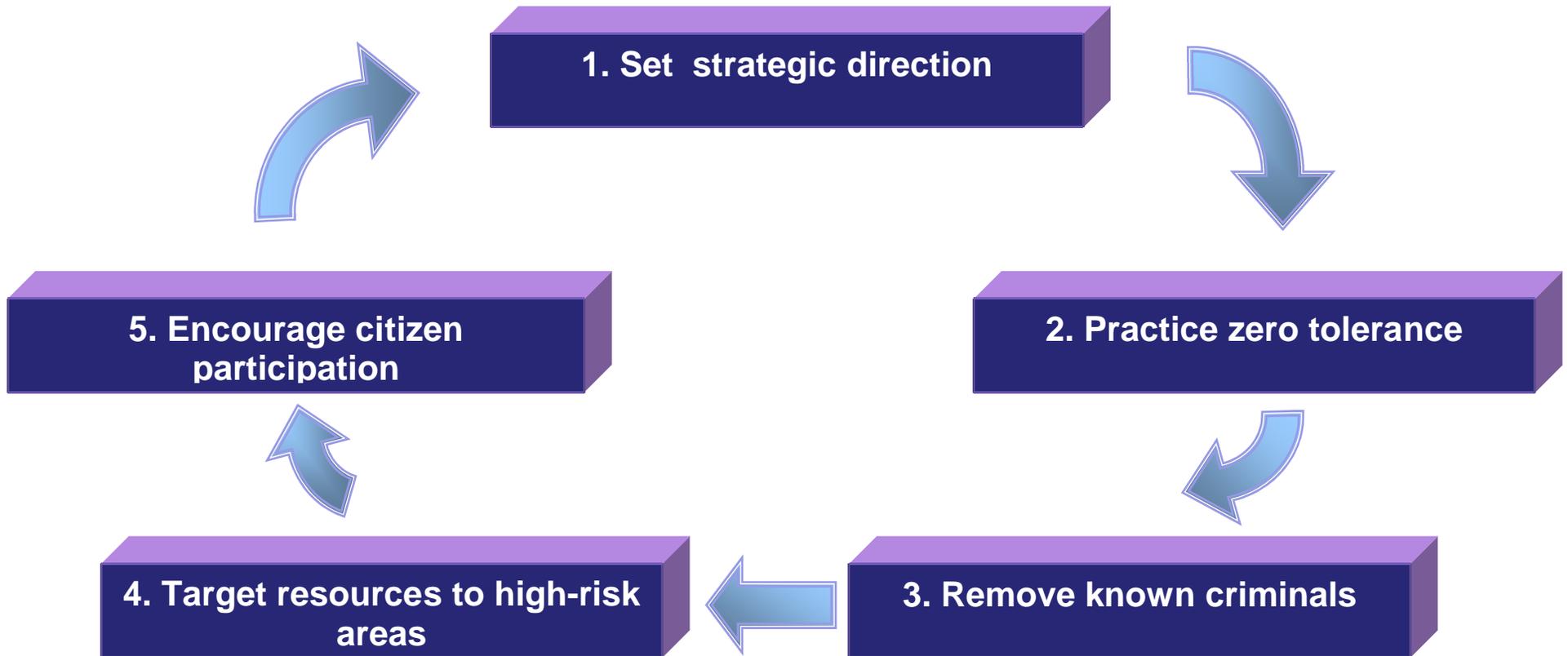


Take It To Zero provides a plan for meeting the police department's mission

- Envisions a radically reduced rate of violent crime.
- Promotes the rights of law-abiding citizens.
- Focuses on quality of life crimes.
- Encourages citizen participation.
- Removes known criminals from the street.
- Targets high-risk crime areas.
- Synthesizes proven anti-crime strategies and discussions with local officials.

Take It To Zero is the signature message of a Safe *Streets* Safe *City* agenda



Take It To Zero is a campaign for the eradication of victimization on Kansas City's streets

Set strategic direction



Create a vision that incorporates an understanding of what the City would be like with a greatly reduced crime rate. Establish goals that relate to each crime category. Objectives should begin with average benchmarks for crime. For example, Kansas City would need to reduce homicides to about 60 to achieve the average for cities between 250,000 and 499,999 in 2004.

Practice zero-tolerance (positive) policing



Pursue minor crimes with the same intensity as violent crimes. Reduce quality-of-life crimes. This “broken windows” approach fights community indifference and disorder before more serious crime ensues.

Zero tolerance is also an attitude. A certain level of crime should not be accepted as the status quo. A zero homicide rate may seem unrealistic but, in attempting to achieve this goal, a better understanding of what it takes will be acquired.

Remove known criminals



Conduct arrest sweeps of warrant and parole violators. The police know who the “bad guys” are. Target surveillance and undercover activities to these individuals. Behavior that does not adhere to the core values of society needs to be eradicated.

Take It To Zero is a campaign for the eradication of victimization on Kansas City's streets (con't)

Target more resources to high-risk areas



Deploy police resources according to demand. Distribute police to crime-ridden areas during high-incident times. Civilianize administrative positions in the Police Department where feasible, making more officers available for street-level activities.

Encourage citizen participation



Keep neighborhoods safe with citizen involvement. Kansas City covers too large a land area for comprehensive police patrol. Citizens need to report crime and supply evidence. Silence kills. Public relation campaigns should emphasize doing the right thing. Citizens can build a stronger community by helping law enforcement organizations apprehend criminals.

Kansas City is at a tipping point

The City can become great or spiral downward into a refuge for criminals and despair. Billions of dollars have been invested in the City, but people may not use this investment because it is unsafe. A high crime rate destroys the reputation of the City, increasing the difficulty of attracting future investment. Without sustained investment, the City's quality of life deteriorates. **Civility suffers.**