

WELCOME!

The Right-Sizing Police Services Community Meeting Will Begin Soon.



RIGHT-SIZING POLICE SERVICES

Erik Lamb, Deputy City Manager

Dave Ellis, Chief of Police

April 11, 2024



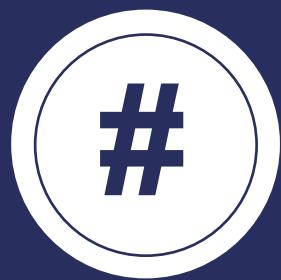
AGENDA

- Review background information
- Police Department staffing study and recommendations
- Accomplishments to date and remaining needs
- Current public safety funding
- Potential new funding sources
- Community input – survey and Q&A

RIGHT-SIZING POLICE PROJECT



- Began in late 2022
- Part of the renewal of the City's Police Services Interlocal Agreement with Spokane County and the Spokane County Sheriff's Office
- Purpose to review and evaluate the Spokane Valley Police Department's needs, operations and staffing levels, including calls for service, response to calls for service, caseload for investigative units, and operational delivery.



BY THE NUMBERS

CITY OF SPOKANE VALLEY



Incorporated in 2003 and is 21 years old



2023 Population = 107,400



The population has increased 29.5% since incorporation when it was 82,895



2024 Businesses = 5,987

(Total business licenses = 11,677, including those not located in Spokane Valley)

SVPD CONTRACT

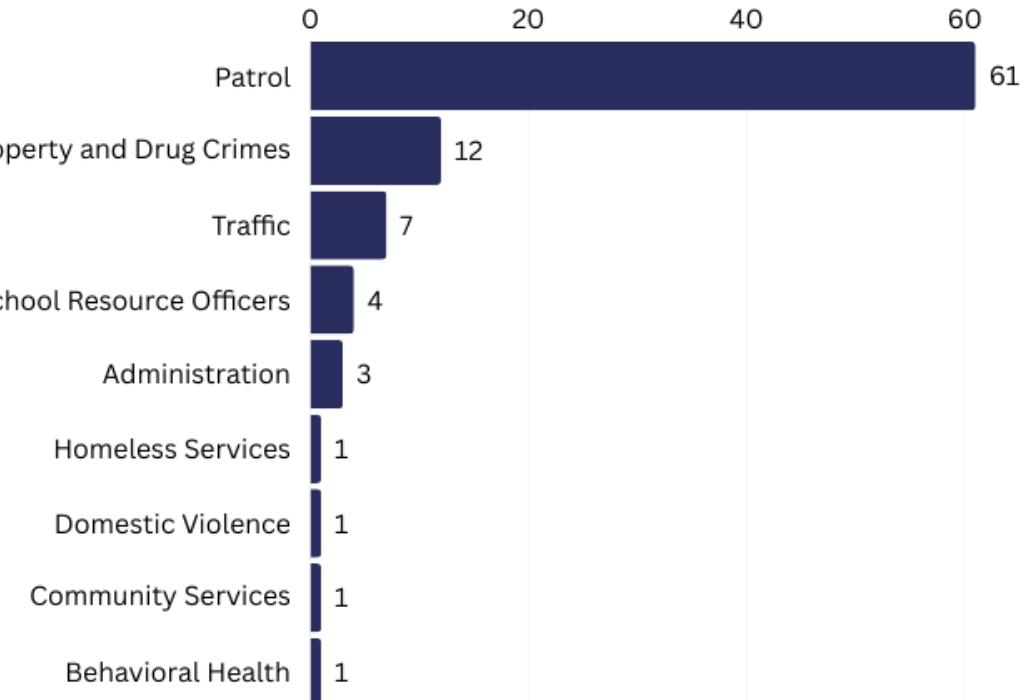


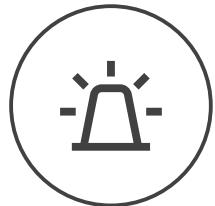
Current contract with
Spokane County Sheriff's
Office from 2023 – 2027



91 dedicated officers and
37 shared officers

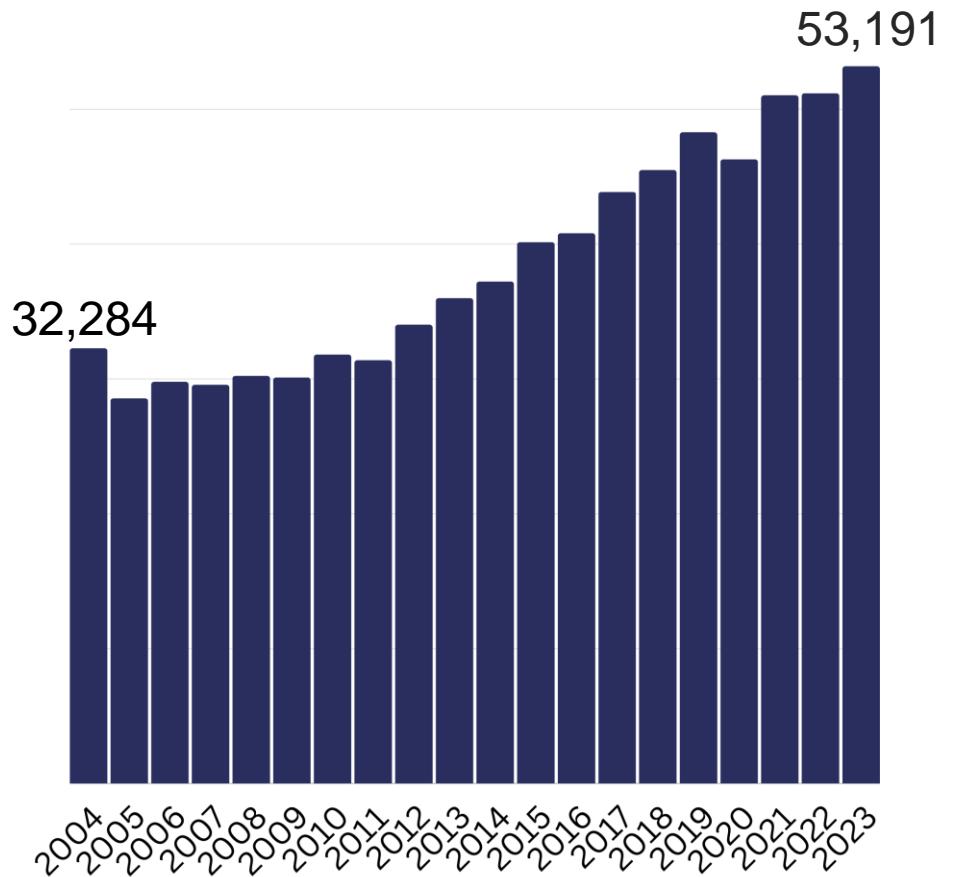
Dedicated Positions



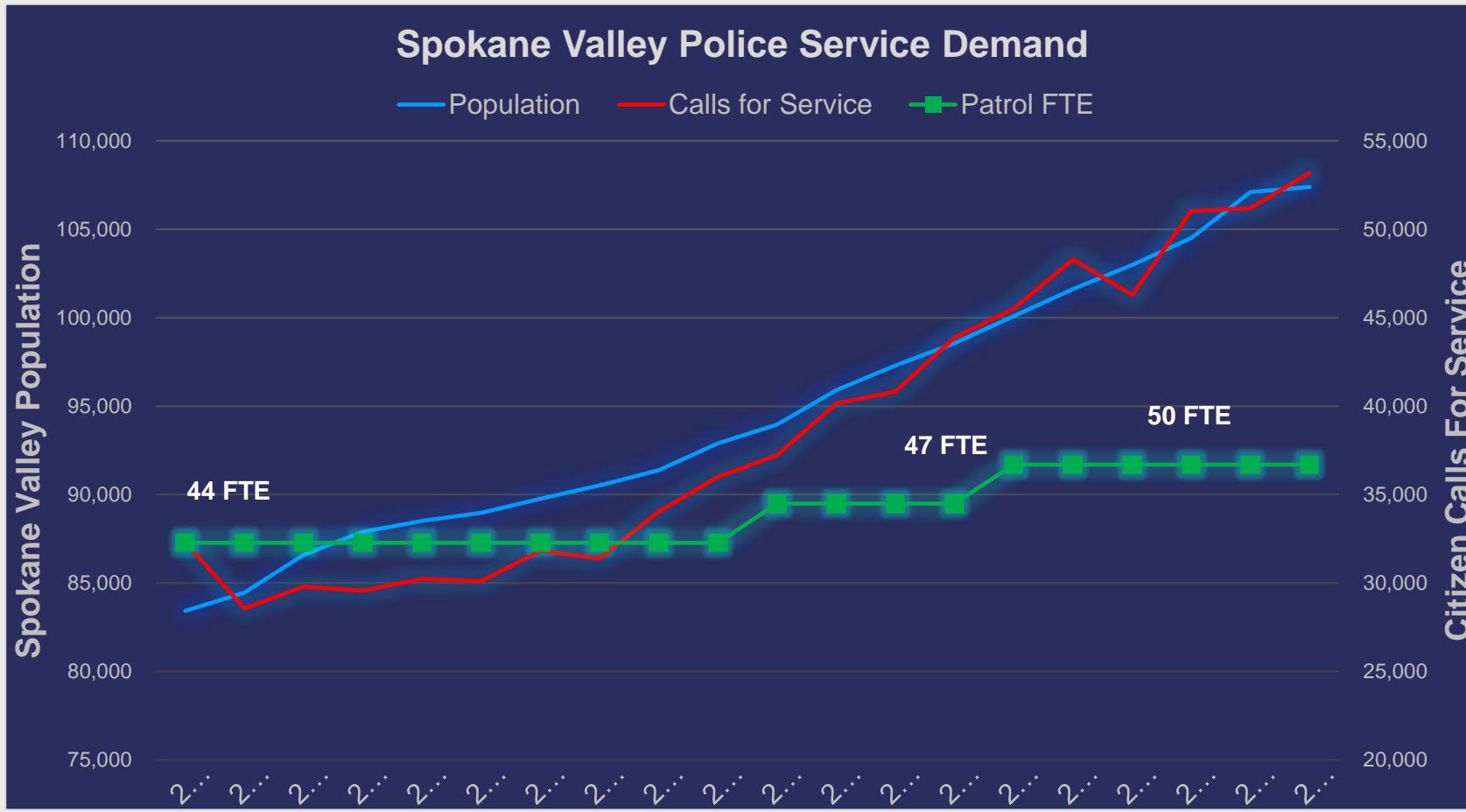


CALLS FOR SERVICE

- Calls for service have increased 61% since incorporation
- There were 53,191 calls for service in 2023

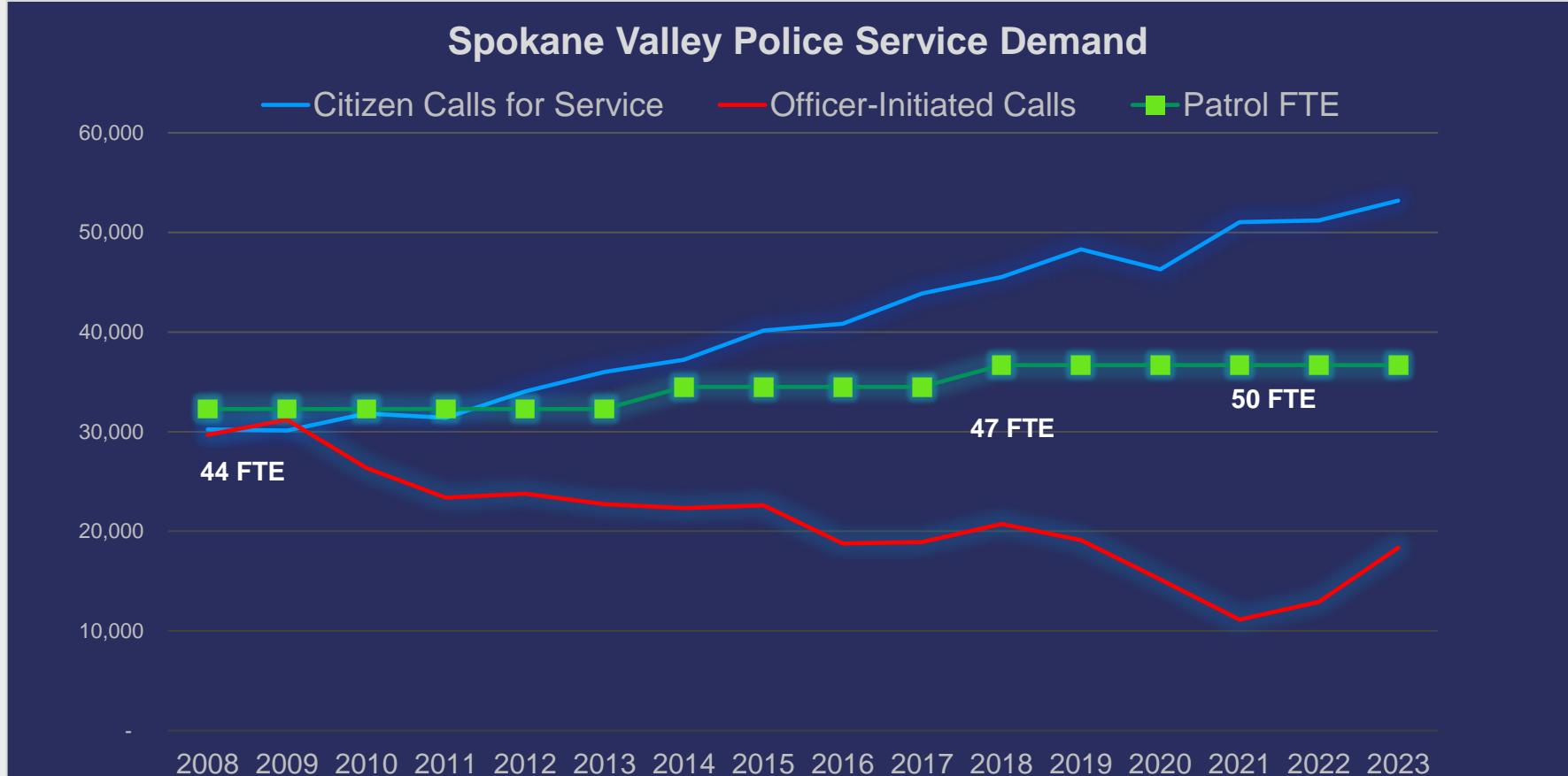


TRENDS



Population (blue) and calls for service (red) have increased significantly with little increase in the contracted number of patrol officers (green)

TRENDS



Citizen calls for service (**blue**) have steadily increased with little increase in the contracted number of patrol officers (**green**).

Number of officer-initiated calls (**red**) have decreased, reducing proactive policing.

RESPONSE TIMES

Priority 1

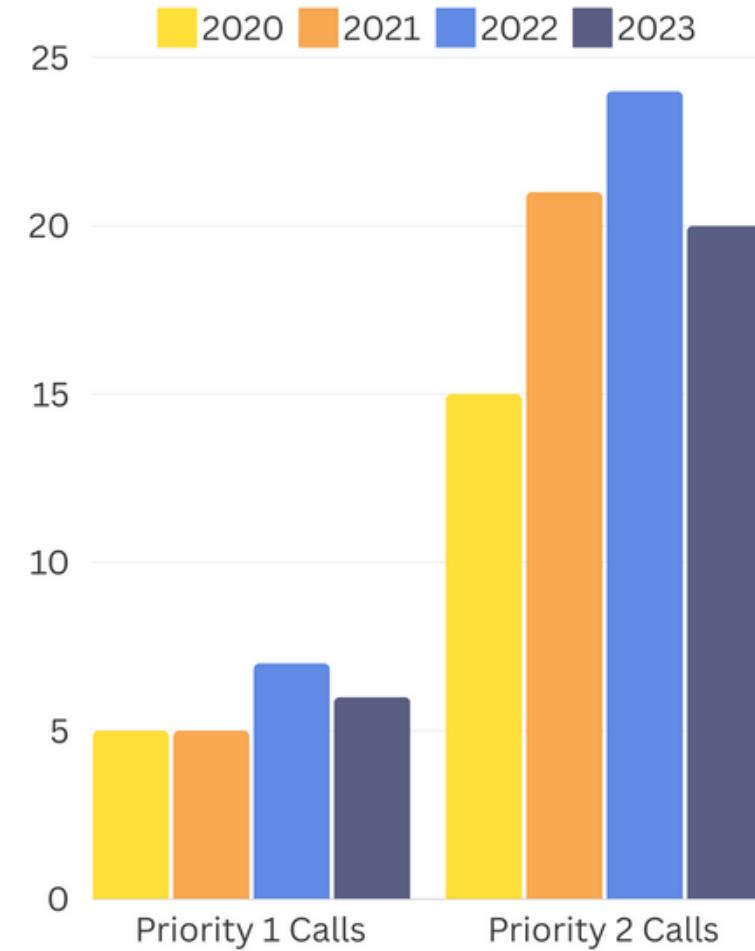
- Threat to life and safety
- Response times increased by 18% from 2020 to 2023

Priority 2

- Potential threat to life and safety
- Response times increased by 26% from 2020 to 2023

Officer-Initiated Response

- The number of proactive policing responses have decreased



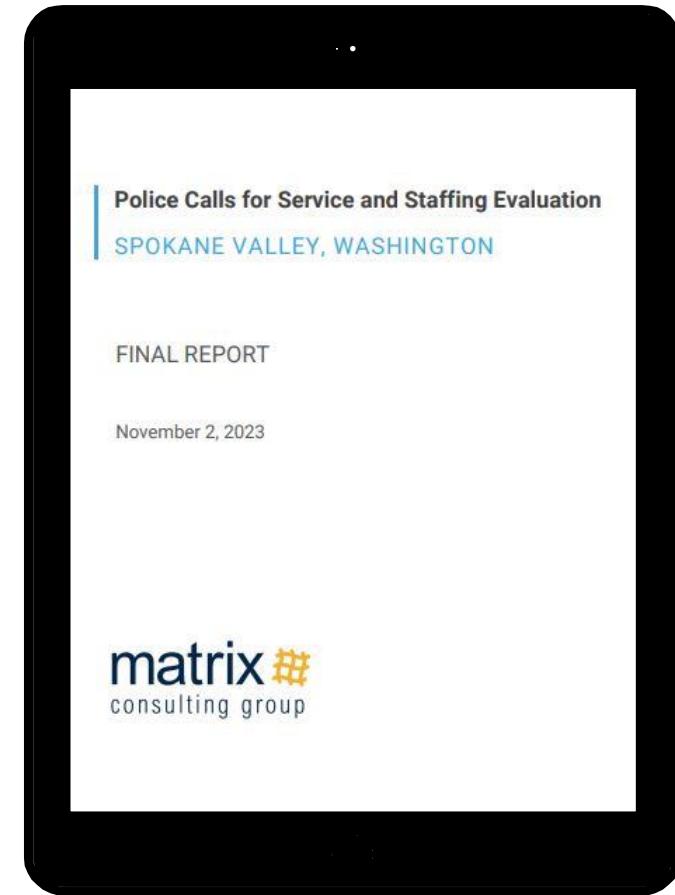


STAFFING STUDY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

MATRIX STUDY

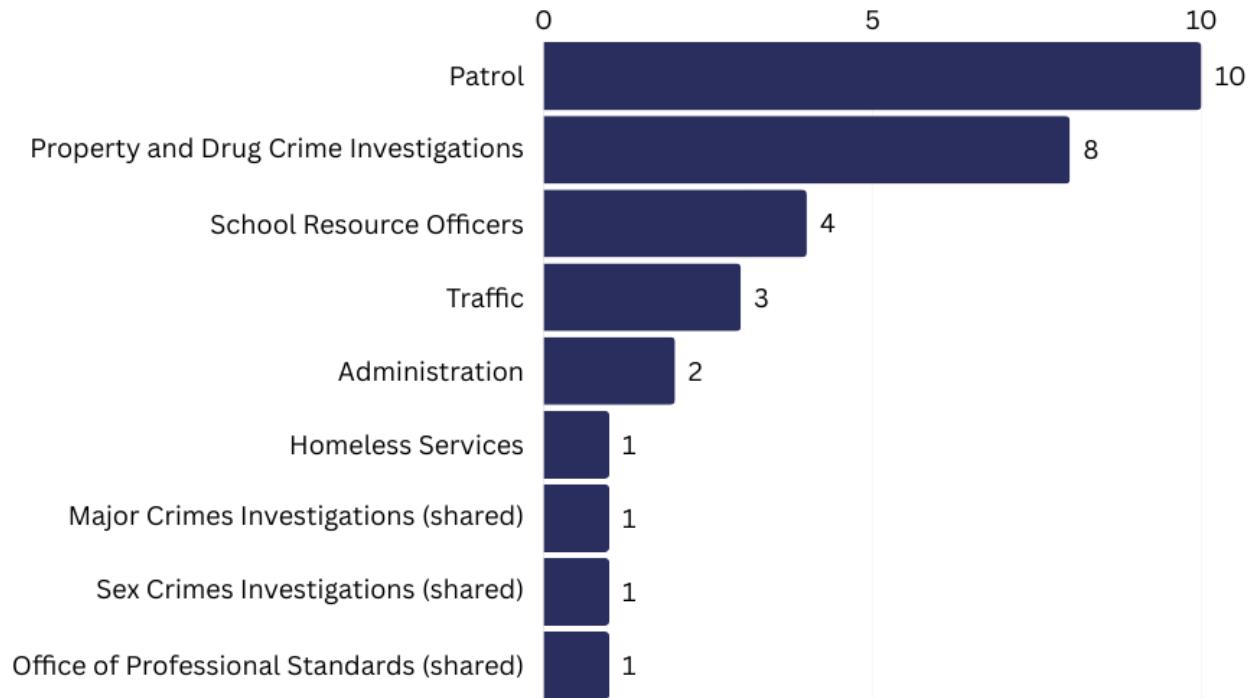
In 2023, Matrix Consulting Group Ltd. (Matrix) conducted an extensive review of the Spokane Valley Police Department.

This study was analytically driven to identify the number of officers and deployment recommendations to allow coverage for more calls and investigative cases while also allowing sufficient time for officers to engage in proactive policing.



STAFFING RECOMMENDATIONS

- An additional 25 new dedicated police positions
- Three new police positions shared with Spokane County
- Two civilian positions
- In addition to the study, city staff recommend one additional civilian position

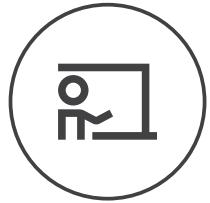




OUTCOMES

Additional staff will aid with:

- Quicker response times
- Ability to respond to more calls and perform more neighborhood patrols
- Increase the ability to investigate property and drug crimes
- Reduce unsafe driving
- Ensure a sufficient number of supervisors to oversee officers
- Ensure sufficient resources to investigate citizen complaints
- Reduce homelessness
- Provide additional protection for children in school



IMPLEMENTATION

Phase 1 - Approved

- City Council unanimously **approved 12 new staff** on Feb. 27, 2024
- 10 additional dedicated police officers, 1 civilian analyst, lieutenant in the Office of Professional Standard (shared cost with the County)
- Estimated cost = **\$2.75 million**
- Includes one-time costs of \$624,000 for vehicles and workstations. Initially funded by reprioritizing existing city funds and use of recently enacted vehicle license fee

Phase 2 – Under Consideration

- **Additional 19 police personnel**
- Estimated first-year expense of **\$4.3 million**



RECRUITMENT



RECRUITMENT CHALLENGES

Number of officers

- Less officers nationwide
- Historically lose about 25 people per year
- Upcoming retirements

Applicants

- Will need 1,300 applications in 2024 to hire the officers desired by the Sheriff's Office and SVPD
- 25% applicants do not pass the minimal requirements

Timing

- New hire = 12+ months
- Lateral hire = 4 months



RECRUITMENT STRATEGY

Sheriff's Office Recruiting and Retention Plan

- Completed new strategic plan to support recruitment and hiring
- Increased recruitment budget
- Expanded recruitment team
- Signing bonus – \$10,000 new or \$25,000 lateral
- Targeted marketing budget (website, social media, billboards, videos, etc.)
- Open houses and recruitment events

FUNDING AND REVENUE SOURCES



Public safety is currently funded by a combination of property tax, sales tax, and other smaller taxes.

CITY BUDGET



2024 ANNUAL BUDGET = \$58 MILLION

Recurring general fund

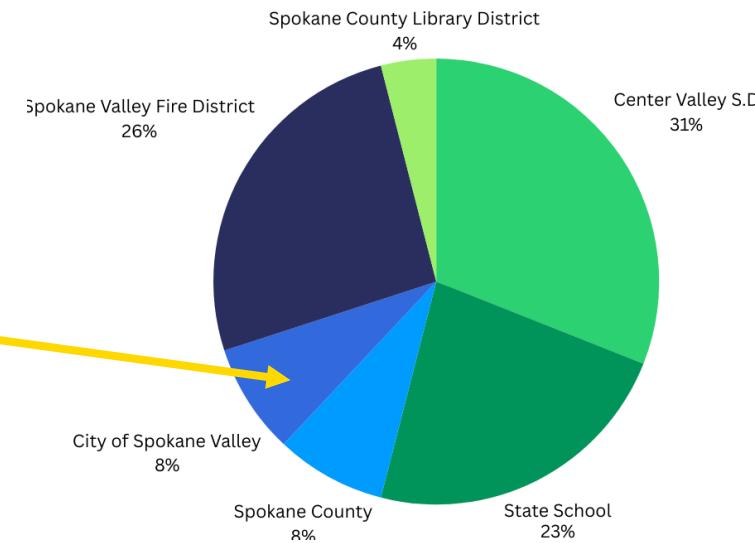
(Total city budget = \$106.4 million including capital projects, debt service and pass-through revenues)

2024 POLICE BUDGET = \$29.6 MILLION

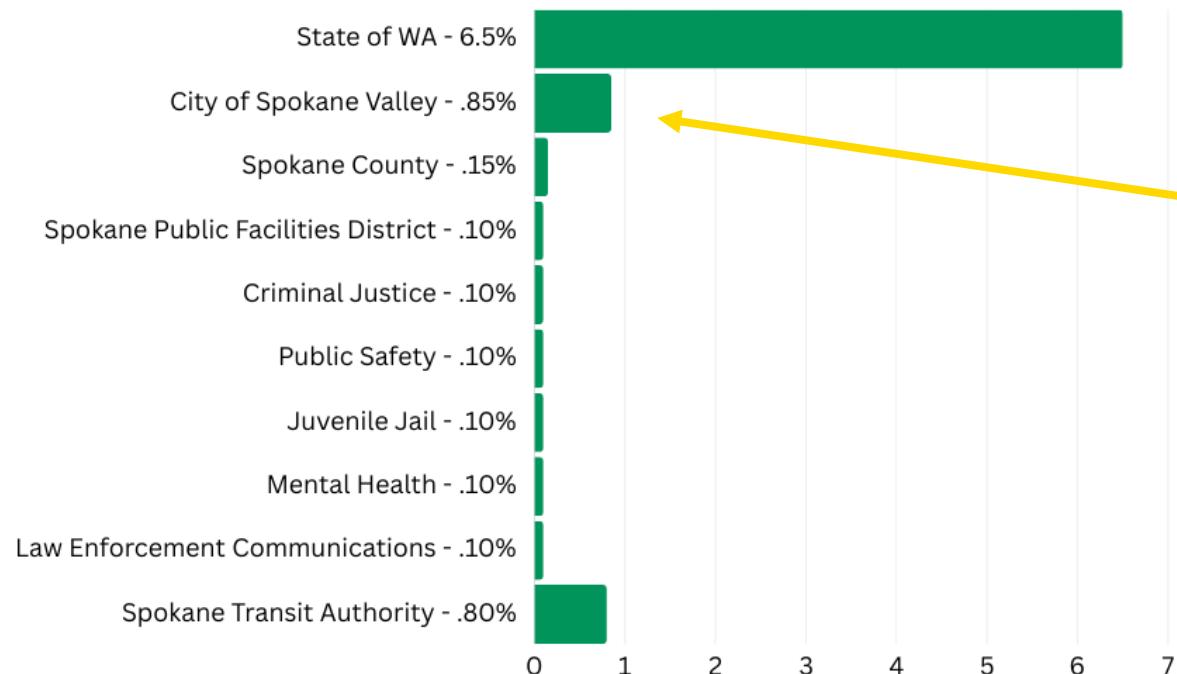
51% of the recurring general fund

PROPERTY TAX

- The City receives 8.4% of the total property tax collected and it is not keeping pace with Police Department expenses.
- Current property tax levy on \$439,000 median home value = \$4,114 annually, of which the City receives \$346.



SALES TAX



The City receives less than 1% (0.85%) of the 8.9% sales tax collected.



OTHER REVENUE SOURCES

**A combination of other
smaller revenue sources
help fund public safety.**

Criminal Justice - High Crime	\$300,000
Criminal Justice - Population	\$40,800
Criminal Justice - Contracted Services	\$200,000
Criminal Justice - Special Programs	\$145,000
Marijuana Excise Tax	\$178,200
DUI - Cities	\$14,000
Liquor Excise Tax	\$776,500
Gambling Taxes	\$480,000
Public Safety Sales Tax	\$1,600,800
Criminal Justice Sales Tax	\$2,818,500
Grants	\$70,000
District Court Fines, Fees, etc.	\$450,600

\$7,074,400



POTENTIAL NEW FUNDING SOURCES

Voter-approved and non-voter-approved options

VOTER-APPROVED OPTIONS

Property tax levy lid lift

- Up to \$14 million available
- A levy lid lift of \$4.3 million would cost a homeowner with a median home value of \$439,000 **\$8.25 per month or \$98.95 per year**

City public safety sales tax

- \$2.6 to \$2.8 million available
- Would raise sales tax by one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) from 8.9% to 9%
- On a purchase of \$100, this would be an additional 10 cents (\$.10) in sales tax
- 48% of retail sales in the city are paid by non-residents

NON-VOTER-APPROVED OPTIONS

Utility taxes

- Up to \$8.4M available
- Includes electric, natural gas, sewer and solid waste disposal services

Banked capacity of property tax

- \$1.2M available
- Council has not raised property taxes in 15 years
- This option would cost a homeowner with a median home value of \$439,000 approximately **\$2.50 per month or \$29.98 per year**



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

**Take the project survey and help advise
decision-making.**

- Open until April 21
- 10 questions
- Takes about four minutes

SpokaneValleyWA.gov/911



THANK YOU.

Questions?

SpokaneValleyWA.gov/911

