

THE BLUE LETTER



333 James E. Bohanan Drive • Vandalia, OH 45377 • (937) 898-5891

November 8, 2024

Mayor Herbst & City Councilmembers:

Kettering EMS Coordinator John Hildebrand came to Station 1 November 6th to recognize A-shift crew members, Green, Molesky, and Flatt for delivering a healthy baby boy at the entrance of the Hospital back in September. Each crew member received their first Stork Pin from Kettering Health and a big congrats to the crew for their Top Tier service and care.

VPD participated in their annual accreditation compliance review October 25 to November 2 with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). Compliance Service Member Jay Murphy (retired Florida police chief) remotely reviewed 25% of VPD's policies and compliance documents and found that we are meeting or exceeding accreditation standards. Special thanks to our accreditation manager Shannon Green for all her great work to ensure VPD maintains compliance with police CALEA accreditation standards.

Construction is under way on the Bikeway Connector project. Brumbaugh Construction has cleared most of the off-road alignment from Cassel Creek Dr to the Taylorsville Dam and begun improvements along this section needed to install the path. Miami Conservancy District (MCD) is reviewing the sheet pile plans for the installation of the mechanically stabilized earth (MSE) wall near the US-40 bridge over CSX railroad at the Taylorsville Dam. Various utility relocates are under way to facilitate this bikeway project.

Work continues on the replacement of the trees along the National Road corridor. We have removed the trees from just west of Dixie Dr. to Perry St. New topsoil was installed this week. We do not have a scheduled date for the planting yet. All the trees, new and existing, will be decorated with lights for the holidays. After the lights are removed in January, we will then begin removing the trees from Perry Street. to Ranchview Drive. These trees will then be replaced in the spring.



The Finance Department spoke with bond counsel and Underwriters regarding options for issuing debt for the upcoming Public Works facility project. We had requested a comparison and analysis of short-term and long-term interest rates related to short-term and long-term borrowing and the pros and cons of both options to assist with the determination and decision on issuing notes versus bonds.

The Division of Fire took delivery of their new Taylor'd Training Prop on October 29th. The prop was part of a Capital Project for 2024 and will allow crews to train on multiple simulators such as vertical ventilation, breaching, forcible entry and more. Additionally, a huge thank you to local 84 lumber for donating a cache of lumber supplies to help build out the trainer. Crews are ready to train and put this new resource to work.

The public portal (M5 Connect) for our DES software (Municipity) is planned to go live December 2nd. DES staff are receiving training to be ready for its implementation. This portal will allow residents, business owners, and contractors to apply & review status of permits, pay permit fees, and receive approved permits online from the comforts of their home or office. This has been a 2024 department goal focused on the Citywide Policy Goal of **Sharpen the Saw** and DES staff have been working hard towards its implementation.

Please contact me directly with comments and questions.

Very Respectfully,

Mark Schwieterman
Interim City Manager

CC:

Board and Commission Members
All City Employees

Attachments:

1. Information Update - ACM Cron – November 8, 2024;
2. Information Update - Director Leiter – November 8, 2024;
3. Information Update - Chief Follick – November 8, 2024;
4. Information Update - HR Manager Hanf – November 8, 2024;
5. Information Update – Director Clark – November 8, 2024;
6. Information Update - Chief Althouse – November 8, 2024;
7. Information Update - Director Borton – November 8, 2024;
8. September 2024 Crime Statistical Report Summary



To: Mark Schwieterman, Interim City Manager
From: Rob Cron, Assistant City Manager
Date: November 7, 2024
Re: Information Update for October 26 – November 8, 2024

- 📍 Congratulations to Paul Pollard on being chosen for this month's Employee Spotlight.

Employee Spotlight November, 2024



Paul Pollard
IT Systems Administrator

Every minute of every day, there are at least three attempts to hack the City of Vandalia's internal computer system. That's 180 attempts per hour, 4,320 attempts per day, and a little more than 1.5 million a year.

The person whose job is to make sure all those unauthorized attempts are unsuccessful is IT Systems Administrator Paul Pollard. By keeping the system up-to-date on upgrades and security patches, Paul keeps the City's network safe from those who would do it harm.

Paul is wrapping up his second year of employment with the City, and says he has definitely found a home.

"I love working for the City," he said. "I enjoy the people I work with, and I love the challenge this job presents me every day."

Paul says his strategy for safeguarding the system is being proactive. By staying current on the latest trends, and understanding the vulnerabilities hackers try to exploit, the City is able to stay a few steps ahead of the bad guys.

In his free time, Paul and his wife are kept quite busy caring for their very bright and active 5-year-old daughter.

 **Vandalia**^{ohio}
small city. big opportunity.

- 📍 Street trees were planted this week along Clyde Place, Cyril Court and Attic Street. This was part of the original plan when the roadways were reconstructed in late 2023 and early 2024. The project was not finished in time this spring for optimal tree planting weather, so it was delayed until now.
- 📍 Work continues on the replacement of the trees along the National Road corridor. We have removed the trees from just west of Dixie Dr. to Perry St. New topsoil was installed this week. We do not have a scheduled date for the planting yet. All the trees, new and existing, will be decorated with lights for the holidays. After the lights are removed in January, we will then begin removing the trees from Perry Street. to Ranchview Drive. These trees will then be replaced in the spring.

- I attended a meeting with representatives from the Montgomery County Auditor's office to review our current CRA and TIFF projects.
- I attended the MVRPC Board of Directors meeting on Thursday November 7th.
- You, Leann Hanf and I met with Public Service Director Borton, Public Work Superintendent Hayslett, Chief Follick and Chief Althouse to discuss the impacts of the update to Section 800 of the Personnel Policies as it relates to the bargaining units.
- The Planning Commission will review two items at their November 12th meeting.
 1. A request for rezoning at 2700 W. National Road from Industrial /Innovation to Highway Business.
 2. A record plan and right of way dedication at Tuskegee Airman Drive.
- The Board of Zoning Appeals will review four items at their November 13th meeting
 1. A variance for the maximum sign area for driveway entrance and directional signs at 4160 Litel York Road.
 2. A variance for total accessory structure area and setback at 3075 Stop Eight Road.
 3. A variance to allow ground mounted solar panels in residential areas at 675 Waldsmith Way.
 4. A variance for maximum wall sign area at 2 E. National Road.
- We offered yard sign/political sign recycling on November 6-8. This is an easy way for people to get rid of the signs after election day or for us to collect and dispose of the signs that were left out throughout the city.
- Our contractor has completed our right of way mowing for this year. We have a two-year contract with Property Works that will extend through 2025.
- Rich Hopkins continues to gather information and photos for our annual report.
- Rich also attended a meeting this week to discuss the winter edition of the COMMUNITY newsletter, which highlights events and activities in the City of Vandalia, Butler Township and with the Vandalia Butler Schools. Rich will be working on stories for this edition which should hit the streets sometime in January.
- Thank you to everyone that signed up to volunteer at the Food Pantry this month. There are still a few spots available if you would like to sign up.
- Congratulations to Anissa Kanzari on her retirement from the Police Department. Thank you for your years of service to our community.

Memo



To: Mark Schwieterman, Interim City Manager

From: Bridgette Leiter, Director of Finance

Date: November 5, 2024

Re: Information Update - Period Ending November 8, 2024

1. The Finance staff would like to congratulate and wish Anissa Kanzari the best of luck as she enters the next chapter titled, "retirement"! 😊
2. Kristen and I attended a council study session.
3. Kristen and I attended a Records Commission meeting.
4. I spoke with bond counsel and Underwriters regarding options for issuing debt for the upcoming Public Works facility project. I requested a comparison and analysis of short-term and long-term interest rates related to short-term and long-term borrowing and the pro's and con's of both options to assist with the determination and decision on issuing notes versus bonds.



DIVISION OF FIRE INFORMATION UPDATE

TO: MARK SCHWIETERMAN, INTERIM CITY MANAGER
FROM: CHAD FOLLICK, FIRE CHIEF
DATE: 11/7/2024
SUBJECT: INFORMATION UPDATE – PERIOD ENDING NOVEMBER 8, 2024

1. The Division of Fire wrapped up the month of October with a few last Trunk or Treat events and a Rainy Halloween evening. Crews handed out candy while greeting our community during the Begger's Night event on October 31st.
2. The Division of Fire took delivery of our new Taylord Training Prop on October 29th. The prop was part of a Capital Project for 2024 and will allow crews to train on multiple simulators such as vertical ventilation, breaching, forcible entry and more. Additionally, a huge thank you to local 84 lumber for donating a cache of lumber supplies to help build out the trainer. Crews are ready to train and put this new resource to work.
3. I did two Haz Mat Presentations for Mr. Mack at Vandalia Butler High School on October 31st.
4. Crews responded on October 31st to Southbound I-75 on an accident with entrapment. Vandalia crews worked with Mutual Aid Tipp City Fire Department to transport two patients with non-life-threatening injuries to the hospital.
5. The second round of Full-Time Firefighter Paramedic interviews were conducted on October 25th. The Division of Fire hopes to have our eligibility list established quickly and, when ready, move forward with our New Full-Time members as part of the next step in our staffing plan.



DIVISION OF FIRE INFORMATION UPDATE

6. On November 1st, I, with CRRC Morrett attended two sessions of the CTC Fire Class recruiting event.
7. A Command Staff Meeting was held on November 4th. Items discussed were but not limited to, budget, hiring update, goals, etc.
8. Training this reporting period was Geriatric Training for protocols and was a combined Vandalia and Butler Township Fire training. Training was led by Kettering Hospital and hosted at Butler Station 88.
9. The Division of Fire and Local IAFF 3519 members were able to donate the proceeds from the annual Breast Cancer Awareness shirt sale to local organization, Breast Wishes. A big thank you to all who participated in the fundraiser and helping towards the cause.
10. Division of Fire crews attended the Employee Appreciation Breakfast on November 6th. All crew and staff members are thankful for their full stomachs and recognition.
11. Kettering EMS Coordinator John Hildebrand came to Station 1 November 6th to recognize A-shift crew members, Green, Molesky, and Flatt for delivering a healthy baby boy at the entrance of the Hospital back in September. Each crew member received their first Stork Pin from Kettering Health and a big congrats to the crew for their Top Tier service and care.

Memo



To: Mark Schwieterman, Interim City Manager

From: Leann Hanf, Human Resources Manager

Date: November 7, 2024

Re: Information Update – Period Ending November 8, 2024

1. **Open Enrollment started on November 4th, and ends on November 15th.**
2. At this point you have already received all the tools you need for a successful enrollment. Once you feel like you're ready, visit the Employee Navigator Website and make those elections 😊 Need a refresh on your benefit options for 2025? Visit our Xplore site: [City of Vandalia Benefits](#)

Links to Employee Navigator:

New Users: [Registration](#)

Returning Users: [Login](#)

Company Identifier: CitOfVan2023

A couple of reminders:

- Employees who waived medical insurance for the entirety of the 2024 calendar year, will receive a \$2,000 stipend in January 2025
- If you enroll your spouse in insurance, you must complete the spousal waiver form as proof that their insurance (individual plan, medical only) costs more than \$100 per month by November 30th.



To: Mark Schwieterman, Interim City Manager

From: Steve Clark, Director of Parks & Recreation

Date: 11/7/2024

Re: Information Update – Period ending November 7, 2024

RECREATION CENTER

- Aaron Messenger has a meeting with the director of the Darke County Board of Developmental Disabilities to tour their sensory room. Aaron is researching ideas to implement for our mobile sensory tent for special events.
- Aaron Messenger attended an AI training through OPRA on October 22. This was an informative session and there were takeaways that he plans to implement in his work with AI.
- Aaron has the summer internship paperwork finalized and sent out the internship information to the recreation professors at Ohio University.
- Crowd Photo Release at Special Events: Aaron worked with Public Works to create crowd photo release signage that will be placed at special events.
- Volunteer Program – Aaron met with Human Resource Manager Leann Hanf to discuss a volunteer program for the parks and recreation department. We anticipate this program starting early in 2025.
- Harry Potter Paint & Sip Program: This program will be hosted by Miss Bec at the VRC on November 12. This youth program currently has 14 participants signed up out of a maximum of 15. Program participants will paint a portrait of Harry's owl while enjoying sweet treats and drinks.
- Thanksgiving CampREC will be held on Wednesday, November 27. Camp participants will have the opportunity to utilize the climbing wall and swimming pool. They will also have the chance to create Thanksgiving-themed crafts and participate in gym games.
- VRC Attendance for October 2024
 - October 2024 = 12,846 (+223 from 2023, +910 from 2022)
 - October 2023 = 12,623
 - October 2022 = 11,936

RECREATION / ATHLETICS DIVISION / SPECIAL EVENTS

- Pumpkin Smash Event: On Saturday, November 9, we will be hosting a Pumpkin Smash. At the event, we will put an end to the Halloween season with pumpkin smashing, bowling, exploding, and gravity-defying drops. The event will take place at the Sports Complex. All pumpkin debris will be composted after the event.

- The 39th Annual Basketball Turkey Shoot will be held on Saturday, November 9 at 10am in the gymnasium at the VRC. This program allows family members to shoot fouls shots as a team for a chance to win a Thanksgiving Turkey.
- Rock The Rec Halloween Party: This event had craft vendors, food trucks, hayrides, inflatables, and trick-or-treating! Several hundred people attended and were also able to participate in a costume contest and other kids' activities! This event was held on October 26 at the Sports Complex.
- Kids Night Out: 22 participants registered for Kids Night Out on November 1. During their night out, kids had the chance to participate in swimming, rock climbing, gym games, fall crafts, and more!
- The second round of interviews for the vacant Recreation Coordinator Athletics position was held on October 28. A top candidate has been identified and a conditional offer letter has been signed. We anticipated having the candidate on board later this month.
- Our NFL Youth Flag Football program end of season tournament concluded on Sunday with championship games played at the Butler High School Football Stadium.

SENIOR CENTER

- Custodial Supervisor Mark Collins and his crew worked on floor cleaning/waxing and carpet cleaning during the weeks of October 21, October 28, and November 4.
- MSD completed preventative maintenance tasks, replacing filters and more. Dayton Fire Protection came on October 28 to perform routine maintenance on the sprinkler system.
- Senior Center attendance from October 22 to November 5 totaled 930 people including evenings and weekends. There were 11 days including nights and weekends the facility was rented. This averages 85 people per day. There were 920 members who came to the center on the 10 days it was open. This averages 92 members per day.

FACILITY MAINTENANCE DIVISION

- Sport Complex ball diamond fence and concrete work is underway. The contractor is onsite removing fencing on diamonds 8,9,10 and replacing team bench concrete at needed locations. Once work is done the fence update on these fields will be complete.
- Recreation Center landscape planting improvements are under way, existing shrubs selected for replacement have been removed and work will begin on installing the new design.
- The contractor placed soil in the vacated tree wells on Dixie and National. The nursery will be onsite to install the trees once they can be dug – dormancy dependent.
- Began winterization of water sources at various park locations including drinking fountains and restroom buildings, all will be winterized by mid-November.
- The area for the new playground install at Robinette Park is prepped and ready. Staff removed asphalt, concrete, surfacing, the play structure, benches and abandoned drinking fountain. They have installed an underground drainage tile. The old drinking fountain had been replaced with a new drinking fountain located on the new restroom building.
- Fabricated and installed a drain cover for the new drainage tile installed at the Art Park as part of the amphitheater improvement project.

Information Update



To: Mark Schwieterman
Interim City Manager

From: Kurt E. Althouse
Chief of Police

Date: November 7, 2024

Subject: Information Update Ending November 8, 2024

1. VPD property custodians purged 301 items from the property room through donation or destruction: 74 drug items were taken by the DEA for destruction along with 101.25 lbs. of prescription drugs taken in through the lobby drop box. Eight cell phones were donated to Artemis, four bicycles were given to Building Bridges, \$76.29 given to Finance, 26 packages of ammunition and thumb drives to VPD, three packages of tools to Parks & Recreation, and 180 miscellaneous items were destroyed. The VPD Property Rooms currently contain 1,335 items.
2. VPD participated in our annual accreditation compliance review October 25 to November 2 with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). Compliance Service Member Jay Murphy (retired Florida police chief) remotely reviewed 25% of VPD's policies and compliance documents and found that we are meeting or exceeding accreditation standards. Special thanks to our accreditation manager Shannon Green for all her great work to ensure VPD maintains compliance with police CALEA accreditation standards.
3. PSS Trainee Joshua Blackburn resigned on October 29. He was offered and accepted a dispatch supervisor position with Kettering Health Police Department.
4. Last week, Human Resources Manager Leann Hanf and I conducted second round interviews with five police officer applicants. All five applicants passed their interview, and two candidates were provided and accepted conditional offers of employment.
5. On October 30 Officer Sommer spoke to two 3rd grade classes at St. Christopher Catholic School. He talked with students about Halloween safety along with basic personal safety issues, such as when to call 911, wearing seatbelts, and interacting with strangers.
6. SSM Anissa Kanzari retired on October 31. She dedicated 34 years to public safety, with the past six years being with the Vandalia Police Department. Anissa was instrumental in numerous essential projects in dispatch, records, and overall police operations. We wish Anissa the best in retirement and enjoying hobbies.
7. On November 1, PSS Deborah Wright was promoted to Support Services Manager, replacing Anissa Kanzari. SSM Wright has been with VPD since 2012, has a BA in

Criminology from THE Ohio State University, and a Master of Public Administration. She has worked in public safety since 2003.

8. On October 31, I participated in a Mental Health stakeholders meeting downtown at the Reibold Building with representatives from Montgomery County Probate Court, ADAMHS, Common Pleas Court, County Probation Department, local hospital network representatives, and other social service agencies to discuss how to streamline and improve processes for dealing with individuals with mental health conditions.
9. VPD officers participated in Beggars' Night by driving through city neighborhoods to distribute candy to all the trick-or-treaters. It was a great evening to interact with the youth and families who were out despite the inclement weather. I found my counterpart during the event and enjoyed grabbing a quick snapshot with him.



10. On November 1, I attended the Chamber's First Friday coffee event at the Vandalia Library Branch and interacted with community leaders and business owners. It was great to meet several new attendees and interact with our community members.
11. Last Friday, I participated with other directors and staff members in a review of the updated Vandalia Personnel Policies and Procedures that are being implemented by the City Manager's Office and will be extended to employees in the collective bargaining units in the near future.
12. On November 5, P&R Communications installed the Link Layer encryption update to all mobile, portable, and dispatch radios used by VPD. This software update is mandatory for public safety radios to have installed prior to July of 2025, in order to be active on the MARCS network.
13. VPD officers completed Phase III in-service training November 6-7. This training included building search techniques, room clearing tactics, and utilizing our new Simunitions equipment. This equipment replaces firearms with training guns and fires a projectile that is safe for training. For personal safety, officers use face masks and wear long sleeve clothing. Using this equipment allows us to put our officers through realistic scenarios and debrief their decisions. Special thanks to the Vandalia United Methodist Church for allowing us to use their building.
14. Several PD employees attended the employee appreciation breakfast Wednesday morning at Cassel Hills Golf Course Clubhouse. We enjoyed a delicious breakfast and interacting with our counterparts from other city departments. We thank Council and the city manager's office for hosting this event.

15. Detectives charged a 44-year-old Vandalia man with Aggravated Possession of Drugs (Methamphetamines). The suspect was found asleep behind the wheel at Wendy's restaurant. Suspected drugs, drug paraphernalia, and an open container of alcohol was located inside the vehicle. The suspect had an active felony warrant and was incarcerated at the Montgomery County Jail.
16. Detectives charged a 24-year-old Troy man with Attempted Breaking and Entering and Vandalism. The male suspect threw a brick at the front door of Monkey Smoke Shop causing damage. This male suspect committed several B&E's throughout the Miami Valley and is currently incarcerated at the Miami County Jail.

Public Service Information Update

To: Mark Schwieterman, Interim City Manager
From: Ben Borton, Director of Public Service
Date: November 7, 2024
Subject: **Information Update for October 26 – November 8, 2024**

Development & Engineering Services (DES)

Dog Leg Water and Sanitary Extension Phase 2 project: Outdoor Enterprise has excavated and installed the fabricated lift station. This allows them to finish the remainder of the project in that area (gravity sanitary sewer, forcemain sanitary sewer, watermain, rest of lift station equipment and fencing).



Bikeway Connector project: construction is under way. Brumbaugh Construction has cleared most of the off-road alignment from Cassel Creek Dr to the Taylorsville Dam and begun improvements along this section needed to install the path. Miami Conservancy District (MCD) is reviewing the sheet pile plans for the installation of the mechanically stabilized earth (MSE) wall near the US-40 bridge over CSX railroad at the Taylorsville Dam. Various utility relocations are under way to facilitate this bikeway project.

All City electric vehicle (EV) charging stations are operational and open to the public via the Blink Charging app. These are located at the Sports Complex (4 ports), Recreation Center (4), Senior Center (6), Justice Center parking lot (6), Municipal Building (6), and Cassel Hills golf course (6).

New street trees (22) were plant around Victory Park on Clyde Pl, Cyril Ct, and Attica St. These are Crimson Sunset Maple and Autumn Gold Ginkgo trees, which have autumnal purple and gold colors for our hometown Vandalia-Butler Aviators, are hardy enough to survive next to the roadway, slow vertical growing, and recommended for street trees.

The public portal (M5 Connect) for our DES software (Municipity) is planned to go live December 2nd. DES staff are receiving training to be ready for its implementation. This portal will allow residents, business owners, and contractors to apply & review status of permits, pay permit fees, and receive approved permits online from the comforts of their home or office. This has been a 2024 department goal focused on the Citywide Policy Goal of **Sharpen the Saw** and DES staff have been working hard towards its implementation.

The following sites have received approved permits and begun construction/upfit work:

- Family doctor's office (tenant upfit) at existing 270 James E. Bohanan Memorial Dr
- Goodwill (fire alarm & sign) at existing 732 W National Rd
- VB Historical Society (new fire alarm) at 336 E Alkaline Springs Rd
- Art Park amphitheater (footer & electrical inspections) at 250 E Alkaline Springs Rd

DES staff are working Parks & Recreation (P&R) staff on the Robinette Park splash pad utilizes and flow test.

Asbestos abatement has been completed for the court-ordered blight abatement demolition of 4581 Poplar Creek Rd. The demolition contractor is planning to start the demolition work soon.

I attended the biyearly Transportation Improvement Project (TIP) meeting with Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) regarding our grant-awarded projects in the early or design phase on October 29th. These projects are Johnson Station Rd Bridge Replacement and Poe Ave/Wyse Rd/Miller Ln Resurfacing.

I attended the TCA Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) selection committee shortlist meeting on October 30th, Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) District 4 grant application scoring meeting on November 6th, and NAWA technical committee meeting on November 7th.

Staff expressed their thanks for the Team Breakfast on November 6th and another opportunity to meet up with other City personnel they don't interact with on a regular basis.

Public Works (PW)

Crews continued installing water meters and leaf collection throughout the City.

Crews fixed a watermain break at Helke Park and water service curb stops on Blue Jay Dr & Skyview Dr.

Crews fixed a tree grate and poured a new concrete sidewalk section on S Dixie Dr and began installing winter lights on the National Rd street trees.



Crews performed asphalt repairs on a bad section on Poe-Wyse Connector to prevent it from creating potholes in the winter and around a manhole (MH) on Kenbrook Dr.

Crews pumped down the water in the detention basin at the southwest corner of the Brown School Woods plat, while we determine the best path to reestablishing the buried primary basin outlet.

Crews continued making the new branded street signs and are currently installing them in the Heather plat (across from Demmitt Elementary).

Crews installed a gravel pad at Fire House I for their shed.

Crews performed 75 utility locates this period for Ohio 811.

Crews performed 3 burials at Poplar Hill cemetery during this period.

The mechanics received our new upfit one-ton dump truck #15. This is our first one-ton truck with snowplow and salt spreader to assist with snow & ice operations.

The mechanics repaired a transmission leak on the street sweeper, serviced the mainbreak truck, and diagnosed the check engine light on Fire division's Engine 2.

Memorandum



To: Mark Schwieterman, Interim City Manager
From: Kurt Althouse, Police Chief
Date: November 6, 2024
Subject: September 2024 Crime Statistical Report Summary

Total calls for service to the Communications Center increased 2% from 1,096 calls in September 2023 to 1,118 calls in September 2024. There were 949 citizen-initiated calls for service (up 1.5%), and there were 169 officer-initiated calls (up 5%) in September 2024.

VPD investigated no homicides or robberies in September 2024. There was one, rape, one assault, and three domestic violence offenses reported in September 2024 compared to five assaults and seven domestic violence offenses in September 2023. Domestic violence cases decreased by four during September, and they are down nearly 12% YTD with 37 incidents in 2024 compared to 42 incidents in 2023. Assaults are up 8.6% with 38 assaults reported YTD in 2024 compared to 35 assaults during the same period in 2023. The increase in assaults is attributed to more juveniles involved in fights and charged with assault as well as more impaired and/or mentally ill individuals being suspects in assaults.

There were seven burglaries reported in September 2024 compared to seven burglaries reported in September 2023. Thus far in 2024, burglaries/breaking & entering increased by three offenses, felony thefts increased 6.6% for a total of 97 offenses, auto thefts are up 9.1% for a total of 36 offenses, and misdemeanor thefts increased by 22.4% for a total of 71 offenses. Many of these thefts and breaking & entering offenses are attributed to thefts from vehicles left unlocked or unsecured and committed by teen suspects from out-of-town who often target neighborhoods overnight.

There was one criminal damaging/vandalism complaint in September 2024, down from 11 incidents last September. Criminal damaging and vandalism offenses are down 10.9% YTD compared to last year for a total of 49 incidents this year. VPD officers have focused on being visible in residential and business areas of the city to display a police presence and prevent crime. Officers made two felony drug arrests, and one misdemeanor drug arrest in September 2024 compared to one felony drug arrest and six misdemeanor drug arrests in September 2023.

VPD made fewer arrests in September 2024 with six felony arrests and 15 misdemeanor arrests compared to six felony arrests and 31 misdemeanor arrests last September. VPD officers charged six juveniles with an offense in September 2024, compared to nine juveniles in September 2023. There is a 28% decrease in juvenile arrests YTD in 2024. These charges have primarily included sex offenses, domestic violence, drug and/or alcohol violations, and thefts.

During September, VPD officers made 270 traffic stops while patrolling Vandalia's roadways, an 18% increase. These stops resulted in 20 citations, 204 written warnings, 45 verbal warnings, and one stop with other dispositions. Speed citations and other citations are down 29% in 2024, while OVI arrests increased 39% in 2024 compared to 2023 with a total of 39 arrests year-to-date. Parking citations decreased from eight parking citations in September 2023 to three parking citations in September 2024. These parking citations have primarily been on violations of commercial vehicles parked in restricted areas on highway exit ramps.

VPD officers investigated 30 traffic crashes in September 2024, compared to 15 traffic crashes investigated in September 2023. Overall, traffic crashes are up 12.8% in 2024 compared to 2023. Officers will continue to patrol Vandalia's roadways and work traffic enforcement to keep our roadways safe and reduce traffic crashes.

Officers responded to more alarm drops than a year ago with an increase from 66 business and residential alarms in September 2023 to 75 alarms in September 2024. Overall, alarm drops for 2024 are down 4% YTD compared to 2023.

Overall, 2024 has seen an increase in criminal offenses, predominantly assault, burglary, and theft offenses, but a decrease in robberies, residential burglaries, criminal damaging/vandalism, and misdemeanor drug offenses; a decrease in arrests; an increase in traffic crashes; and a decrease in alarm drops. VPD officers will remain focused on patrol activities, crime prevention, and traffic enforcement while addressing community concerns related to these areas to keep our city a great place to live, work, and play.

City of Vandalia Division of Police
Monthly Crime Statistical Report
September 2024

CATEGORY	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y-T-D	2023 Y-T-D	% Change	% Clear
How Calls Received:																
Total Calls for Service	927	931	997	1104	1106	1080	1149	1066	1118				9478	9800	-3.3%	N/A
Citizen Initiated = 949	86.08%	88.61%	87.96%	89.04%	90.87%	86.76%	87.99%	88.37%	84.88%				8326	8361	-0.4%	N/A
Officer Initiated = 169	13.92%	11.39%	12.04%	10.96%	9.13%	13.24%	12.01%	11.63%	15.12%				1151	1439	-20.0%	N/A
9-1-1 Call = 334	31.61%	32.44%	33.70%	25.97%	30.29%	26.94%	26.46%	26.92%	29.87%				2762	2891	-4.5%	N/A
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	0.0%	100.00%
Rape	2	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	1				7	4	75.0%	71.43%
Robbery	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				1	4	-75.0%	100.00%
Assault	2	6	3	12	4	3	6	1	1				38	35	8.6%	84.21%
Burglary/B&E Total	1	3	2	3	0	5	3	3	7				27	24	12.5%	81.48%
Residence	0	2	2	2	0	2	2	1	4				15	17	-11.8%	100.00%
Non-residence	1	1	0	1	0	3	1	2	3				12	7	71.4%	58.33%
Theft - Felony	5	7	10	8	8	12	17	14	16				97	91	6.6%	60.82%
Theft - Misd	7	10	8	8	7	7	7	11	6				71	58	22.4%	102.82%
Motor Veh Theft	4	2	1	5	4	6	7	3	4				36	33	9.1%	63.89%
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	1	0.0%	100.00%
Crim Dam & Vandal	1	4	8	8	8	4	6	9	1				49	55	-10.9%	38.78%
Drug Offenses (Fel)	1	1	1	1	2	0	1	2	2				11	6	83.3%	27.27%
Drug Offenses (Misd)	2	3	0	1	2	4	0	0	1				13	25	-48.0%	53.85%
Domestic Violence	7	4	5	4	1	5	5	3	3				37	42	-11.9%	91.89%
Totals	33	40	39	52	36	46	53	46	42	0	0	0	387	378	2.4%	77.52%

City of Vandalia Division of Police
Monthly Crime Statistical Report
September 2024

CATEGORY	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y-T-D	2023 Y-T-D	% CHG
Criminal Arrests:															
Felony	10	5	7	6	6	7	4	5	6				56	45	24.44%
Misdemeanor	14	15	24	29	19	22	25	19	15				182	206	-11.65%
Juvenile	3	5	1	7	7	2	2	3	6				36	50	-28.00%
Total	27	25	32	42	32	31	31	27	27	0	0	0	274	301	-8.97%
Traffic Stops:															
Stops with Citations	48	51	61	42	32	29	35	25	20				343	319	7.52%
Stops with Written Warnings	186	176	182	159	169	133	131	156	204				1496	1618	-7.54%
Stops with Verbal Warnings	76	76	88	82	75	99	67	61	45				669	454	47.36%
Stops with Other Dispositions	5	5	2	4	2	4	5	1	1				29	48	-39.58%
Total Traffic Stops	315	308	333	287	278	265	238	243	270	0	0	0	2537	2439	4.02%
Traffic Arrests/Citations:															
OVI	5	1	7	5	3	4	4	4	6				39	28	39.29%
Speed	16	23	36	19	18	13	15	12	8				160	197	-18.78%
All Other	82	75	92	62	54	56	61	56	53				591	523	13.00%
Parking	9	3	6	10	5	7	1	2	3				46	157	-70.70%
TOTAL	112	102	141	96	80	80	81	74	70	0	0	0	836	905	-7.62%
Traffic Accidents Investigated:															
Fatal	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0				1	0	100.00%
Injury	5	4	6	7	3	8	5	8	7				53	52	1.92%
Property Damage	10	16	15	11	17	13	16	10	23				131	112	16.96%
TOTAL	15	20	22	18	20	21	21	18	30	0	0	0	185	164	12.80%
Alarms:															
Business	38	48	37	51	51	59	64	68	64				480	502	-4.38%
Residential	5	6	6	9	8	7	9	7	11				68	69	-1.45%
TOTAL	43	54	43	60	59	66	73	75	75	0	0	0	548	571	-4.03%