



CITY OF NOVI
Administrative ePacket
June 12, 2025

Council Action/Attention

[Plante Moran Realpoint Update](#)

[ZBA resignation - Morris](#)

Departmental Updates

[The Buzz Report](#)

[Public Safety Year-to-Date Statistics Report](#)

For Your Information

[Constitutional Convention](#)



City of Novi - Project Status Overview

Status Summary

Novi City Council Weekly Update #19

As of:

6/11/2025

Overall
Status

In progress

PMR Previous Activities (October 2024 – May 2025)

PMR FS #4 Tour (4/1/25)

- FS 4 needs to be assessed later in the program once priority items from PSB/FS3/FS4/Road Construction are addressed.

Site Selection (FS #2 alt site in progress – PMR deliverable)

- Counteroffer received and discussed with City Administration on 6/9/25. Agreement currently being executed

Upcoming Activities

Royal Oak PD / W. Bloomfield FS Tour to be rescheduled

Education Plan

- PMR providing support for the City.
- City landing webpage is now live
- 2025 Bond Informational Meetings scheduled for 6/10, 6/14, 6/16 and 7/24 at the Police Training Center, FS #2, FS #4 and FS #3, respectively.

PMR Procurement Activities

- PMR to begin drafting RFPs for A/E and CMc, with final review by City Attorney
- PMR engaging A/E firms with public safety experience and national partners
- PMR reviewed recommended firms and proposed procurement timeline with City Administration on 6/9/25. PMR reviewing proposed additions by City Manager.
- City Manager will determine what City staff and City Council members will participate in interviews with A/E and CM firms at the end of July

Areas for Discussion

Site Due Diligence / Budget Items Checklist:

- City / PMR to review Due Care Plan and strategize path forward.
- City / PMR to review any outstanding due diligence items for PSB site (Cardenas sent an ALTA survey to PMR for its review).
- ~~A topographic survey ("topo") is also needed to indicate, at a minimum spot elevations, size & depth of underground utilities, flood plain/wetlands/woodlands, identification of all trees~~
- City will facilitate procuring the topo with Spalding DeDecker

Site Selection – Alt FS # 2 Site

Note: We will need reimbursement language so land purchase can be funded from bond proceeds.

- On 5/5/25, PMR and CON discussed test fits for alt FS #2 site and the probable need for an adjusted front yard setback.
- Counteroffer approved and site acquisition moving forward

Procurement and Contracts

- PMR currently coordinating legal review of A/E and CMc contracts

Next PMR/City Admin meeting is 7/14/25

MEMORANDUM



TO: JUSTIN FISCHER, MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS
CORTNEY HANSON, CITY CLERK

FROM: MELISSA MORRIS, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

SUBJECT: ZBA RESIGNATION

DATE: JUNE 12, 2025

The City Clerk's office received the resignation from ZBA member Larry Butler on Monday, June 9th. His resignation is effective immediately.

It has been normal practice for the City Council to consider appointing an alternate member of a board to a full member position when one becomes vacant. Alternate member Joseph Samona has expressed interest in serving as a full member of the board. Mr. Samona will appear on the ballot during the June 23rd City Council meeting vote on Boards and Commissions appointments. If he is appointed, the alternate term will be advertised in the newspaper and on the City website and applicants will be considered during the next round of appointments at the end of the year.

Buzz Report

June 12, 2025



Hot Topics:

- **Proposed Bowman Development Hits Press**

As anticipated, news of Mr. Bowman's ambitious plans for a multi-use, \$250M development in the City West region was featured in Crain's Detroit Business on May 27th. City offices have since received several inquiries on the matter, though it should be noted that we have not yet received any formal application for any part of the planned development. It is expected that other news sources will be circulating the story further in coming days, generating interest among the wider populace.

[Crain's Detroit Business](#)

[Fox 2 News](#)



- **Twelve Oaks Mall Updates**

[The Detroit News](#) published an article regarding the three planned new tenants (Dick's House of Sport, Round1 Bowling, and Primark) for the vacant Sears space, with anticipated openings noted as 2026. It also briefly notes a planned relocation of the Pottery Barn store to a larger space within the mall, and the recent closure of Forever 21 due to bankruptcy.

- **Jessica's Splashpad and Lakeshore Park Beach Opening Delayed**

Due to the projected weather forecast, the opening of Jessica's Splashpad and the Lakeshore Park Beach will be delayed until Saturday, May 31 at 10am. PRCS staff will continue to monitor the matter over the coming week and will consider opening earlier if warranted by improved conditions. [UPDATE: Lakeshore Park Beach opened at 10:00am on Friday, May 30th and Jessica's Splash Pad opened on Tuesday, June 3rd.](#)

- **Wildlife Woods Pickleball Court Repairs**

The pickleball courts at Wildlife Woods will be closed next week, ~~Wednesday, May 28 – Friday, May 30. This closure will accommodate necessary repairs including the replacement of failed joint sealer and re-coating of the entire court surface.~~ **UPDATE: All repairs was successfully completed and the pickleball courts are open to the public once more.**

- **August 5th Northville Schools Special Election**

Northville Public Schools' Board of Education has approved an Authorizing Resolution to hold a special election on Tuesday, August 5, 2025. Northville Schools have 3 precincts in Novi that will have their proposal on their ballot: precincts 16, 24, and 25 (approx. 7,000 voters).

Their Ballot Proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the building and site sinking fund millage that expires with the 2025 tax levy. More specifically, it proposes the renewal of the currently authorized millage rate of .9357 mill for a period of ten years (2026 – 2035) to continue to provide for a sinking fund for the construction or repair of school buildings; for school security improvements; for the acquisition or upgrading of instructional technology; etc.

- **Beehives at Bosco**

A small group of city staff was very excited to participate in the introduction honeybees to their two new hives in the undeveloped “back 30” section of Bosco Fields Park on 5/8. This pilot program, supported by the Beautification Commission, was the brainchild of Fire Cpt. Theisen who will also be the dedicated beekeeper for the hives. We hope to see the bees thrive over the coming year and, should the hives prove viable, will consider related public programming. City Council can expect a more robust memo on this program in the near future.

- **Luna (east side of Main St.) Property Maintenance**

They were given a 90 day (07/03/2025) deadline. The scope of work to be performed:

1. Replace all bollards
2. Remove all planter boxes and replace them with ground-level tree grates. The tree grate style was provided by Rick Meader. City of Novi to replace trees.
3. Repair all concrete.

Staff spoke with a representative from Luna on 5/6/25, and they are on schedule for the deadline.

Development Project Updates:

Map of Development projects

- **New Businesses**

Last week Novi welcomed **IAV** to the North Equities Office Park (east of M-5 and north of 12 Mile Road). IAV is a German engineering company that specializes in developing and validating technology solutions for the automotive industry, focusing on powertrain, electronics, and vehicle development. IAV has about 55 employees at their Novi location. They join **Gentherm**, who moved to that same office park from Northville earlier this year.

Gentherm uses its expertise in thermal management and pneumatic technologies to enhance comfort, health, wellness, and energy efficiency in both the automotive and medical sectors.



- **Feldman Kia PRO**

Approval was given to Feldman Kia by the Planning Commission at their April 9th meeting. This matter appeared before Council at the May 5th meeting.

- **Station Flats**

The owners submitted a new plan, it has not made its way to the website as staff awaits additional materials. We believe the new name is Novi Acres. The planned project in between Target and Sam's has been scuttled and there are no proposals to continue with it in its current form

- **Camelot Parc/Avalon** by Village of Stonebrook

Townhomes for sale with garages, fewer units (currently zoned under a special land use, which council will have a decision)

- **Porsche of Novi** – Grand River/Haggerty Road

UPDATE – A Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) has been issued for the 19,170 square foot, two-story Porsche car dealership (next to the Audi Sales Center)

- **El Car Wash # 2 will take over the Original \$6 Car Wash on Novi Road and 96**

- **Audi Sales Center** (Former Jaguar dealership) – 10 Mile/Haggerty Road

UPDATE – A Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) has been issued for both the Audi Sales Center and the Service Center (located behind Porsche)

- **Elm Creek PRO (Meadowbrook and 12 Mile development)**

The residential development [proposed by Toll Brothers](#) (two-phased 134-unit multiple-family townhome development) has been halted, and they will not be proceeding with construction. It would appear this is a result of a property dispute between the owners of the parcel.

- **El Car Wash** (Former PNC Bank) – Grand River Ave/12 Mile Rd
UPDATE – Permits have been issued, foundations are in, and the building shell is under construction. *Estimated Completion Date: Fall 2025*
- **Cantaritos Fiesta Mexican Restaurant** (Former Chili's Grill & Bar) – 8 Mile/Haggerty Road
The former Chili's location in the City's southeast corner is planned to soon become a new Mexican restaurant following necessary renovations and upgrades to the interior of the building.

Estimated Completion Date: Late Spring or Summer 2025

- **Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers** (Former Wendy's) – Novi Rd/Grand River Ave
The Novi Wendy's location at 26245 Novi Rd recently closed as part of a company plan to shutter 140 locations nationwide. The Louisiana-based fast food chain Raising Cane's is planning to take over the space in the near future. **UPDATE** – A preliminary site plan has been submitted for review as of late May.

Estimated Completion Date: Currently Unknown (no submittals to date, project scope unclear)

- **Primrose School** (Former Whitehall nursing home) – 10 Mile/Novi Road
The former Whitehall nursing home at 43455 Ten Mile Rd has been demolished and Primrose School, a 13,586 square foot private preschool and daycare center, is currently being built on the former site. When completed, is estimated to be able to have 202 children during its peak hours.

Estimated Completion Date: Summer 2025

Frequently Asked Questions:

None at current

Novi Public Safety

Police and Fire Departments 2025 v. 2024 Year-to-Date Statistics
January – May

June 2025

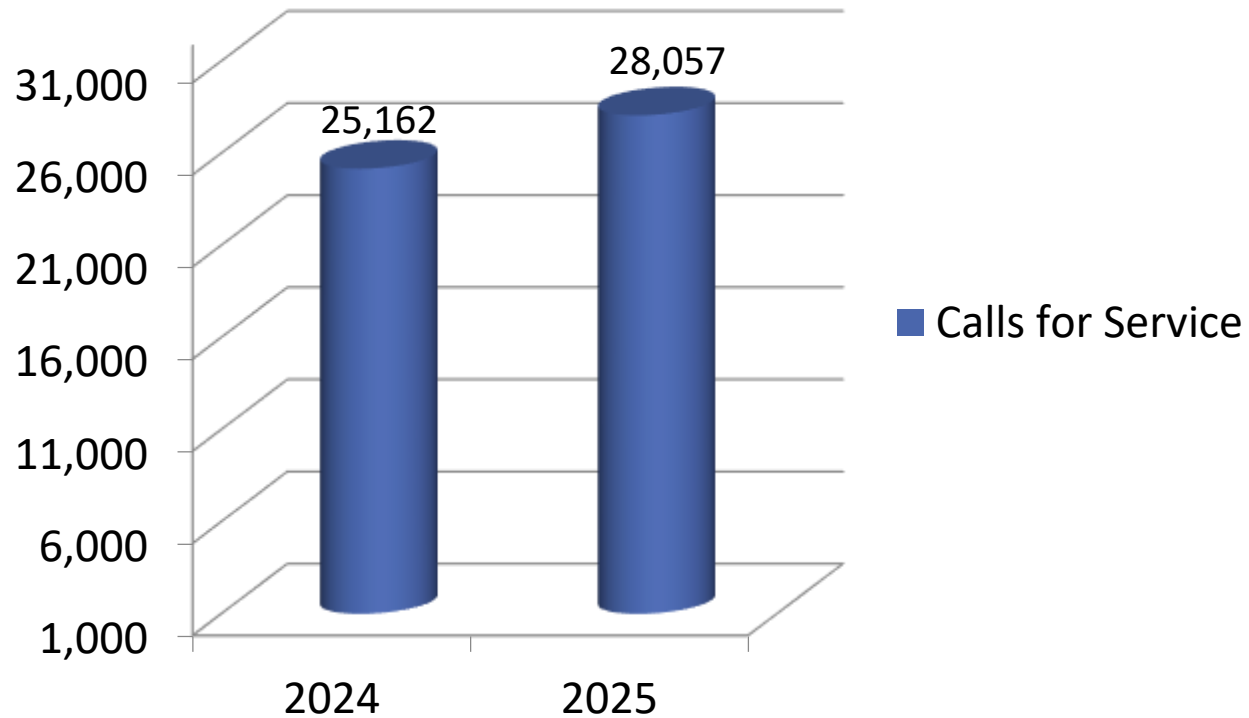


Part A Crimes 2025 v. 2024

Part A	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	Percent Changed
AGGRAVATED/FELONIOUS ASSAULT	20	16	25.00%
BURGLARY -ENTRY WITHOUT FORCE (Intent to Commit)	6	2	200.00%
BURGLARY -FORCED ENTRY	9	12	-25.00%
COMMERCIALIZED SEX -ASSISTING/PROMOTING PROSTITUTION	1	0	100.00%
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	27	22	22.73%
EMBEZZLEMENT	11	7	57.14%
FORGERY/COUNTERFEITING	3	8	-62.50%
FRAUD -CREDIT CARD/AUTOMATIC TELLER MACHINE	8	10	-20.00%
FRAUD -FALSE PRETENSE/SWINDLE/CONFIDENCE GAME	42	26	61.54%
FRAUD - HACKING/COMPUTER INVASION	1	0	100.00%
FRAUD - IDENTITY THEFT	7	11	-36.36%
FRAUD -IMPERSONATION	1	0	100.00%
FRAUD -WIRE FRAUD	1	4	-75.00%
HUMAN TRAFFICKING - PURCHASING PROSTITUTION	1	1	0.00%
INTIMIDATION/STALKING	12	13	-7.69%
LARCENY -OTHER	23	24	-4.17%
LARCENY -POCKETPICKING	1	0	100.00%
LARCENY -THEFT FROM BUILDING	12	15	-20.00%
LARCENY -THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	21	21	0.00%
LARCENY -THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS/ACCESSORIES	4	11	-63.64%
MOTOR VEHICLE, AS STOLEN PROPERTY	2	2	0.00%
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	14	25	-44.00%
NARCOTIC EQUIPMENT VIOLATIONS	6	8	-25.00%
NONAGGRAVATED ASSAULT	95	99	-4.04%
OBSCENITY	1	0	100.00%
RETAIL FRAUD -MISREPRESENTATION	2	0	100.00%
RETAIL FRAUD -THEFT	83	92	-9.78%
ROBBERY	2	2	0.00%
SEXUAL CONTACT FORCIBLE -CSC 2ND DEGREE	1	2	-50.00%
SEXUAL CONTACT FORCIBLE -CSC 4TH DEGREE	1	2	-50.00%
SEXUAL PENETRATION ORAL/ANAL -CSC 1ST DEGREE	1	0	100.00%
SEXUAL PENETRATION PENIS/VAGINA -CSC 3RD DEGREE	1	3	-66.67%
STOLEN PROPERTY	4	2	100.00%
VIOLATION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE ACT	20	15	33.33%
WEAPONS OFFENSE- CONCEALED	10	6	66.67%
WEAPONS OFFENSE -OTHER	6	2	200.00%
Total	460	463	.65



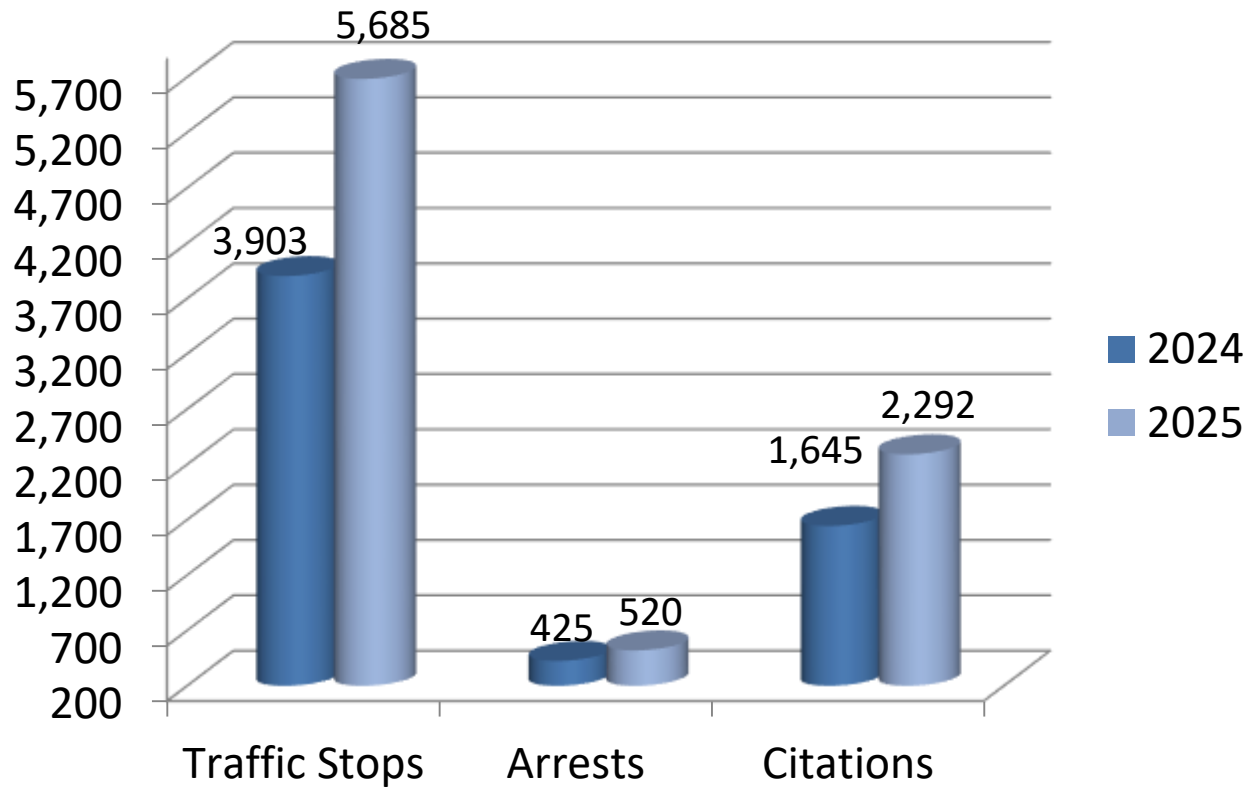
Police Total Calls for Service*



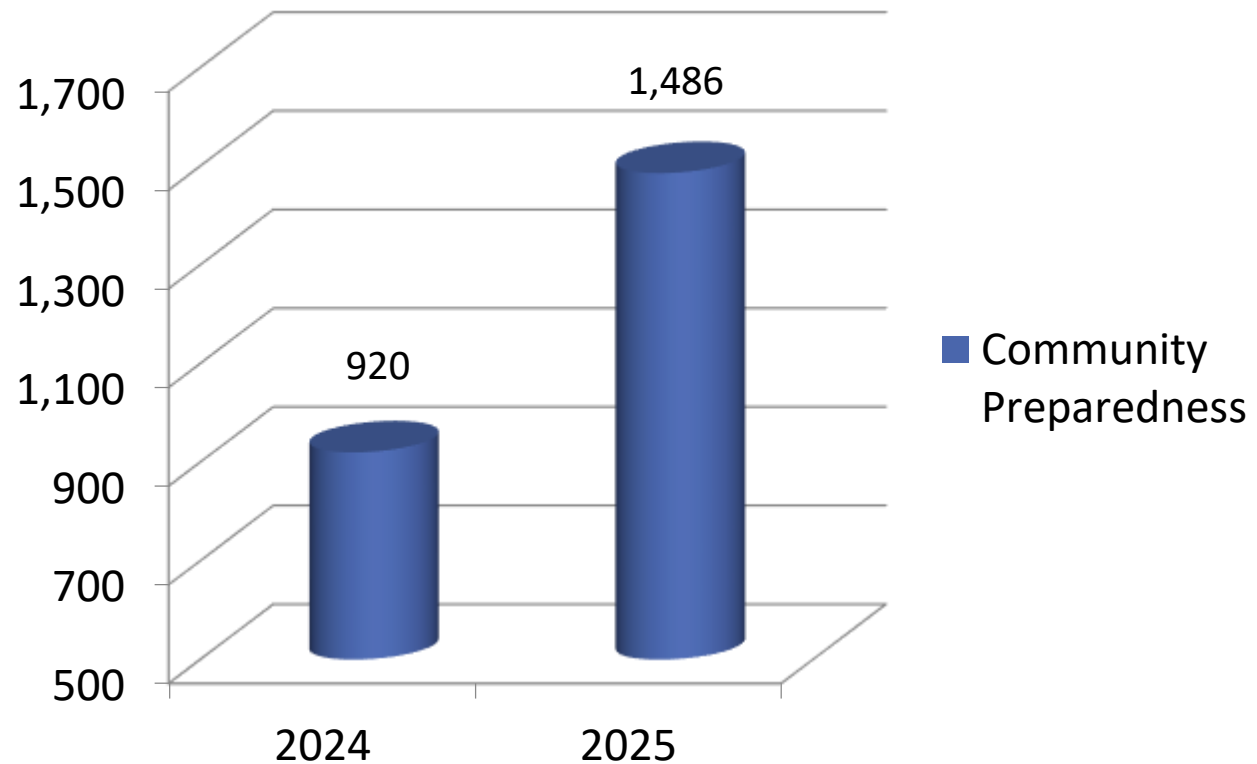
*includes all traffic stops, self initiated activity, routine and priority calls for service, etc.



Officer Productivity



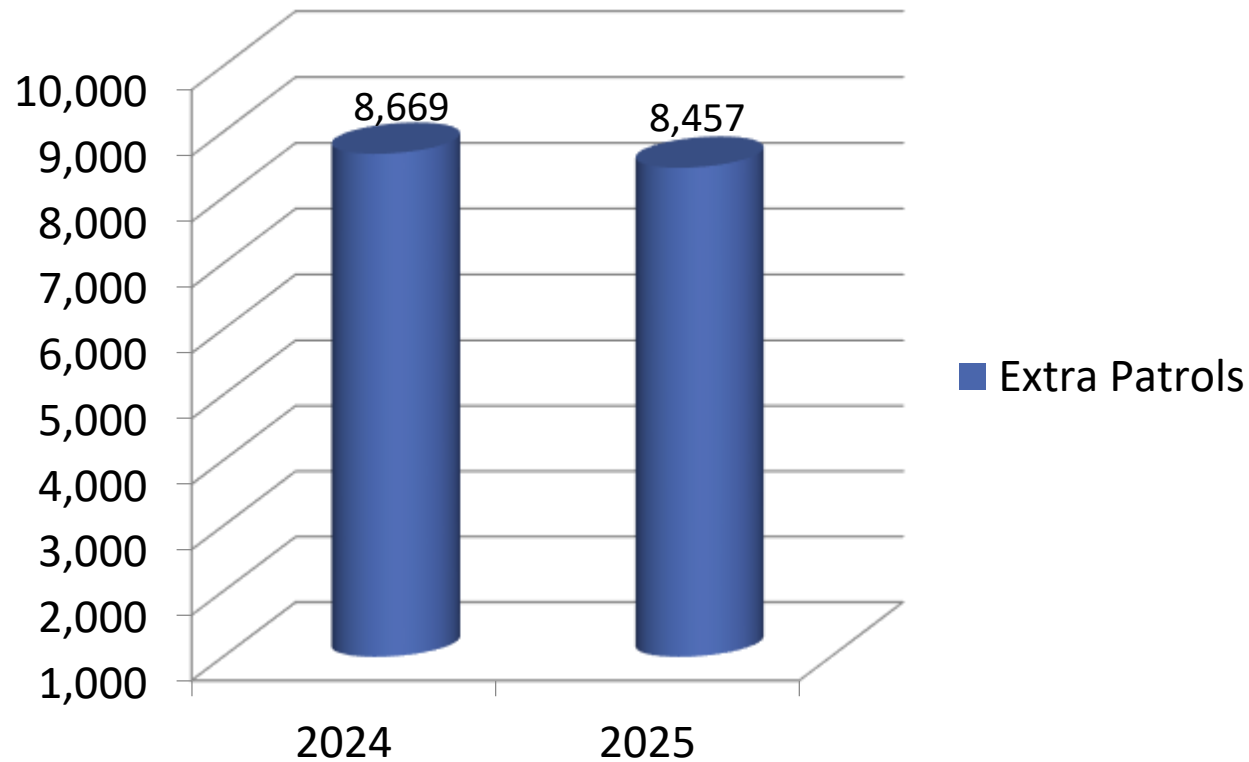
Community Preparedness Numbers* – Self Initiated



*Extra patrols at critical infrastructure (ie. ITC Transmission, US Energy Distribution, Ascension Providence Park Hospital, Water Treatment Facility, etc.) within the city.



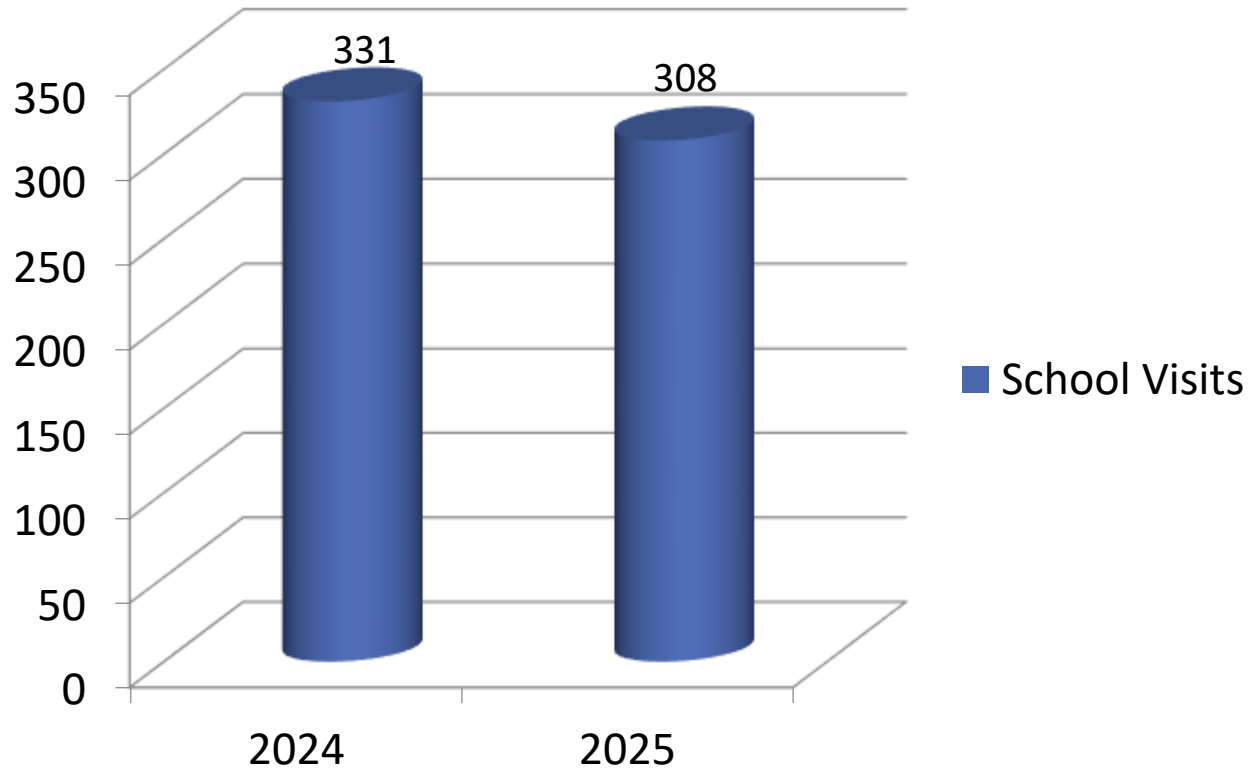
Extra Patrol Numbers* – Self Initiated



*Officers providing additional patrols at various locations above and beyond routine patrol.



School Visit Numbers* – Self Initiated

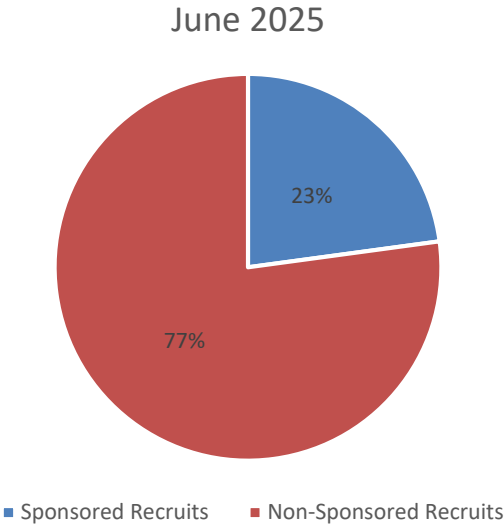


*Additional patrols at area schools where officers typically walk inside.



Police Staffing Levels

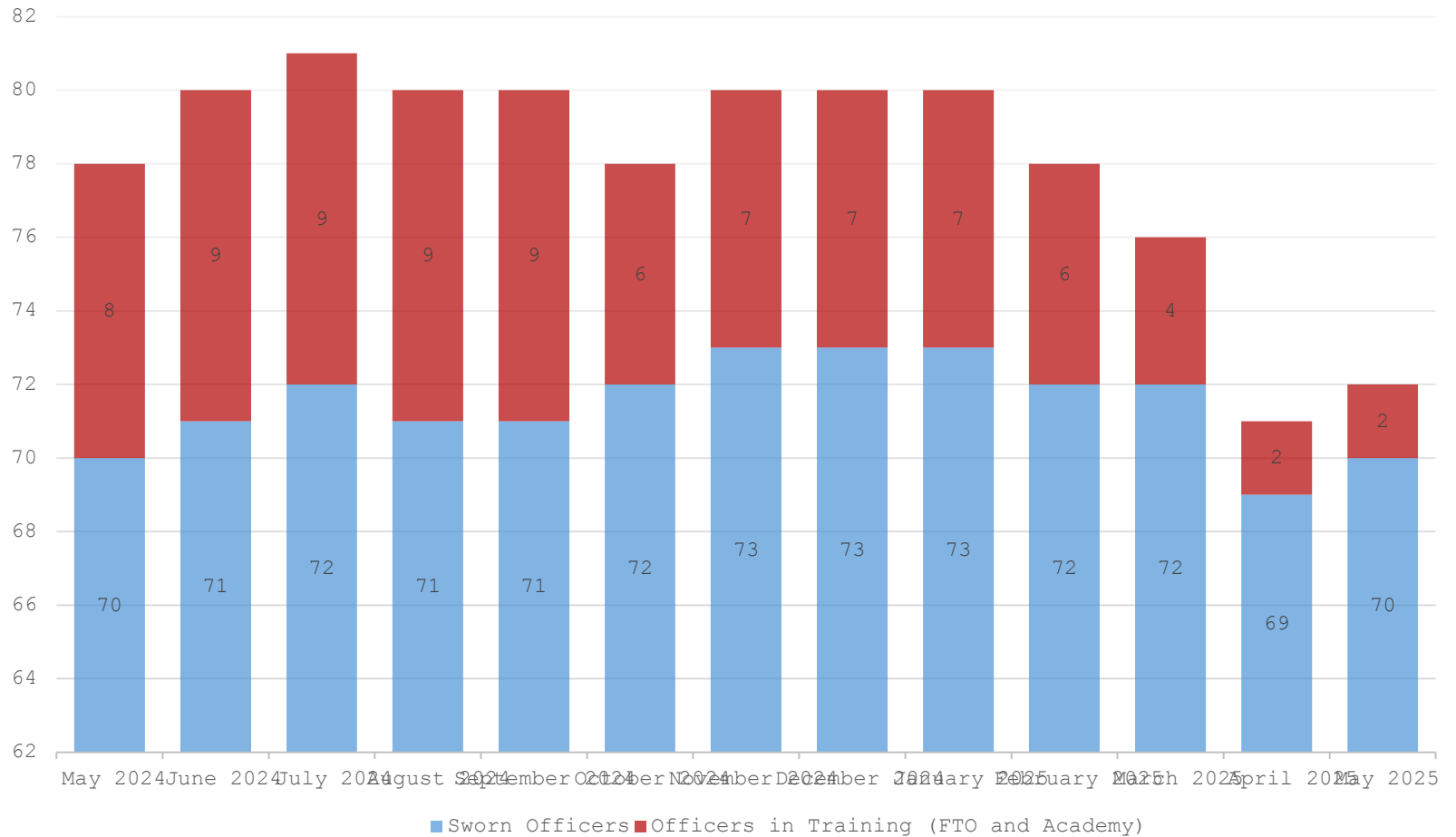
January 2024 - May 2025 Police Officer Hiring Data		
	Total Sworn	Total Budgeted
May 2024	70	73
June 2024	71	73
July 2024	72	73
August 2024	71	73
September 2024	71	73
October 2024	72	73
November 2024	73	73
December 2024	73	73
January 2025	73	73
February 2025	72	73
March 2025	72	73
April 2025	69	73
May 2025	70	73



*total sworn



Police Staffing Levels



Fire Response Times

FIRE OPERATIONS AVERAGE RESPONSE TIMES PRIORITY RESPONSES ONLY						
TEAM / STATION	May	Total Calls	2025	Total Calls	2024	Total Calls
	2025		YTD		YTD	
TEAM 'A':						
STATION 1	4:02	80	4:20	426	4:28	489
STATION 2	4:38	67	4:41	460	4:44	461
STATION 3	4:47	39	4:58	136	4:56	181
STATION 4	4:43	28	4:43	134	5:13	144
TEAM 'A' AVERAGE:	4:32	214	4:40	1156	4:50	1275
TEAM 'B':						
STATION 1	4:35	94	4:36	544	5:10	464
STATION 2	5:17	115	5:12	497	5:38	436
STATION 3	5:48	38	5:44	220	5:46	185
STATION 4	5:27	24	5:26	164	6:04	162
TEAM 'B' AVERAGE:	5:16	271	5:14	1425	5:39	1247
TEAM. AVERAGE	4:54	485	4:57	2581	5:14	2522



Fire Priority Calls

INCIDENT ACTIVITY REPORT				
Summary Comparison YTD				
Priority Calls for Service				
Incident Type	2025	2024	Difference	% Change
Fire (All Fires)	31	34	-3	-9%
EMS (Medicals, Rescues & PIAs)	2348	2242	106	5%
Hazardous Condition (Haz-Mat, Wires)	27	45	-18	-40%
Service Call (Pub.Assist, Unauth.Burn)	34	43	-9	-21%
Good Intent (Haz not found, CNX call)	64	65	-1	-2%
False Calls	113	120	-7	-6%
Other (Inspections, Pub-Ed, Pub-Relations, Car Seats, etc.)	2	5	-3	-60%
TOTAL	2619	2554	65	3%



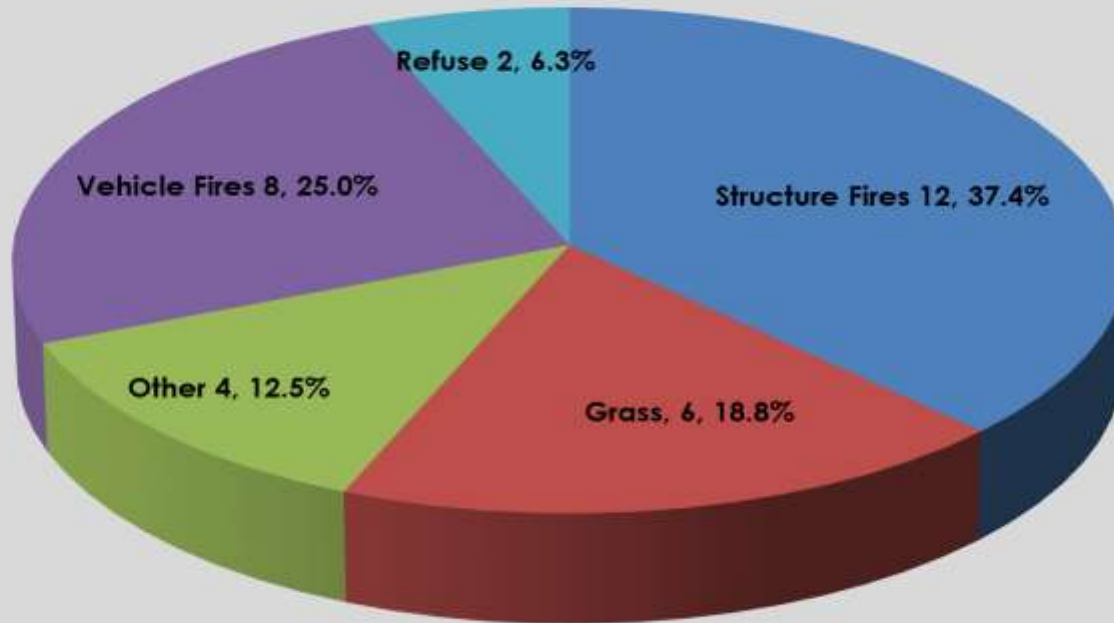
Fire All Calls

INCIDENT ACTIVITY REPORT				
Summary Comparison YTD				
All Calls for Service				
Incident Type	2025	2024	Difference	% Change
Fire (All Fires)	32	38	-6	-16%
EMS (Medicals, Rescues & PIAs)	2740	2470	270	11%
Hazardous Condition (Haz-Mat, Wires)	48	78	-30	-38%
Service Call (Pub.Assist, Unauth.Burn)	477	432	45	10%
Good Intent (Haz not found, CNX call)	138	115	23	20%
False Calls	244	258	-14	-5%
Power Outage Invst.(Severe Weather Assess)	5	5	0	0%
Other (Inspections, Pub-Ed, Pub-Relations, Car Seats, etc.)	264	249	15	6%
TOTAL	3948	3645	303	8%



Total Fires

2025 YTD FIRES

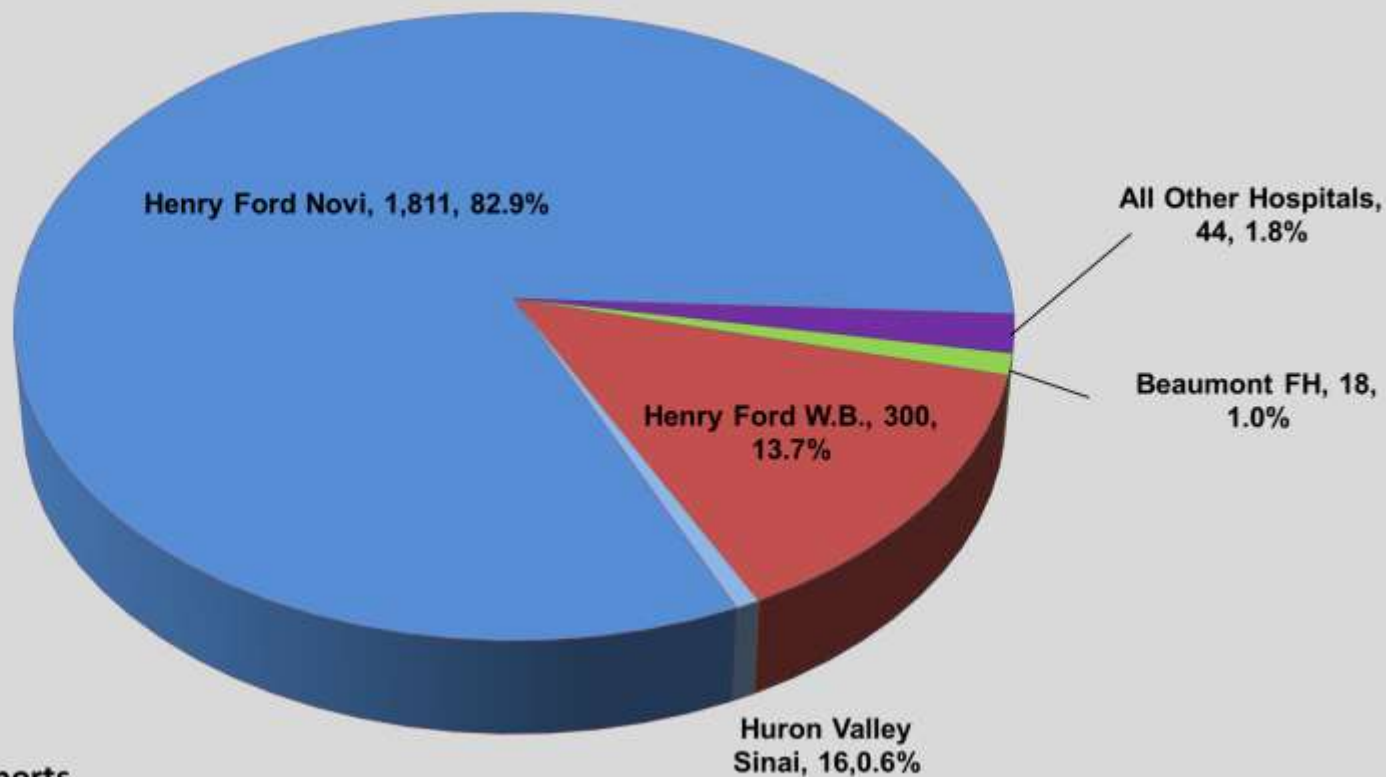


TOTAL 32



Hospital Transports

Hospital Transports 2025

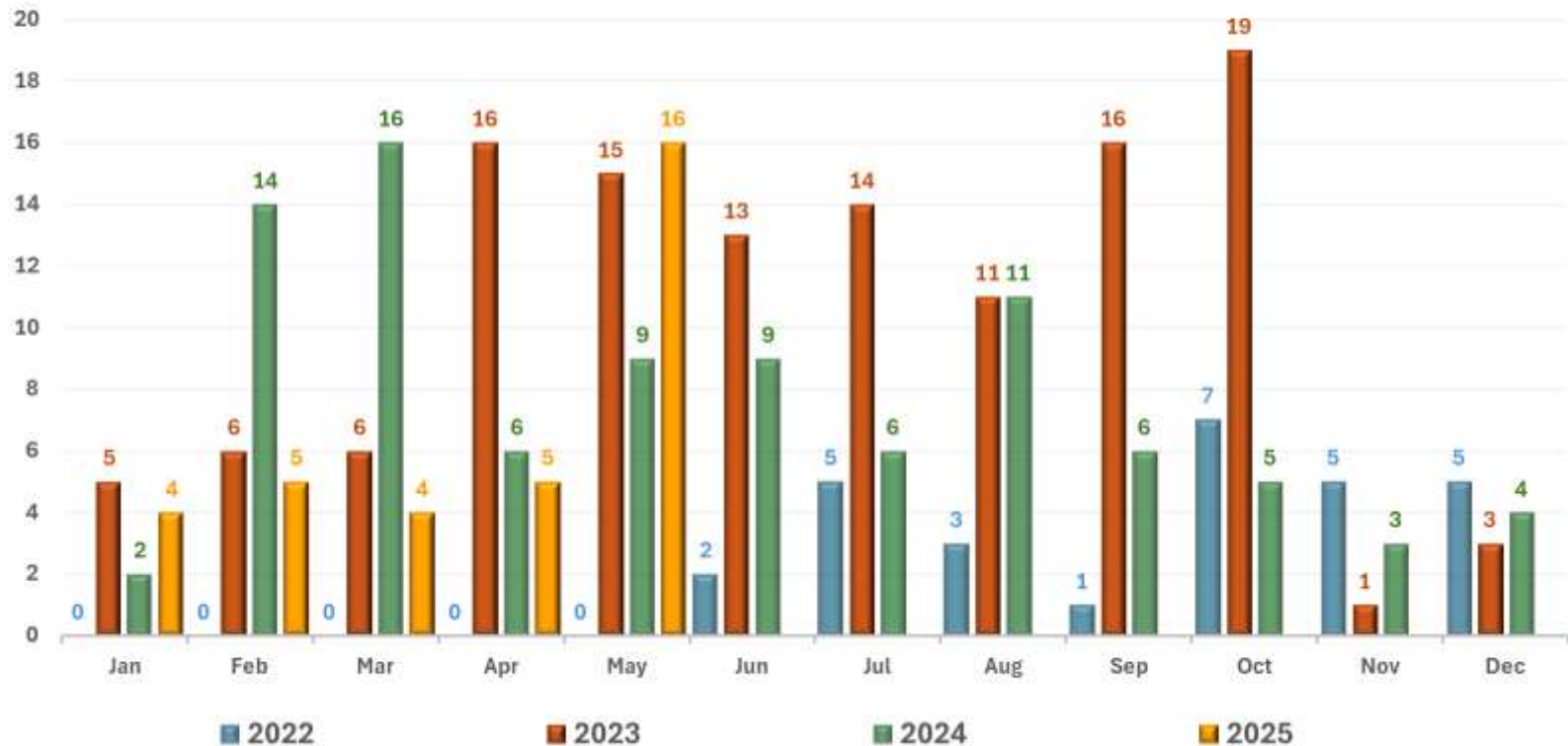


Total Transports
2195

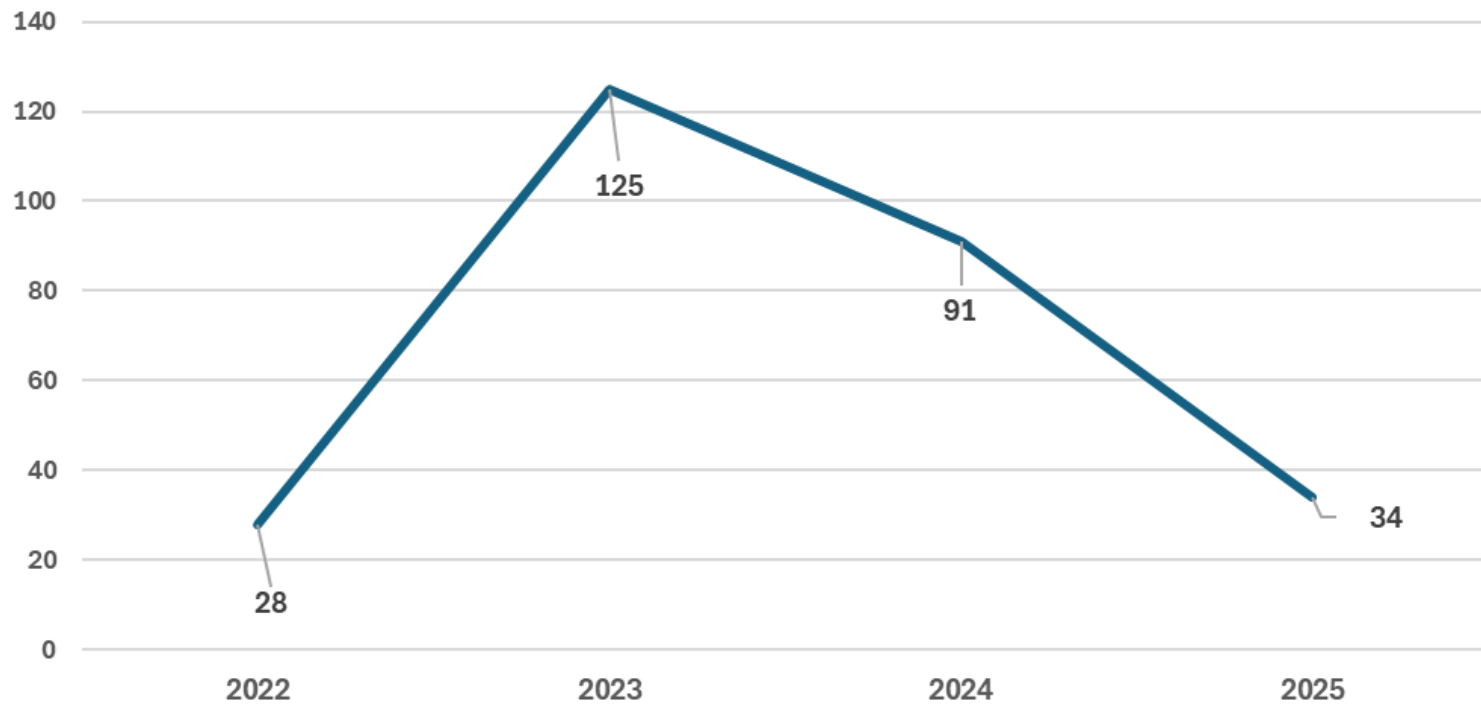


Unstaffed Stations Monthly Statistics

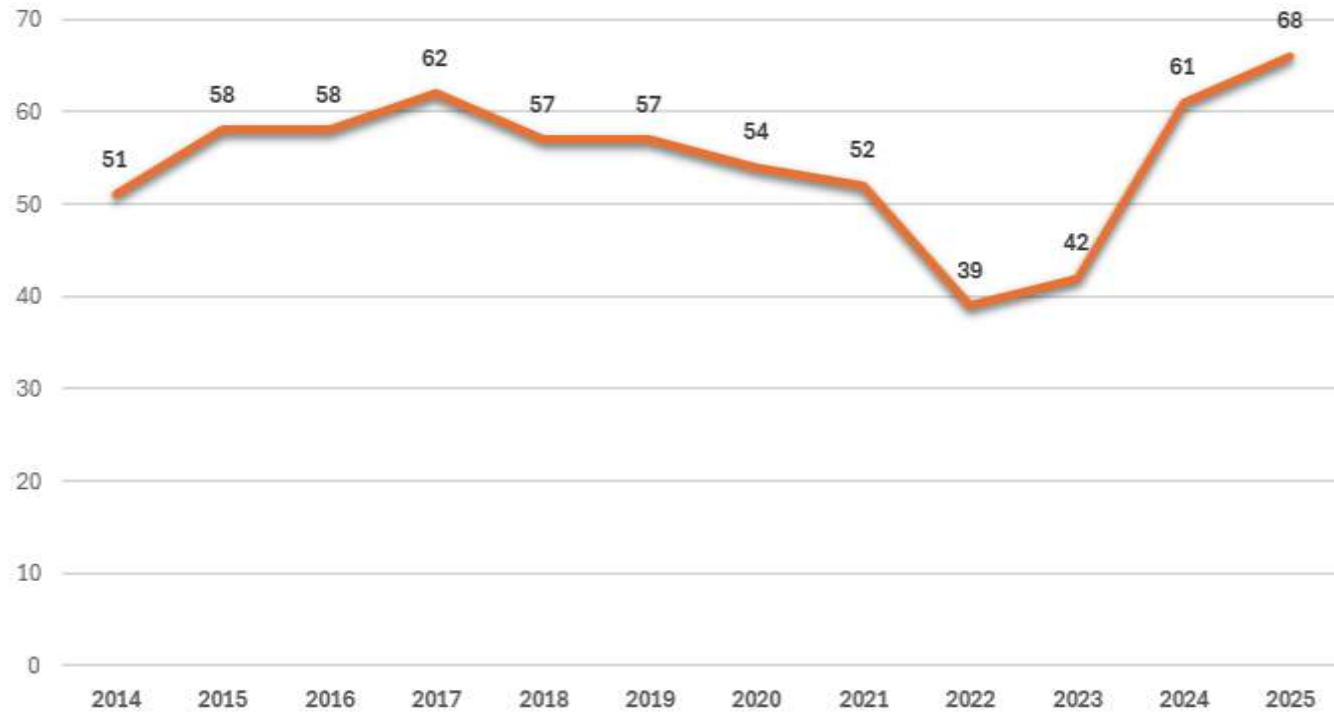
2022 YTD Totals: 28 2023 YTD Totals: 125 2024 YTD Totals: 88 2025 YTD Totals: 34



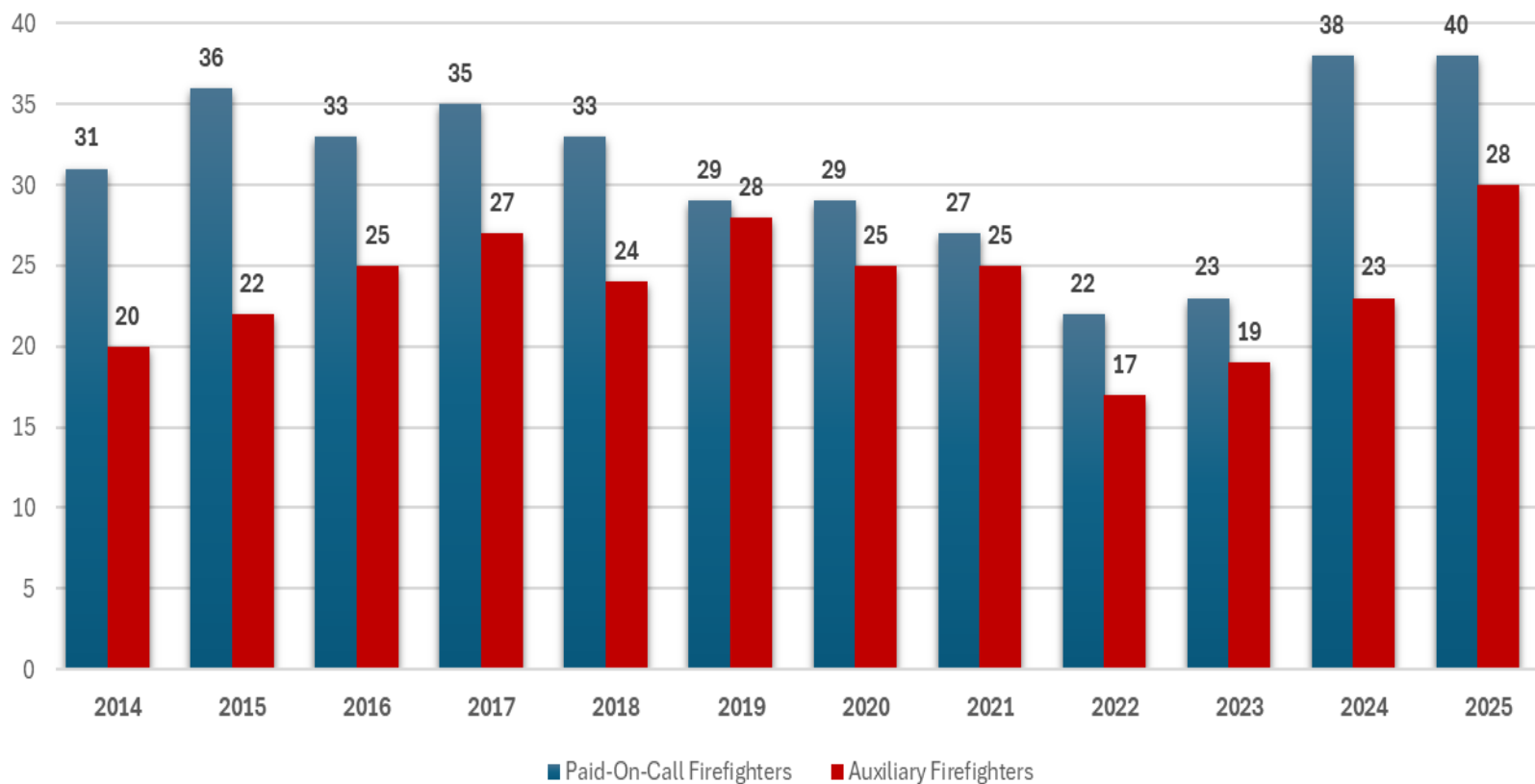
Year To Date Unstaffed Station Statistics



Total Number of Part-Time Firefighters Per Year

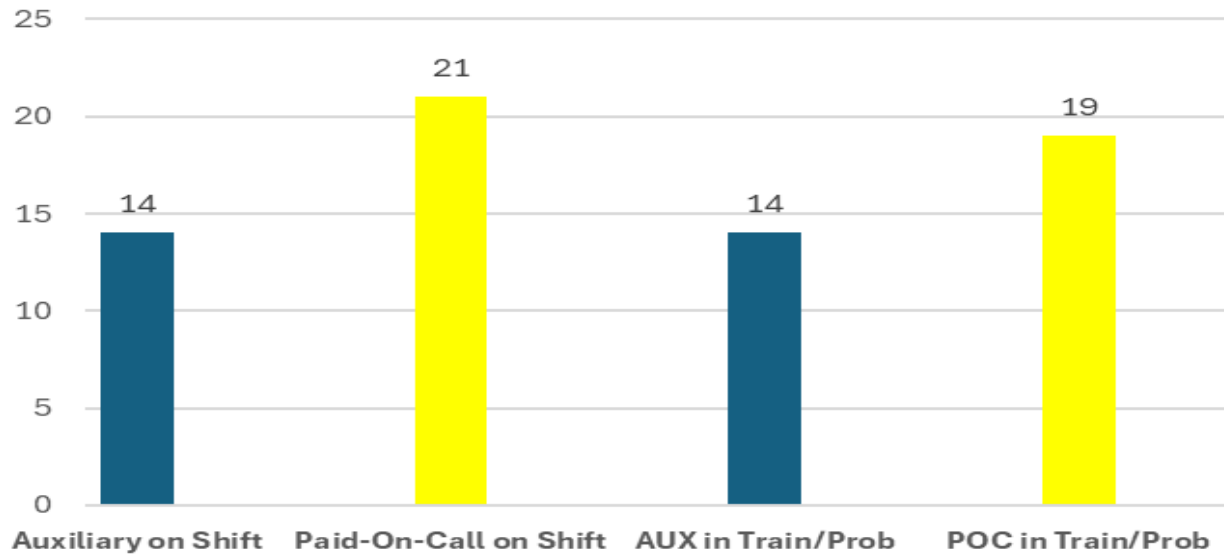


Part-Time Staffing Levels 2014-2025



Part-Time Staffing Levels

May - 2025



Time to rewrite the Michigan Constitution? Voters will decide 2026 ballot proposal



Mayor and Council –

A ballot question that will appear before voters in 2026. I've heard rumblings about this scenario, and this article confirms what I've been hearing. Just an FYI.

- Victor

Ahead of a 1961 vote to convene a constitutional convention, a coalition of civic groups including the League of Women Voters led a campaign to overhaul Michigan's foundational government document. (Courtesy of the State of Michigan)

June 6, 2025

[Simon D. Schuster](#) ([Email](#))

[Michigan Government](#)

Time to rewrite the Michigan Constitution? Voters will decide 2026 ballot proposal

- Every 16 years Michiganders vote on whether to revise the state constitution in a convention of elected delegates
- The question will again go before voters on the November 2026 ballot
- Michigan's current constitution, ratified in 1963, is the state's oldest. If a convention is held, voters would still have to approve changes

Want to rewrite the Michigan Constitution? Your chance may be coming up.

Michigan voters in November 2026 will decide whether to convene the state's first constitutional convention since the 1960s. The question will appear as Proposal 1 on the ballot under a provision in the current constitution that gives voters the option every 16 years.

While Michigan voters rejected calls for convention rewrites by wide margins in 1978, 1994 and 2010, next year's proposal already has a prominent champion: House Speaker Matt Hall, who last week publicly endorsed the concept.

Sponsor

The Richland Township Republican noted that Michigan voters have approved individual amendments to the current constitution by ballot proposal, which lawmakers cannot unilaterally revise even if there are acknowledged flaws.

"Some of those proposals sounded good, but then had intentions that the public is frustrated about," Hall said in a panel discussion at the recent Mackinac Policy Conference.

Hall did not specify which amendments he'd want to revise at a convention, and his staff declined to make him available for an interview to discuss the prospect further, but there have been many provisions that critics could target.

In the 62 years since the current constitution was ratified in 1963, voters have approved 39 of 85 amendments put on the ballot through petition drives or legislative action.



In 1961, groups like the Save Michigan Roads Committee were concerned a constitutional rewrite could damage funding for their cause. (Courtesy of Eugene G Wanger Collection, Archives of Michigan)

Seven of those amendments came between 2018 and 2022, nearly all of them backed by liberal-leaning groups, including measures that enshrined abortion rights, no-reason absentee voting and created an independent redistricting commission.

Hall noted the current constitution also requires a high threshold — 3/4 majority support in both chambers of the Legislature — for lawmakers to amend initiated legislation approved at the ballot, including a 2018 measure that legalized recreational marijuana.

Next year's vote, though, could be even more impactful. If approved, constitutional convention delegates would have the discretion to make any number of amendments — or even rewrite the document entirely.

"When you open up a constitution, you open up everything," said Patrick Wright, vice president for legal affairs at the Mackinac Center, a conservative think tank.

While there is not yet any organized support or opposition for the 2026 proposal, critics of the 2010 measure warned of the possibility of a "runaway" or "hijacked" convention that could lead to wholesale and radical changes given "extreme political polarization," according to a [nonpartisan summary](#) prepared at the time.

"The abortion issue, gay rights, environmental issues, there's just a whole host of things that you can add into the state constitution" this time around, said Adrian Hemond, a Democratic strategist with the bipartisan Grassroots Midwest firm in Lansing.

Hemond predicted approval of the next year's convention proposal could create a "license to print money" for political consultants like himself.

"All of these national interest groups, in addition to the parties who want to control the convention, will all descend on Michigan and just pump our state full of money because of those elections," he told Bridge Michigan.

How it works

It'd take three elections to give Michigan a new constitution: one to hold a convention, a second to elect the delegates that would do the revising and a third for Michigan voters to decide whether to adopt their changes.

If voters do approve a constitutional convention in 2026, the delegate election would happen within the following six months. Representation would mirror the state Legislature: one delegate for every House and Senate district, 148 in total.

Those constitutional delegates would then convene for a convention and work without a deadline on revisions. They could simply offer one or more amendments to the existing constitution, or they could start over from scratch and rewrite the whole thing.



In the last convention between 1961 and 1962, delegates made more than 800 proposals, some of which could've drastically changed Michigan's government from how it's known today. Failed ideas included a unicameral legislature, giving state Supreme Court justices geographic districts and banning absentee voters from participating in state elections.

144 Delegates convened for nearly six months to draft a new edition of Michigan's constitution between October 1961 and August 1962. (Courtesy of Eugene G Wanger Collection, Archives of Michigan)

Still, the changes that were approved by delegates had far-reaching effects: The state's highway commissioner, treasurer and auditor all ceased to exist as statewide elected offices. Delegates also established the Civil Rights Commission, which investigates discrimination complaints, and granted the governor the power to reorganize the executive branch at will, among other changes.

Finally, after all the deliberations and revisions, voters would then vote on whether to adopt the new proposed constitution. Without a majority in favor of the changes, all their work would be tossed — with another shot at revision in 2042.

Will it happen?

History is not in favor of a rewrite.

Michigan is one of 14 states that have a periodic referendum on whether to rewrite their state constitution, and in recent decades voters have trended away from change. No state constitution has been rewritten in nearly 40 years, after Rhode Island approved a convention in 1984. Hawaiian voters narrowly approved a ballot proposal in 1996, but that state's supreme court ruled against a convention after many voters left the question blank.

Michigan's last convention almost didn't happen: The 1961 ballot proposal was narrowly approved by 51% of voters.

Since the Michigan constitution was last ratified in 1963, Michiganders have had another three chances at wholesale revision. They rejected each measure by wide margins — 77% to 23% in 1978, 72% to 28% in 1994 and 67% to 22% in 2010.

Even if a convention was held, the delegates would also have to produce a new constitution that Michiganders would be willing to ratify.

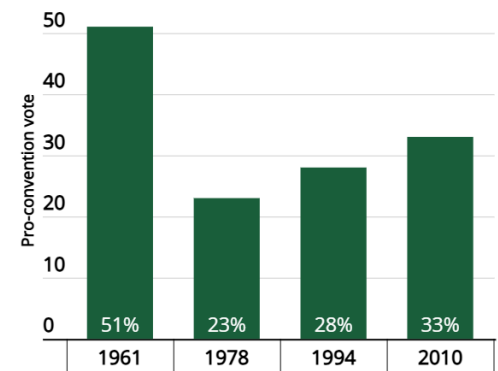
In 1962, after seven months of deliberations, the draft constitution the delegates put to voters became the new state constitution by the slimmest of margins. Just 50.2% of voters — a 7,424-vote margin — were in favor.



Delegates made major changes to state government, including abolishing the office of state highway commissioner and banning the death penalty, in Michigan's 1961-62 convention. (Courtesy of Eugene G Wanger Collection, Archives of Michigan)

Recent constitutional convention support

Since approving a constitutional convention in 1961, Michigan voters have shown little appetite for broadly revising the state's foundational government document, despite approving 39 amendments.



Source: Michigan Manuals

Bridge

— Simon D. Schuster

At the time, “there was a feeling that the state government was just a mess” and needed an overhaul, said Richard McClellan, an attorney with more than 50 years of experience in state government who led a pro-”con con” student group while studying at Michigan State University.

That sentiment isn’t quite as pervasive today, but McClellan, who at 83 has been integral to some of the current constitution’s amendments — he said he wrote the 2008 [stem cell proposal](#) approved by voters, for instance — said he’ll likely vote to see it overhauled again.

“The Constitution should be fairly stable, and if every 50 years we revise it, that’s not too often,” he told Bridge in an interview. “It would be an opportunity for the people in the early 21st century to look at it.”

The stakes

Whether the professional advocates and policy wonks behind some of the state’s most consequential policy changes want a con-con to happen, though, is a complicated question.

“It’s not really a ‘yes, we absolutely want it to happen’ or ‘no, we don’t want it to happen,’” Wright, of the Mackinac Center, said. “More of just prepping to be prepared in case it does.”

Sponsor

The Mackinac Center would push to restore the state’s so-called “right-to-work” law that Democrats recently repealed, Wright said, and would advocate for “school choice” reforms that would allow the government to use taxpayer funding for private schools.

State Senate Minority Leader Aric Nesbitt, a Porter Township Republican now running for governor, has said he’d be open to having another constitutional convention. Democratic leaders in the state Legislature, meanwhile, have so far been noncommittal or not taken positions.

Since 2018 Michigan has held a series of constitution-amending statewide ballot proposals that have proved popular with liberals: they include, protecting access to abortion services and moving statewide redistricting to an independent citizen-led commission.

At a constitutional convention, there’s no guarantee those would survive.



Stephen Nisbet, the president of Michigan's last constitutional convention, after signing the new draft constitution Aug. 1, 1962. Convention secretary Fred Chase is about to sign. (Courtesy of Eugene G Wanger Collection, Archives of Michigan)

Voters Not Politicians, the group credited with crafting the amendment for an independent redistricting commission and subsequent amendments expanding voting access, had no comment on whether they'd support a convention.

But at the same time, more conservative alterations like the 2004 constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage in Michigan could also face the chopping block, a bulwark should the US Supreme Court reverse its prior ruling, like it did for abortion.

The Michigan League For Public Policy, a progressive think tank, also declined to comment on their stance on a constitutional convention.

For the most part, stakeholders are in "wait-and-see" mode. That's in part because the national political climate will have a lot to do with voters' appetite to overhaul state government, Hemond argued.

In 1963, there was a broad movement from civic groups to overhaul the state government's founding document, as dysfunction among 120 state agencies and stringent government borrowing limits caused issues like [payless paydays](#). Without that momentum this time around, it may be an uphill battle.