Police Department Updates

Jeff Mori
Police Chief
Vancouver Police Department
December 18, 2023 / July 8, 2024

Workshop Objectives

Intro

- New leadership
- Department vision
- Shared leadership Philosophy

Establish shared understanding

- Current policing environment
- Demands for policing services
- Gaps, challenges & opportunities

Discussion

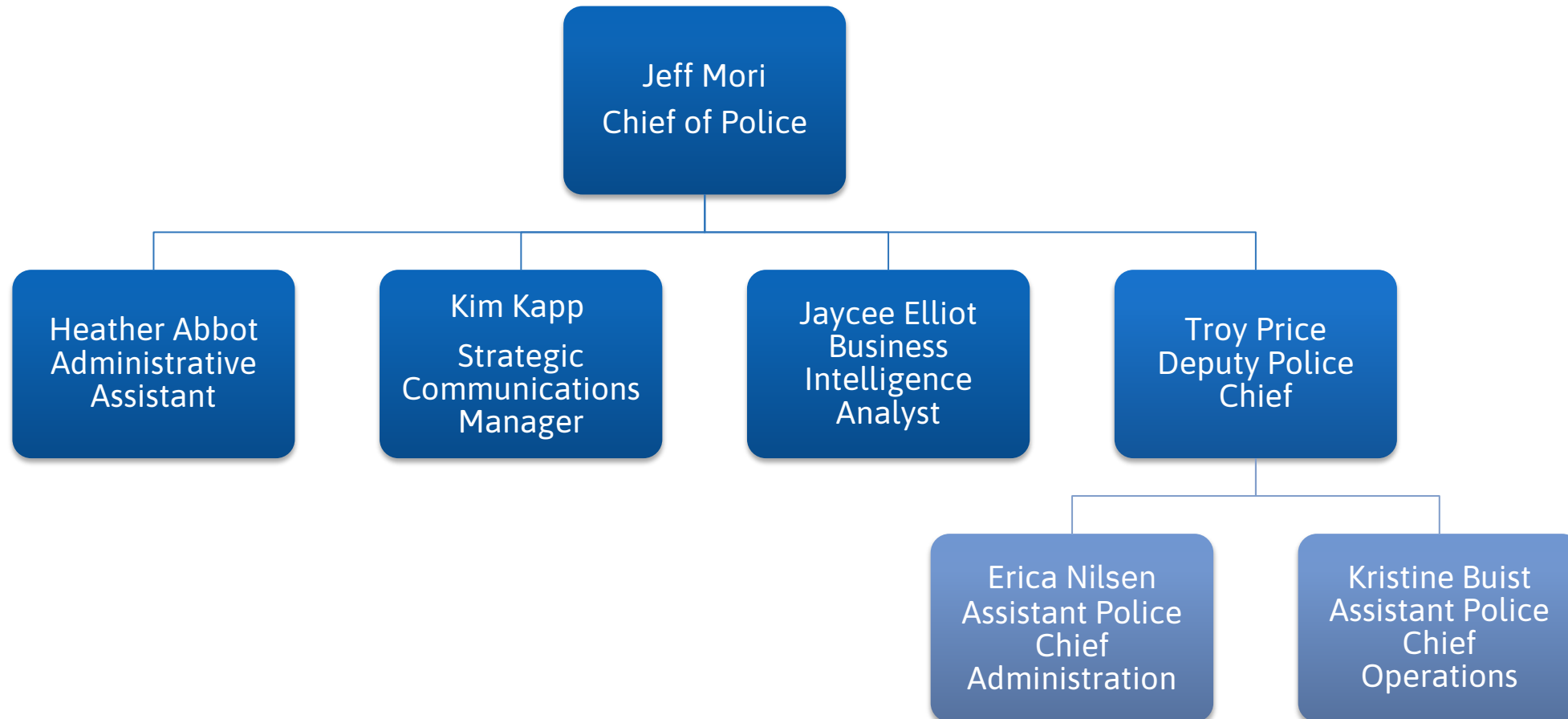- Alignment on recommended next steps

Introduction

- **New leadership**

- **Department vision**

- **Shared leadership philosophy**

Management Team

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                        Jeff Mori
                     Chief of Police


  Heather Abbot      Kim Kapp         Jaycee Elliot      Troy Price
  Administrative     Strategic        Business           Deputy Police
  Assistant          Communications   Intelligence       Chief
                     Manager          Analyst


                                              Erica Nilsen       Kristine Buist
                                              Assistant Police   Assistant Police
                                              Chief              Chief
                                              Administration     Operations
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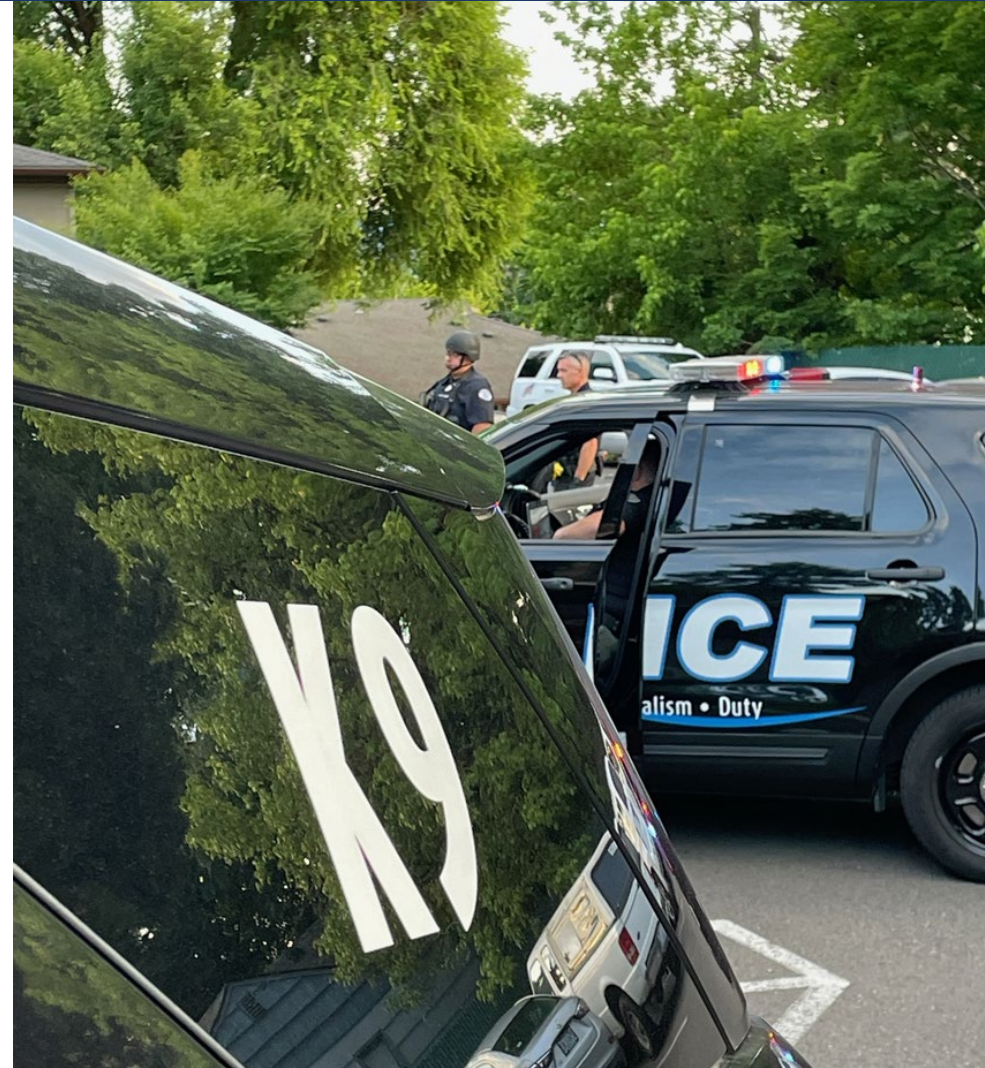
Program Updates

- **Police camera program**

- **Recruitment & hiring**

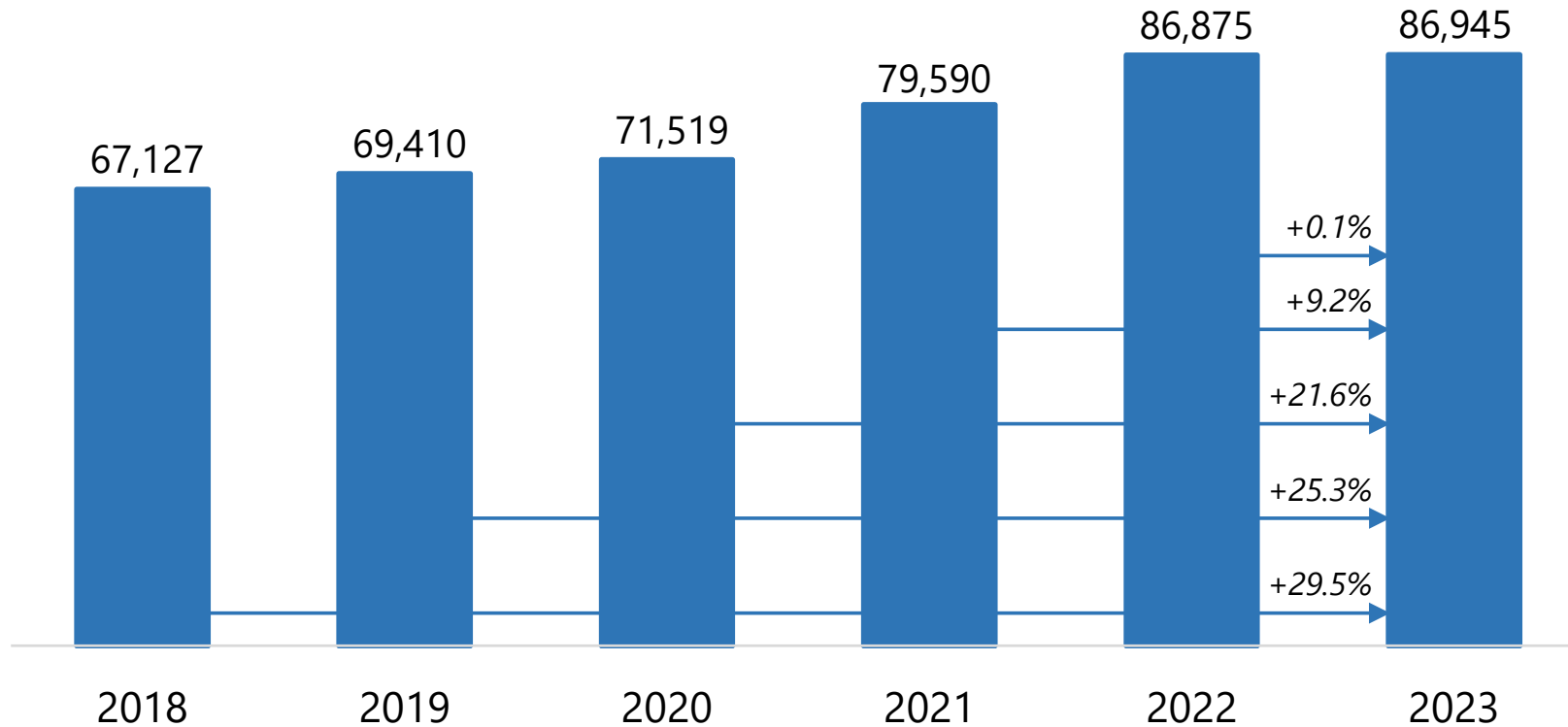- **PERF Use of Force Recommendations**

- **SW Regional Academy**

Background & Challenges

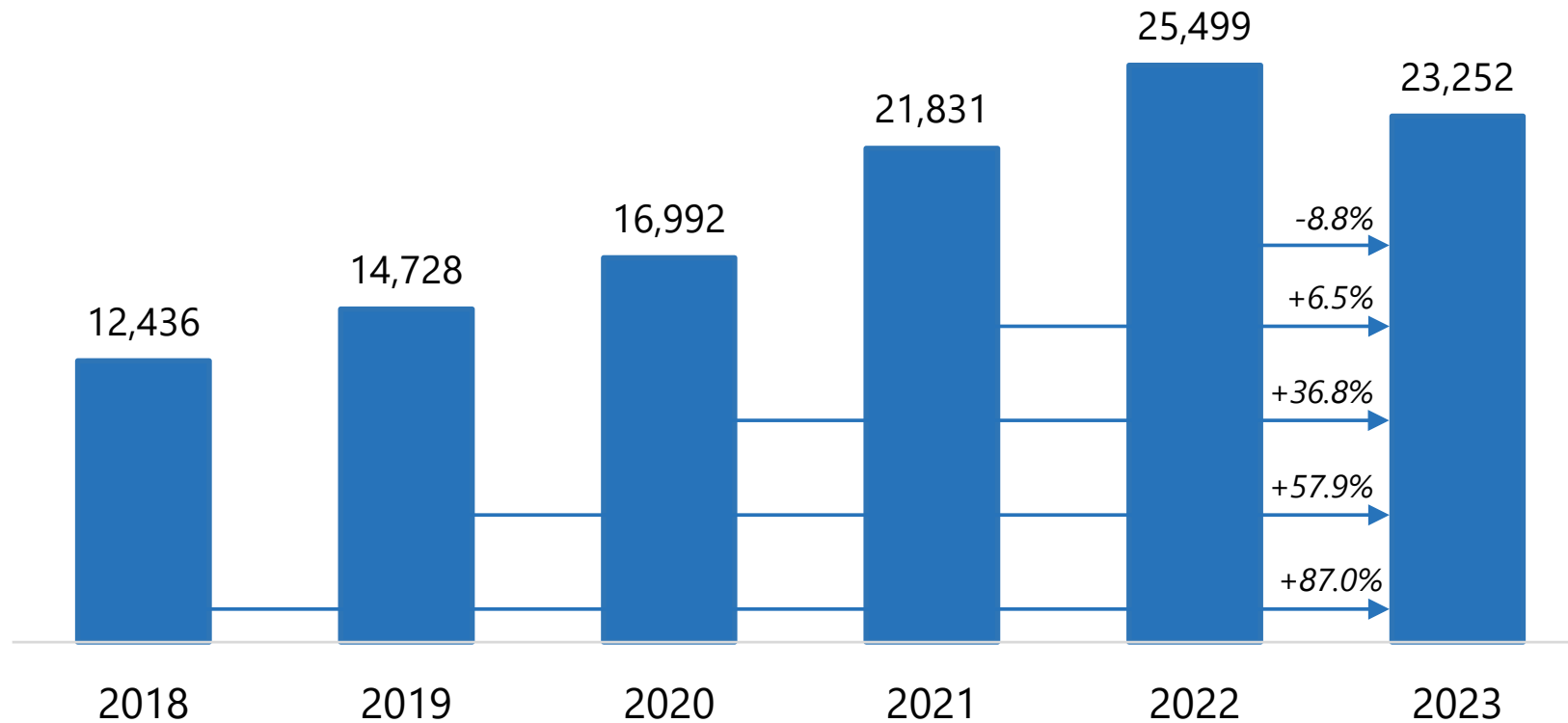- **Reported incidence of crime**

- **Call volume and complexity**

Calls for service

Call volume growth 2018 - 2023

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
67,127	69,410	71,519	79,590	86,875	86,945

+0.1%
+9.2%
+21.6%
+25.3%
+29.5%

Background and challenges

Police Resources

- Police calls are increasing in complexity

- More resources are required for certain calls

- Consumption of time

Background and challenges, continued

Staffing

- Patrol

- Investigation

- Administration

Patrol staff capacity

Current state

- Some calls require significant number of resources and time

- Multiple times per day, one call can deplete patrol resources

Baseline law enforcement capacity
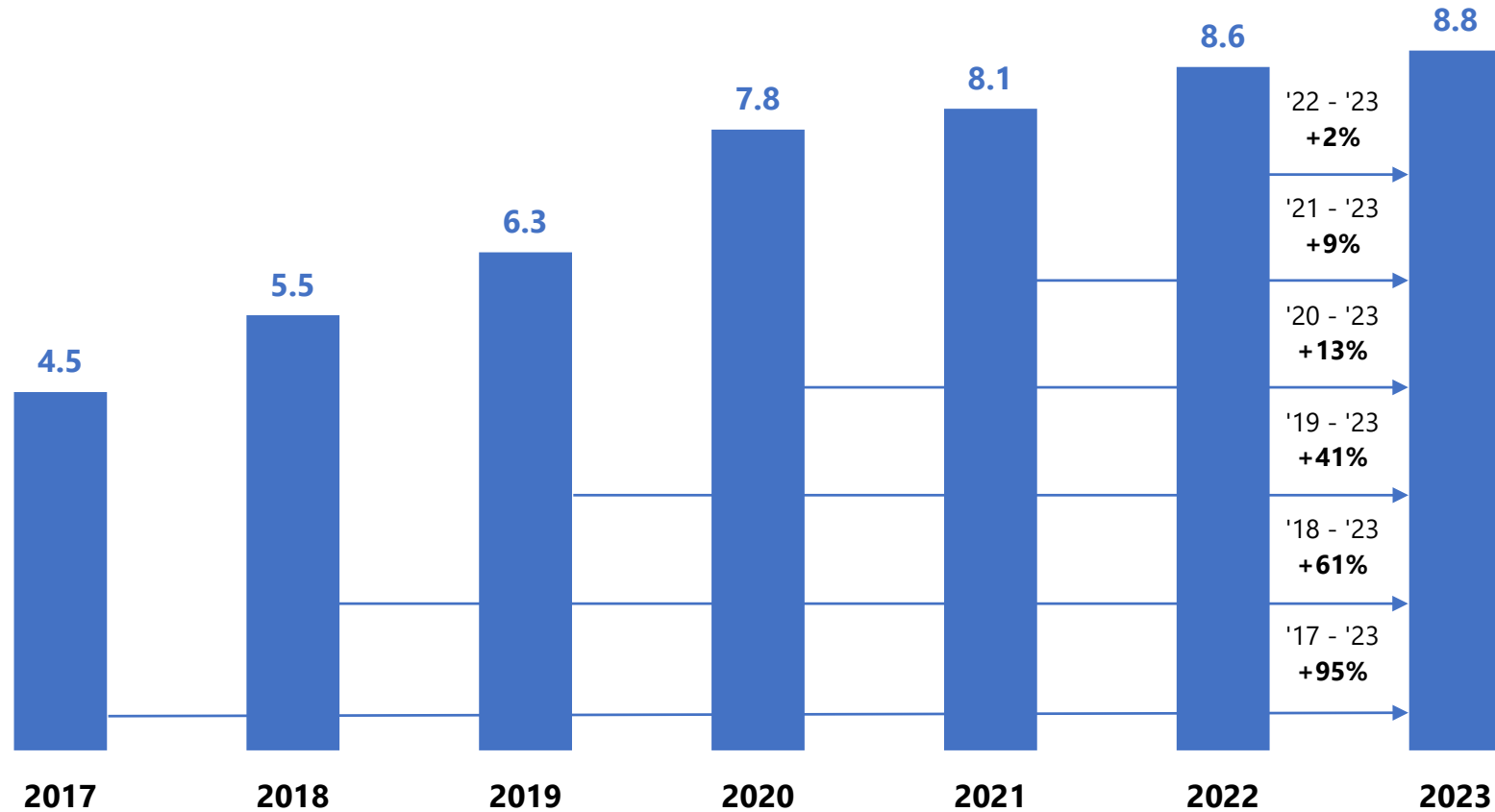
Based on WASPC Crime in WA 2022 Report

County	Total Population	Total County LE	Officer/1000
Clark	520,825	447	.86
Pierce	928,937	967	1.04
Spokane	550,700	651	1.18

Baseline law enforcement capacity

Patrol resource vacuum
Average daily VPD events with six or more units responding

Bar chart of average daily VPD events with six or more units responding:

- 2017: 4.5
- 2018: 5.5
- 2019: 6.3
- 2020: 7.8
- 2021: 8.1
- 2022: 8.6
- 2023: 8.8

Comparison annotations:
- '22 – '23: +2%
- '21 – '23: +9%
- '20 – '23: +13%
- '19 – '23: +41%
- '18 – '23: +61%
- '17 – '23: +95%

Reality

Operating at minimum staffing levels
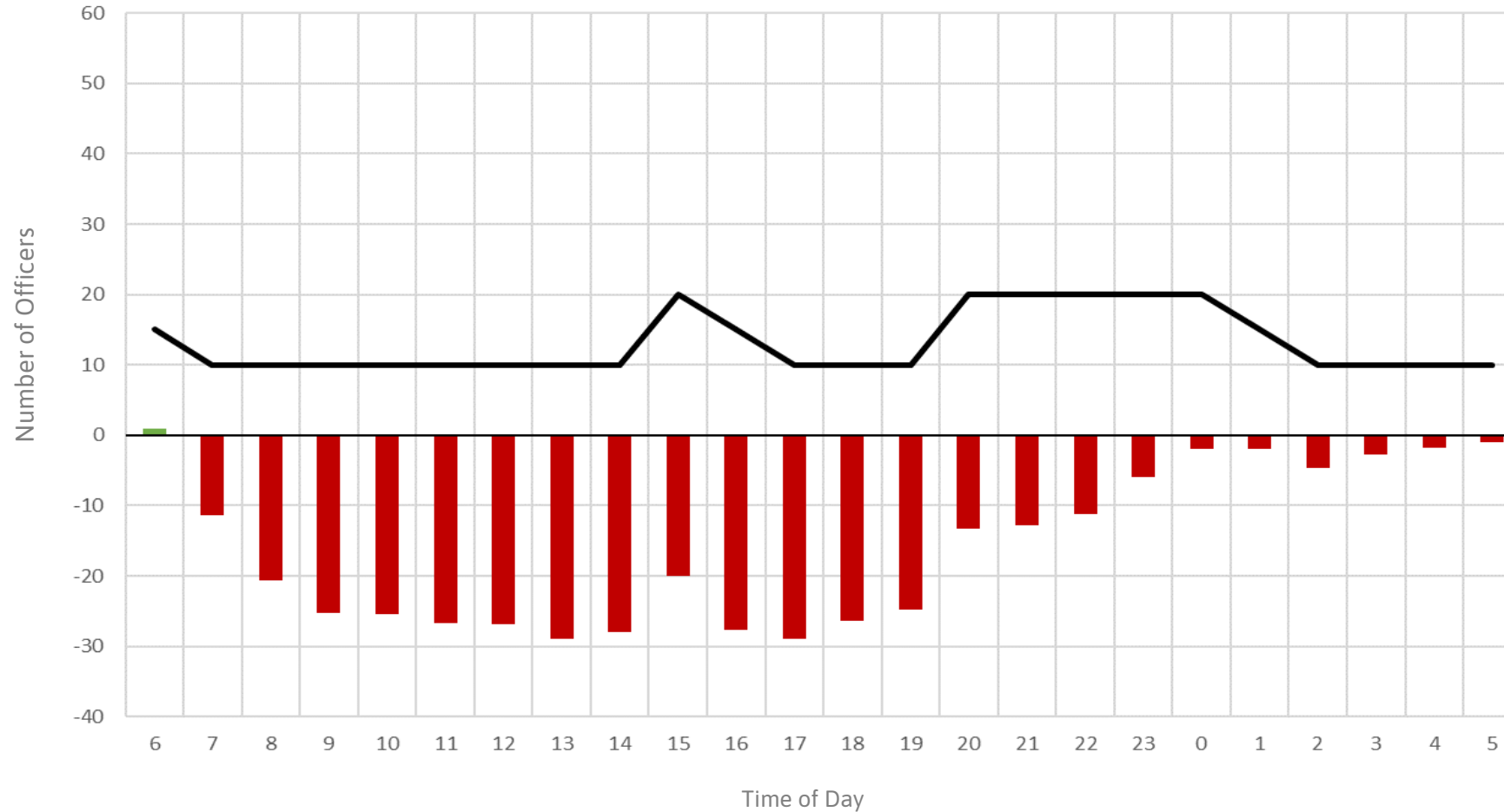
Detective investigations

Detectives investigate an average of 1,700 new cases every year

- Average Detective investigates approx. 60 cases a year

- Each detective will close all these cases by arrest, referral to prosecution, or suspend due to lack of investigative leads

- Nearly 3,100 cases a year not being worked due to lack of capacity

Opportunities

- **Community engagement and accountability**

- **Technology**

- **Facilities**

Opportunities

Systems approach

- Additional police certified staff

- More professional staff to free up certified staff time

- Additional staff to launch and manage new technology programs

Community engagement

Focus on community concerns and transparency

- Top three concerns of community

- Provide options and solutions

- Enhance system capacity to improve community safety

Focus on Recommended Outcomes of Community Advisory Group

- Reduce rate of violent and property crimes

- Increase capacity to investigate crimes

- Increase capacity for patrol, traffic enforcement, co-response models and community conflict resolution

- Increase capacity to engage in proactive community policing
  - Neighborhood Police Officer (NPO) program
  - Homeless Assistance Resource Team (HART)

- Traffic Enforcement Camera Program

Public safety ecosystem

Community Safety and Wellbeing

- Police Capacity/ training/ technology/ facilities/ volunteers
- CRESA Dispatch/ Other?
- Co-response approach/ capacity
- Mental Health/ substance use treatment capacity
- Street Response Teams
- HART capacity
- Transitional Shelter capacity
- Community Court capacity
- Jail capacity
- Court services (probation, etc.)
- Public defense & prosecution

Engagement approach

City Manager sponsored advisory group

- Build on prior task force work and models
- Initial scope focused on gaps, outcomes and solutions
- Advice, transparency and accountability
- Explore policy not oversight, review or personnel
- Inclusive composition
  - Historically underrepresented communities
  - Lived experience
- Selection process begins in January

Community Collaboration

- January 2024 - Convened community advisory group

- July 2024 – Delivered recommendation to Council

- July 2024 – Continued community discussion w/ Council

- Q4 2024 and beyond – Ongoing community engagement

Discussion

Thank You