

# **ENHANCED RESPONSE**

(previously Enhanced Enforcement)

## ***Central Bikes***

The Central Bikes program provides safety and security for the downtown area. The primary functions of Bicycle Patrol are to deter street crime and increase the safety for citizens in Downtown Business District by providing safety measures for demonstrations and events held downtown such as the Main Street Arts Festival and downtown holiday festivities.

## ***Mounted Patrol***

The FWPD Mounted Patrol began in the 1970s. The Unit was created in an effort to curtail the transient issues in the Stockyards area. Moreover, there was a desire on the part of the citizens to see officers on horseback as a working officer as well as a reminder of our western heritage. The teams are highly visible and go wherever needed. Their special maneuverability enables them to be effective at area malls, hospital parking lots, downtown, residential areas and crowd control. These officers have been called to incidents of search and rescue in rugged terrain for lost or deceased persons.

## ***Community Facility Policing***

Community Facility Policing provides a safe environment for the public and staff at all City facilities and sponsored programs by having an officer present at specific sites and events. As part of this program, Police officers are offered overtime opportunities to work at Park and Recreation Department facilities, sponsored athletic events, and community center recreation programs.

Police presence enhances crime prevention efforts aligned with the mission and goals of the CCPD. Incident reports are compiled from all participating Park and Recreation Department sites. Recent reports reflect the successful operation of the program, as very few violent acts and an extremely low number of criminal offenses have occurred at participating Park and Recreation Department centers throughout Fort Worth.

*In FY24, Municipal Courts will be adding a Marshal to support programs within the City's Libraries.*

## ***School Resource Unit***

The Fort Worth Police Department (FWPD) works in partnership with area school districts and the Lena Pope Home to provide youth a safe educational environment through the School Resource Unit. The Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD) funds sworn positions as well as related training, weapons, IT costs, cell phone costs and a variety of equipment and supplies associated with the program. Participating

school districts and Lena Pope Home reimburse the FWPD 50 percent of the officer personnel and operating costs, and the full cost for supervisory and relief positions.

School Resource Officers are sensitive to the varied needs of students and staff, while also being vigilant and prepared to carry out law enforcement duties at a moment's notice. In the summer months, SRO officers continue rigorous training to prepare them for the upcoming school year. This training includes tactics to deal with any situation, from minor incidents such as fights and bullying, to major events such as bomb threats, active shooter situations, social media threats, and bullying. The goals of this program are to ensure a safe learning environment for students, carry out law enforcement duties and serve as mentors in an effort to encourage positive behavior.

### ***Crossing Guards Program***

Texas Local Government Code Section 343.014 mandates that municipalities take part in determining the demand for and provision of crossing guards to promote the safe crossing of roadways. By placing crossing guards where necessary, FWPD works with the Transportation and Public Works Department to support Safe Routes to School efforts, ensuring that students have the infrastructure and supportive education to safely access their elementary and middle schools via walking and biking.

### ***Special Events Response***

Special Events Emergency Response (SEER) team supports planned special events as well as unplanned emergencies by providing support utilizing the National Incident Management System (NIMS). SEER officers, working under the NIMS framework, provide planning, operational, and logistical support. SEER is the clearinghouse for all operational plans provided by different police units during special events; team members use those operational plans to build NIMS compliant incident action plans. These incident action plans keep the police department in compliance with federal guidelines. SEER officers provide police command as well as the Office of Emergency Management ongoing situational awareness during large scale events.

The Special Events Overtime Detail provides the funding to support large operations. There are approximately 200 days of events this Detail supports. During these operations, multiple units are activated to provide security and safety for the public. Units including Traffic, SWAT, PRND (Preventative Radiological and Nuclear Detection), Homeland Security, Electronic Surveillance, as well as any other units and resources needed to accomplish the public safety goal. The program does not include security inside an establishment, however, due to specific terrorism threats, the Detail does provide for some specialized security inside events. Furthermore, this Detail provides for police support for special events without impacting routine police services. Supporting special events through this Detail has a positive economic impact on Fort Worth, increasing sales tax revenues and providing positive publicity for the city.

## ***Stockyards Overtime Detail***

The Stockyards Overtime Detail increases the FWPD's capacity to implement details within the popular Stockyards entertainment area, enhancing public safety efforts responding to calls promptly. The Stockyards Overtime Detail generally includes a team of four officers and one sergeant and is conducted on Friday and Saturday nights when higher call volumes in the area create staff shortages in other Divisions. The program provides officers the opportunity to participate in the Stockyards detail on an overtime basis as not to interrupt normal patrol operation. The detail concentrates on public intoxication, burglary of motor vehicles, and assaults. Parking issues and responds to all calls in the Stockyards are also the responsibility of the detail. In addition, this detail assists in maintaining a police presence without impacting Northwest Division's evening and night shifts.

## ***Strategic Operations Fund***

The Strategic Operations Fund (SOF) enhances the FWPD's capacity to implement strategic operation details focused on taking repeat offenders off the street that are identified through intelligence-led policing initiatives. The Patrol Commanders typically lead the research, analysis, and development of strategic operation recommendations. The Criminal Investigations Division also has SOF funding at their disposal. Coordination between specialized units and patrol divisions implement the Strategic Operations based on the needs for the proposed detail. Officers are provided an opportunity to participate in the detail on an overtime basis as to not interrupt normal operations. The Research and Planning Section and the Budget Unit receive after-action reports in order to track and report the outcomes of these details.

## ***Violent Crime Response***

In 2019-2021, Fort Worth experienced a surge in violent crime. For this reason, Fort Worth Police developed the #FortWorthSafe initiative and also participated in the City Manager's Interdepartmental Working Group. The goal was to leverage all resources toward solving the problem. This program funds solutions that support both the #FortWorthSafe Initiative and the City Manager's Interdepartmental Working Group. For FY2024, the Police Department is conducting a pilot project by adding Crime Analysts to leverage the US Department of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) database. This project will increase focus on evidence resulting from shooting crimes. Analysis provided from this database will enable investigators to more effectively trace the use of guns in violent crimes and arrest the persons involved.

## ***West Bikes/WRRT***

The West Bikes / WRRT program provides law enforcement and public safety support to the West 7th Entertainment and Cultural District. This area has become a hub for social activity in the City of Fort Worth. The area currently has over 30 bars that attract up to 10,000 patrons in a given night, along with a significant number of large events held at the Dickies Arena.

The West Bikes / WRRT program conducts law enforcement through both high-volume traffic work and increased officer presence through the use of CCPD Special Operations Funding. This increases public safety by reducing the number of illegal weapons and narcotics coming into the area, as well as providing additional officers to respond to incidents in the immediate area. The team maintains data on weapons and narcotics seized, warrants cleared, and stolen vehicles recovered with the overall goal of reducing Part 1 crimes and violent crime in general.

# NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME PREVENTION

## ***Code Blue***

The Code Blue Program is an initiative in which police officers and residents work together to assist in crime prevention and intervention. As part of the City's first community policing initiative, Code Blue serves as a force multiplier and has been instrumental in the significant reduction of crime. The Code Blue program serves as the umbrella organization for all of the following groups: Citizens on Patrol Program (COPs), Clergy and Police Alliance (CAPA), Code Blue at the School, Hispanic COP, Ministers Against Crime (MAC), Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Citizens Police Academy (CPA), Citizens Police Academy Alumni (CPAA), and Teen Academy.

The budget provides funding for civilian dispatchers specifically assigned to monitor the Code Blue channels of FWPD's radio system, which converted to encrypted service in 2013. Aside from the Code Blue and other interoperability channels, all police channels were encrypted to provide officer safety, security, and privacy. All telecommunication operators, including dispatchers and Code Blue base operators are now required to be certified by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE). This changes the way in which the Code Blue base operators had previously worked—in direct communication with Neighborhood Patrol Officers (NPOs) within their assigned areas. The dispatchers are certified under the law and communicate to volunteers exclusively on the dedicated Code Blue radio channels. NPOs also monitor the Code Blue channels to stay apprised of events occurring within their beat.

## ***Community Alliance Admin (New!)***

The Community Alliance Division is home to the Civilian Response Unit, Crisis Intervention Team, and Homeless Outreach Response Enforcement (HOPE) team. Funding in this program covers the oversight of these teams thereby ensuring the success of CCPD supported programming.

## ***Community Partnership Command (previously Code Blue Admin)***

This program provides partial funding for programming and oversight of the Community Partnership Command that was added in FY2023. The Command includes oversight for other CCPD Programs including CODE Blue, Explorers, Cadets, Clergy, etc. This program funds both the oversight of Command programs and programs such as Community Engagement Unit and Youth Programs (i.e. Fort Worth Police Athletic League and Explorers).

## ***Community Information Program***

The Community Information Program provides funding for a position to help coordinate information in the community. In meeting with various stakeholders, the Department has received feedback on the need to coordinate information on existing programs, initiatives, incidents, and resources that can assist neighborhood crime prevention. This civilian position will provide additional expertise to assist the Department in engaging the public in an effective, transparent way. In FY24, funding is added to provide contractual training and support.

## ***Civilian Response Unit***

The Civilian Response Unit (CRU) was piloted in FY2021 and 2022 to include team of 20 nonsworn civilians to answer nonviolent calls for service. CRU handles lower priority calls, which frees up sworn officers to handle the emergency calls for service and focus more on crime prevention. In addition, community/police relations improve with the interactions from a Civilian Response officer answering non-violent calls. It is a softer approach for the community to receive basic police services such as completing reports, information requests, and community concerns.

## ***Crime Prevention Unit***

The Crime Prevention Unit offers detailed crime prevention information and services to the citizens of Fort Worth, with a focus on a citywide reductions of crime and victimization. The Unit is comprised of six Crime Prevention Specialists, one located in and providing services for each Patrol Division.

In an effort to increase public awareness and safety, the Crime Prevention Unit provides various services through the City of Fort Worth, including but not limited to residential and business security surveys and information is shared at crime watch meetings. In addition, the Crime Prevention Unit visits schools, providing presentations that teach children about stranger danger, bicycle safety and crime prevention practices. There are opportunities to create child ID cards to provide assistance in missing child situation. Other crime prevention techniques include VIN engraving, National Night Out, and maintaining statistics regarding the activities of the Crime Prevention Unit.

## ***Crisis Intervention Team Program***

In 2017, the Fort Worth Police Department created a Mental Health Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Unit to respond to mental health related calls for service. This team utilized Crisis Intervention Team partnerships to allow mental health professionals to take the lead on calls involving persons in mental crisis, when possible.

The unit is committed to a constant devotion of self-betterment and increasing expertise as subject matter experts, seeking new training opportunities. All members of the unit are TCOLE certified as Mental Health Peace Officers. Also, the unit provides training for the department's recruit 40-hour CIT training, the new Sandra Bland Act 40-hour TCOLE

intermediate and below licensee class, and the Mental Health Peace Officer certification course.

### ***Gang Graffiti Abatement***

Graffiti is an illegal activity in which a person or group marks another's property without their consent. Graffiti is unattractive, lowers property values, and can encourage other types of criminal activity in neighborhoods. Graffiti and its associated problems can be defeated by removing it from a property as soon as possible. The Park and Recreation Department manages the Gang Graffiti Abatement Program. It works in conjunction with the FWPD Gang Unit providing assistance to remove graffiti from tagged or vandalized properties.

The Gang Graffiti Abatement Program is funded through the Crime Control and Prevention District to provide labor assistance to remove graffiti as requested by affected property owners. The program provides educational materials explaining the negative impacts of graffiti. It also provides contractual funds for the high-tech removal of graffiti as necessary. The Park and Recreation Department also works with area schools, businesses, organizations, and other city departments (including Code Compliance and the Transportation and Public Works Department) to promote awareness of the negative impacts of graffiti and to encourage alternative legal outlets for this urban "art form." *In FY24, CCPD funding will be invested in murals designed to cover surfaces that would otherwise be used for gang graffiti.*

### ***Homeless Outreach Program Enforcement (HOPE) Program***

In FY24, the Homeless Outreach Program Enforcement (HOPE) Program provides funding for the further expansion of the existing program. The primary mission of the HOPE Unit is to build a rapport within the homeless community, maintain a positive police impact by way of service connections, and instill a sense of self-worth in those considered chronically homeless. The HOPE Unit responds to unhoused individuals living in alternative situations such as encampments, streets or vacant structures and serves as the bridge between the homeless population, law enforcement, emergency medical services and other private agencies to coordinate outreach to those in need.

### ***Neighborhood Patrol Officers (NPOs)***

The Neighborhood Patrol Officer (NPO) program provides the FWPD the ability to provide police services to specific neighborhoods and designated geographic areas.

Neighborhood Patrol Officers are able to become more familiar with specific neighborhoods by getting to know area residents and business owners and the issues they face by learning neighborhood concerns. In addition, they build working relationships with area Citizen on Patrol volunteers and promoting crime prevention tools and techniques. The NPOs maintain open lines of communication between residents, business owners and the police department by attending community meetings and events.

## ***Patrol Support***

The Patrol Support program provides funding for the six Patrol Divisions: Northwest, North, East, South, West, and Central. The Crime Control and Prevention District provides funds for special details, overtime, utilities, and maintenance for various facilities used by patrol officers. This includes funding for the West 7<sup>th</sup> special detail.

## ***Police Storefronts***

A variety of department operations are housed in leased police storefronts or small office spaces--often times provided at low cost, with varying degrees of utility and maintenance responsibility built into the lease. Neighborhood Patrol Officers and beat officers utilize the storefronts to complete reports, assist the public with community issues, and meet with community groups regarding crime within the immediate area of the storefront. Code Blue, Crime Watch, and other community groups also use these spaces for various meetings. CCPD funds are allocated towards storefront leases, utilities, supplies, and other operating costs.

## ***Domestic Violence Victim Assistance***

In 2019, FWPD received funding to pilot a program with Tarrant County to address intimate partner domestic violence. The grant, provided through the U.S. Department of Justice, took a proactive approach to domestic violence 911 calls that do not result in a report. Roughly 1/3 of domestic violence calls result in a report and FWPD provides follow up on those calls with a trained Victim Assistance Specialist. This program focuses on the remaining cases in order to prevent the escalation of domestic violence. CCPD funding is continuing this pilot project as FWPD works with the National Institute for Justice and the International Association of Chiefs of Police to evaluate this important effort.



# **PARTNERS WITH A SHARED MISSION**

## ***Partners with a Shared Mission Admin***

This program provides the support and contract compliance functions that are needed to facilitate the Partners grant programs. Activities in this program include managing the Request for Proposals (RFP) process, facilitating grant recommendations and feedback from both the Scoring Committee and a panel of experts, engaging prospective agencies with information and training, issuing reimbursements to grantees, performing on-site monitoring visits, and working with an external evaluator to collect data on programs.

### ***After School Program***

Research suggests that academic success is a significant factor in reducing and preventing juvenile crime. In addition, studies suggest that adolescents are at a higher risk of being a victim of crime or committing a criminal act on a school day between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Four independent school districts receive funding in support of after-school programs including Fort Worth, Crowley, Keller, and White Settlement. These programs include academic activities, sports, recreation, and community service.

The CCPD funds can be expended on personnel costs (including benefits), supplies, equipment, and other contractual services as outlined in each awarded agency's budget summary. The organizations must submit reports to FWPD staff that outline fund expenditures and performance results prior to reimbursement.

### ***Alliance for Children (CACU)***

The Crimes Against Children Unit (CACU) of the FWPD is co-located at the Fort Worth Alliance for Children Center. The advantage to this partnership is that FWPD and the Alliance for Children can effectively meet the mission of this program by being in close proximity to other investigators and professionals. These include Child Protective Services, the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office, and Alliance for Children. Since 1992, well over 44,000 children have been served by the center.

Alliance for Children partners with 28 Tarrant County law enforcement agencies, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Cook Children's® Medical Center, JPS Health Network, Tarrant County Juvenile Services, and the Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office. These agencies work together to reduce trauma to child abuse victims during an investigation and to improve their agencies' response to children who are frightened and hurting. As a result of the collaboration, investigators and detectives are able to complete investigations in a timelier fashion, cases are stronger for prosecution, and children and protective caregivers are more likely to benefit from available services.

The CCPD provides the Alliance for Children funding to support a multidisciplinary team

program as well as the operating cost of the CACU being housed at the Fort Worth Alliance for Children Center. CCPD funds can be expended on personnel costs (including benefits), supplies, travel/training and occupancy.

### ***Gang Intervention Program***

The Comin' Up Gang Intervention Program provides intervention services to gang-involved youth ages of 13 and up. This program provides access to programs and services to help youth and adults avoid negative and destructive behaviors. Program staff engage individuals with gang affiliation and works to assist with conflict resolution, provide information and referral services, and crisis intervention to diffuse potentially troubling or violent situations.

This program funds the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Fort Worth (Comin' Up Gang). The Comin' Up Gang Intervention Program has six sites for ages 13 – 24 (i.e. Diamond Hill, Hillside, Near Southside (Panther), Northside, Poly, Las Vegas Trail, and Stop Six). The program serves approximately 2,300 youth nightly Monday through Friday. CCPD funds may be used on personnel, benefits, travel/training, supplies, and consulting and contracting services necessary to support the program.

CCPD also funds VIP Fort Worth which is dedicated to ending retaliatory gun violence in neighborhoods by investing in development, health, and well-being of those involved. VIP FW provides mentoring in order to motivate, inspire, and develop confidence in program participants. VIP FW serves adult participants ages 18 – 24 in Districts 3, 5, and 8. CCPD funds may be used on personnel, benefits, travel/training, supplies, and consulting and contracting services necessary to support the program.

### ***Community-Based Programs***

The CCPD provides competitive grants for crime prevention or intervention programs of local, registered non-profit agencies. These programs are intended to supplement the current crime prevention strategies funded by the District. These programs must address at least one of the following goals: reduce violent crime and gang-related activities, support efforts to increase the safety of residents, and support effort to increase the safety of youth as well as reduce juvenile crime through crime prevention and intervention programs.

Under Community-Based Programs, there are two funding strategies that agencies may be awarded under. Development Grants focus on strengthening and developing an agency's capability to respond to crime and safety needs. Program Grants are focused on impact within the community on crime and safety related issues.

Agencies submit proposals to FWPD, outlining the details of their crime prevention programs, including a project overview, budget summary, outcomes, and activity measures. Agencies are encouraged to integrate evidence-informed strategies and describe how their project impacts the District's mission.

All proposals are reviewed by the council-appointed Community Based Programs

Advisory Board (CBP Board). The CBP Board makes recommendations to the CCPD Board and programs are awarded funding on a competitive basis based on the amount of funds allocated towards community-based programming each fiscal year. Not all applicants are guaranteed to receive funding.

The CCPD funds can be expended according to the guidelines published in a Request for Proposals (RFP). Agencies may request funding for personnel costs (including benefits), travel, supplies, equipment, contracts/consultants and indirect costs as laid out in each awarded agency's budget summary. Indirect costs cannot exceed 10 percent of the funds requested in the total program budget. Awarded agencies must submit monthly reports to FWPD staff that outline fund expenditures and performance results prior to reimbursement.

### ***Crime Prevention Agency Partnership (Safe City Commission)***

The CCPD provides support for the Crime Prevention Agency Partnership. Since the District's inception, the two primary focus areas are the Safe City Commission Advocacy Program and the Crime Stopper Call Center.

The Crime Prevention Agency Partnership: Advocacy Program provides the Safe City Commission with resources for crime prevention public education materials and training opportunities for law enforcement, social service providers, and citizens. The Crime Prevention Agency Partnership Call Center Program improves efficiency of the dissemination of the tip information to all 37 municipalities and all 18 school districts in Tarrant County through the operation of an in-house tip call center.

CCPD funds may be used on personnel, benefits, and consulting and contracting services necessary to support the program.

### ***Family Justice Center (One Safe Place)***

The Family Justice Center, also known as One Safe Place, brings together a multi-agency task force under one roof, to provide coordinated services to victims of domestic violence and their children. It is anticipated that One Safe Place will lead to significant increases in successful criminal prosecution and civil legal solutions and reductions in repeat incidents and homicides.

One Safe Place partners have an integrated, seamless approach to service in a welcoming, victim-focused, and survivor-driven environment. Beyond serving survivors, One Safe Place will strive to create a new social consciousness in the community about violence affecting families through education, training, and research. The Crime Control and Prevention District contributes funding for the operation of the One Safe Place facility. One Safe Place is required to submit reports to the FWPD on data generated by the multi-agency task force and a year-end summary report that highlights accomplishments.

## ***Late Night Program***

The FW@6 Late Night Program began in 1992 as a response to the increase in gang-involved youth, providing support for afternoon and evening activities. Programs include afterschool and youth sports as well as extended hours for older youth and young adults. The program provides a safe haven for at-risk youth living in high crime areas. These programs decrease youth participation in crime and gangs through enrichment and recreational activities. They are designed to reduce crime, stimulate self-determination, and increase community pride. The programs are operated at the following community centers: Como, Chisolm Trail, Martin Luther King, Northside, Sycamore, and Worth Heights. The FW@6 Late Night Program focuses on the following five goals, which provide alternatives to youth involvement in crime: Education/Personal Development, Employment Readiness, Recreation, Life Skills and Community Responsibility.

## ***Safe Haven Youth Program***

The Safe Haven Youth Program at the Bethlehem Center is a prevention program operated by the United Community Center (UCC) that provides a safe environment for after school programming for at-risk children and youth. The program's central purpose is to provide educational enrichment and youth development programs that lead to improved behavior, academic performance, social skills, and better citizenship. They support academic success, healthy development, and build resilience. The outcomes in turn create and strengthen protective factors believed to encourage positive decision making. During the course of the year, a typical participant will spend more than 430 hours in the program participating in cultural, sport, and educational activities. This promotes self-esteem by developing positive personal and academic behaviors. This provides for an in-depth and extended intervention in a gang free zone and away from dysfunctional homes. Children who come to the Bethlehem Center meet poverty level guidelines and display the typical needs of low-income families. Many of these children come from single parent households. Children and youth participating in the Safe Haven Youth Program at Bethlehem primarily live in the 76104 zip code. CCPD funds may be used on personnel, benefits expenses to support the program.

The Safe Haven Youth program at the Martin Branch of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County provides high quality afterschool and summer programming to youth ages 6-18 in the Polytechnic area. Programming is focused on three key outcomes: Academic Success, Healthy Lifestyles, and Character/Citizenship. The priority is the safety and well-being of all youth that are served every day, and ensuring that each member has an optimal Club experience. Program staff provides quality enrichment programs in dedicated rooms at the Martin Boys & Girls Club site, including the education room, computer room, gym, social recreation area, art room, and teen room. Some of the services include alcohol/drug prevention programs, cultural enrichment activities, education enhancement activities and recreational activities. CCPD funds may be used on personnel, benefits, supplies, travel/training, equipment, and consulting and contracting services necessary to support the program.

# **RECRUITMENT and TRAINING**

## ***Cadet Program***

The Police Cadet program provides funds to hire high school seniors and college students who are interested in becoming a Fort Worth police officer. Cadets are paid a salary, provided a uniform, and placed within different divisions of the department. Accommodations are made for class schedules. This program was reinstated in FY2020, for a total of twenty cadets, recognizing the diversity and recruiting value cadets have in the department.

## ***Expanded Training Program***

This program funds officers who provide basic training for recruits, including pistol and shotgun qualification, as well as familiarization with the patrol carbine. In-service officers are provided carbine and shotgun training. These officers work as a part of a training team that provides opportunities to both recruits and in-service officers. *In FY24, CCPD funding will be used to provide wellness training and support for in-service officers.*

## ***New Officer Recruitment Program***

There are three focus areas in the New Officer Recruitment Program. The first is to fund recruitment materials, advertising and travel in order to recruit and hire diverse personnel. In an effort to reflect the demographics of the city, recruiting efforts are occurring in historically black colleges and universities (HBCU), Hispanic service institutions (HSI), women's colleges and universities, and universities with highly-regarded criminal justice programs. Recruiting is nationwide and includes all branches of the military, minority organizations and other regional police academies.

The second area of the program provides funding for the Fort Worth Explorer Program, which is committed to developing the life skills and career path of Fort Worth's youth. Explorers are taught the importance of higher education and self-discipline in reaching their goals. They are encouraged to seek law enforcement as an attainable and attractive career choice. Several Explorer Program participants have become Fort Worth Police Officers or have entered the law enforcement field.

The third area of the program provides funding for new recruit background evaluations. In a typical year, budget includes funding for recruiting and testing tools as well as psychological evaluations, polygraph examinations and physical assessments.

In FY24, CCPD will expand the recruitment team in order to increase the number of diverse and qualified recruits that complete the New Officer Training Program.

## ***New Officer Training Program*** ***(previously Recruit Officer Training Program)***

The Recruit Officer Training program provides the necessary training and equipment for new and lateral transfer police officers to work in the field. The Police Department routinely analyzes the appropriate number of recruits needed to avoid personnel shortages throughout the Department and to ensure that all of the CCPD components remain fully staffed. All costs for personnel training have been funded through the CCPD since FY1998.

The FWPD training academy operates up to a 36-week schedule, training recruits on best practices and curricula based on Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE). This includes legal procedures, federal, state, and local laws, and physical fitness. Other training also includes defensive and control tactics, TASER electronic conducting devices, police driving, and a variety of community service and communication-oriented classes. It also trains recruits on policies and standards specific to the FWPD.

The CCPD funds all costs of recruit training. This includes all equipment for training as well as equipment issued to officers upon graduation. In FY24, there are funds budgeted for four recruit training classes.

## ***911 Call Taker Training Program***

The 911 Call Taker Training Program is designed to strengthen the FWPD Communications Division. The Department employs Public Safety Communicators tasked with receiving 911 calls and dispatching services to the community. The challenges of the requirements of the job can lead to fluctuations in staffing availability resulting from time-off, turnover, or call volume. This program is designed to proactively recruit and train call-takers to ensure consistent staffing.

# **EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY, and INFRASTRUCTURE**

## ***Citywide Camera Program***

The Citywide Camera Program provides funding for the multi-year neighborhood camera project. The Police Department coordinates with City Departments and residents to install camera in strategic areas in Fort Worth in an effort to aid in public safety and neighborhood revitalization. In FY24, CCPD funding is planned to work with Development Services to provide additional coverage at city facilities.

## ***Crime Lab Equipment Program***

The purpose of the Crime Lab Equipment program is to provide a schedule for replacing aging equipment and assist in expanding the services provided by the FWPD Crime Laboratory. This program was initiated in order to reduce processing time and create greater case efficiencies in violent crime investigations. FWPD's DNA Unit holds ASCLD/LAB and Texas Department of Safety accreditation and is able to process DNA cases in-house. Having the DNA Unit allows the FWPD to seek additional grant funding and potentially other revenue sources from other agencies.

## ***Vehicle Replacement Equipment Program***

Digital in-car video systems are a critical component of the police department's operational needs. These systems provide evidence of potential criminal activity, limit the civil liabilities of officers, and document officer behavior during interactions with the public. FWPD currently operates in-car video systems in marked police vehicles, including all front-line patrol vehicles, Traffic Division DWI units, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement units, and vehicles assigned to the SRT teams.

The Digital Cameras for Vehicle Replacement program funding is critical for the purchase and replacement of digital video systems and related equipment. The FY24 budget includes continued funding for the phased replacement of in-car video systems, which are bundled together as a safety package with body cameras and Tasers.

## ***Helicopter Replacement Program***

The Air Support Unit provides overwatch and logistical support to the various patrol and interdiction responsibilities of the Police Department. This unit has maintained as many as three helicopters at one-time over the past 27-years with current equipment being added in 1996, 2003, and 2020. In 2020, the Department purchased its first replacement helicopter in 17-years. Unfortunately, aging equipment has necessitated the retirement of two models that served as back up support to the more recently acquired helicopter. This has left the Department without any backup should the lone remaining helicopter experience maintenance issues that would result in grounding. In FY24, CCPD funding is included to replace the two older, retiring models with one new helicopter.

## ***High Mileage Vehicle Replacement Program***

The Police Department formulated a vehicle replacement plan that would allow the modernization of the fleet with the goal of no assigned patrol car to have more than 100,000 miles. To maintain this plan, it is necessary to consistently purchase replacement vehicles which allows the City to move higher-mileage vehicles to units that have less demanding operational needs or decommission those high-mileage vehicles. The replacement plan heavily focuses on the front-line patrol vehicles as these are operated around-the-clock with very little downtime.

Another component of this program is the procurement of vehicles for new positions as well as unmarked, undercover, and specialized vehicles as needed for police operations.

## ***Jail Cost Allocation***

The FWPD does not operate a local municipal jail and has contracted with external entities for detention services since 2006. As of January 2018, the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office began taking custody of all persons arrested for felonies, Class A and Class B misdemeanors upon a probable cause determination from a City Magistrate. This procedure change caused a marked difference in the number of prisoners moved directly to TCSO versus being transported to Mansfield.

## ***Mobile Data Computers***

Mobile Data Computer (MDC) technology enables patrol units to connect to law enforcement databases, offering officers instant access to information about the area for which they are assigned to patrol. MDCs are typically rugged-style laptops meant to withstand the constant use and stresses of patrolling the city.

The FY24 budget is for the purchase of new systems as well as maintaining and replacing damaged or destroyed systems to ensure operational effectiveness, providing air cards for the MDCs and continuing a phased replacement of MDCs.

## ***Motorcycle Replacement Program***

The Traffic-Motors Division is responsible for traffic enforcement throughout the entire city. The division is also responsible for dignitary escorts, traffic flow, and counter flow for special events. Each motorcycle is assigned to a specific officer, and is set up to meet each officer's specifications, including his/her height and reach in order to correctly fit their motorcycle. The CCPD funding of the Motorcycle Replacement Program allows for proper motorcycle rotations, which should not exceed six years or 60,000 miles. Additionally, this program allows the retention of motorcycles that have exceeded the mileage and are deemed the most reliable. These motorcycles will be retained for use as spares in training and normal operations when a motorcycle is wrecked or in the shop for scheduled maintenance. Approved program funding and



the established vehicle rotation schedule will ensure and optimize officer safety, operational costs, and resale value.

### ***Officer Safety Equipment***

The Police Officer Safety Equipment program provides funding for body cameras and body armor. This also funds the storage of data and video images captured with officer body cameras. Videos captured through the body cameras are uploaded to a secure digital evidence storage system, where they can be easily stored, retrieved, and shared. This protects the video evidence from tampering and catalogs each event for easy retrieval and evidence management.

The Police Officer Safety Equipment program also enables the FWPD to purchase and equip officers with a non-lethal electronic control device used to subdue suspects. Tasers, much like other police equipment, have a finite useful life and need to be replaced according to a set schedule. Having fully functional Tasers will reduce the number of officer-incurred injuries, thereby reducing the medical expenses and the liability associated with use-of-force situations. The FY23 budget includes continued funding for the contract for body cameras and Tasers.

### ***Technology Infrastructure***

The Technology Infrastructure program is a critical resource for the FWPD, as it provides funding for printers, radios, servers, scanners, technology contracts and software enhancements that support the mission and initiatives of the FWPD. The Technology Infrastructure keeps pace with technological advancements that are key in assisting with intelligence led policing initiatives to reduce crime, as well as support overall departmental operations and strategic plan initiatives.

Due to technological advancements, the Police Department replaces computers based on a three-year life cycle. In conjunction with the city's IT Solutions Department, the FWPD is continuing to implement the Refresh Plan by replacing eligible computers on an annual basis. *The FY24 budget includes funding four new positions identified by the Police staffing study in order to implement and maintain technology. Funding is also included for computer refreshes in addition to technology O&M and approved capital projects.*

### ***Adjustments***

This line allows for budgetary adjustments in the CCPD Fund for allocations from the City from Risk Management.