2020 STATE
OF THE
TIMNATH POLICE
DEPARTMENT
HISTORY

2010: Police Department of 2-3 people

2014: Service calls
Cases: 168
Calls/Incident: 1,126

2018: Service calls:
Cases: 538
Calls/Incidents: 6,778

2018: Resident Survey -
Public Safety as #1 Priority
HISTORY

2019: Better Alignment of Resources with Priority
• Evaluation of best practices
• Budgeting for additional officers to move to 24/7 by 2021
• Planning for new building by 2021
• Updated policies & guidelines to get there

2020: Continue toward full functioning Agency
• Budget for 16 officers and police facility
• Market Analysis of competitive pay
• Building design progression
• Anticipated construction to begin Q3
CURRENT STATUS

• Department of 9 sworn officers

  2020 Budget
  additional officers: 7
  total sworn positions: 16

  Market analysis adjustments necessary to attract new officers

  2021 Current Preliminary Proposed Budget
  additional officers: 2
  total sworn positions: 18

• Making immediate improvements towards 24/7
CURRENT STATUS

• Continued contract relationship with Larimer County for dispatch, jailing of suspects & mutual aide

• Gaps of current model
  • No Timnath officers from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.
  • No dedicated specifically to Timnath deputies
  • Larimer County square miles: 2,634
  • Limited staffing (at times only 5 deputies on duty at night)
  • Priority goes to unincorporated Larimer County
  • Negatively impacts response times
CRIME STATISTICS

2014: Service calls
Cases: 168
Calls/Incident: 1,126

2018: Service calls:
Cases: 538
Calls/Incidents: 6,778

The number and complexity of cases/incidents have changed significantly - Timnath is growing up
Impact of Walmart Development Area

- Positive economic impacts for Timnath
  - Sales tax helps funds improved public safety and other Town of Timnath services
- Evolved over time from shoplifting and misdemeanors to:
  - Complex criminal acts
  - Fraud
  - Nexis to narcotics (meth, fentanyl, opioids)
  - Suspects have previous warrants
  - Human trafficking
  - Homicides
- Walmart now submits smaller issues online so officers can focus on the more serious needs
- Walmart’s 24/7 operation adds to risk
CURRENT FACILITY - GAPS

• No room for additional officers
• No holding cell
• No interview room
• Not enough evidence space
• No armory (safe place to maintain weapons)
• No vehicle storage

• No sally-port
• No drug storage (unsafe ventilation)
• No forensic evidence capability
• No refrigeration capability
• No emergency management response capabilities
2018 SURVEY: PUBLIC SAFETY #1

Score out of 6

- Public Safety: 4.74
- Responsible Governance: 3.83
- Economic Vitality: 3.60
- Transportation: 3.46
- Attractive and Sustainable Environment: 3.09
- Enriched Community: 2.29
2019 EVALUATION & ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS – What was Reviewed

1) What if the contract remained a hybrid (same support as now) agreement with Larimer County?

2) What if we contracted fully with Larimer County and moved away from our own Police department?

3) What if we move toward a fully functioning Timnath Police Department?
WHAT IF: HYBRID AGREEMENT?

• Current arrangement is a hybrid model developed to support Timnath as we moved toward a fully functioning agency

• Discussions clarified options in Fall 2019:
  • Sheriff is not supportive of a hybrid model and said it is a non-starter for discussion
  • Only supportive of this model temporarily as we move toward self-sustaining department
  • Likelihood Colorado State Patrol will also redirect resources as Timnath grows

• Conclusion- Either all in or develop your own
WHAT IF: FULLY CONTRACTED WITH LARIMER?

• Discussions clarified options in Fall 2019:
  • Larimer County Sheriff estimated a need of at least 20 officers to reach 24/7 coverage
    • 20 officers would cost more than $2M annually for just personnel
    • Estimate did not include any additional costs (e.g., equipment, vehicles, facilities, or training)
  • Larimer County calls would still take priority
    • Larimer County deputies assigned to Timnath may be elsewhere when a local call comes in.
    • We may be paying for something we don’t actually get because deputies are responding to another call

RISK: Current Sheriff is term-limited. Agreement might be supported by current leadership, but there is no guarantee of future contracts

• Real life example: Centennial, CO might now have to create a new Police Department as a result of a similar contract
WHAT IF: WE HAVE A FULLY FUNCTIONING TIMNATH POLICE DEPARTMENT?

• 24/7 Coverage
• Better response times
• In charge of our own future
  • Not reliant on Larimer County and change in administration
  • Budget long-term in response to community expectations
• Attract and retain officers that are aligned with character and culture of Timnath and a true part of the community they serve
• Set our own standards for service delivery to meet expectations
• Proactive in mitigating public safety concerns and not reactive
DECISION: FULLY FUNCTIONING POLICE DEPARTMENT

2018: Public safety as the #1 priority

2019: Evaluation & conclusion demonstrated that it was in the community’s best interest to move forward with a fully functioning agency

2019: Allocated budget resources for continued movement toward 24/7 coverage and police building in 2020

2020: Implementation
- Evaluate department culture and staffing
- Determine staffing needs
- Fully understand impacts of decision long term
- Plan transition timeline
FINDINGS

• Culture analysis
  • Positive work environment
  • Employees feel supported by community

• Needs and recommendations related to:
  • Equipment
  • Vehicles and how they’re outfitted
  • Recruitment
FINDINGS: STAFFING LEVELS

• Report developed with the understanding that Larimer County would still provide similar levels of support as they do today, we now know: this is not possible

• McGrath Recommendation for minimum staffing required for 24/7 is not realistic or sustainable based on no outside continued support.
STAFFING LEVELS: 20 OFFICERS NEEDED

Research
• McGrath Report
• Larimer County Sheriff’s Office
• Peer Communities
• Staffing Benchmarks
• Service delivery and community expectation
• Expert Opinions and years of experience
STAFFING LEVELS: 20 OFFICERS

BENEFITS

• Best practice option
• Allows us to meet community expectations
• Reasonable and sustainable working environment
• Increases officer & community safety
• Allows for leadership training, succession planning, general staff scheduling needs
• High performing team that Timnath residents deserve and expect
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

VEHICLES
• Leasing vehicles is more cost-effective & predictable
  • Capital outlay minimized
  • Reduces maintenance expense
  • Provides budget predictability
  • Provides a predictable replacement schedule

POLICIES
• Vehicle take-home policies prove that cars are better maintained by officers
  • Proven to improve response times
  • Similar car markings as surrounding communities also increase police presence in neighborhoods for all communities
POLICE BUILDING

Moving to 24/7 and comprehensive coverage requires more space

• Research
  • Evaluate potential use of current building
  • Talked to other community experts
  • Toured other facilities
  • Experience of current staff
REQUIREMENTS OF NEW BUILDING

A police facility is far more complex than a typical commercial building space and as a result, the price per square foot is higher than a typical building, and the need to plan for growth also increases cost.

Examples of the complexities:

• Different ventilation system
• Bullet-proofing
• Square footage for:
  • 20 officers
  • Evidence storage
  • Holding cells
  • Forensic space
  • Sally-port
• Plan for future use related to space, use, etc.
  • Erie
  • Windsor
TIMNATH IS GROWING

Timnath is continuing to grow and its needs and expectations for public safety is paramount and needs to evolve with the town.

We need to be prepared and proactive for growth

Nature and amount of calls are increasing and are more complex

We’re growing up and so are our challenges to stay ahead of those trends to mitigate safety threats to our community

The Town of Timnath has a plan in place to address challenges in a strategic and proactive way.
• Fully functioning, self-sustaining agency

• Staffing: Department of 20
  • 2020: 16 sworn officers budgeted
  • 2021: 18 sworn officers budgeted, add 2 more officers to proposed budget
  • GOAL: 20 sworn officers

• Building: Critical for 24/7
  • Council Meeting March 10 to discuss building