

COUNCIL MINUTES

April 5, 2021

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Study Session in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on April 5, 2021 at 4:45 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

John Giles
Jennifer Duff
Mark Freeman
David Luna
Julie Spilsbury

COUNCIL ABSENT

Francisco Heredia
Kevin Thompson

OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady
Dee Ann Mickelsen
Jim Smith

Mayor Giles excused Councilmembers Heredia and Thompson from the entire meeting.

1. Review and discuss items on the agenda for the April 5, 2021 Regular Council meeting.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed among Council and staff and the following was noted:

Conflict of interest: None

Items removed from the consent agenda: None

In response to questions from Councilmember Luna regarding item 6-b, **(ANX20-00464 (District 6) Annexing a portion of South Meridian Road right-of-way. Located within the 6000 to 6400 blocks of South Meridian Road (2.5± acres))**, on the April 5, 2021 Regular Council meeting agenda, Transportation Director RJ Zeder explained the Town of Queen Creek and Pinal County are in design for improvements to Meridian Road on the Pinal County side of the border. He indicated the improvement will run north from Germann Road and intersect with State Route (SR) 24.

In response to a question from Mayor Giles, City Manager Christopher Brady stated the Development Agreement (DA) language allows for the City to defer improvements in order to determine if any other projects would benefit the property. He added the only obligation is to make an improvement to a public infrastructure.

Planning Director Nana Appiah commented the Design Review Board (DRB) discussion centered around when the required landscaping and berm would be completed. He explained as a result of the pending road improvement on Meridian and Pecos, landscaping will be deferred until road construction is complete as the width of the road will affect the landscaping.

In response to a question from Councilmember Freeman regarding perimeter fencing, Mr. Appiah remarked all the elements have to come together as part of the approval process as the landscaping will determine if the perimeter fencing is needed since the berm may be high enough that the fence is not needed.

2-a. Hear a presentation, discuss, and provide direction on the Police Department budget.

Police Chief Ken Cost introduced Police Fiscal Manager Krisa York, Assistant Police Chiefs Dan Butler and Ed Wessing, and displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 1)**

Chief Cost provided an overview of the department and the focus over the last year. He explained last year was the third straight year the department set a record for low crime rates. (See Page 2 of Attachment 1)

Ms. York reviewed a summary of department bureaus' FY 19/20 actuals, the current budget, and year end estimate. She commented the funds are representative of the Police Department (PD) with the largest funding source coming from the General Governmental Fund which is approximately 81% of the proposed FY 21/22 budget. (See Page 3 of Attachment 1)

Ms. York stated the FY 21/22 proposed budget includes the base budget and one-time lifecycle items that total \$3.5 million. She explained there is \$14.5 million within the Operations Bureau which will assist with the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) unfunded liability.

Assistant Chief Butler reviewed the strategic allocations and commented running a three-academy model would impact staffing in a much more positive way. He added, in the past, the two-academy model included hiring a lot of officers for the academy, a process that takes 11-12 months to complete, and by the time recruits were on the street, retirements created a staffing crunch. He stated additional funding for the extra officers being hired over the next several years is for outfitting new officers with necessary equipment. (See Page 4 of Attachment 1)

In response to a question from Mayor Giles, Assistant Chief Butler explained at times there are two academies running with a senior class starting in January and the next beginning in May. He stated this format has been incredibly successful with a constant pipeline of officers hitting the streets.

Assistant Chief Butler highlighted the FY 21/22 sworn and professional staff position additions and commented on the more efficient model of 60% sworn to 40% professional staff. (See Page 5 of Attachment 1)

Assistant Chief Wessing commented the number of sworn officers that will be hired is specific to the PS sales tax that voters approved. (See Page 6 of Attachment 1)

Assistant Chief Butler highlighted the mid-year position requests, which will assist with the backlog of body armor camera footage. (See Page 7 of Attachment 1)

Assistant Chief Wessing summarized the 2020 statistics, adding crime rates were lower than they have been since the 1960s when statistics started being recorded. (See Page 8 of Attachment 1)

Assistant Chief Wessing highlighted Part I crimes, stating there was a 2% reduction from the previous year. He expanded by saying other major cities had an increase in violent crime;

however, Mesa had a decrease, which speaks to the community and the programs. (See Pages 9 and 10 of Attachment 1)

Assistant Chief Wessing explained since May of last year the PD has been working diligently on homelessness across the city. He reported, in that time, officers have made over 7,190 contacts with individuals who had a homeless connection; 36% have received some form of judicial intervention, arrest, or citation; 356, including 72 children, have been moved into secure housing; 17 large encampments throughout the City have been cleared, with over 119 tons of debris removed from private, State, and City property. He expressed appreciation to City departments, including Streets, Transportation, and Environmental & Sustainability, for their partnership and assistance. He reported the project was scheduled to end in December but will continue as part of normal patrol operations. (See Page 11 of Attachment 1)

Assistant Police Chief Lee Rankin provided information on the mental health crisis and response. He stated the PD operates a crisis response team which consists of trained detectives and a behavioral health response, and also utilizes an embedded certified crisis clinician provided by Crisis Preparation and Recovery. He stated the team provides wraparound services to those in crisis, serves mental health detainers, and provides support to the PD, including ongoing behavioral health training to officers. He remarked since 2016, the PD has handled more than 16,000 suicide calls, currently has 250 Critical Incident Team (CIT) officers, 28% of which are certified CIT officers. He expanded by saying most participating police agencies in the CIT program have a 20% certified rate.

Assistant Chief Rankin explained Mesa PD began to utilize the Crisis Response Network (CRN), which is a State contract, non-profit organization dedicated to helping individuals through a continuum of crisis, referral, and community care services. He verified in 2019, the City of Mesa (COM) dispatch center began transferring low acuity calls to CRN instead of sending out patrol officers, which resulted in a transfer of 236 calls; and in 2020, that number increased to 1,125 calls diverted. He added PD staff is working on embedding a crisis counselor in the dispatch center, and their job will be to triage and transfer calls, provide training, and increase the level of service, without having to rely on a police response.

Assistant Chief Rankin displayed the Mental Health Crisis and Response graph which represents the intake of mental health calls and the transfers to CRN in 2019 and 2020. He pointed out 2020 was the first year the PD experienced a decrease in mental health related calls since 2014. (See Page 12 of Attachment 1)

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Duff, Assistant Chief Rankin commented CRN is part of the Regional Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA) and are contracted with the Arizona Department of Health Services. He pointed out CRN operates 24/7 and trained clinicians work directly with the PD and the Fire Department. He explained calls are transferred to CRN, the situation is triaged and assessed for resolution.

Assistant Chief Wessing highlighted response times related to Priority I and Priority II calls. He stated Priority I target response time is four minutes citywide and that the benchmark is three minutes 55 seconds, and Priority II target is seven minutes with a benchmark at six minutes eight seconds. (See Pages 13 and 14 of Attachment 1)

Assistant Chief Butler provided information on law enforcement officer recruitment in Mesa. He commented on the Community Engagement Hiring Initiative project started in 2014 and since that time 50% of candidates have been women and minorities. He reviewed the field training program,

which emphasizes Show, Teach, and Train, and includes taking recruits out, showing them how to do the job, train them on any deficiencies, adapt and mentor. He stressed a capstone project for recruits which involves meeting with key community leaders to gain perspective, find out what is unique about each sub-station, gather information, and present the findings to the station commander. (See Page 15 of Attachment 1)

In response to a question from Councilmember Luna regarding recruiting improvements, Assistant Chief Butler explained recruiting has been moved from Human Resources and embedded with the PD Community Engagement Division.

Assistant Chief Butler commented on looking at ways to revolutionize PD headquarters, that the plumbing in the building has reached the end of its lifespan, the electrical is at capacity and cannot be expanded, and the HVAC is outdated and has issues with fresh air being drawn into the building. (See Pages 16 and 17 of Attachment 1)

Mayor Giles thanked staff for the presentation.

3. Current events summary including meetings and conferences attended.

Vice Mayor Duff – Smart Cities kiosk unveiling
NLC Large Cities Council

Mayor Giles – Dexcom vaccination center

4. Scheduling of meetings.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that the schedule of meetings is as follows:

Thursday, April 8, 2021, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, April 8, 2021, 8:00 a.m. - Sustainability and Transportation meeting

5. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

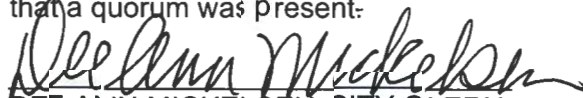

JOHN GILES, MAYOR



ATTEST:


DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

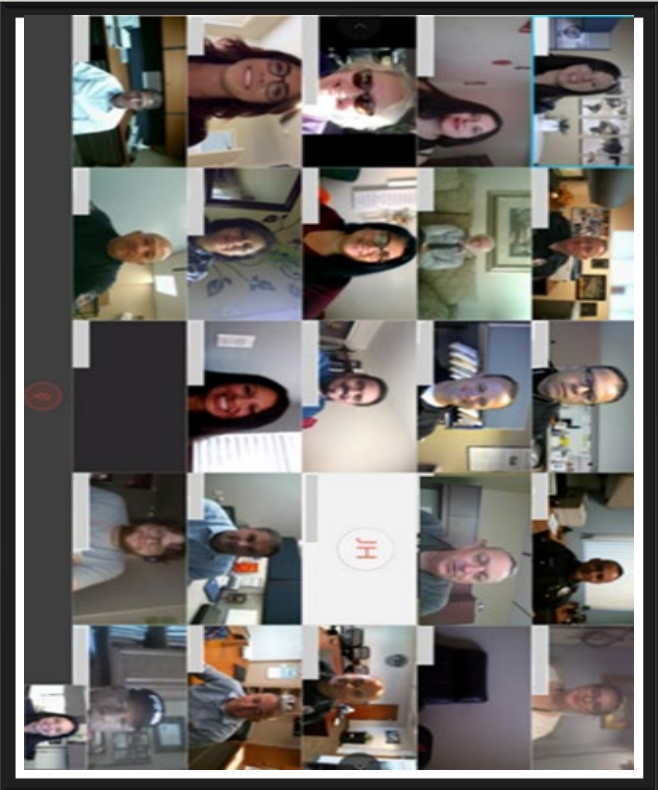
I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 5th day of April 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present:


DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK



MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT

FY 2021-2022 BUDGET PRESENTATION



- Strategic Allocations
- Public Safety by the Numbers
- Addressing Homelessness
 - Recruiting
 - HQ

OVERVIEW

EXPENDITURES BY SERVICE LEVEL

| | FY19/20 | FY20/21 | FY20/21 | FY21/22 |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | Actuals | Revised Budget | Year End Estimate | Proposed Budget |
| Administration Bureau | \$ 61.5 M | \$ 67.0 M | \$ 70.3 M | \$ 69.0 M |
| Executive Services Bureau | \$ 7.3 M | \$ 9.1 M | \$ 8.6 M | \$ 12.6 M |
| Investigations Bureau | \$ 42.7 M | \$ 45.7 M | \$ 45.5 M | \$ 48.2 M |
| Operations Bureau | \$ 77.6 M | \$ 81.1 M | \$ 80.2 M | \$ 96.6 M |
| Total** | \$189.1 M | \$202.9 M | \$204.6 M | \$226.4 M |

*In Millions

**Inclusive of MesasCARES Funds

STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

- 3rd Year Enhanced Training Academy
- Citywide CCTV & C-Cure On-going Costs
- Traffic Analyst
- Digital Forensics
- Rekeying of Holding Facility
- Outsourcing of Order of Protection Service
- Photo Safety Cameras – Schools & Other

BUDGETED POSITION GROWTH

| | FY21/22 | FY22/23 | FY23/24 | FY24/25 | Total | Added | |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|-----------|---------------------|
| | | | | | | Prior FYs | Total After 6 Years |
| Sworn-Patrol | 10 | 14 | 8 | 3 | 35 | 27 | 62 |
| Sworn-Other | 1 | - | 2 | 3 | 6 | 13 | 19 |
| Professional Staff | 9 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 19 | 17 | 36 |
| | 20 | 19 | 12 | 9 | 60 | 57 | 117 |

FY21/22 Sworn Position Additions
Patrol Officers (8)
Patrol Sergeants (2)
Special Operations Detective (1)

FY21/22 Professional Staff Position Additions:
Police Service Officer for Patrol Operations (1)
Crime Prevention Officer (1)
911 Operators (2)
Police Dispatchers (2)
Crime Scene Specialists (1)
Police Investigator III (1)
IT Engineer (1)

PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX IMPACT TO SWORN STAFFING



MID-YEAR POSITIONS ADDED

FY20/21

Public Records Requests Unit

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Police Investigator I's | 2 |
| Police Records Specialist II's | 2 |
| Police Records Supervisor | 1 |

NIBRS/QA – Police Records Specialist III's 2

Police Records Specialists II's 2

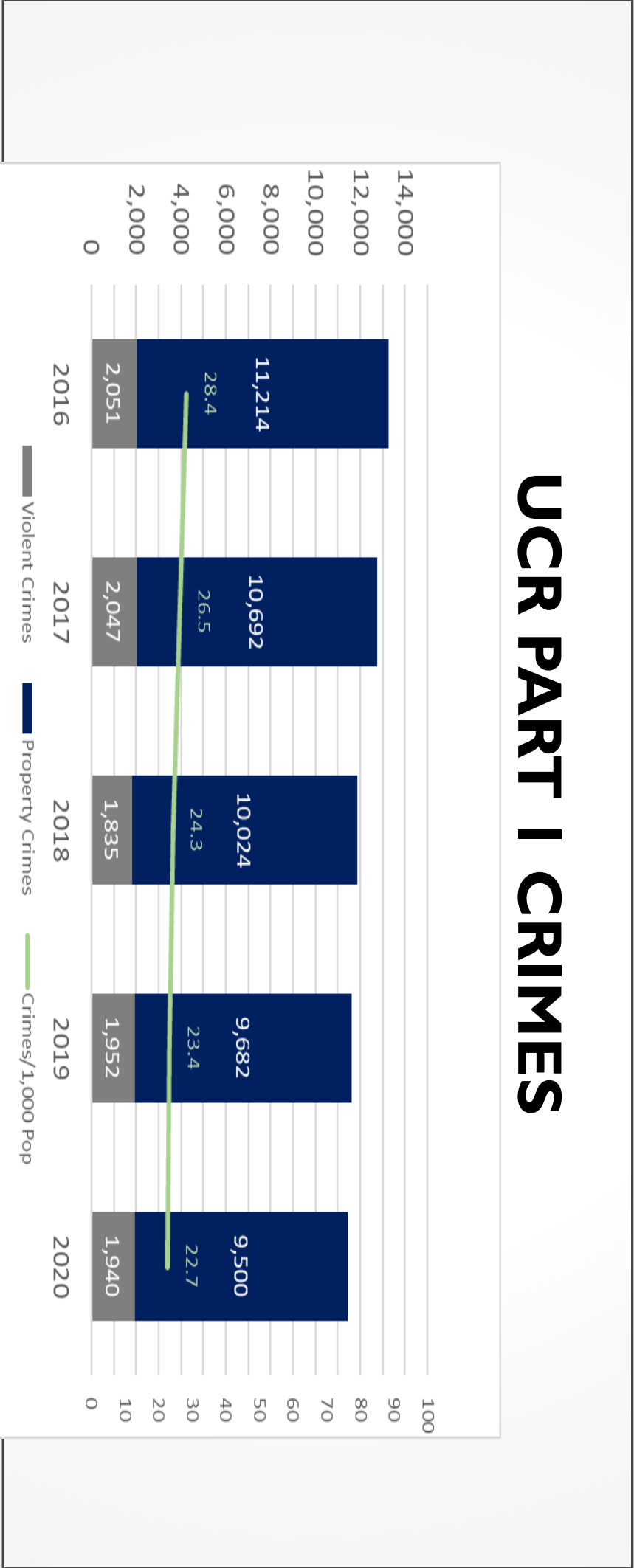
Additional Records Personnel FY20/21 9

2020 STATISTICS

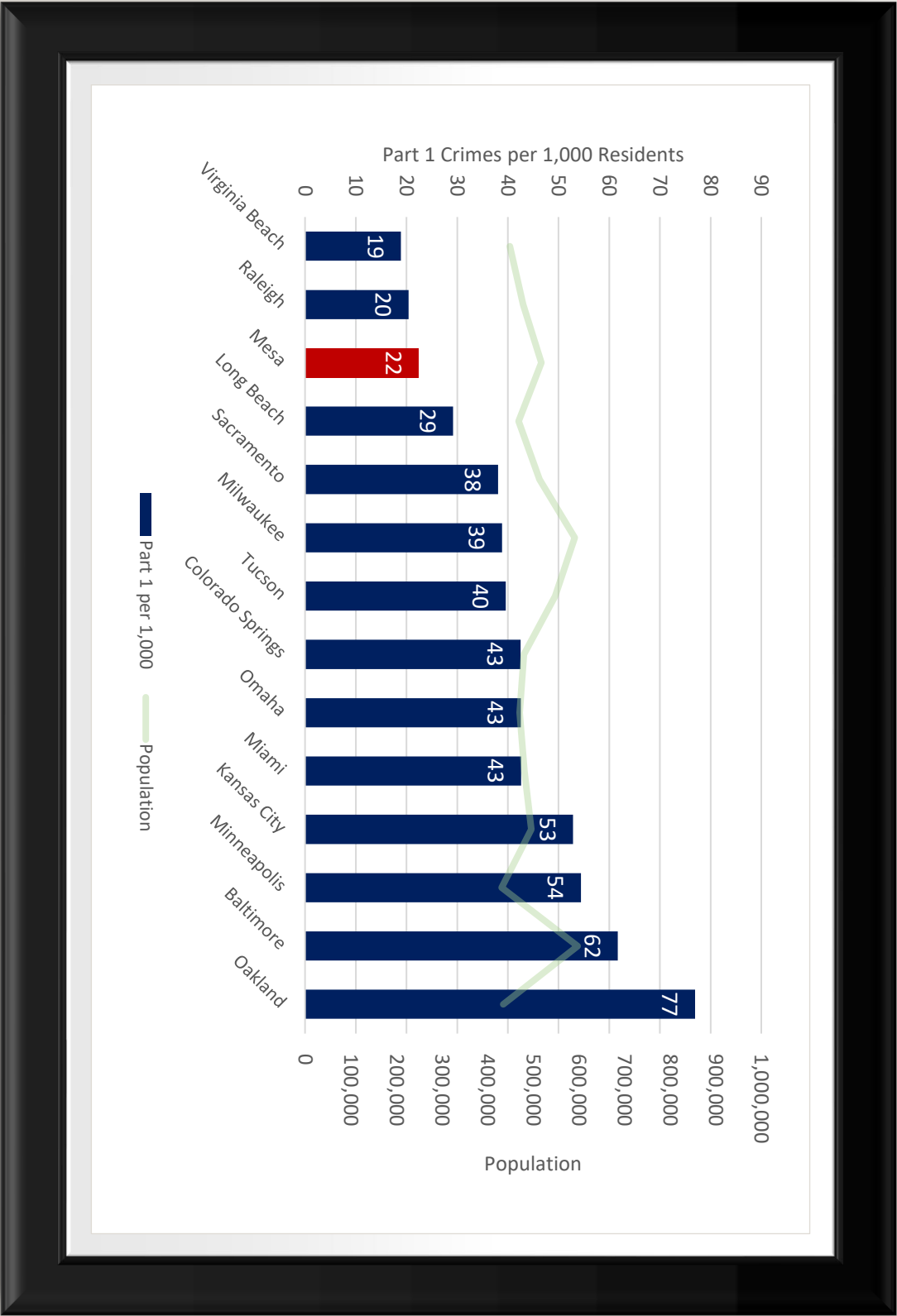
Mesa is one of the Safest Large Cities in the United States

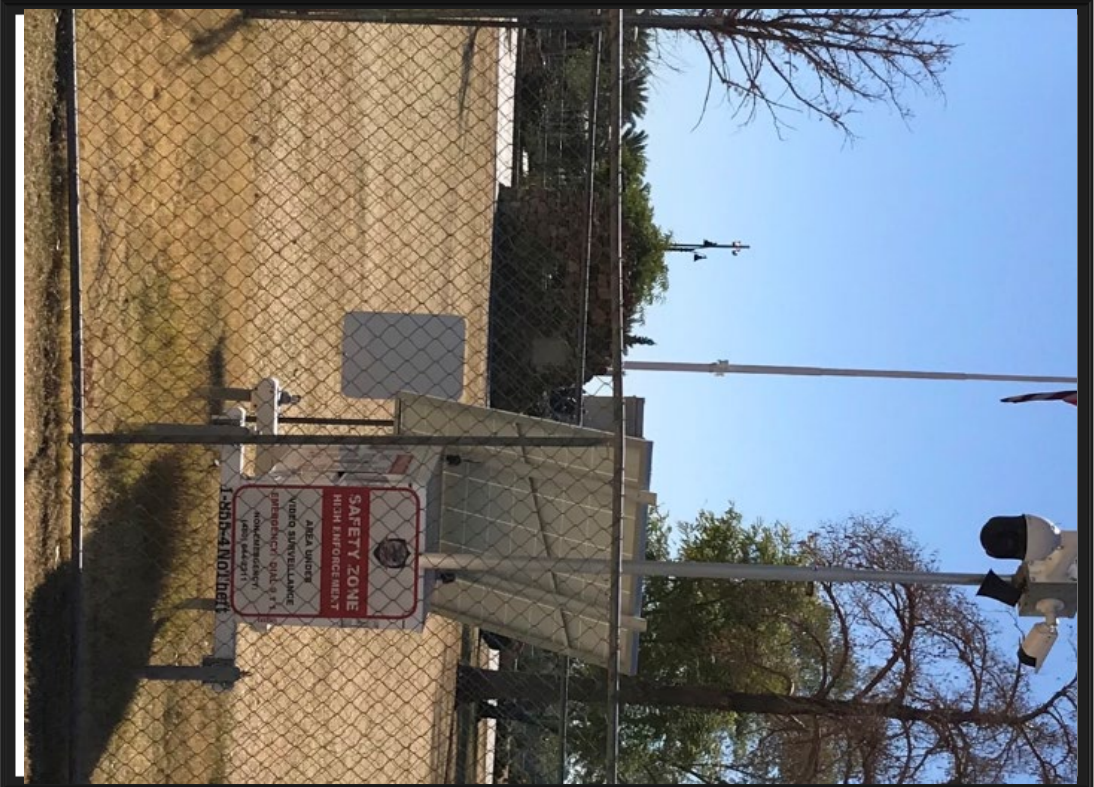
- Part I Crime Rate per thousand residents is an all time low of 22.7
- 11,440 Total Part I Crimes
 - Violent Crimes: 1% reduction from 2019
 - Property Crimes: 2% reduction from 2019
 - Total Part I Crimes: 2% reduction from 2019

UCR PART I CRIMES



UCR PART I CRIMES PER 1,000 RESIDENTS

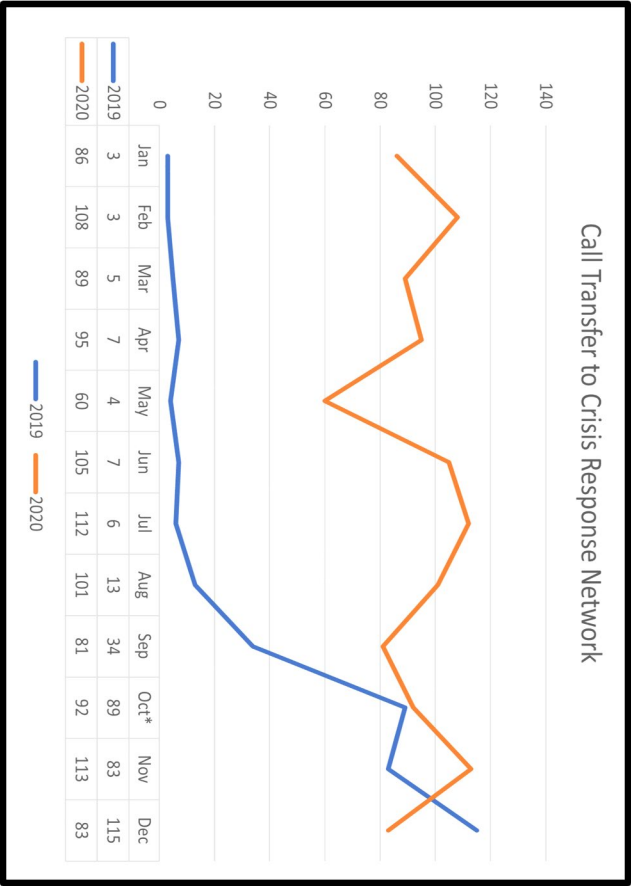
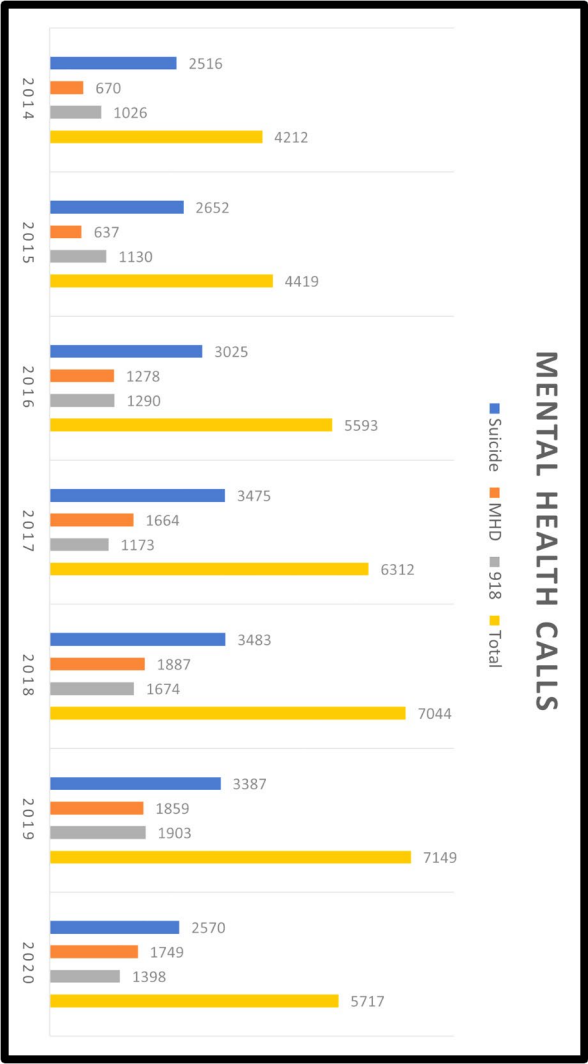


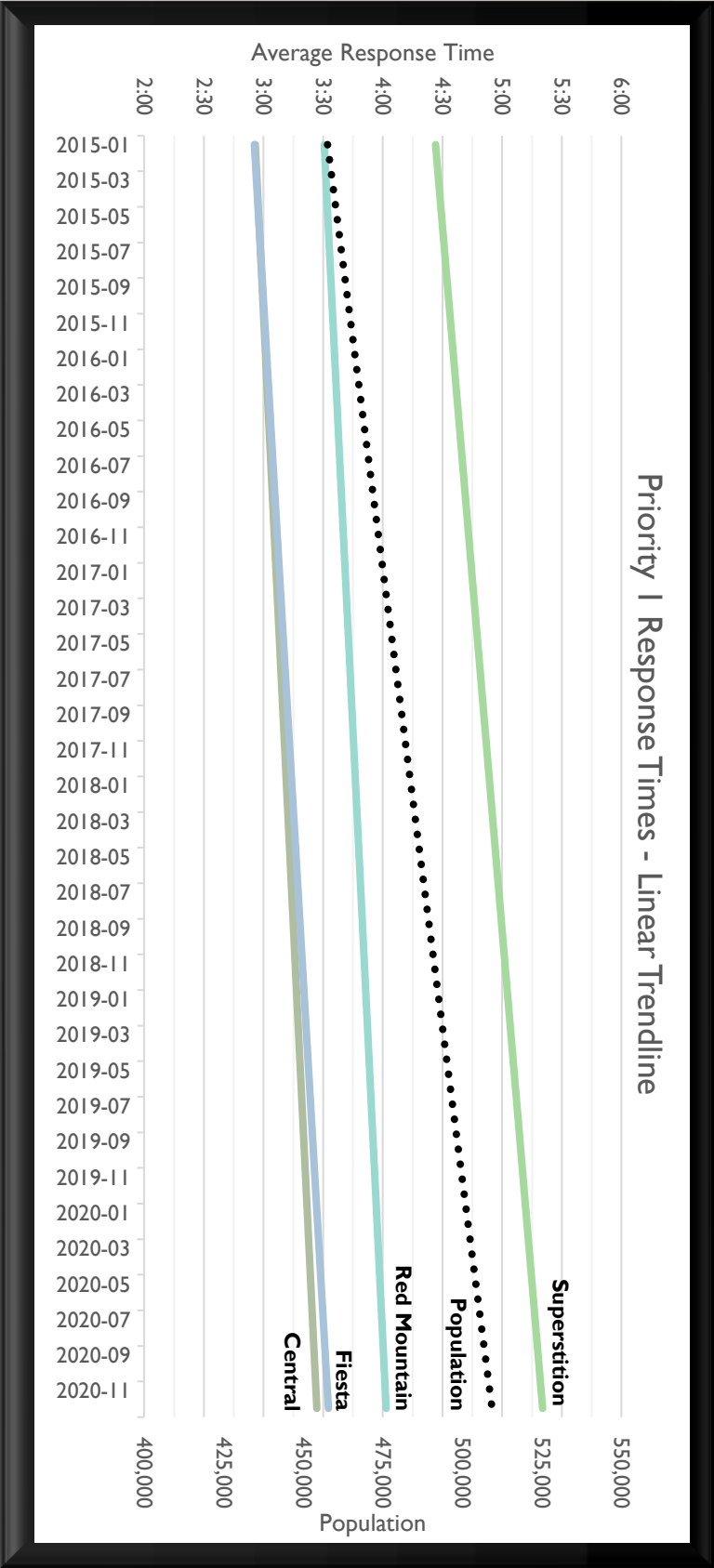


- Operation Off the Streets
- Encampment Clean Up Efforts
- Homeless Response as Standard Patrol Operations
- Remote Observation Platform

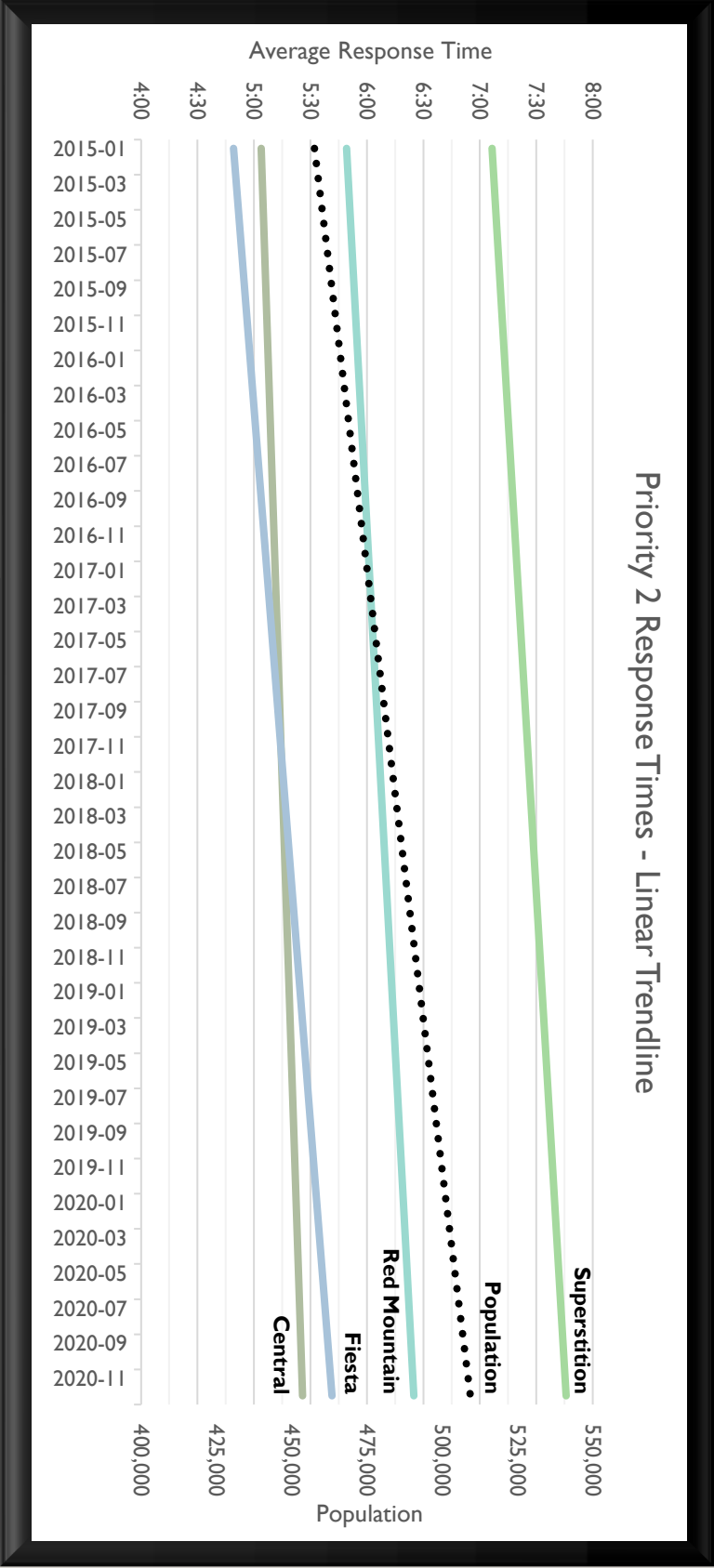
RESPONSE

MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS & RESPONSE

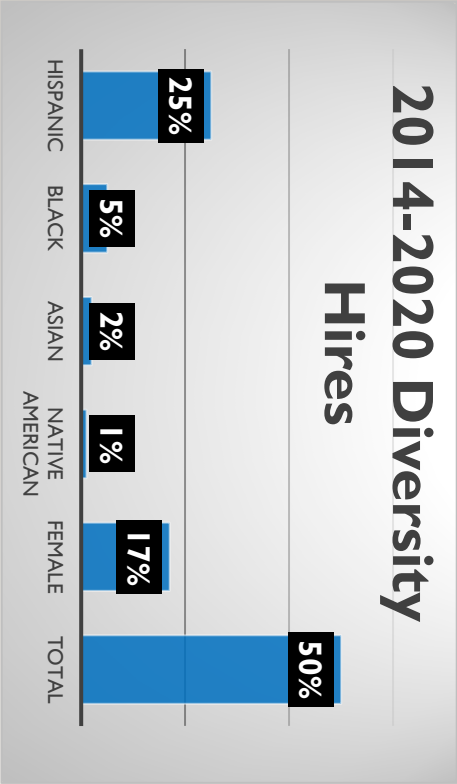




PRIORITY | RESPONSE TIMES



PRIORITY 2 RESPONSE TIMES



TRAINING/HIRING/RECRUITING



Bucking the Trends

HEADQUARTER RENOVATIONS



POLICE HEADQUARTERS RENOVATION

Building for the Future:

Law enforcement policies are making headlines, but many jurisdictions have been revising their law enforcement approaches for years. These changes often involve embracing new technologies, government reinvention and alternate enforcement methods with the goal of improving policing effectiveness, resource efficiency and public trust.

Design Themes:

- Community Integration
- Technological Adoption
- Stress Reduction
- Improved Efficiencies
- Workplace innovation





**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR TIME!**

research.n

