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Car Prowl Reminders Planned for Downtown

The Portland Police Bureau and other city agencies are teaming up with State Farm Insurance to kick off a campaign today to reduce car prowls in the metropolitan area during the holidays.

More than 1,200 signs reminding motorists to remove valuables from their cars will be posted on parking meters, and more than 20,000 fliers will be placed on cars in downtown Portland.

The education campaign continues a pilot program that Portland Officer Jeff Myers began in 2001. Since then, participating neighborhoods that have distributed such fliers have seen car prowls reduced by more than 50 percent, police said.

State Farm Insurance has contributed \$25,000 toward the crime prevention campaign.

Mayor Tom Potter, joined by Portland Police Chief Rosie Sizer and City Commissioner Sam Adams, will hold a news conference at 9 a.m. today in the 1100 block of Southwest Fourth Avenue to announce the campaign.

Other agencies involved in the effort include the Portland Department of Transportation, City of Portland Parking Enforcement Division, Office of Neighborhood Involvement, and Portland Patrol Inc. -- Maxine Bernstein

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