

# APPLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2022 Mid-Year Budget Report

### Significant 2022 Events

Ongoing recruitment and retention are critical to our policing capabilities and continues to be a major emphasis of the Department in 2022. Staffing shortages in policing is a nationwide trend that created the challenge of rebuilding public perception and changing the framework of how we engage in community policing efforts. Another trend since the COVID emergency in 2020 is the increase in retirements/resignations. Prior to 2020 our 5-year average the first half of the year was 3.4 retirements/resignations compared to 8 in 2021 and 7 in 2022. Although there is no simple solution, we are committed to maintaining recruitment standards to provide excellent services to our community.

Pedestrian and traffic safety remains one of the top concerns in Appleton, especially in summer months when there are more vehicles, motorcycles, scooters, bicycles, and pedestrian traffic. To ensure the safety of all travelers a Traffic Safety Unit pilot program was established to address traffic enforcement, collect and analyze data, identify safety problem areas, and educate the public on traffic safety. The Traffic Safety Officer will continue to assist the Patrol Unit during high-volume calls for service. This position will be requested as part of the 2023 budget process.

The pilot program for the Crisis Response Team (CRT) is a partnership between Appleton Police Department's Behavioral Health Officer and Outagamie County Health and Human Services Clinical Therapist. CRT will address the growing concerns of mental health calls for service through assisting police officers on calls for service, facilitating support for individuals and families coping with mental health issues, and providing clinical assessment for intervention and case management to be proactive in addressing and preventing a mental health and/or substance abuse crisis. The 2-year program will be evaluated for its progress annually.

Governor Evers allocated American Rescue Plant Act (ARPA) funding for the Safety Communities Law Enforcement program. Appleton was awarded \$225,618 in grant funds that we designated for a wireless router system. Taking advantage of technology is essential when officers are mobile and need to manage connectivity on multiple devices. Utilizing a secure wireless router system will ensure access can be provided remotely without lagging or loss of connectivity. Our assessment of the pilot program determined this was essential for a safe and efficient response that will increase officer's situational awareness to take appropriate action.

Another program we had recently piloted is the automated license plate reader (ALPR) computer-based system. There are high-speed, high-resolution fixed cameras that capture license plates that are stored in a database and compared to other databases. This technology quickly provides officers in locating a suspect or assisting investigators in solving crimes. One of the features is the interface with AXON programs and the wireless router system mentioned above.

Providing funding for essential core services will enable the department to maintain operational readiness and emergency services such as SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics), sensitive investigative scenes, mutual aid and other rapid deployments. It is imperative that, with the sophisticated technology advancements and expansion of social media, we are focused on increasing our presence in the community and expanding our technological abilities to maintain professional police services.

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

	<b>Actual 2020</b>	<b>Actual 2021</b>	<b>Target 2022</b>	<b>Projection 2023</b>
<b>Mental Health / Behavioral Health</b>				
# of behavioral health officer contacts	89	42	40	40
# of clinical therapist contacts	New	New	70	70
<b>Special Investigative Unit</b>				
# of arrests	48	38	45	45
# of citations	82	36	35	35
# of DA referrals	20	31	25	25
<b>Traffic Data</b>				
# of directed traffic enforcements	10,630	15,977	16,000	16,000
# of traffic stops	22,711	29,246	30,000	30,000
<b>Crime Prevention By District</b>				
# of Downtown District contacts	4,594	4,493	4,500	4,500
# of Northern District contacts	3,300	3,187	3,200	3,200
# of Southern District contacts	2,074	2,175	2,000	2,000

**Areas of Primary Concentration for 2023:**

Educate the community through the continued collaboration of the Police Chief's Community Advisory Board. Citizens' expectations vary widely, and the diversity of the Board supports community involvement as they evaluate police services that identify and focus on public safety issues.

Evaluate the Crisis Response Team collaboration with Outagamie County Health and Human Services.

Review other technology upgrades to ensure we are successfully improving our ability to respond to the needs of the community.

Update the Crossing Guard contracted service to meet the needs of the children at guarded crossings in continued collaboration with the Appleton Area School District.

Promote the continued health and well-being of employees through wellness check-ins.

Maintain police policies to promote effective community engagement that is responsive to the needs of the community.

Continue assessment of the Officer Safety Program for equipment and body worn cameras.

Enhance marketing the Department through social media outlets and evaluate other options to attract qualified candidates to ensure we are providing quality police services.

Evaluate and refresh patrol allocation model for determining optimum patrol levels.

Expand and use our communications platforms to educate the community on our successes and encourage active participation in public safety.

Provide excellence in investigative services to citizens and victims impacted by crime in our community.

Continue working on alternatives to entering students/juveniles into the juvenile justice system and continue our communication with the schools we serve on safety, education and response issues.

Provide ongoing opportunities for citizens to be educated in crime prevention and other police services through Neighborhood Watch, School Resource Program, media outreach and citizen contacts