

**POLICE MEMORANDUM**  
**#5-2022**

**DATE:** Feb. 28, 2022

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Meredith Leighty and City Council Members

**THROUGH:** Heather Geyer, City Manager *hmg*

**FROM:** James S. May, Jr., Chief of Police *JSM/217*  
Randall L. Darlin, Deputy Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** Northglenn Police Department Public Safety Presentation

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**PURPOSE**

To provide a public safety overview in response to City Council's request that staff bring forward a discussion about increased crime and identify engagement opportunities with the community. The overview will provide crime data for 2021 as compared to 2020, as well as a statistical comparison to crime data for the previous five years. A similar presentation, along with the department's strategic plan and crime reduction strategies, will be presented during identified ward meetings to provide a comprehensive public safety overview throughout 2022.

**BACKGROUND**

The City identifies and reports crime utilizing the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). It is used by law enforcement agencies within the United States for collecting and reporting data on crimes. The system provides a nationwide view of crime based on the submission of information by law enforcement agencies throughout the country.

NIBRS provides more significant specificity in reporting offenses, providing context to specific crime problems, and allows greater analysis of crime conditions. Through NIBRS, data users are provided greater analytic flexibility, which offers law enforcement and the academic community more comprehensive data for training, planning, and research.

The data examines reported crime in Northglenn throughout 2021, as well as reported crime during the calendar year 2020. Crime data is further examined as an average over the prior five years, providing a threshold analysis of crime conditions over a broader timeframe. This public safety overview will provide context, comparison, and clarification for the Northglenn community.

**BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial or time impacts to the City.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

This item is for informational purposes only.

**STAFF REFERENCE**

If Council members have any questions, please contact:

- James S. May, Jr., Chief of Police, at [jmay@northglenn.org](mailto:jmay@northglenn.org) or 303.450.8967
- Randall L. Darlin, Deputy Chief of Police, at [rdarlin@northglenn.org](mailto:rdarlin@northglenn.org) or 303.450.8964

**ATTACHMENT**

1. Presentation

# ***PUBLIC SAFETY IN NORTHGLENN***

**James S. May, Jr.**

*Chief of Police*

*303.450.8967*

*[jmay@northglenn.org](mailto:jmay@northglenn.org)*

**Council Meeting**

*Feb. 28, 2022*



**CITY OF  
Northglenn**

# ***PURPOSE***

**To provide a public safety overview in response to Council's request to provide information about increased crime in the City.**



# ***PUBLIC SAFETY WARD MEETINGS***

**This presentation is designed to address residents' concerns about crime in the community at in-person ward meetings.**



# ***CRIME STATISTICS***

**Crime categories highlighted in this presentation are based on the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS).**

**The Colorado Bureau of Investigations uses this reporting system to allow Colorado agencies to report and compare crime consistently across jurisdictions.**



# NORTHGLENN CRIME STATISTICS

Offense	2021 (Preliminary)	2020	5-Year Average (2016-2020)	2021 % Change From 5-Year Avg.
Assault	512	442	395	29.6%
Calls For service – Shots fired	246	226	177	39%
Weapons violation	75	66	51	47%
Burglary	131	119	133	-1.5%
Motor Vehicle (MV) theft	456	330	307	48.5%
Robbery	29	31	22	31.8%
Theft	1,034	1,083	975	6%
Criminal trespass to MV	287	323	290	-1%
Theft of MV parts	201	149	91	121%



# ***WHY IS CRIME UP?***

## **Contributing Factors**

- **COVID pandemic**
  - Unemployment and change in employment work locations
  - Jail population reduction efforts and restrictions on jailable offenses
- **Legislative considerations**
  - Decriminalizing drug offenses
  - SB-217
  - Unfunded mandates
- **Prosecution**
  - Probation

# ***WHY IS CRIME UP?***

**CONT'D**

- **Socio-economic Issues**

- Data shows an increase in crime conditions locally and nationwide. The pandemic has created financial pressures on household income, and there have been multiple policy changes to the criminal justice system.

- **Drug addiction**

- Marijuana legalization, opioid crisis

- **Mental health**

- **Increase in those experiencing homelessness**

**These increases are not unique to Northglenn.**

**Similar increases are reported across the state and country.**





# ***CALLS FOR SERVICE***

<b>Calls For Service</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>5-Year Avg. (2016-2020)</b>	<b>2021 Percentage Change From 5-Year Average</b>
Computer Aided Dispatch calls for service	45,353	43,907	49,064	-7.5%



# TRAFFIC

Traffic Data	2021	2020	2019	3-Year Avg. (2019-2021)
Traffic accidents	1,273	1,034	1,525	1,277
Traffic citations: municipal and county	3,232	3,036	2,509	2,925



# ***IS THERE LESS POLICE PRESENCE IN NORTHGLENN?***

**No, NPD maintains minimum staffing levels to ensure public safety services are sustained.**

- **Budget in 2018:**  
**\$10.2M, 87 FTE**
- **Budget in 2022:**  
**\$12.9M, 101.5 FTE**
  - 78 sworn officers
  - 23.5 professional staff

- There are challenges:**
- **COVID impacts**
  - **Recruiting**
  - **Staff turnover**
    - **29.5% of NPD turned over during past two years**

# ***WHAT IS NPD DOING?***

- **Focused on meeting the needs of the community and continuing to develop the organization through the strategic plan**
- **New efforts to build stronger ties to the community, developing and training staff, increasing staffing levels, and evolving to an intelligence-led policing model**



# ***WHAT IS NPD DOING?***

**CONT'D**

- **Implementing recommendations from 360 Assessment (best practices)**
- **Implementing NPD strategic plan**
- **New advisory board**
  - CCPP: Community Co-Production Policing
- **New non-uniform co-responders**
  - CRU: Crisis Response Unit
- **Community partnerships**



# ***WHAT IS NPD DOING?***

**CONT'D**

- **Priority to respond to calls for service and deploy resources based on crime data and patterned criminal activity**
- **Increase and improve technology**
  - Body-worn cameras and in-car cameras
  - Automated license plate readers
- **Regional partnerships focused on reduction of motor vehicle thefts and street racing**
- **Working with City, businesses, and residents on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)**



# ***WHAT IS NPD DOING?***

**CONT'D**

- **Community outreach and education**
  - Citizen's Police Academy, NPD-sponsored events, social media
- **Hiring a full-time Crime Analyst**
- **Operationalize goals in the strategic plan**
- **Increase Traffic Team to four officers**
- **Special Enforcement Team (SET)**
- **Develop pathways to communicate with residents**
  - Ward meetings



# ***WHAT CAN THE COMMUNITY DO?***

## **Crime Prevention Tips**

- **Lock your car, do not leave keys in your car, do not leave valuables in plain sight**
- **Motion lighting outside your home**
- **Home video surveillance**
- **Close and lock doors (including garage)**
- **Report crimes and suspicious activity**



# ***WHAT CAN THE COMMUNITY DO?***

**CONT'D**

## **Be Proactive**

- Get to know your neighbors
- Join Neighborhood Watch
- Join Citizen's Police Academy
- Let elected officials know public safety is important to you
- Sign up for CodeRed
- Visit [www.northglenn.org](http://www.northglenn.org) to stay informed
- Help NPD recruit

## **Know The Facts**

- Social media is prone to misinformation - make NPD your official source of police information in Northglenn



# ***QUESTIONS?***

**Northglenn Police Officers are prepared to answer the following if asked:**

- **Is crime higher in Northglenn than surrounding areas?**
- **Are residents safe in the City?**
- **How is NPD addressing the increase in crime?**
- **Has NPD seen an increase in arrests?**
- **How is NPD addressing traffic conditions and traffic-related enforcement?**

# ***QUESTIONS?***

**CONT'D**

**The goal is to relay the big picture in a reasonable amount of time, not overwhelm the community with numbers and statistics.**

**Are there other questions NPD should address in the presentation or be prepared to answer?**

# ***QUESTIONS?***

**CONT'D**

**NPD will provide a public safety presentation once at each ward meeting and have representation to address questions or concerns at all others.**

**What additional communications would Council like to see?**

- **Wait until after ward meetings and revisit needs then?**
- **Video, Connection article, town hall? Other ideas?**

# QUESTIONS?

**James S. May, Jr.**

*Chief of Police*

*303.450.8967*

*[jmay@northglenn.org](mailto:jmay@northglenn.org)*

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