



KENSINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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DATE: December 1st, 2024

TO: David Aranda: General Manager

FROM: M. Gancasz, Chief of Police

RE: Police Chief's Monthly Report, November 2024

Patrol Operations

The Kensington Police Department continued its commitment to maintaining public safety, managing 1,319 incidents—an increase from the 1,296 incidents recorded in October. Our officers were proactive, completing 1,123 actions, including 131 traffic stops, resulting in 98 citations focused on enhancing road safety.

Officers responded to 196 dispatched calls for service, a decrease from 271 in October. This reflects both our proactive efforts and the overall decline in reported incidents. Additionally, the department filed 20 investigative reports with the District Attorney, showing a notable increase from the 15 reports in the previous month. This increase highlights our effective case resolution and reduced crime trends.

Our investigative work included several significant felony cases, including a strong-arm robbery, felony vehicle burglary, grand theft, and vehicle theft. Officers made one felony arrest for robbery and a misdemeanor arrest for public intoxication.

Crime pattern analysis indicated that most NIBRS-reportable offenses occurred on Tuesdays and Fridays, with a higher concentration of incidents during the early morning hours (12:00 AM to 5:59 AM) and the afternoon (12:00 PM to 5:59 PM).

Our response times improved, with the average dropping to 4.41 minutes in November from 5.72 minutes in October. This demonstrates the department's efficient service to the community.

Our officers' dedication to proactive policing and public safety ensures that Kensington remains safe and secure for all residents.

Case Volume Analysis

Time	Day of the Week							Total
	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	
0-559	1	1	1	0	1	3	0	7
600-1159	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	3
1200-1759	1	2	0	1	1	0	1	6
1800-2359	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Total	2	5	1	1	4	3	2	18

Table 1. Date and Time Heatmap

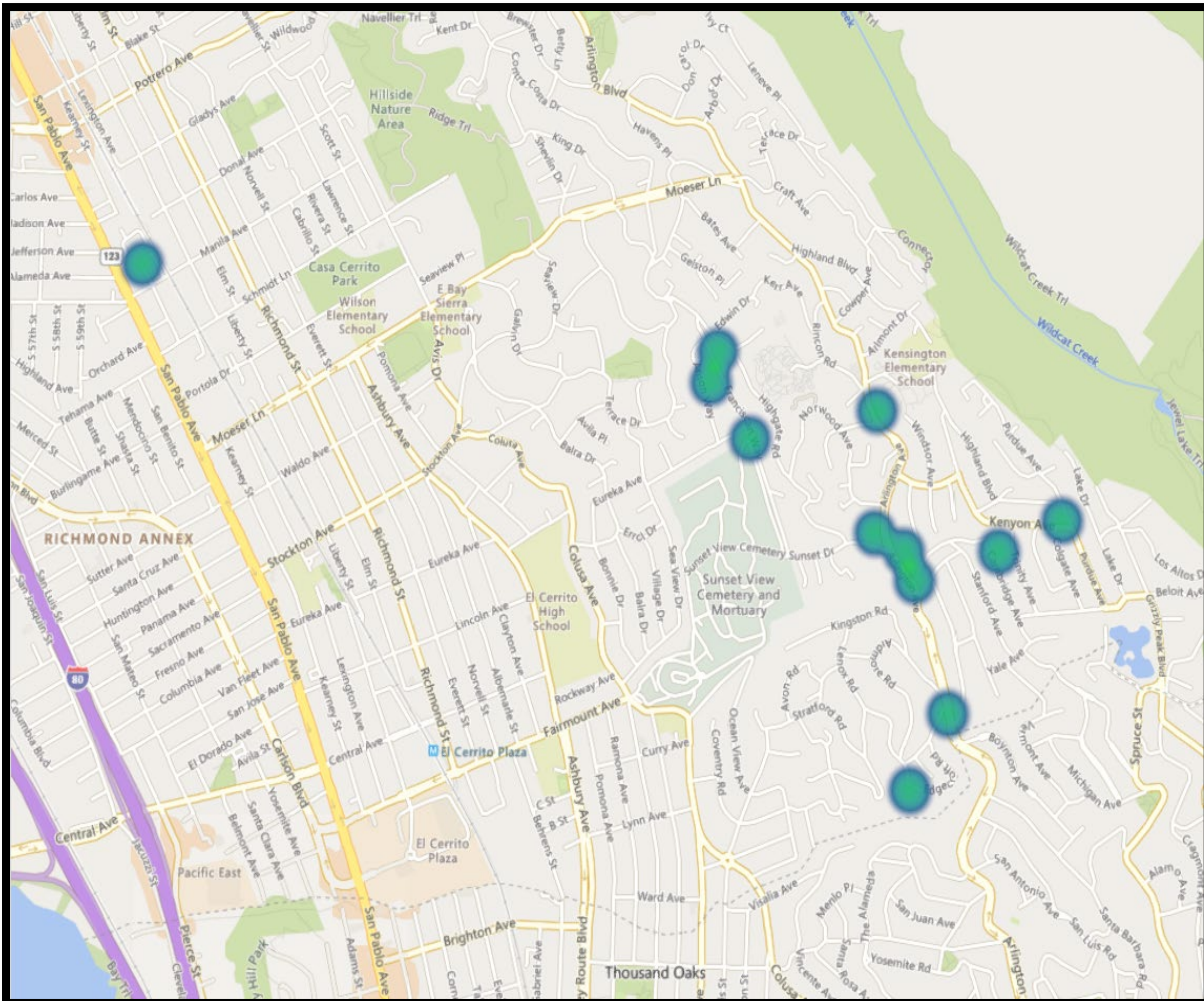
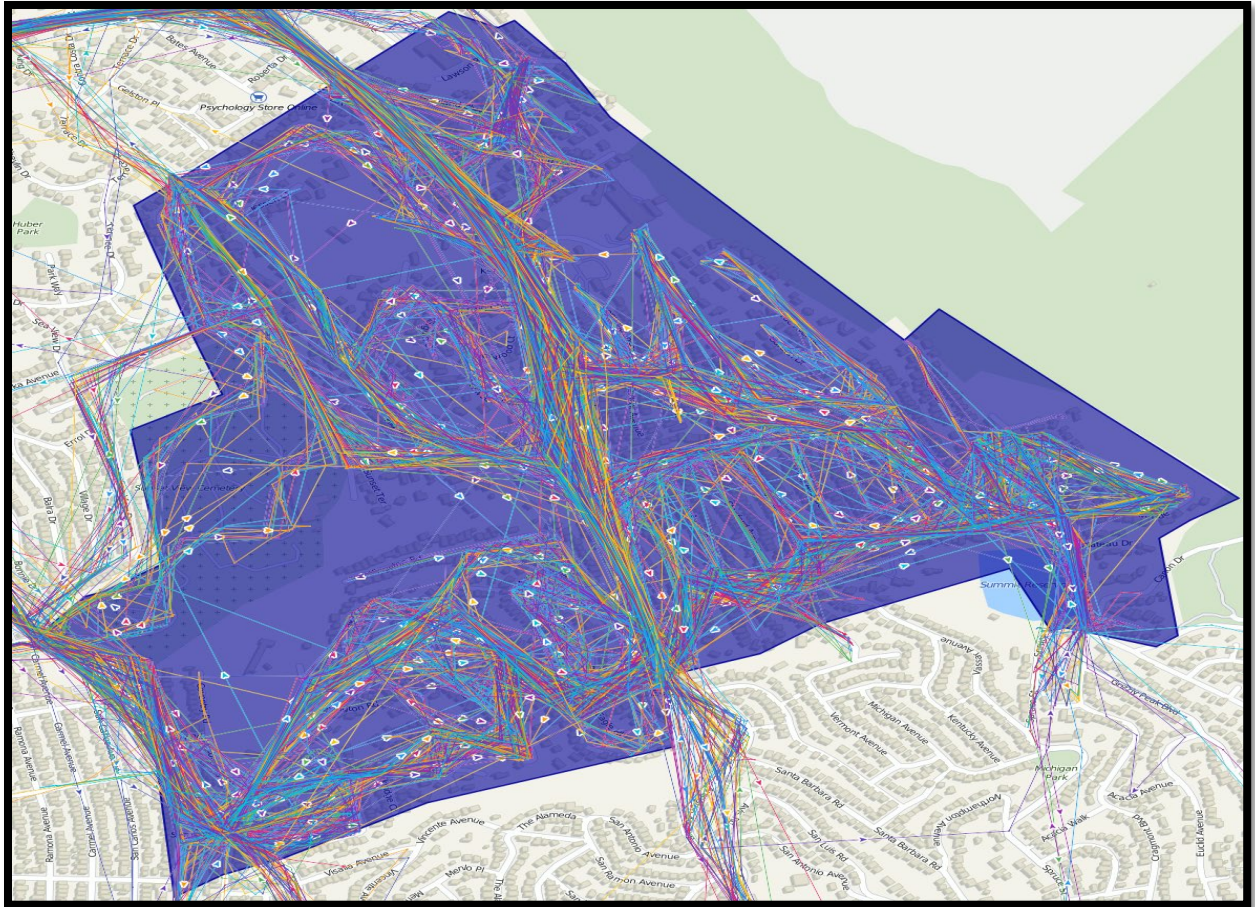


Figure 4. Patrol fleet mapping

Kensington's patrol fleet is tracked with GPS technology, allowing real-time mapping. Figure 4 depicts the Special District of Kensington boundary (dark blue), and the six colored lines represent black-and-white patrol car locations inside the district throughout the month.



Patrol Activity Log

Nov 3: Officers responded to a medical emergency on Anson Way. A report was taken.

Nov 3: Officers were dispatched to Purdue Avenue for a report of license plate theft. A report was taken.

Nov 4: Officers responded to Coventry Road to investigate a credit card fraud incident. A report was taken.

Nov 5: Officers were called to Eureka Avenue for a medical emergency. Kensington Fire personnel transported the individual to a local hospital.

Nov 5: Officers responded to Arlington Avenue and Sunset Drive for an injured person in the street. The individual was cited for public intoxication and transported to a local hospital.

Nov 7: Officers responded to Kenyon Avenue for a medical emergency. A report was taken.

Nov 8: Officers were dispatched to Sunset Terrace for a report of license plate theft. A report was taken.

Nov 8: Officers responded to Stratford Road to investigate an abandoned vehicle that had been previously marked with a warning tag. After completing the appropriate paperwork, the vehicle was impounded.

Nov 10: Officers responded to Coventry Road for a report of two stolen bicycles. A report was taken.

Nov 12: Officers responded to Arlington Avenue for a vehicle burglary report. A report was taken.

Nov 13: Officers were dispatched to Sunset Drive for a bicycle theft. A report was taken.

Nov 15: Officers responded to the Kensington Police Department for a Service to Citizen detail. A report was taken.

Nov 16: Officers were dispatched to Lake Drive to investigate a PayPal fraud scheme. A report was taken.

Nov 17: Officers responded to Cambridge Avenue for a medical emergency. Kensington Fire personnel transported the individual to a local hospital.

Nov 18: Officers responded to Arlington Avenue for a report of a stolen vehicle, which was later recovered in the City of Oakland.

Nov 19: Officers responded to Sunset Drive and Arlington Avenue for a robbery report. The suspect was apprehended and transported to the Martinez Detention Facility.

Nov 22: Albany/Kensington PD Dispatch received multiple calls from residents who reported receiving telephone calls from a police impersonator. The investigation is ongoing.

Community Safety Cameras

The number of stolen vehicles reported stolen in Kensington was 1. Flock was used to assist in multiple investigations.



August Data Captured – five (5) cameras			
Type	Stolen Plates	Stolen Vehicle	Felony Warrant
Count	139	1	0

Training

Officers participated in Advanced Officer Training at the El Cerrito Police Department. The training included enhanced Taser instruction, arrest and control techniques, and practical "sustained resistance" scenarios. These scenarios allowed officers to apply their skills in a controlled but challenging environment, with role players (wearing protective padding) simulating active resistance. The primary objective of this training was to "pressure test" officers' abilities to respond effectively in real-world situations involving resistance.

Additionally, Sergeants Lande and Rivera attended the WRAP Restraint Instructor course, which certified them to teach the proper application of The Wrap system. The Wrap is a restraint technique designed to safely immobilize a subject, reducing the risk of injury to the individual and officers. It prevents the subject from kicking or causing harm while facilitating a quicker and more efficient restraint process. The system allows the subject to be secured upright, ready for transport or further movement.

This training reflects the department's ongoing commitment to ensuring that all personnel are equipped with the latest tools and techniques to handle various situations safely and effectively.

Traffic Safety

There were no traffic collisions, hit-and-runs, or DUIs in November, and officers engaged in a high level of proactive traffic enforcement.

Chief of Police

Community

There were no community events scheduled this month.

Kensington was asked to support crime prevention efforts in the city of Antioch. Our officers provided patrol support in the form of directed enforcement and prevention of gun violence, narcotics sales, and crime reduction. Our officers, along with other agencies, participated in this effort, and the results of the operation were:

- 54 Traffic Stops
- 7 Citations Issued
- 4 felony Arrests
- 4 Stolen Vehicles Recovered
- 1 vehicle pursuit (stolen vehicle recovered)
- 16.2 Grams of Methamphetamine Seized



No injuries or uses of force occurred during the multijurisdictional operation. The Chief of Antioch distributed a press release that complimented the task force's efforts, including the two officers from the Kensington Police Department.

Letter of Appreciation

The department received a letter of appreciation from a citizen wishing to compliment Officer David Payne:

"Dear Chief, Gancasz: We were on vacation from our Kensington residence in October, and three people using an electronic device from a car opened my wife's car doors. From our Ring videos, it appeared that they attempted to start the car but could not; they took some small items from the car and departed. Fortunately, we had advised the Kensington Police Department via their online form that we would be on vacation. Officer Payne of the Kensington Police Force responded immediately to my Ring notification. He investigated the incident and contacted me by cell phone. Thereafter, he and other members of the Kensington Police Force checked in on the house to see if the suspects later decided to try to break into our home while we were gone. My wife and I were very happy at both the response to the initial incident and the follow-up by Officer Payne and the

Kensington Police Force. I doubt this is the sort of response that a homeowner would receive from a larger metropolitan police department, and we are very grateful to live in Kensington and have such wonderful and responsive officers. Thank you very much."

We are proud of how our officers interact with the public and community members, but more importantly, we are proud of their genuine care for our residents. This case is still being investigated.

Father's son visits the PD

Lieutenant Nath's seven-year-old son, Donovan, visited the PD and got to experience what it's like to be a police officer. We were thrilled to have him tour the police department and his dad's office, where he learned about never-ending paperwork! Donovan also met Officer Jose Fajardo and Harjot Gill, who gave him a tour of their police cars, where he activated the lights and sirens in the parking lot. We had a great time visiting with Donovan and welcome him back soon.

