



KENSINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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DATE: March 9, 2023

TO: David Aranda: General Manager

FROM: Mike Gancasz: Chief of Police

RE: **Police Chief's Report for the March 2023 Police District Board Meeting**

Patrol Operations

The Kensington Police Department handled 752 incidents during the month of February. 656 were officer-initiated events including 26 traffic enforcement stops resulting in the issuance of 22 citations. The California Severe Winter Storms limited traffic enforcement, resulting in a decrease in citations. Officers responded to 96 dispatched calls for service and took 10 criminal reports. During the storms, officers proactively patrolled the community looking for signs of obstructed storm drains and flooding. Officers took 4 catalytic converter theft reports, all occurring between the hours of midnight and 6am. Officers are pursuing leads and working directly with our partner agencies to prevent further theft. Response time for officers was reduced in February compared to January by 2 ½ minutes.

Traffic Safety

Traffic collisions were down 100%, from 5 the previous month. Officers provided extra patrol at several road closures initiated by utility companies, including PG&E, Contra Costa County Public Works, EBMUD, and Stege Sanitation District. The average vehicle speed on Arlington Ave was consistent with the 25 MPH posted speed, showing a two-week average speed of 25.46.

Administration

Our newest officer, David Payne, officially started on February 9, and is in the Field Training Program assigned to the patrol division. A formal offer of employment was extended to a police officer from the city of Fremont after he successfully completed all phases of the background process. He accepted the offer, and his first official day will be Monday, March 13, 2023. We look forward to swearing them in at a future board meeting. Staffing levels remained at 8 officers for most of the month.

Training

Sergeant Nath attended and completed session #3 of the POST-approved Supervisory Leadership Institute. His anticipated graduation will be in July 2023. Sgt. Lande continues offering weekly briefing training using "The Briefing Room" service. Officers review weekly training videos on a wide range of topics from officer safety, de-escalation procedures, and constitutional issues in policing. Sergeant Nath and Jason Haynes attended SB2 De Certification Training from POST utilizing the MARK43 platform to enter and review data. The California Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training completed its annual audit of our police officer files on March 1 which will be discussed in next month's report. I attended an online presentation by Flock Safety to explore obtaining security cameras for the District.