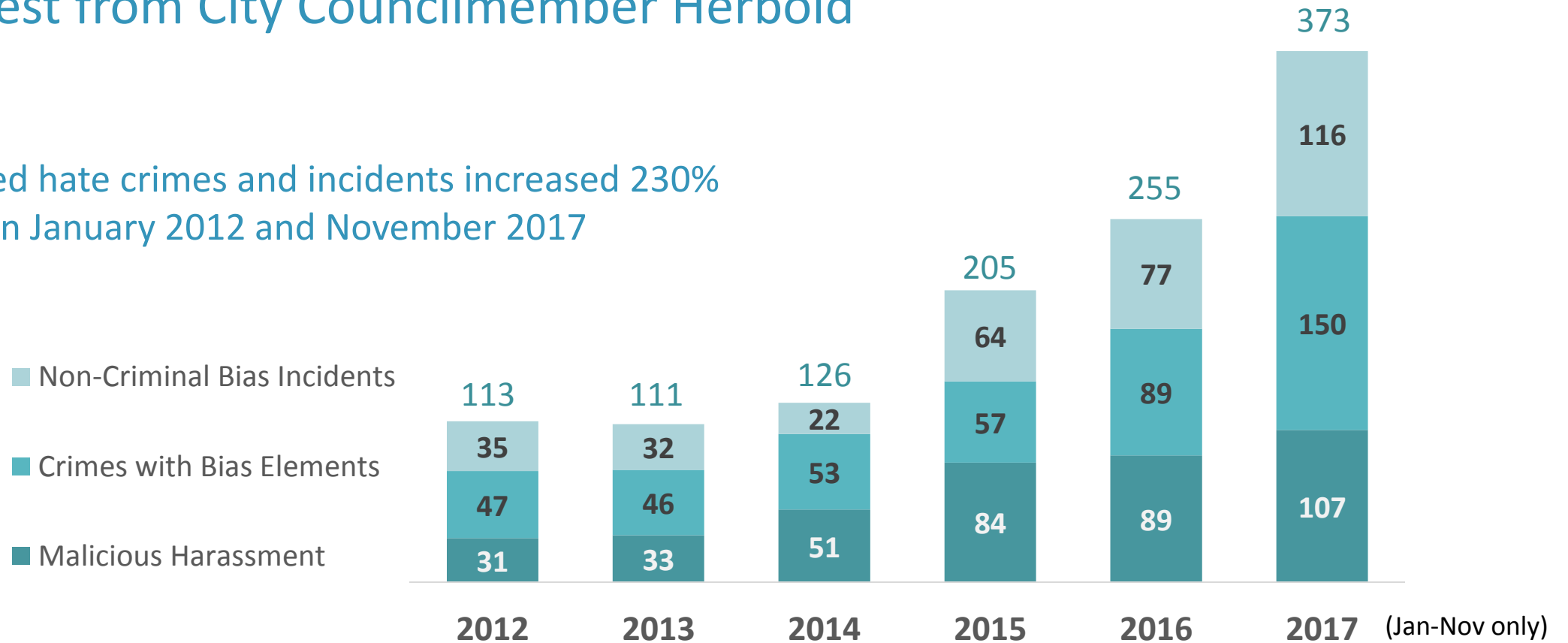
CIVIL RIGHTS, UTILITIES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, & ARTS COMMITTEE



Why We Did This Audit

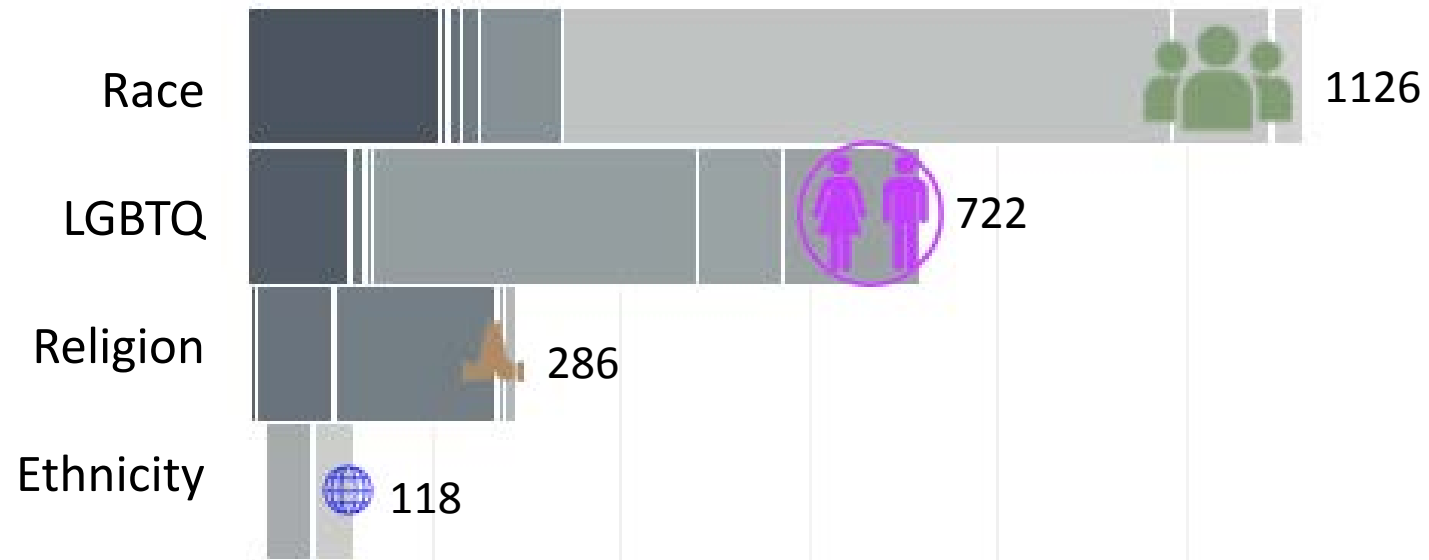
Request from City Councilmember Herbold

Reported hate crimes and incidents increased 230% between January 2012 and November 2017

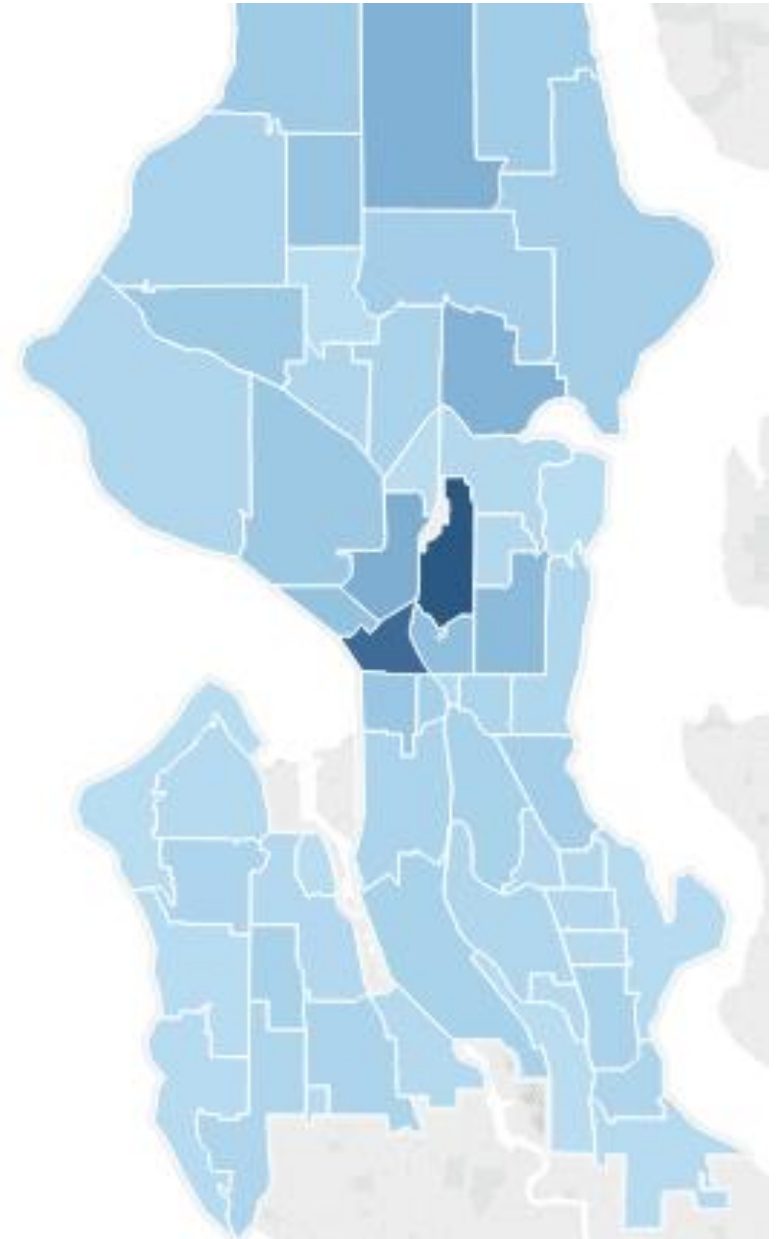


Who is Affected?

Top 4 bias incident categories January 2012 – November 2017



Source: Seattle Police Department (SPD) Bias Crimes Dashboard



Our 2-Phase Approach

Phase 1 (report published September 2017)

1. Reviewed SPD's data and processes
2. Reviewed leading practices and research from US and other countries

Phase 2 (report expected 2018)

3. Analysis of disposition of cases
4. Socio-demographic analysis (University of Washington)
5. Review of prevention efforts



Phase 1 Recommendations

We made 9 recommendations in 5 categories:

1. Reporting
2. Training
3. Using Data
4. City Coordination
5. Regional Coordination



Reporting Completeness and Accuracy

SPD removed bias “unknown” code; provided guidance to officers

SPD added missing bias category codes

- Age
- Parental status
- Marital status
- Political ideology

SPD will implement FBI-recommended two-step review

1. Responding officer uses broad definition to determine bias motivation
2. Review by dedicated hate crimes expert



Training and Data Enhancements

SPD is creating a training plan

- E-learning module on hate crimes
- Incorporating hate crime “scenarios” in annual training

SPD is building capacity for additional data analyses

- Hot spots
- Time of day
- Victimization trends
- Socio-demographic trends



Improved Coordination

City Coordination

- Coordinate reporting between Seattle Office for Civil Rights and SPD
- Coordinate hate graffiti data between Seattle Public Utilities and SPD

Regional Coordination

- Northwestern Regional Office of US Dept. of Justice (DOJ) Community Relations Service (CRS) will convene regional partners to discuss possibilities



What's Next?

Follow-up on Phase 1 recommendations

Work with DOJ CRS on convening of regional stakeholders

Work with Seattle University Center for Community Engagement on study of indirect victimization

Complete Phase 2 audit

- Analysis of disposition of cases
- Socio-demographic analysis (University of Washington)
- Review of prevention efforts

