Number of Unique Youth Involved in Offenses/Incidents

In contrast to the city trend, the rate in which unique youth were involved in offenses in Shawnee Park differed from Grand Rapids as a whole. The overall offense rate increased between 2006 and 2007, decreased between 2007 and 2008 and increased between 2008 and 2010 followed by a decrease between 2010 and 2012. In 2006, 2008, and 2012 the rate of unique youth involved in offenses was below the Grand Rapids city rate. In 2007, 2010, and 2011 the rate was above the city rate; in 2009 the rate for Shawnee Park was about the same as the city rate.

As represented in Figure 5.1 Shawnee Park experienced a sharp increase in the rate of unique youth involved in Crime Offenses between 2006 and 2007 followed by a sharp decrease between 2007 and 2008. Between 2008 and 2010 the rate increased followed by a decrease between 2010 and 2012. In 2007 and 2009 through 2011 the rate for Shawnee Park was above the city rate for unique youth involved in Crime Offenses. In 2006, 2008, and 2012 the rate for unique youth involved in Crime Offenses within Shawnee Park was below the city rate. The unique youth involved in Status Offenses (Figure 5.2) in Shawnee Park was below the Grand Rapids rate for all years; it remained around three for all years. The rate of unique youth connected to Family Domestic Incidents in the Shawnee Park neighborhood (Figure 5.3) also remained below the Grand Rapids rate for all years included in this report and relatively stable (around seven per 1,000 youth except for 2009 and 2010 where it was around zero).

Number of Unique Offenses/Incidents

In contrast to the city rate of unique offenses, Shawnee Park’s unique offense rate oscillated above
and below the city rate across all years within the report. The total unique offenses within the Shawnee Park neighborhood were between rates of 30 to 90 per 1,000 juveniles in the population. The overall unique offense rate within Shawnee Park sharply increased between 2006 and 2007, sharply decreased between 2007 and 2008, increased between 2008 and 2010, and decreased again between 2010 and 2012.

The rate change within the Crime Offense category in Shawnee Park reveals a sharp increase between 2006 and 2007, a decrease between 2007 and 2008, an increase between 2008 and 2010 and a decrease between 2010 and 2012. The crime rate within Shawnee Park was above the overall city
rate in 2007, 2009, and 2010. It was below the city rate in 2006, 2008, and 2012 (in 2011 it was about the same). The Status Offense rate in Shawnee Park was consistently below the city rate for all years included in this report. The unique status offense rate for Shawnee Park remained around five per 1,000 juveniles for all years included in this report. The Family Domestic Incident remained about the same between the years 2006 and 2012 and was consistently below the city rate. Between 2006 and 2012 the Family Domestic Incident rate for Shawnee Park was consistently around eight per 1,000 juveniles.

Residence of Youth Inside or Outside of the Neighborhood
As can be seen in Figure 5.8, the percent of youth residing inside and outside Shawnee Park who were involved in offenses within Shawnee Park remained around the same for all years included in this report. For example in 2006, about 80 percent of the Crime and Status Offenses combined occurring in the Shawnee Park neighborhood were attributed to youth residing outside of the neighborhood.

When separating Crime Offenses and Status Offenses the proportion of Shawnee Park resident youth committing Crime Offenses for most years remains about the same as for all offenses. In regard to Status Offenses, for years where status offenses occurred in the Shawnee Park neighborhood, most were from outside the neighborhood – except 2012 where all were from the Shawnee Park neighborhood.

Age of Offenders/Incidents
Figure 6.1 compares the age of juvenile Crime and Status Offenders in Shawnee Park against the age
of juvenile Crime and Status Offenders within Grand Rapids. In general, the age of onset in Shawnee Park follows the same pattern as the Grand Rapids pattern for juveniles between the ages of 14 and 16 (inclusive). There were no juveniles younger than 13 committing offenses in the Shawnee Park neighborhood that were recorded. The vast number of offenses are being committed by youth between the ages of 14 and 16 with 16 year old youth contributing the most toward Crime and Status Offenses within the neighborhood.
Density Map of Juvenile Offenses/Incidents

The geographical distribution of all juvenile offenses in Shawnee Park is displayed in the map below. All the juvenile offenses — including Criminal Offenses and Status Offenses — reported by the Grand Rapids Police Department from 2006 through 2012 are included within this density map. These maps represent the location of offenses only, not the residence of the youth involved. Within Shawnee Park, the highest density of offenses occurring is near Ottawa Community School and Ottawa Hills High School (124). Further understanding of areas with a higher density of offenses can be developed through discussion with those familiar with the characteristics of the neighborhood and the particular blocks accounting for the high density of offenses.