

Bozeman Police Department 2023 Annual Report



BOZEMAN^{MT}
POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Message from Police Chief Jim Veltkamp



It is not difficult to understand why Bozeman is growing so fast. The numerous outdoor recreational opportunities, the access to retail and restaurants, and the quality of the people here all contribute to making Bozeman such a special place.

With this growth have come many challenges for our department. Socioeconomic issues, more critical incidents, higher call volumes, more events and venues, and drugs in the community have all meant an increasing workload.

The members of this department deserve an immense amount of credit for how well they handle these challenges. They do difficult jobs in difficult environments, and they consistently make personal sacrifices to meet the increasing demands of a growing community. They do it with a sense of service and pride, all with short staffing in a place with a very high cost of living.

This past year, we implemented an entire new policy manual, hired several officers and staff members, focused on providing additional training, and added the rank of Lieutenant. We began working in partnership with the staff members of the new Neighborhood Services unit, and we continued improving our collaboration with Gallatin Mobile Crisis to effectively respond to calls involving mental health. We also added a couple new community events and began offering the Citizen's Police Academy twice a year.

Thank you for your entrusting the members of the Bozeman Police Department with the safety of this community. We pledge to continue working hard to maintain the high quality of life we enjoy in Bozeman.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Veltkamp". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chief Jim Veltkamp

OUR MISSION

Our Mission is to keep Bozeman the most livable place through public safety and community partnerships.

OUR VALUES



LEADERSHIP in the community that is proactive and innovative.



INTEGRITY at all times with transparency and accountability.

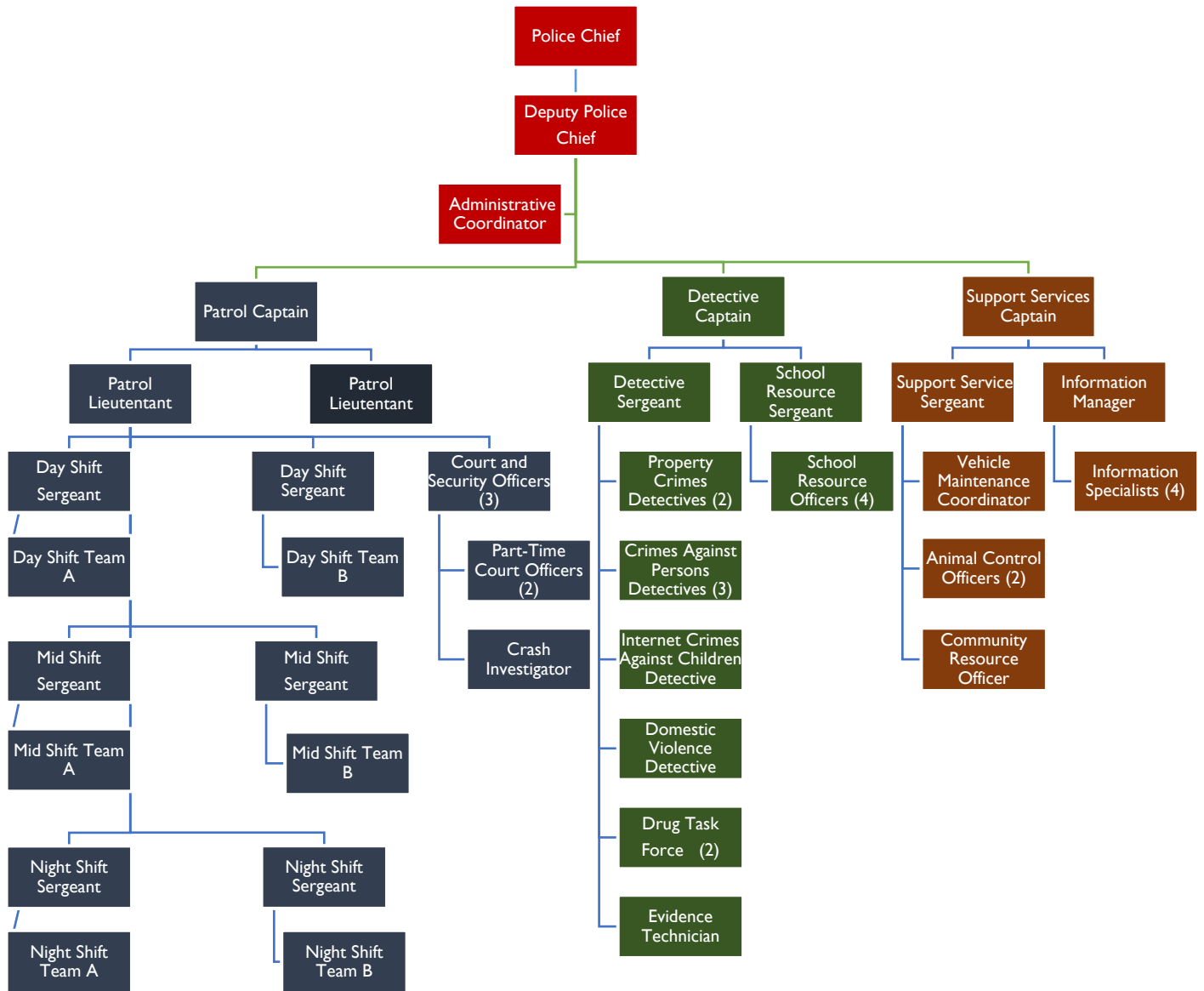


SERVICE above self that is personal, prompt and respectful.



TEAMWORK that promotes collaboration and success.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



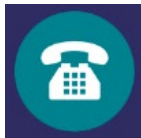
OUR DEPARTMENT

POSITIONS	QUANTITY
Chief	1
Deputy Chief	1
Captains	3
Lieutenants	2
Sergeants	9
Patrol Officers	38
Detectives	9
School Resource Officers	4
Community Resource Officer	1
Animal Control Officers	2
Crash Investigator	1
Evidence Technician	1
Police Information Manager	1
Police Admin Coordinator	1
Police Information Specialists	4
Court and Security Officers	3
Fleet Manager	1
Part-time Officer	1

- 55** MALE OFFICERS
- 13** FEMALE OFFICERS
- 37** AVERAGE AGE
- 8** AVERAGE YEARS OF SERVICE WITH BPD

- 73** 2023 AUTHORIZED SWORN OFFICERS
- 68** 2023 ACTUAL STRENGTH
- 14** AUTHORIZED CIVILIAN STAFF

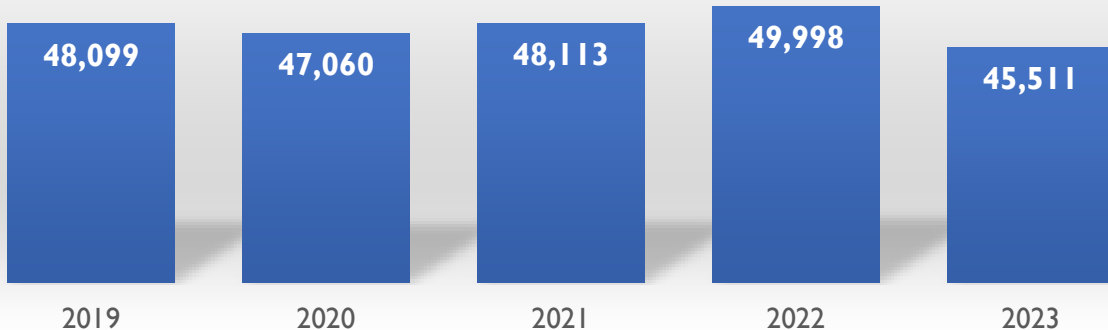
ANSWERING THE CALL



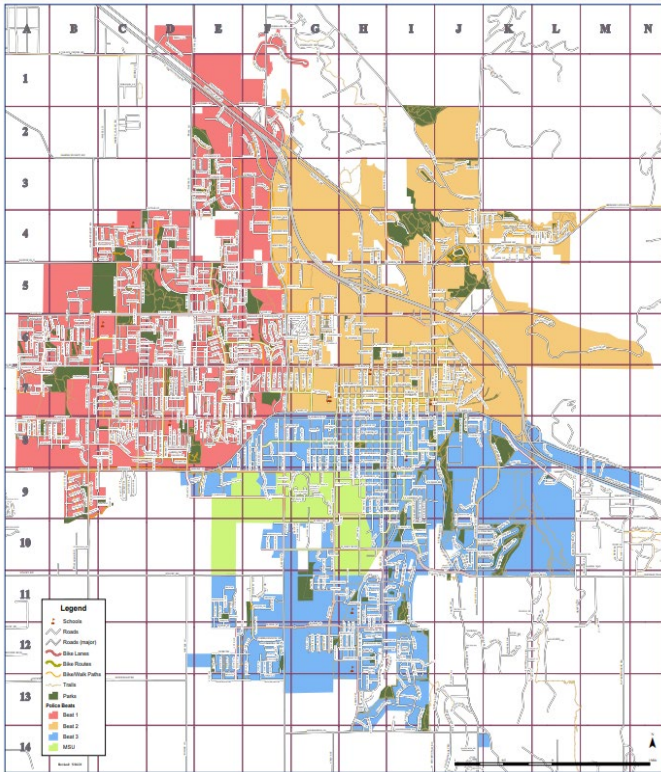
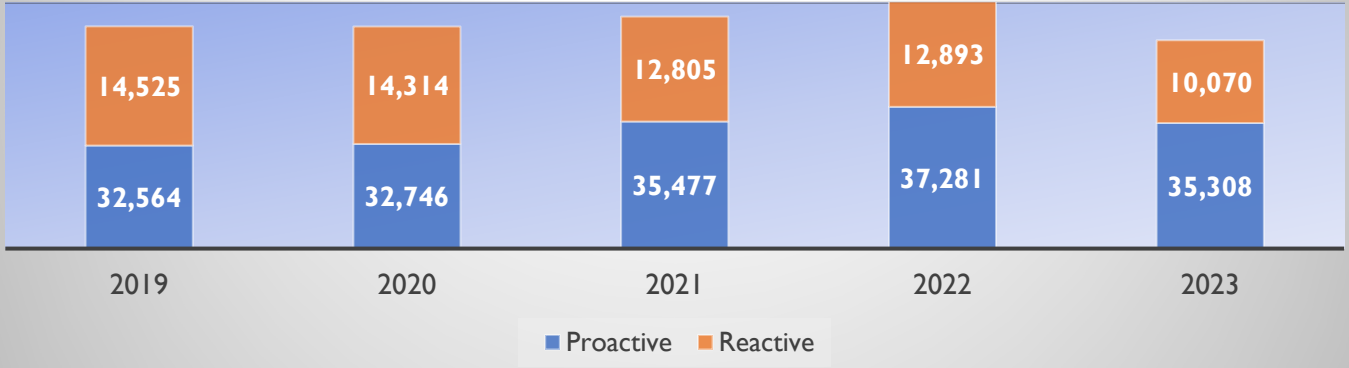
45,511 CFS in 2023

BPD Total Calls for Service

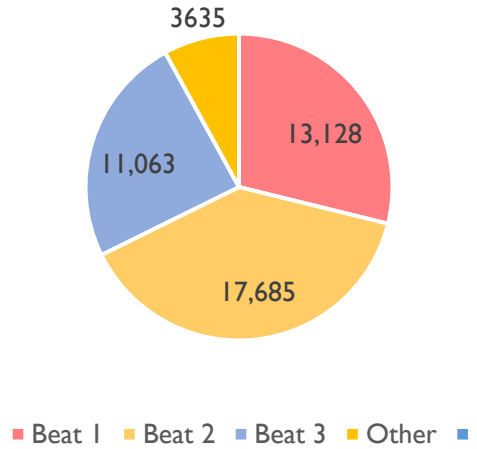
■ Proactive + Reactive CFS



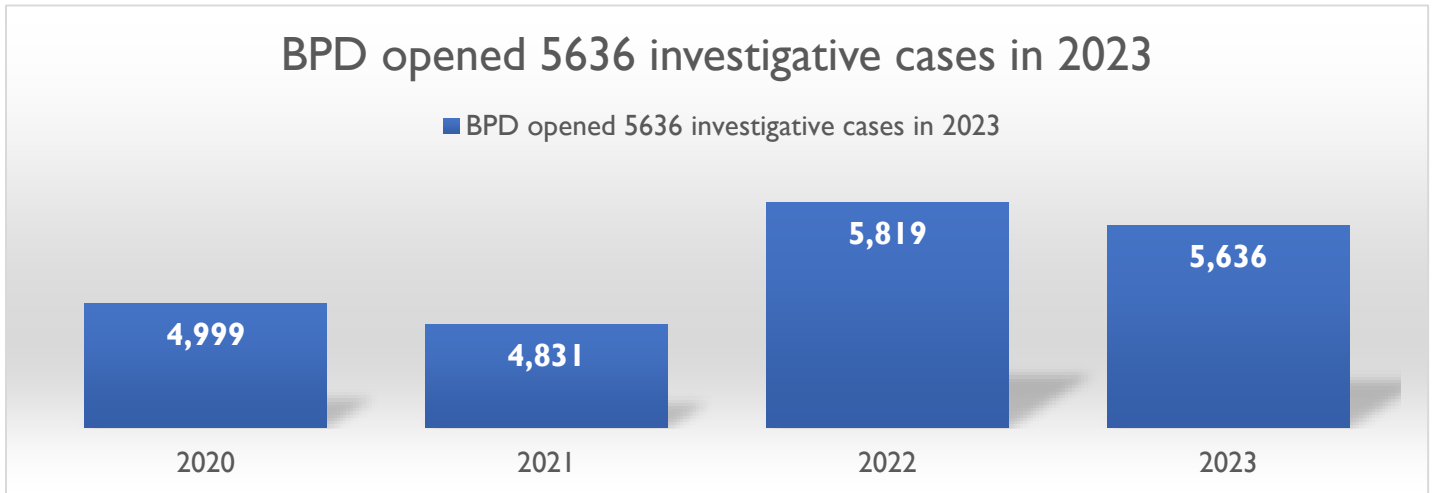
Proactive vs Reactive Calls for Service



Call for Service by Beat



CASES GENERATED

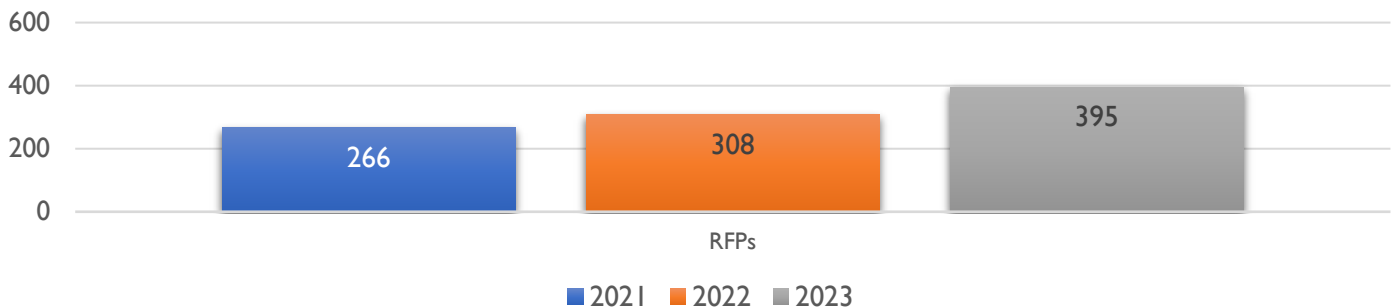


*Cases up **16.5 %** since 2020*

A case typically refers to a specific incident or investigation that has been assigned to a particular officer or team for follow-up and resolution. Cases require significantly more time and follow-up and are generated from calls for service or other sources of information, such as proactive policing efforts or routine patrols.

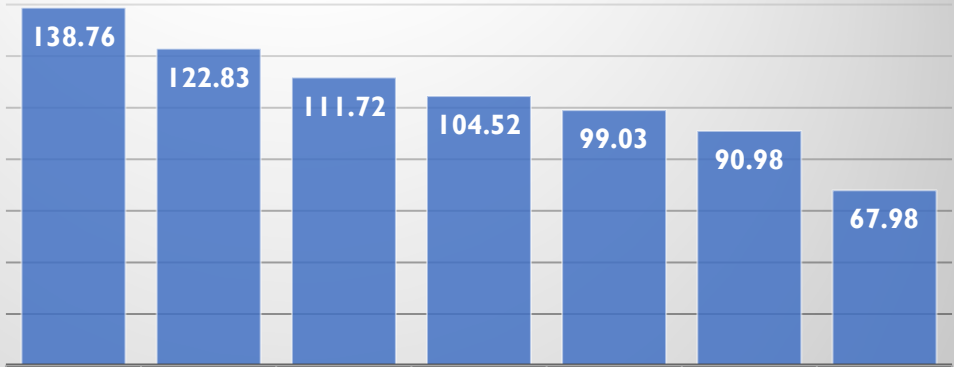
*Since 2021, TOTAL RFPs INCREASED BY **48.5%***

Request for Prosecution Submissions



A request for prosecution (RFP) is a formal request to a prosecutor after a felony arrest or as a presentation of evidence supporting charges against a suspect. An RFP occurs at the end of a lengthy and often complex investigation by an officer and can require additional follow-up if requested.

Crimes per 1000 people



	Great Falls	Billings	Helena	Missoula	Butte	Kalispell	Bozeman
■ MT Bd of Crime Control Data	138.76	122.83	111.72	104.52	99.03	90.98	67.98

BZN REMAINS THE SAFEST OF ALL MAJOR MT CITIES

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

CRIME TYPE	TOTAL OFFENSES	OFFENSES PER 10,000 People
Aggravated Assault	136	25.86
Intimidation	111	21.11
Simple Assault	309	58.76
Homicide	2	0.38
Negligent Homicide	1	1.90
Robbery	12	0.19
Human Trafficking	5	0.95
Kidnapping	19	3.61
Sex Offense - Forcible	109	20.73
Sex Offense - Nonforcible	10	1.90
Total	714	133.50

Montana Board of Crime Control NIBRS data

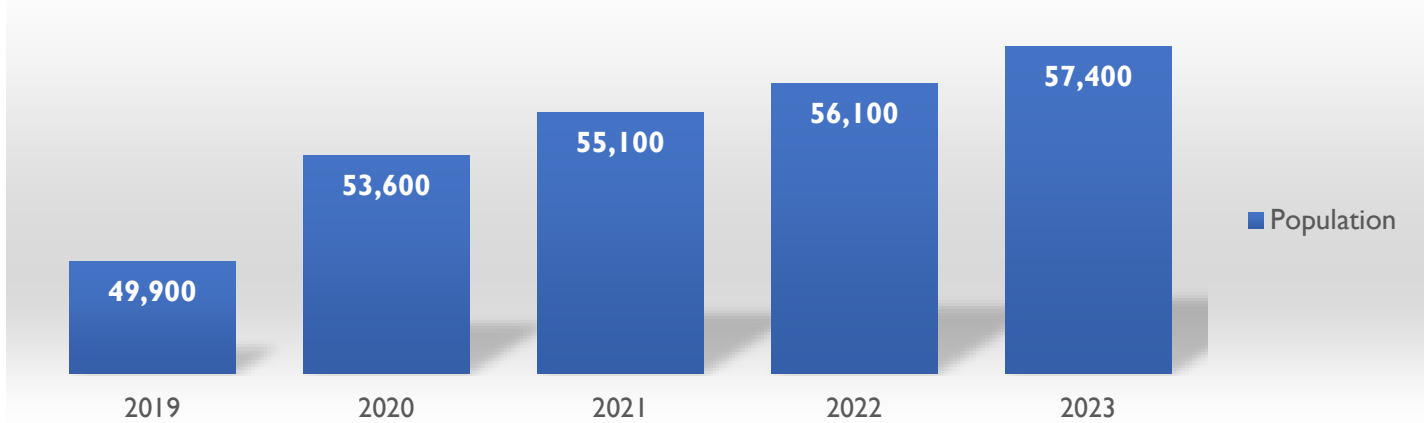
PROPERTY CRIMES

CRIME TYPE	TOTAL OFFENSES	OFFENSES PER 10,000 People
Arson	2	0.38
Burglary	55	10.46
Counterfeit/Forgery	33	6.28
Vandalism	303	57.62
Embezzlement	5	0.95
Fraud Offenses	119	22.63
Theft Offenses	1,014	192.83
Motor Vehicle Theft	65	12.36
Total	1589	133.50

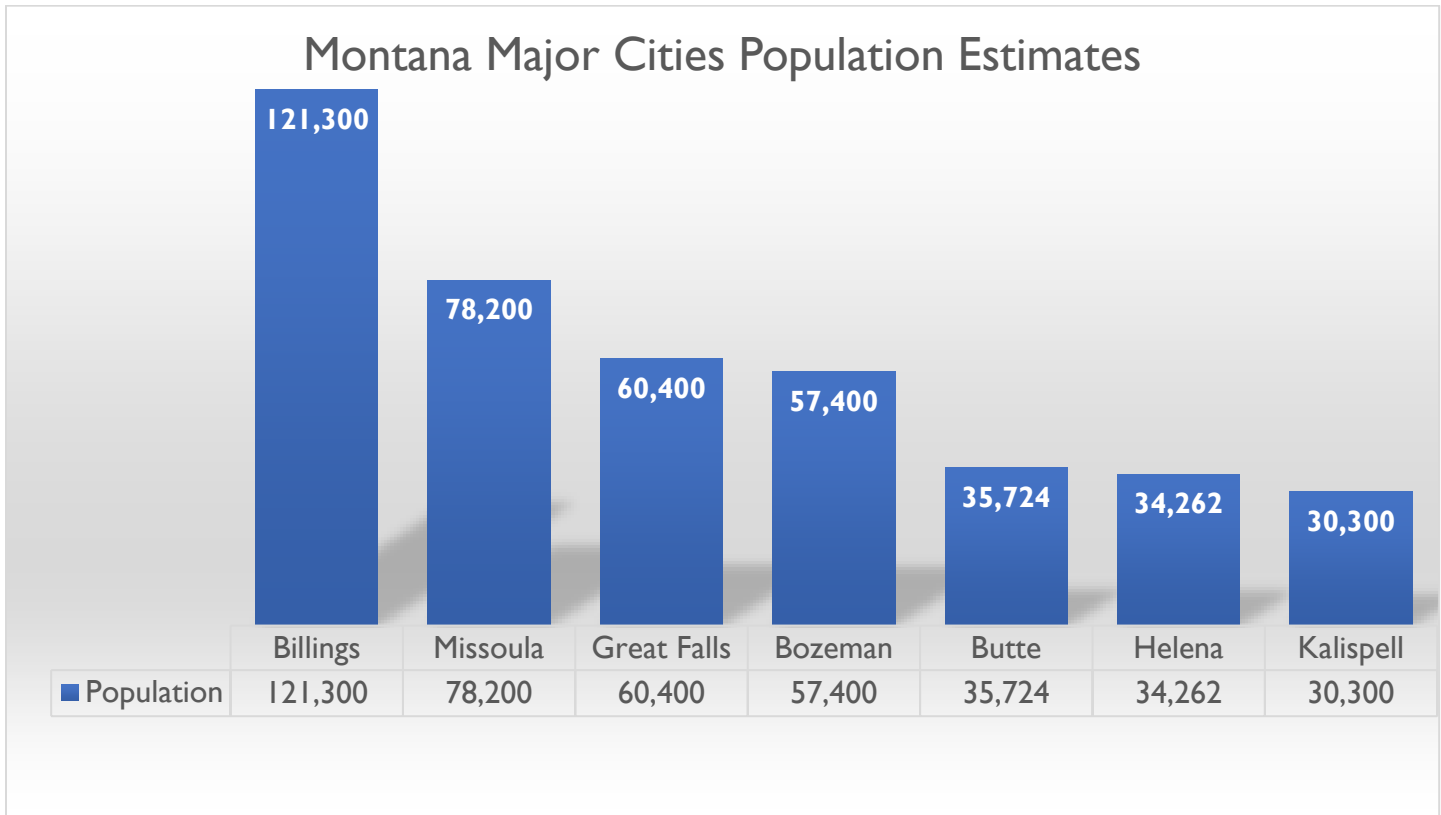
Montana Board of Crime Control NIBRS data

POPULATION

Bozeman Population Estimate



Montana Major Cities Population Estimates



ATTRACTING TALENT

The Bozeman Police Department recognizes that effective recruiting is essential for building a skilled, diverse, and representative workforce capable of effectively serving and protecting our community. The department continues to expand its recruiting strategy by leveraging technology and social media platforms to reach a wider audience of potential candidates. Officer wellness incentives, competitive compensation and a robust training program are just a few of the other strategies to help attract the best candidates.

WELCOMING NEW POLICE OFFICERS

In 2023, The Bozeman Police Department received 146 applications for police officer positions. After extensive testing and background investigations, 9 new police officers were added to the ranks.



9 NEW POLICE OFFICERS HIRED

4 LATERAL TRANSFERS HIRED

33 CANDIDATES INTERVIEWED

158 APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED



TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Investing in comprehensive and ongoing training for police officers is essential for promoting **effective, ethical, and community-oriented** policing practices that uphold public safety while respecting the rights and dignity of all individuals.

Trainings for BPD officers included a variety of classes such as defensive tactics, high risk traffic stops, communication and de-escalation, non-lethal interventions, family emotional survival, firearms, trial testimony, interviews, tactical medical care and supervisor training to name a few.



Over **8600** hours of
officer training

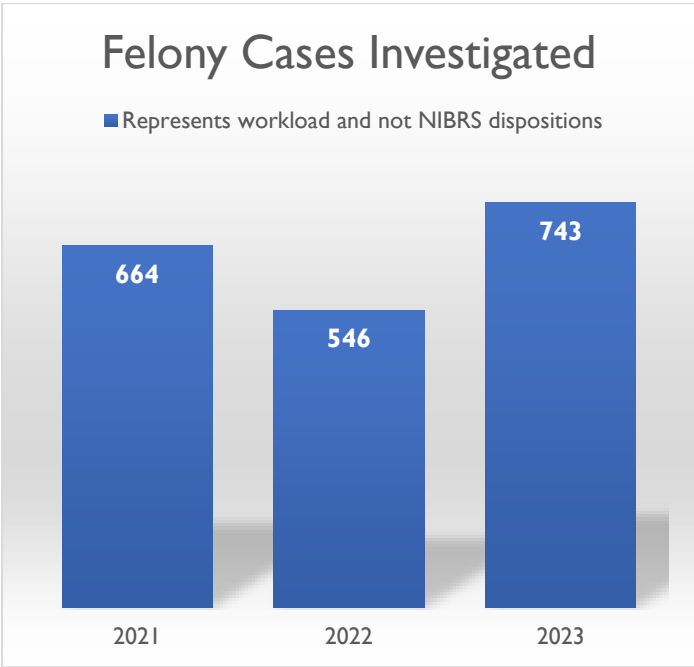
Frequent training
events hosted at BPSC

De-escalation
training for city employees



DETECTIVE DIVISION

It is the mission of the Bozeman Police Department Detective Division to provide high quality criminal investigative support to the Bozeman Police Department and to the victim of a crime by conducting timely, competent, and thorough investigations using advanced investigative techniques. Major initiatives in 2023 focused on **human trafficking and child exploitation**.



21
Human Trafficking Investigations

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

2796 Calls for Service in 2023



In 2023, SROs implemented a highly successful **diversion program** for juveniles committing minor offenses to help keep juveniles out of the criminal justice system.

MOVING EVIDENCE

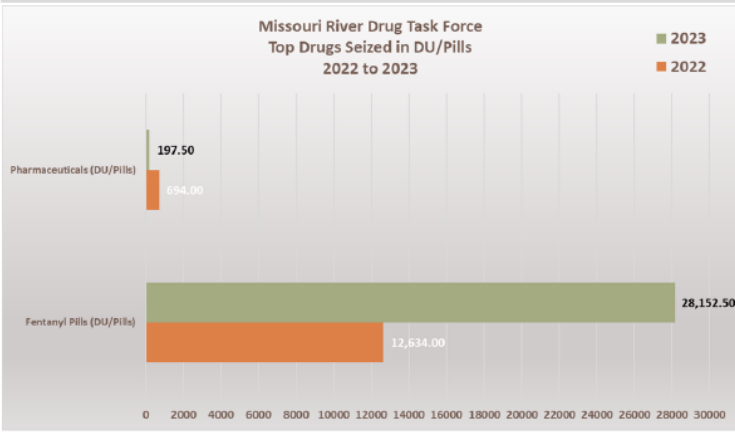
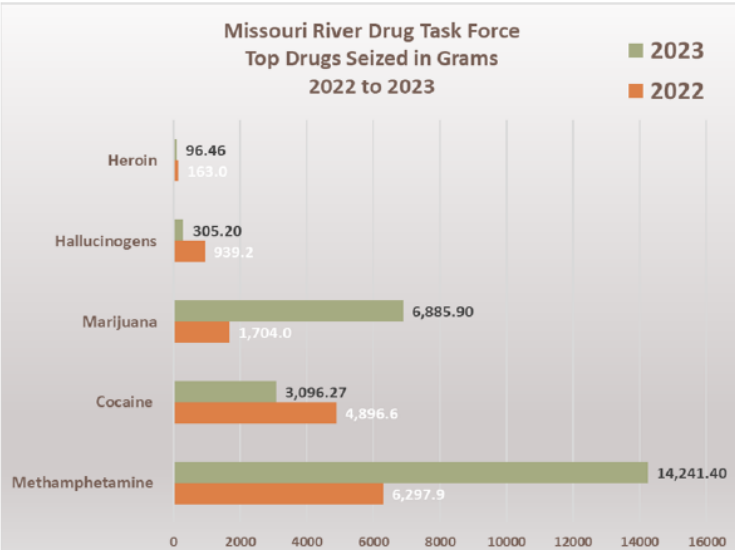


100,000 pieces of evidence were moved into the BPSC

The final evidence move from the Law and Justice Center to the Bozeman Public Safety Center was completed in September 2023. Each piece of evidence had to be physically moved, re-catalogued and organized onto shelves. Amazing work by BPD Evidence Superstar Melanie Kammerer!

MISSOURI RIVER DRUG TASK FORCE (MRDTF)

Missouri River Drug Task Force Stats 2023 January - December 2023



- 42 Felony Arrests
- 80 Search Warrants
- 83 Cases Opened, 45 Cases Closed
- 91 Firearms Seized
- 13 RFPs
- 25 Outreach Events (1,056 Attendees)
- 5 DTOs Opened, 7 DTOs Closed
- \$72,186.00 Cash Seized

Total Drugs Seized 2023		
Methamphetamine	31.40	Pounds
Marijuana (Bulk)	15.18	Pounds
Fentanyl Pills	8.51	Pounds
Cocaine	6.83	Pounds
Marijuana Edibles	2.20	Pounds
Hallucinogens	0.67	Pounds
Crack Cocaine	123.50	Grams
Heroin Tar	96.46	Grams
Pharmaceuticals (Grams)	32.90	Grams
Fentanyl Powder	16.20	Grams
Fentanyl Pills	28,152.50	DU/Pills
Pharmaceuticals (DU/Pills)	197.50	DU/Pills
THC Liquid (ML)	185.07	ML

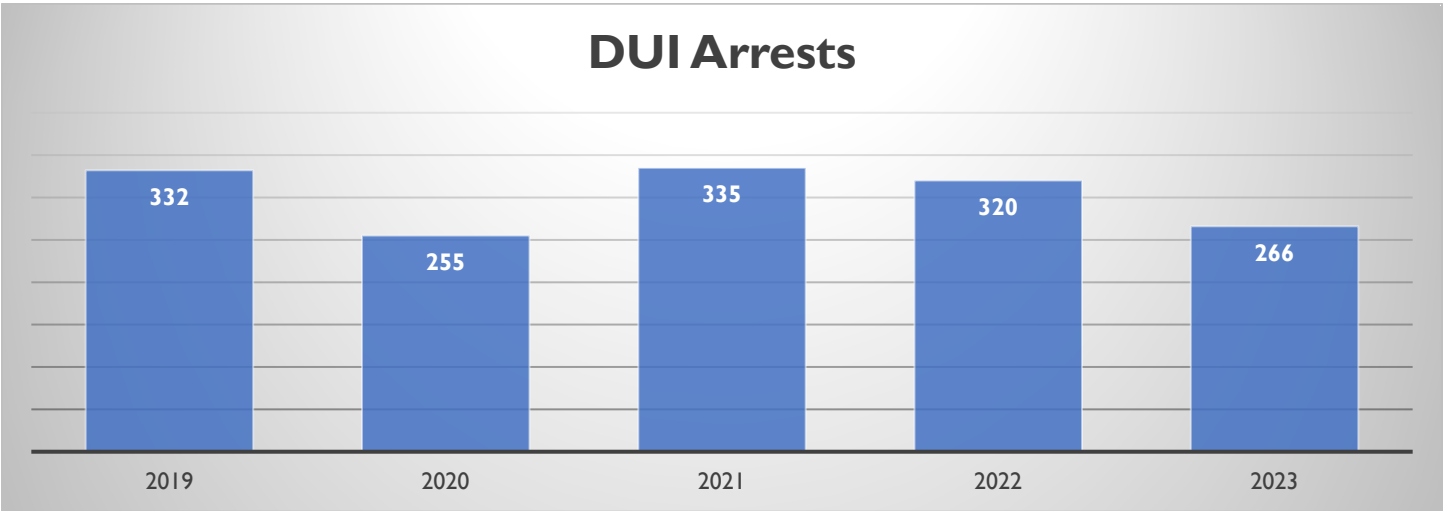
*453.59 Grams = 1 Pound

TRAFFIC SAFETY

As part of Bozeman's **SAFE plan**, officers conducted focused enforcement on safety-critical transportation and intersection-related items.

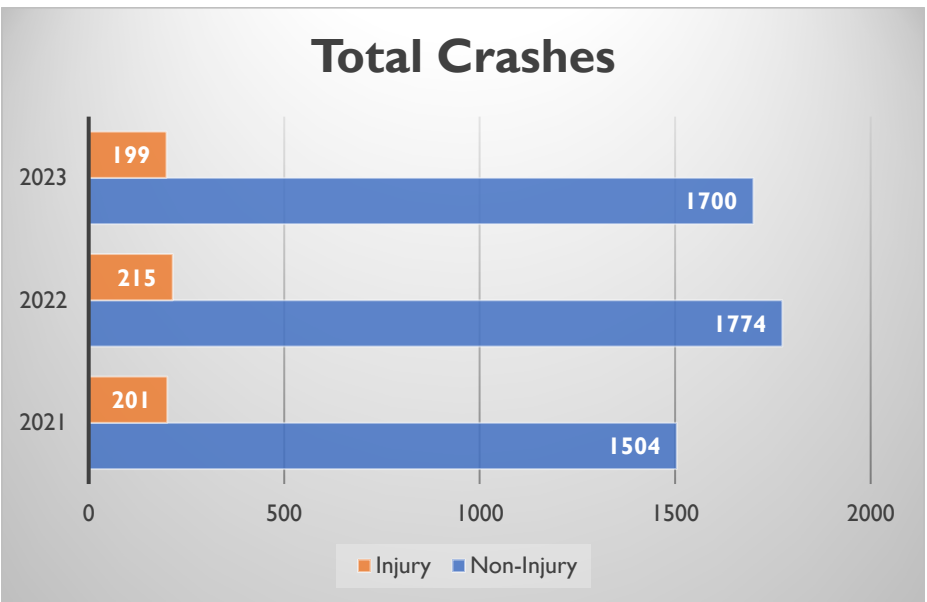


DUI Arrests



266 DUI ARRESTS IN 2023

Total Crashes



704
HIT AND RUN
CRASHES in
2023

RADAR AND MESSAGE BOARD

Bozeman PD has four radar/message trailers that can be requested by the public and are used to promote road safety, reduce speeding, and improve traffic conditions. By combining speed monitoring technology with highly visible displays, radar trailers help deter speeding behavior, educate the public, and enhance overall traffic safety on roadways.



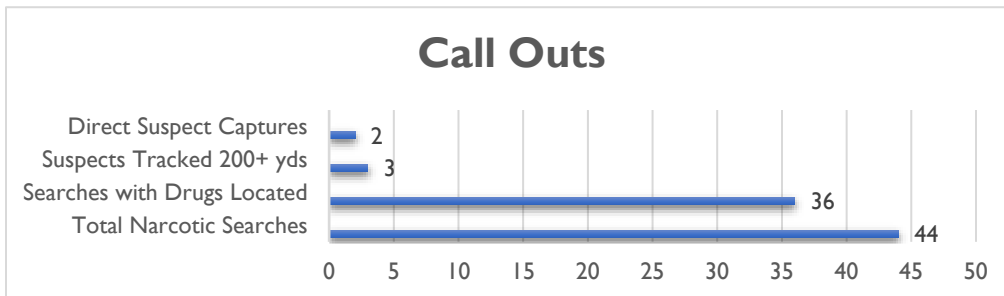
The trailers were deployed

525

days

SPECIALTY ASSIGNMENTS

K9 PROGRAM



The BPD **K9 Program** currently consists of Officer Peterson and his canine partner Stretch. Peterson is responsible for the care, training, and deployment of the K9 partner. The bond between a handler and their K9 is crucial for effective teamwork and communication during operations. The K9 program serves the community by providing patrol functions as well as locating illegal narcotics and conducting searches of buildings, vehicles and other property for illegal substances and suspects. to develop skills in areas such as obedience, agility, tracking, searching and detection.



Stretch undergoes rigorous training and in 2023 successfully helped confiscate numerous narcotics, with fentanyl seizures increasing by 220% from 2022.

Methamphetamine – 480.3g

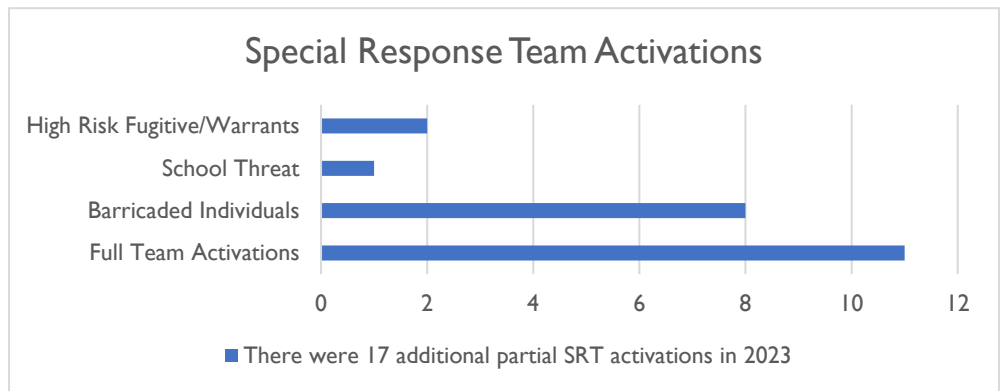
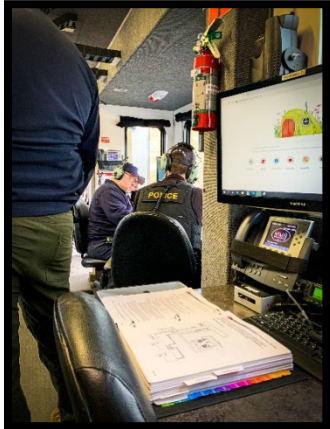
Cocaine – 4.3g

Heroin – 4.3g

Fentanyl – 1,864 pills.

SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (SRT)

The Bozeman area has a combined **Special Response Team (SRT)** composed of City of Bozeman/Gallatin County officers. was requested seven (7) times to incidents in Bozeman, Gallatin County and surrounding jurisdictions. They respond to incidents throughout Gallatin County and neighboring jurisdictions that include high risk, volatile situations where specialized training and equipment are needed, and where the capabilities of the patrol division are exceeded.



ANIMAL CONTROL

Bozeman employs two full time Animal Control Officers whose primary focus is responding to nuisance animals, enforcing leash laws, education, and ensuring the welfare of animals.



BPD Animal Control Officers responded to

3785

calls in 2023.

988 PARTNERSHIP

The Bozeman PD continued to build on partnerships with mental health providers in Bozeman. The GALLATIN MOBILE CRISIS (GMC) team helps individuals experiencing a mental health crisis in Gallatin County get the care they need seven days a week, often responding with law enforcement to provide these services.



Gallatin Mobile Crisis was used
335
times in 2023



BEYOND THE BADGE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS

Citizen’s Police Academy – The Police Citizens Police Academy (CPA) is a program designed to provide members of the community with insights into law enforcement operations and procedures. The primary goal of a Citizens Police Academy is to foster better understanding and cooperation between police departments and the communities they serve. In 2023, there were 44 graduates between the Spring and Fall academies.



Trunk or Treat – The department had officers both downtown for the kid festivities as well as having patrol cars in neighborhoods “trunk or treating”. Both were extremely fun and well received. We always have officer Friendly’s equipment ready for quick deployment and photo op.

Christmas Stroll – The first Saturday in December is Bozeman’s welcoming in of the Christmas Season. The Police Department is always on hand to serve up cheer, hot chocolate and photos for kids and adults as well.



Coffee with a Cop – Every other month, the department meets for coffee at different locations within the community. No agenda, no program, no schedule. Just a great opportunity to get together and chat, answer questions or address concerns.

Special Olympics Torch Run – Bozeman Police Department Officers proudly led the Torch Run for Special Olympics as it made its way through downtown Bozeman.



National Night Out – National Night Out is an opportunity for communities to come together, strengthen bonds, and demonstrate their commitment to building safer, more vibrant neighborhoods. It serves as a reminder of the importance of police-community partnerships in promoting public safety and enhancing the quality of life for all residents.

Cops and Bobbers – In BPD’s first annual Cops and Bobbers event, officers provided fishing equipment, bait, and instruction to area kids, creating an opportunity for positive interaction and relationship-building between police and community members.



SOCIAL MEDIA



29,123 Facebook followers



5864 Instagram followers



© J. Michael Connell

NATIONAL RECOGNITION

In December 2023, OFFICER Magazine awarded the Bozeman Public Safety Center its **Gold Medal for Officer Station Design**, a recognition of the outstanding architecture and design from law enforcement and public safety facilities nationwide.

100s
of visitors toured the BPS
in 2023



Bozeman Public Safety Center

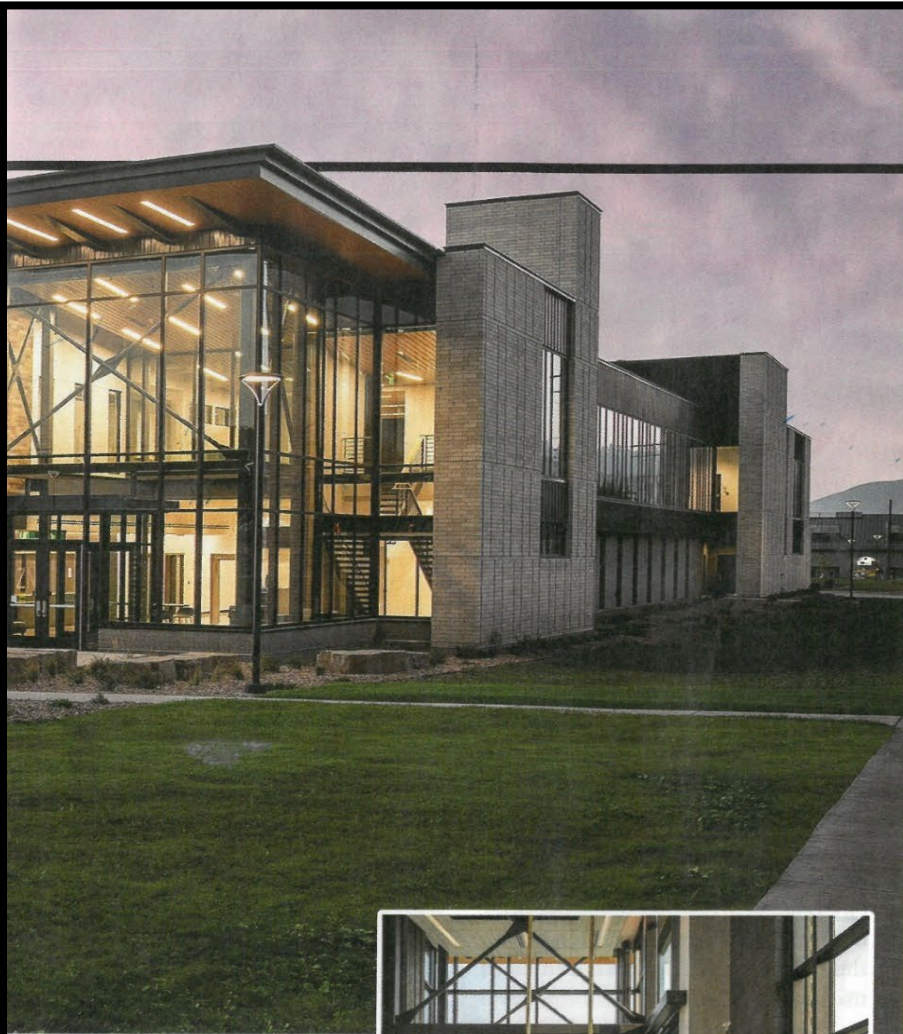


The Bozeman Public Safety Center is a multi-faceted, centralized station, combining the City of Bozeman Police Headquarters, Fire Station 1, Municipal Courts, Attorney Offices and Victim Services. Balance was key to the success of the Bozeman Public Safety Center. The facility needed to be secure yet transparent, formal yet welcoming, maintain a connection to the outdoors yet be highly energy efficient and environmentally responsible. Additionally, the facility needed to balance multiple user needs, including shared amenities between departments.

Ultimately, the facility balances each department's functional and security needs while maintaining a welcoming public presence.

Bozeman's Police Headquarters includes records, administration, investigations, patrol, office support services and spaces, evidence storage, lockers, and interview suites. Fire Station 1 consists of five apparatus bays, decontamination and support areas, living quarters, administration spaces, fire marshal and inspections sections, an interpretive lobby and firefighter support spaces.

Lastly, the Bozeman Public Safety Center highlights modern courtrooms, judge and jury suites, court support services, municipal clerks, city attorneys, and victim services. Each annex shares resources, with the complex providing a large community room, fitness area, showers, a training facility, City IT facilities, and secured parking. Future



LAW ENFORCEMENT
**PUBLIC SAFETY
CENTERS**



Official Project Name:
Bozeman Public Safety Center

Project City/State: Bozeman, MT

Date Completed: January 8, 2022

Chief/Director: Police Chief Jim Veltkamp

Project Area (sq. ft.): 94,000

Total Cost: \$37,324,000

Cost Per Square Foot: \$397.06

Architect/Firm Name: ThinkOne Architects,
Anderson Mason Dale Architects,
TCA Architecture + Planning

City/State: Bozeman, MT

Phone: (406) 586-7020

Website: think1.com

Design Team: ThinkOne Architects, Architect;
AndersonMasonDale Architects, Associate
Architect; TCA Architecture + Planning, Associate
Architect (Fire Station 1); Morrison-Maierle,
Structural/Civil Engineer, Associate Construction
Engineering, MEP Engineer BCER Engineering;
IT Design 5 Landscape Architecture, Landscape
Architect; Big Sky Acoustics, Acoustical Engineer
Langlas & Associates, General Contractor.



ARCHITECTURE + PLANNING + DESIGN

expansion areas have been considered in the site planning. In alignment with the City's sustainability goals, the Bozeman Public Safety Center transformed a contaminated brown field into a multi-use, highly efficient, emergency operations facility designed to meet the growing needs of Bozeman.

The building orientation supports a south-facing solar wall, photovoltaic arrays, enhanced building envelope, future battery container, and high efficiency systems for energy conservation. Natural daylighting allows its patrons and resident employees to take advantage of inspiring views of the iconic Bridger Range. 



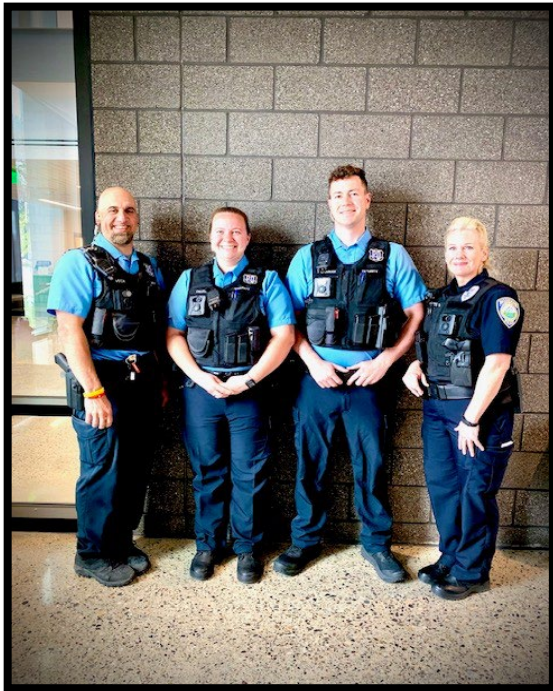
STAFF ADDITIONS AND CHANGES



Fleet Manager

In 2023, we said goodbye to Calvin Harman, our long time Fleet Manager. His service and commitment to the Bozeman Police Department will not be forgotten.

We were fortunate to have Randy Schlichtmann transfer from City Shops and take over the important work of keeping our patrol fleet on the road. His skills underneath the hood of a car are unparalleled.



Special Service Officers

Special Services Officers serve a variety of roles for the City of Bozeman. They are the primary security for the Bozeman Public Safety Center, Municipal Courts and for other departments and events such as the library and City Commission Meetings. In 2023, the Bozeman Police Department added another SSO and there are currently 3 full time and one part time officers.



Police Information Services Team

The Bozeman PD Information Specialists are the heart of our records management. They are the first to answer questions from the public and they ensure everything from our calls for service, requests for prosecution and body worn camera footage are appropriately classified, disseminated and retained. In 2023, the BPD added one more specialist to the team.



IT Support

Our dedicated IT support keeps all of the BPD technology up and running. In 2023, the IT Department assigned an additional part time civilian to assist the public safety divisions.

PROMOTIONS and RETIREMENTS



Hal Richardson
promoted to Lieutenant



Anthony Hutchings
promoted to Lieutenant



Ian Anderson
promoted to Sergeant



Detective Dave Ferguson retired after 20+ years with the Bozeman Police Department. Detective Ferguson's commitment to victims, especially to victims of domestic violence, is a lasting legacy that will be remembered.

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

INCREASED TRAINING

In 2023, the Bozeman Police Department fully implemented a Teams model for patrol. The model allows for more consistent supervision, but it also allowed for a monthly training day for each Patrol Team. Along with department-wide training topics, Sergeants are given the latitude to determine what trainings are most needed for their teams. This bottom-up approach has led to reliable and effective in-service instruction.

ECO-LOCK TECHNOLOGY

This innovative technology was placed on all of our patrol fleet and it automatically turns the engine off to cut down on idling time which significantly cuts fuel consumption. It also reduces carbon dioxide emissions and saves 19 lbs per gallon burned while idling.

CRIME FIGHTING TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES

Purchase of Secure Warrant and advanced Cellebrite cell phone technology systems to increase officer efficiencies and crime solutions. This technology helps BPD investigative teams manage their workload in the face of rapidly evolving technology and crime trends.

LEXIPOL POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

The Bozeman PD adopted the Lexipol policy management software which uses nationwide standards and best practices while also incorporating state and federal laws and regulations where appropriate. Lexipol helps keep BPD policies updated with latest trends and guidance.

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

The Neighborhood Services Division was started in 2023 with considerable assistance by the Bozeman PD. Since 2020, Community Resource Officer Scott Vongehr was successful in building relationships with people living in campers and tents and developing strategies for assistance and enforcement. This groundwork was essential in the successful hand off to the new Neighborhood Services Director as they worked to implement the new city camping ordinance.

AWARDS

DEVOTED SERVICE

Officer Ferguson

Calvin Harmann

LIFESAVING

Officer Bridge

Officer Capulong

Sgt Green

Sgt Hutchings

Officer Ng

Officer Phillips

Officer Sanders

Officer Schultz

MEDAL OF VALOR

Officer Capulong

Officer Derrick

Officer Cox

Officer Fitzpatrick

Officer Deets

Sgt L. Chaffins

Officer Ligotti

Officer Peterson

Officer Stephens