



Recommendation Submission

Foothills Community Policing Council

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RECOMMENDATION: Uncontrolled Late-Night Use of Piedra Lisa Trailhead:

That responsibility for patrol and control of this area be clearly established and that the gate for the area be locked as required. That the posted rules for use of this area be enforced.

That Shots Fired technology be installed in this area to alert APD to the time and exact location of gunfire.

Reason:

The parking area at the Piedra Lisa Trailhead at the East end of Menaul is the scene of regular use for loud parties involving extremely loud music, drinking, apparent drug use and the discharge of firearms. The parking area has signage prohibiting such use and a sign declaring that the lot will be closed and locked in the evening (9:00 p.m. in the summer and 7:00 during the winter months).

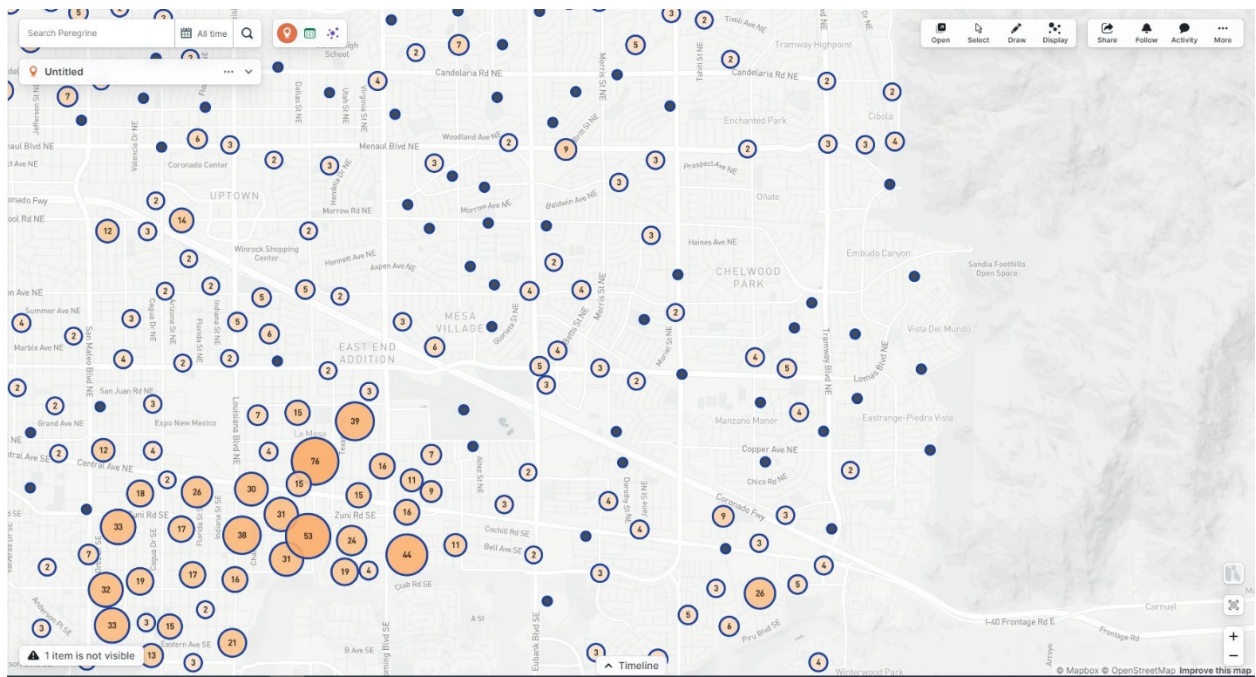
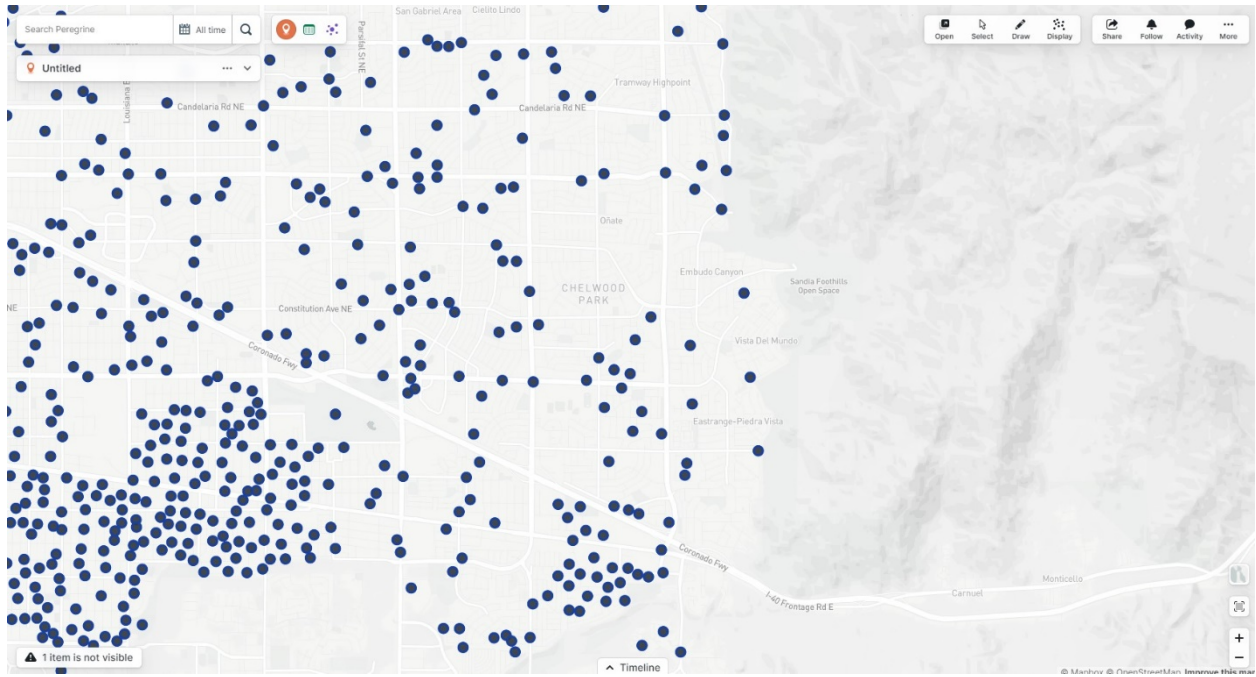
Though ostensibly under the control of the Open Space Division, this lot does not have any regularly assigned police presence.

People know they can park and party as the park has no lighting to discourage hooligan activity and the noise that goes along with such activity. Direct contact from residents brought the problem to our attention. The problem is noise and occasional gunfire. One house has been hit by gunfire. I drive by occasionally and have found many cars parked there after 10pm. On one recent occasion at 9.40pm the gate was open and about 5 cars were there on a cold November evening. On summer evenings young people are hanging about drinking.

Response:

Deputy Commander Nerbetski - Gun Shot Detection:

Attached to this response, please find a map of shots fired calls for the last three months in the vicinity of the Piedra Lisa Trailhead. The city of Albuquerque is seeking to expand the use of Shotspotter technology throughout the entire City, and will plan for expansion to the Foothills Area Command as resources become available.



Commander Armijo - Open Space Unit

The APD Open Space Unit is short-staffed and works from Sunday – Wednesday weekly. After receiving this recommendation, the Open Space Unit met with the Foothills Area Command to request assistance from PSA's to begin helping to close gates on the days they do not work (Thursday, Friday, Saturday).

In addition, Open Space officers have increased patrols at all trailheads to conduct welfare checks. APD's Open Space sergeant began working with the City Open Space division to ensure that when they are notified by citizens of criminal activity that they are directed to 242-COPS for reporting these activities.

If citizens call the APD non-emergency number and any information is gathered, doing so will at least provide us data to evaluate our areas of concern and address additional measures of patrol.