

APPLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT



2024 Mid-Year Budget Report

Significant 2024 Events

The Police Department focused on collaborative efforts both internally and externally acknowledging our commitment to ensure public safety issues are effectively addressed and to enhance our community interactions. A high priority was the safe movement of pedestrian and vehicular traffic along with addressing other nuisance concerns, such as excessive vehicle noise. The Traffic Safety Unit (TSU) addresses complaints, educates the public, and identifies traffic enforcement initiatives. An analysis of traffic safety data highlighted the need to assign a second Traffic Safety Officer (TSO) to this unit. Due to an unexpected vacancy in Support Services, we had an opportunity to reassess our Table of Organization and reassign the Professional Development Administrative Assistant position to a sworn position to meet the need in TSU. The Traffic Safety Officers will continue to evaluate and refine traffic safety measures to create a positive safety culture in our community.

A collaborative effort between the Police Department, Public Health Department, and Community and Economic Development supports various community initiatives with funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Reducing homelessness coincides with providing solutions in reducing calls for service. To support this initiative two Health Department positions, the Coordinated Entry and Community Resource Navigator, were positioned within the Police Department for easier collaboration by sharing expertise and resources. Another strategic alliance was combining Neighborhood and Neighborhood Watch Programs to enhance community engagement initiatives creating a more resilient community. An approach to fostering an interactive community will encourage partnerships with businesses, schools, and other organizations to connect with the underserved through various projects. The outreach to individuals, families, and neighborhoods will engage our citizens in events and provide an exchange of information to strengthen the wellness of our community.

The K9 Unit remains an integral part of the Police Department providing support in the apprehension of suspects, locating missing persons, narcotics detection, and community Support. With our first K9 purchased in 2008 the program has expanded to four K9's through the support of the community. With the loss of K9 Faro and retirement of K9 Eon two new canines will be joining the K9 Unit after training is completed in New Mexico in the fall of 2024. With the expected retirement of K9 Zuul another canine will be acquired in early 2025. Another fundraising campaign is planned for 2024 to support the K9 Program through donations made to the *Appleton Police K9 Program Fund* at the Community Foundation of the Fox Valley Region.

Renovations in the police range included a new ventilation and target control system to ensure compliance with OSHA regulations. In addition, the reconstruction to widen an exterior door will allow a vehicle inside the range for High-Risk Vehicle Contact training. This was a new procedure implemented in 2023 by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Training and Standards to increase officer safety during critical incident when positioned in and around a vehicle.

The contract with All City Management Services (ACMS) was renewed for another three years through the 2026-2027 school year. ACMS, a national company provides safety services for schools, has managed the Crossing Guard Program since 2018 providing safe crossing at selected crossing locations within the City of Appleton.

A five-year contract with TimeClock Plus (TCP) for our Aladtec Scheduling Program was negotiated to considerably reduce our annual cost over the five years. The Department has used Aladtec since 2016 but had recently explored other scheduling programs including demos of software used by other police agencies. A specific program feature that allows flexibility in managing schedules could not be replicated with other scheduling programs, therefore we opted to continue with TimeClock Plus Aladtec Scheduling Program.

The effectiveness of the Police Department's approach to recruitment was reflected by the ability to hire 7 new officers by mid-year. With a continual hiring process, we anticipate the remaining vacancies to be filled by end of year. A complete review of command structure was conducted to determine the most effective means of addressing and maximizing Police Lieutenants schedules. The result was a trial schedule modification effective July 1, 2024, to determine the effectiveness and efficiencies to accommodate their regular work schedule and additional responsibilities outside of their normal workday. The Department's organizational changes also included the reassignment of the Community Resource Unit under Investigative Services to bring greater efficiency working together on common issues and problems while enhancing the strong community partnership.

The police department maintains several social media outlets that have played an important role in keeping residents informed about their community. Because of the online presence this information medium has increased public awareness of their ability to help solve crimes.

We continue to pursue grants and other funding to support safety initiatives, such as alcohol, speed, pedestrian and bicycle, and drug enforcement while also engaging other law enforcement agencies participation in Crisis Intervention Team training. Through these initiatives we received over \$250,000 in grants and other funding to help us maintain a high level of public safety services.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

	Actual 2022	Actual 2023	Target 2024	Projection 2025
Mental Health / Behavioral Health				
# of behavioral health officer contacts	16	236	300	300
# of clinical therapist contacts	79	398	400	400
Special Investigative Unit				
# of arrests	36	42	50	50
# of citations	25	29	30	30
# of DA referrals	34	57	60	60
Traffic Data				
# of directed traffic enforcements	4,069	3,024	4,000	4,000
# of traffic stops	11,996	13,176	13,000	13,000
Crime Prevention By District				
# of Downtown District contacts	3,028	1,920	2,500	2,500
# of Northern District contacts	2,844	1,772	2,000	2,000
# of Southern District contacts	1,620	992	1,500	1,500

Areas of Primary Concentration for 2024-2025:

Prioritize traffic safety measures to enhance traffic safety in our community.

Strengthen community outreach with increased presence in neighborhoods and parks, and neighborhood programs.

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

Secure grant funding that would allow us to purchase necessary equipment to provide excellent service to the community.

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

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.