



[Home](#) / [Portland City Council](#) / [Council Documents](#)

2025-021

Overview of Public Safety Service Area operations and cost (Presentation)

Placed on File
Topic: City Staff will present an overview on Public Safety operations and costs.
Requested time: 45 minutes

Exhibits and Attachments

- [Presentation](#) 7.26 MB
- [Program Overview](#) 11.33 MB

Document History

Document number: 2025-021

Agenda	Council action
February 11, 2025 <div>Community and Public Safety Committee</div>	Placed on File

Document number

2025-021

Introduced by

[Councilor Sameer Kanal](#);
[Councilor Steve Novick](#)

Contact

Christopher Herr
Council Policy Analyst
[✉ christopher.herr@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:christopher.herr@portlandoregon.gov)

Lisa Freeman
Chief of Staff for Councilor Sameer Kanal
[✉ lisa.j.freeman@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:lisa.j.freeman@portlandoregon.gov)

[971-710-3817](tel:971-710-3817)
9AM to 4PM M-F

Steph Cleary
[✉ Steph@montavilla.org](mailto:Steph@montavilla.org)

Date and Time Information

Requested Council Date
February 11, 2025

Who We Are



SAFE BLOCKS PROGRAM

BUILDING COMMUNITY SAFETY

Safe Blocks is a community-focused violence and crime prevention program that supports communities with the greatest promise for growth and development. We provide community safety-focused workshops and trainings, CPTED security assessments, neighborhood improvement projects and more.

ROSE CITY SELF-DEFENSE

EMPOWERMENT COMMUNITY

Rose City Self-Defense empowers girls, women and the LGBTQ+ community, with a focus on engaging communities of color, people with disabilities, folks with unstable housing, as well as safety for sex workers. All programming is free!

SAFE BLOCKS

Our Programs



We work in neighborhoods with the highest promise.

We focus in areas with high social vulnerability, high rates of violence, and that have experienced historic disinvestment.

← Eliot Housing Expo, 2024



We work towards transformation.

We work with communities on transformative opportunities with placemaking and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

← Hazelwood Resource Fair, 2024



Our work is community-led, centered in the voices of those most impacted by violence.

Place-based interventions are led by the needs and assets of communities.

← Dawson Park Engagement, 2024



We build long-term relationships with communities.

We support communities through events like Party on Portland!, community resource fairs, drug take backs and community safety trainings.

← Cully Community Safety Meeting, 2024

Our History

Safe Blocks

Rose City Self-Defense

1980s

Safe Blocks Crime Prevention Program originates in the Office of Neighborhood Associations (ONA)

1979

WomenStrength is founded under PPB.

1997-2018

Safe Blocks Crime Prevention Program located in the Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI).

There are 17 Crime Prevention Program Administrators (CPPA).

At this time, programs included:

- Good Neighbor Agreements
- National Night Out
- Know Your Neighbor
- Enhanced Safety Properties

2006

Program Director Sara Johnson adds private **Personal Safety Workshops**.

2008

GirlStrength program added, expanding reach to girl-identifying youth, grades 4-12.

2012

BoyStrength program added, expanding reach to boys, grades 4-12.

2018

ONI changes to the Office of Community and Civic Life

Program is renamed the Community Safety Program

2020- 2022

Curriculum updated to better focus on including the most vulnerable members of the Portland community.

2022

Program moves to the **Community Safety Division**

2022

Strengths Program moves to the OVP & is renamed **Rose City Self-Defense**.

2024

LGBTQIA2S+ class was launched.

ROSE CITY SELF-DEFENSE

Our Programs



We provide **free** **Personal Safety, Self-Defense and De-Escalation Workshops**

→ **61%** of our community participants are survivors of violence



Women-centered Introductory & Intermediate classes for ages 13 & up.

→ **85%** of our community participants are women



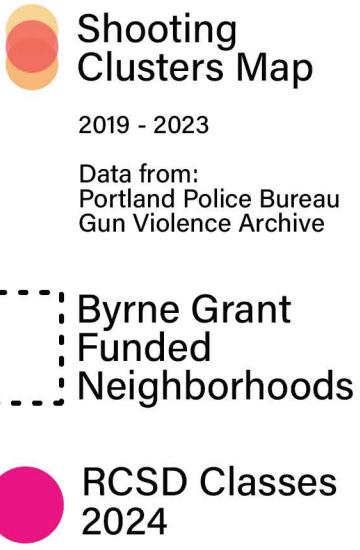
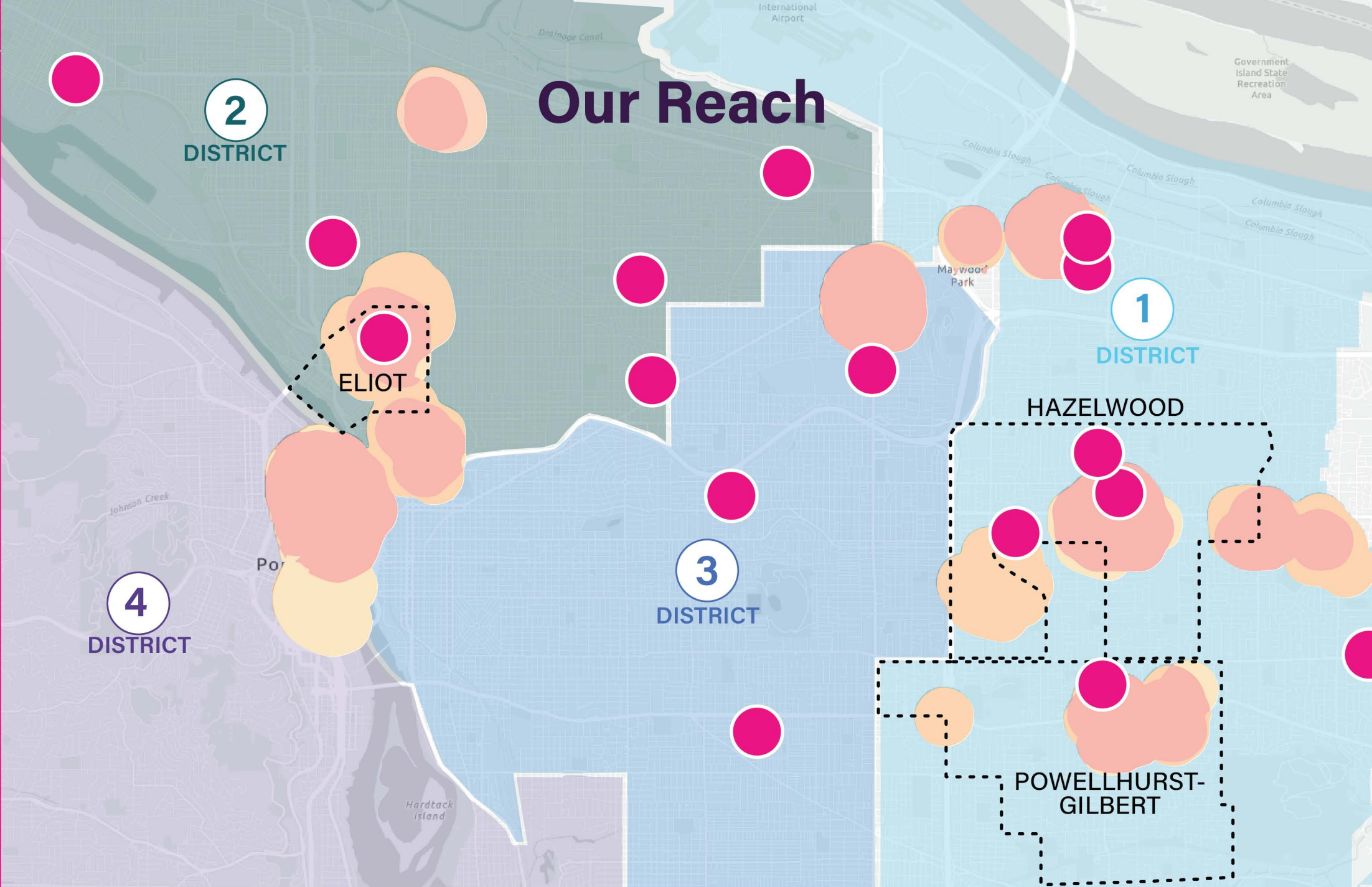
LGBTQIA2S+ classes for the specific safety needs of this population.

→ **13%** of our youth participants are non binary/trans/gender-expansive



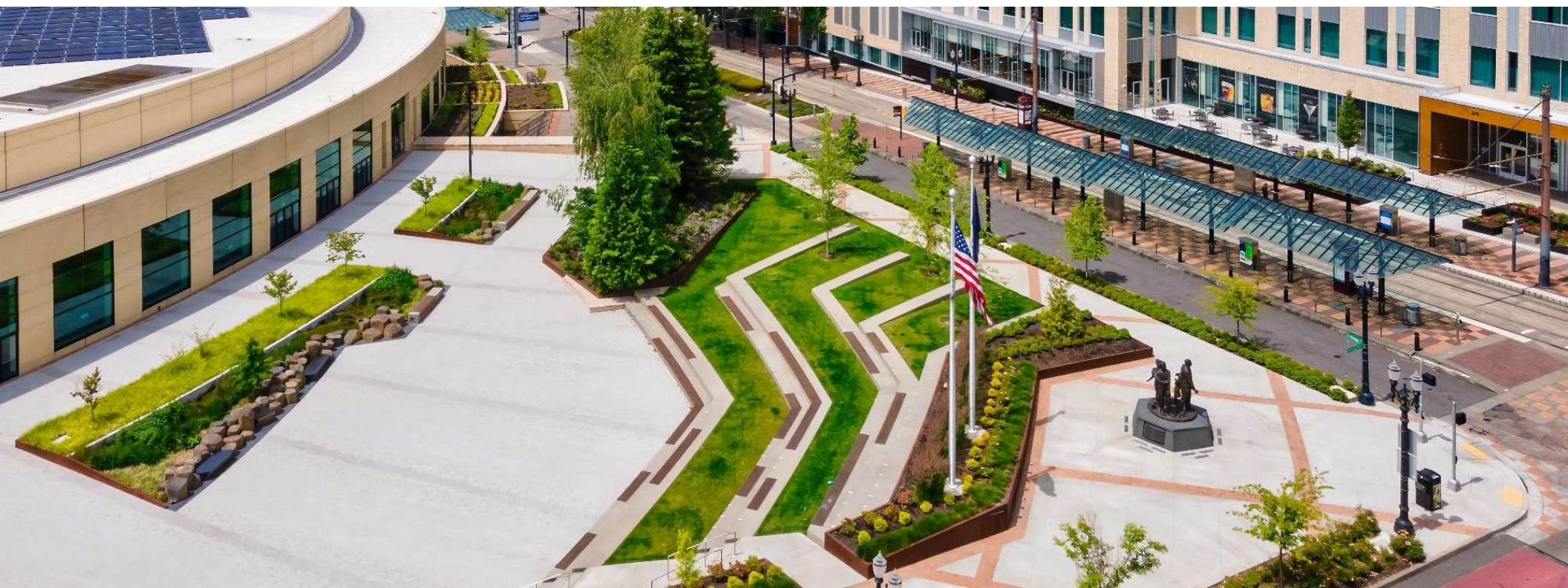
Youth programming for those as young as 4th grade up to college age

→ **42%** of our youth participants are people of color



Program Highlight

In 2024, Safe Blocks Coordinators provided a training alongside RCSD for residents at the Menlo Park Safe Rest Village in Hazelwood. Safe Blocks also conducted a CPTED site security assessment for the Village. Through connects made during safety trainings, a resident of that village is now a trained volunteer for RCSD's self-defense program.



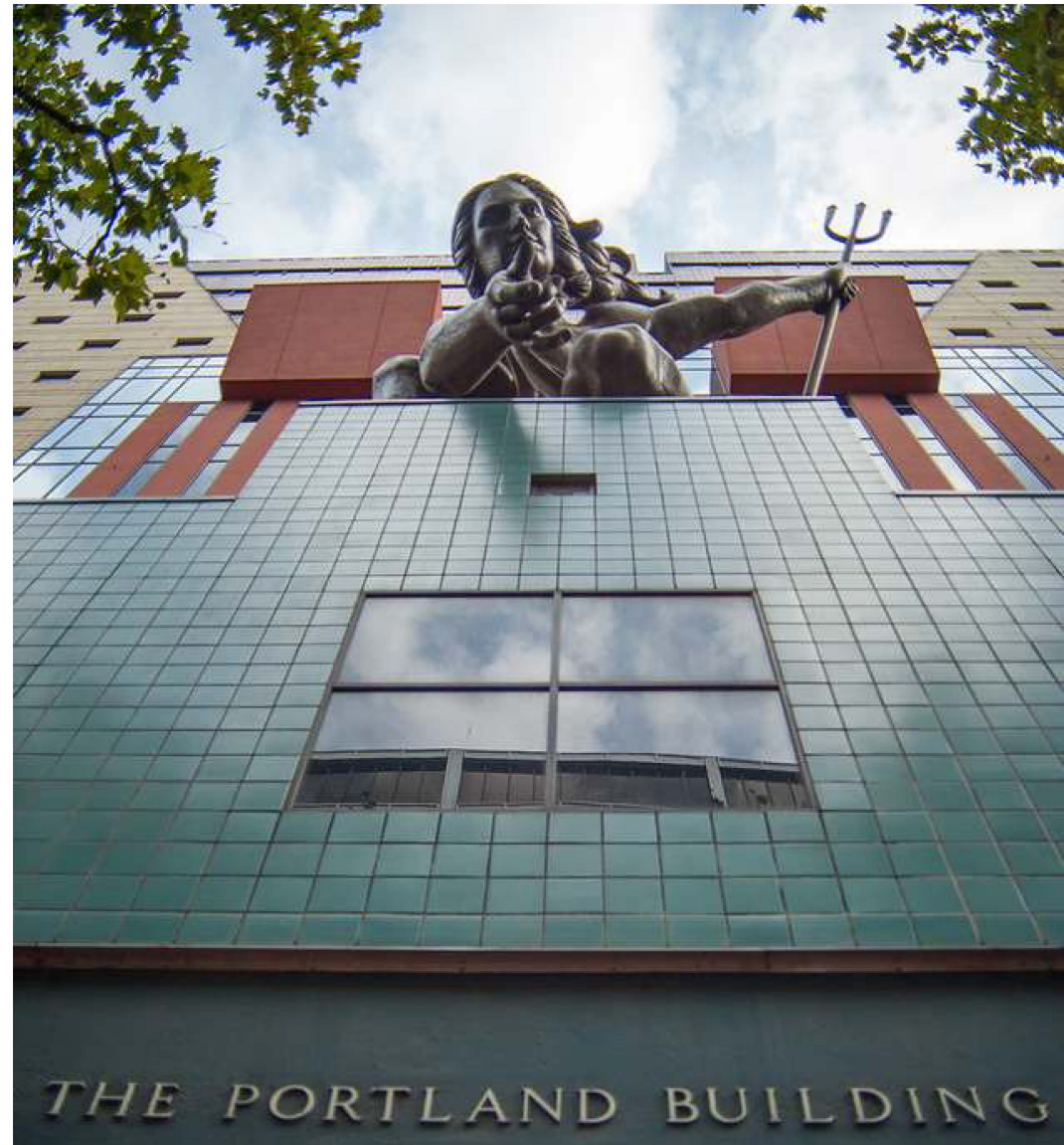
Community & Public Safety Committee Meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 11

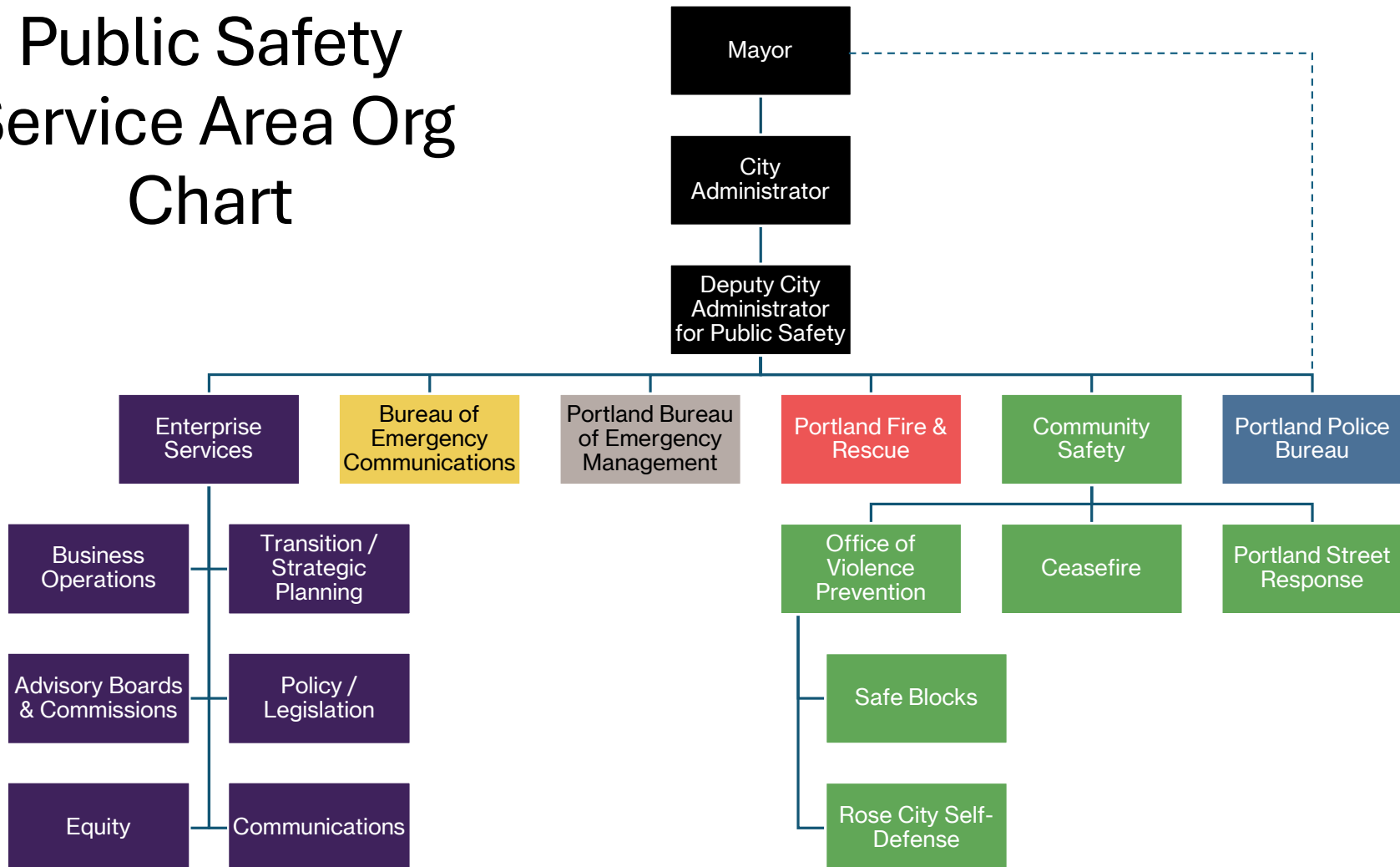


Agenda

- Intro
- Bureau of Emergency Communications
- Community Safety
 - Ceasefire
 - OVP
 - Rose City Self-Defense
 - Safe Blocks



Public Safety Service Area Org Chart



BOEC

BOEC Mission:

*Work collaboratively with
our community and public safety
partners to ensure effective and timely
911 call answering and dispatching*

User Board:

Public safety partners:

- Portland Police Bureau
- Portland Fire and Rescue
- Multnomah County Sheriff
- Multnomah County EMS
- Gresham Police Department
- Gresham Fire Department
- Corbett Fire District
- Sauvie Island Fire District

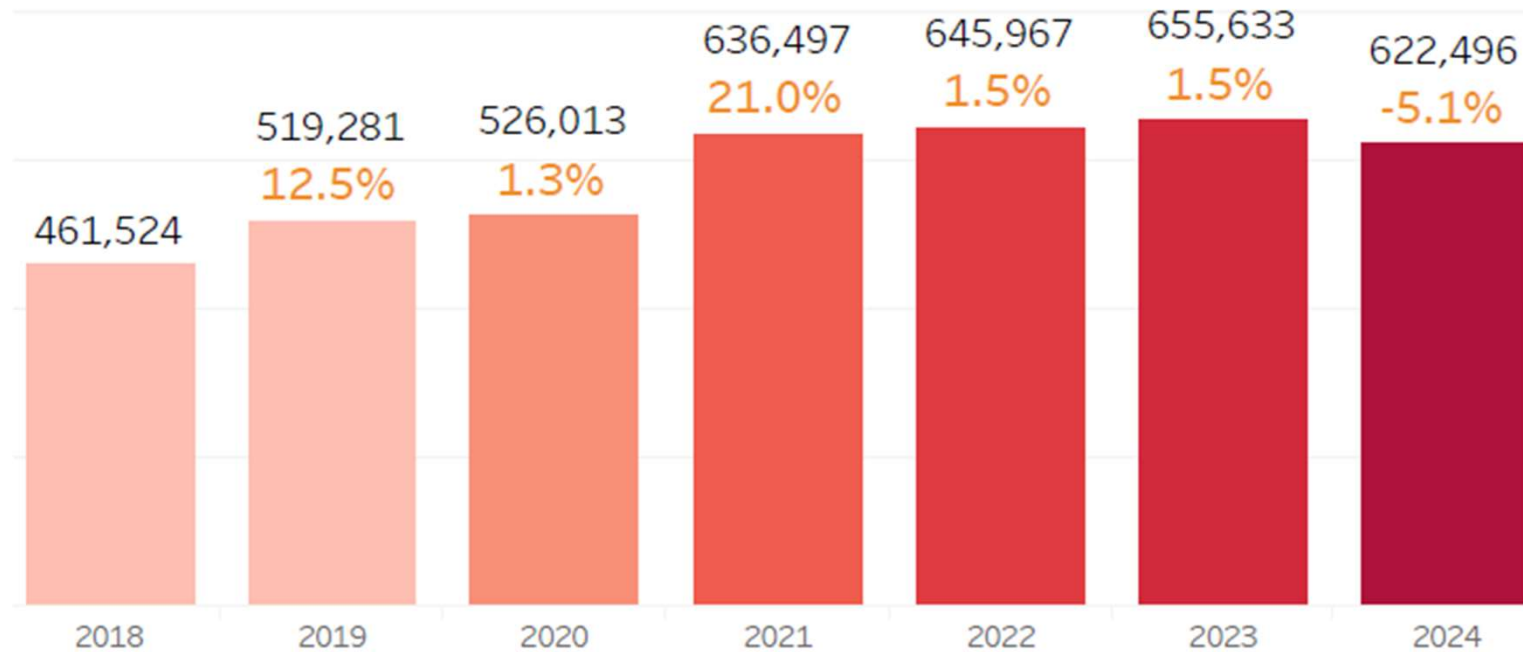
User Jurisdictions:

- City of Fairview
- City of Maywood Park
- City of Troutdale
- City of Wood Village

Three community members:

- West Portland
- East Portland
- East County

911 Call Volume 2018-2024



5.1% decrease
the past year

35%
increase from
2018

Staffing – As of January 1, 2025

- Two years ago...

- 62 Sr. Dispatchers
 - 90 certified in call taking
 - 99 total operations staff
 - 37 vacant positions
- Today...

82

108

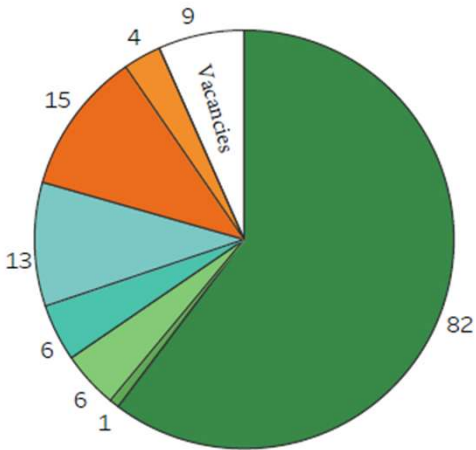
127

9

...and 12 candidates to fill vacancies in a February academy!

Dispatch Staffing

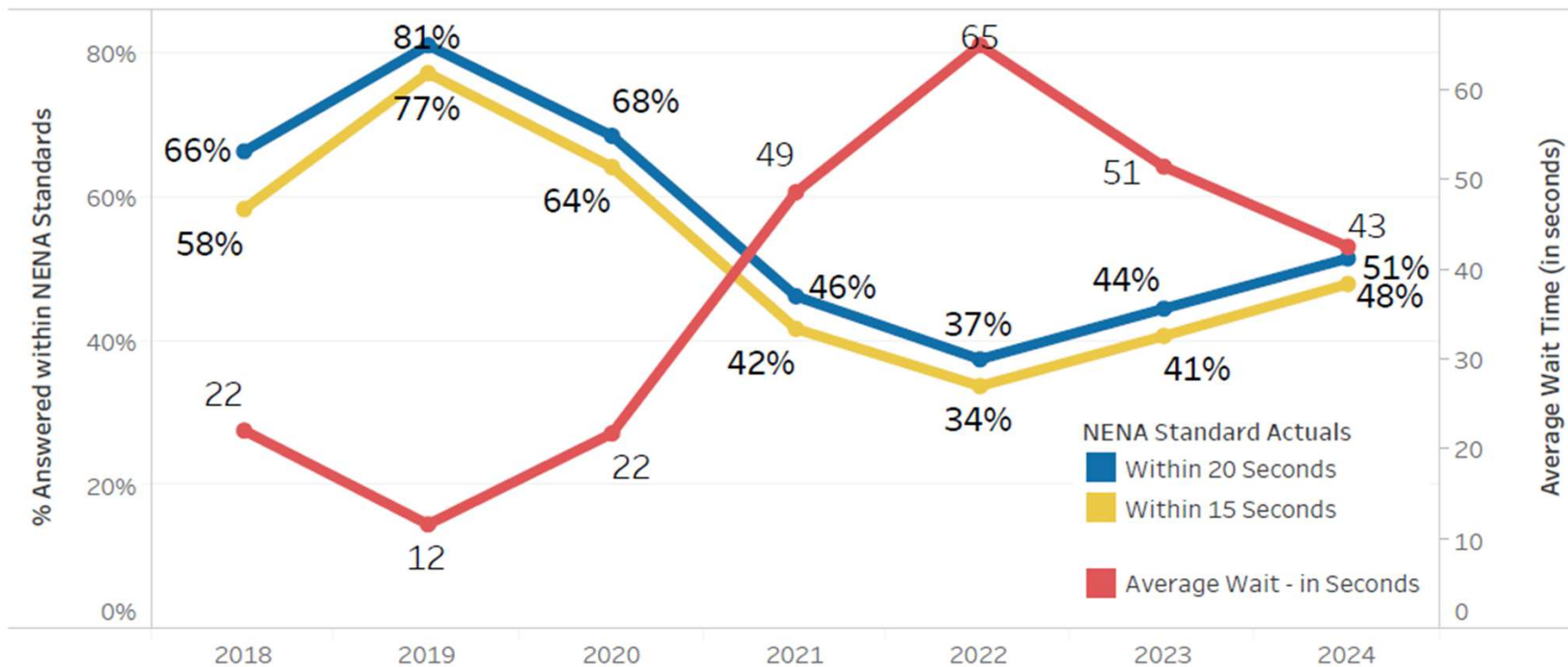
As of January 1, 2025



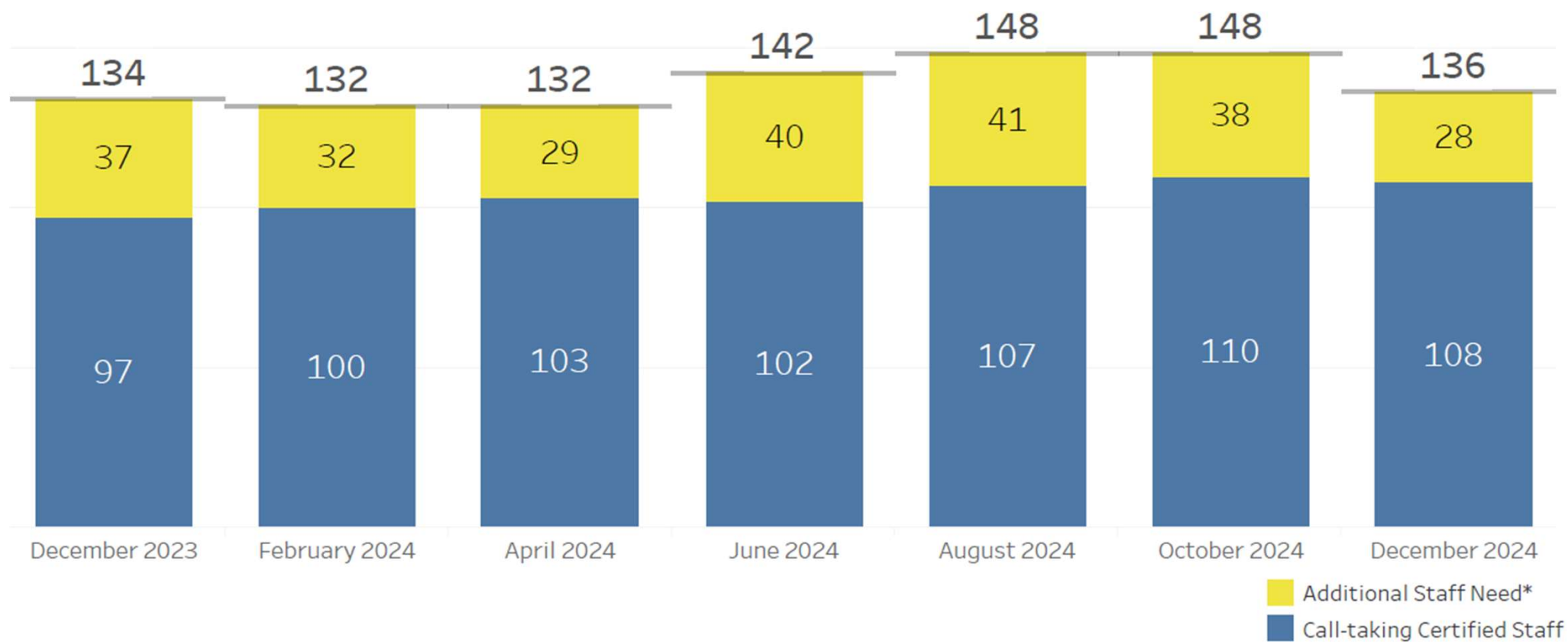
Sr. Dispatchers (911, Police, Fire Certified)	82
Certified Police Dispatchers	1
911 Certified Only	6
Fire Dispatch Trainees (911, Police Certified)	6
Police Dispatch Trainees (911 Certified)	13
Call Taking Trainees (No certifications)	15
Academy Trainees (No certifications)	4
Vacancies	9
Total	136

911 call wait times continue to improve

9-1-1 Call Answering Performance and Average Wait-to-Answer Time Trends*
2018 - 2024

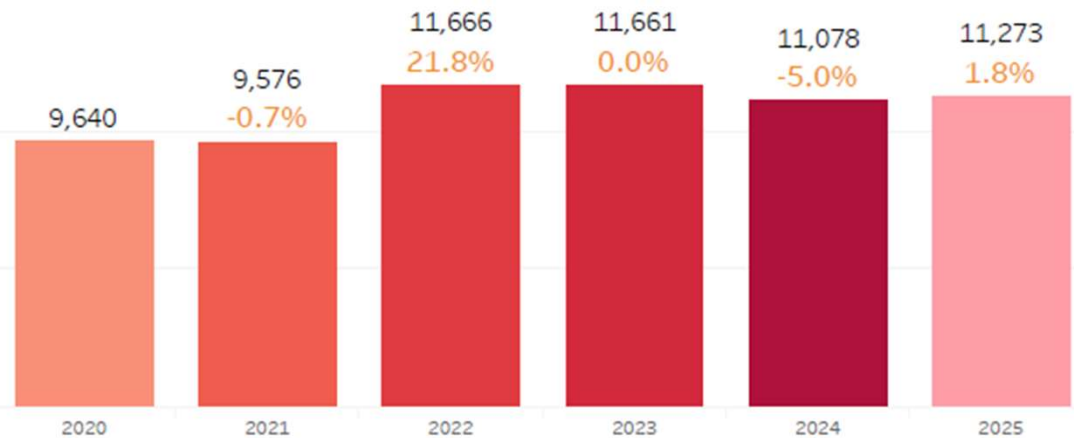


Certified Staff Required to Answer 911 Calls Within 15 Seconds

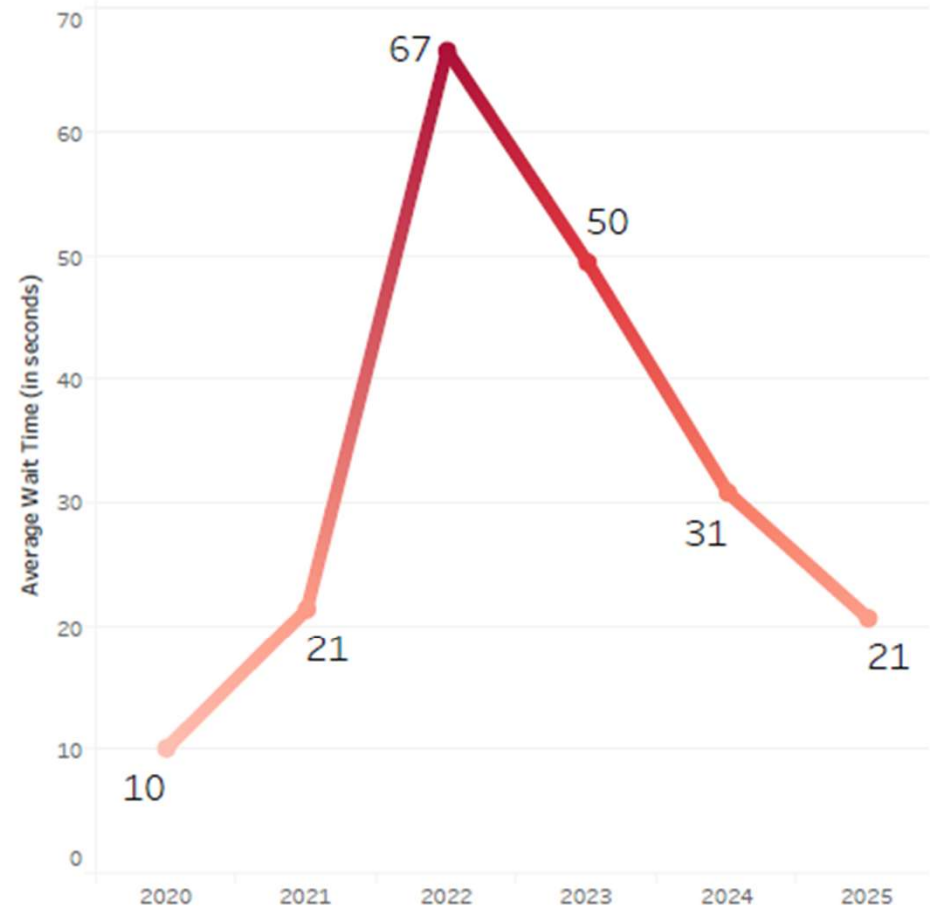


Weekly Data: 2/2 – 2/8

911 call volume and average call answering times



NENA Standard: 90% of all 911 calls shall be answered within fifteen seconds. 95% of all 911 calls should be answered within 20 seconds.



BOEC

	FY25 Budget	FY26 Budget	Change
Personnel	\$26,608,547	\$27,658,963	\$1,050,416
Salary + Benefits	\$23,802,584	\$25,285,251	\$1,482,667
Overtime	\$1,850,369	\$1,367,350	-\$483,019
Premiums	\$955,594	\$1,005,362	\$49,768
External Materials & Services	\$2,264,632	\$2,455,000	\$190,368
Internal Materials & Services	\$6,604,021	\$7,288,825	\$684,804
Capital	\$800,000	-	-\$800,000
General Fund Overhead	\$1,679,292	\$1,692,547	\$13,255
Bond Debt Service	\$349,877	\$363,873	\$13,996
Contingency	\$543,347	-	-\$543,347
Total	\$38,849,716	\$39,459,208	\$609,492

BOEC

Total Bureau Budget: \$39,459,208 (including partner agency contributions)

FY26 BOEC Budget by Program (in millions)

Administration Operations Technology



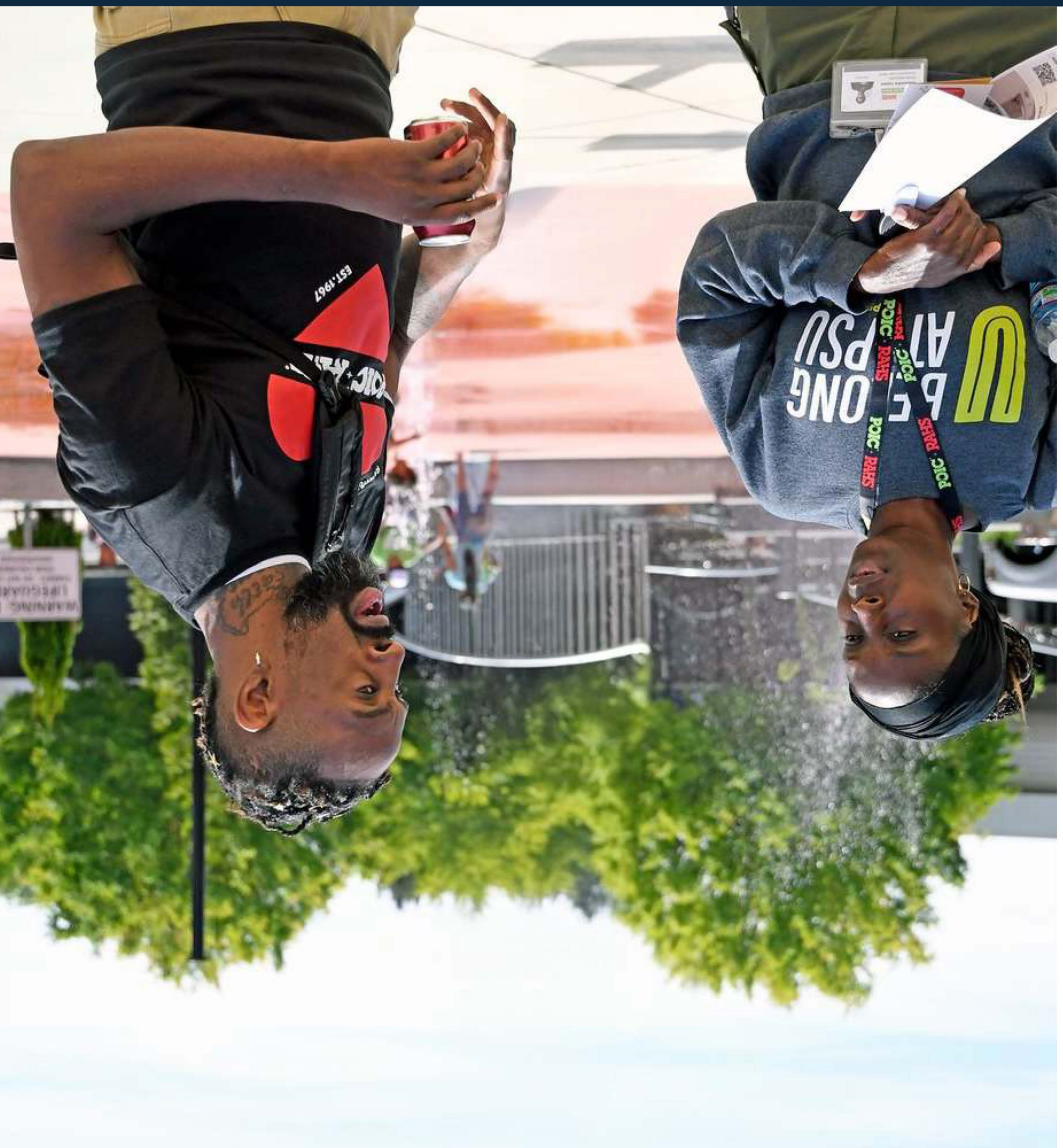
Community Safety

- Portland Ceasefire
- Office of Violence Prevention
 - Safe Blocks
 - Rose City Self Defense
- Portland Street Response
 - March 11



Ceasefire Program

- Implemented in 2023, the Ceasefire Program is Portland's gun violence reduction strategy that uses a data-driven, community-centered approach to intervene with individuals at the highest risk of violence.
- It coordinates law enforcement, outreach teams, and community-based organizations to provide support, conflict mediation, and resources aimed at preventing retaliation and breaking cycles of violence.





Ceasefire Internal Programs

○ Intensive Case Management

- **Daily client engagement** to build trust and ensure consistent support.
- **Comprehensive service coordination**, linking participants to mental health care, substance use treatment, housing assistance, and education programs.
- **Crisis intervention and safety planning** to address immediate risks and reduce potential for violence.
- **Collaboration with community partners** to provide wraparound support.
- **Data tracking and outcome measurement** to assess program effectiveness and inform continuous improvements.

○ Street Level Outreach

- Conduct daily outreach and engagement with high-risk individuals and communities.
- Proactively patrol and build relationships in identified hot spot areas.
- Assess and refer individuals to the Intensive Case Management (ICM) program for tailored support.
- Represent the program at community events, including school functions, to foster trust and awareness.

○ Peer to Peer

- POIC Peer-to-Peer Mentoring and Outreach Program is a transformative initiative that meets the needs of individuals who have faced drug addiction, homelessness, and/or have been engaged in or impacted by community violence
- With a focus on career track training, living wages, diversity, peer mentoring, and effective outreach, this program empowers participants to rebuild their lives, establish financial stability, and contribute positively to their communities.

Ceasefire

Total Program Budget: \$9.1M (\$179K ongoing GF)

Ceasefire FY25 Budget

■ Personnel ■ Operational Expenses ■ Program Expenses



Office of Violence Prevention (OVP)

- Founded in 2006, works towards building a more family-friendly city by increasing public safety through addressing the root causes and social determinants of violence.
- Key Partners: Portland Police Bureau, Portland Cease Fire, Multnomah County District Attorney, City of Gresham, County Health Department, DOJ, Youth and Adult Probation and Parole, Moms Demand Action, and various community-based organizations.



OVP Programs and Goals

Programming

- **Gun Violence Reduction**
 - Safer Portland Grants
 - Trauma and Violence Impacted Families
- **Youth and Family Services**
 - 2025 Spring Break Youth Safety Initiative
 - College and Workforce Development Fund
 - Youth Violence Prevention Week
- **Community Collaboration and Engagement**
 - Community Peace Collaborative
 - Community Event Sponsorship Fund
 - Wear Orange

Program Goals

- Increase public safety.
- Reduce gun violence.
- Support youth and families affected by violence.
- Create strong relationships with our community partners.
- Create a space for our community to collaborate on violence prevention.

Office of Violence Prevention

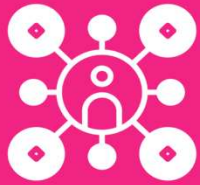
Total Program Budget: \$2.94M (\$1.5M ongoing GF)

OVP FY25 Budget

■ Personnel ■ Operational Expenses ■ Program Expenses







Rose City Self-Defense consists of (2) full-time employees and a volunteer staff of 50.



We meet Portlanders where they are at when it comes to community & personal safety.



We offer free programming in:

- Personal Safety, Self-Defense and De-Escalation Workshops
- Women-Center Introductory & Intermediate classes for ages 13 & up
- LGBTQIA2S+ classes for the specific needs of this population
- Youth programming for those as young as 4th grade up to college age

Jul. 2024 – Jan. 2025

175+

Public
Participants

60

Private
Workshops

1,300

Community
Members Served

Approx. 300 experiencing
houslessness

9

Community &
Youth Classes

205

Volunteer Hours
**\$8,067 annual
savings***

21

New
Volunteer
Staff

50

Total
Volunteer
Staff

* Based on the national rate of
volunteer hourly wage of \$32.27

Our Communities

We reach communities impacted by violence.

- **61%** of our community participants are survivors of violence

Our students gain valuable skills.

- **85%** feel more confident to prevent assault
- **70%** feel safer after the course



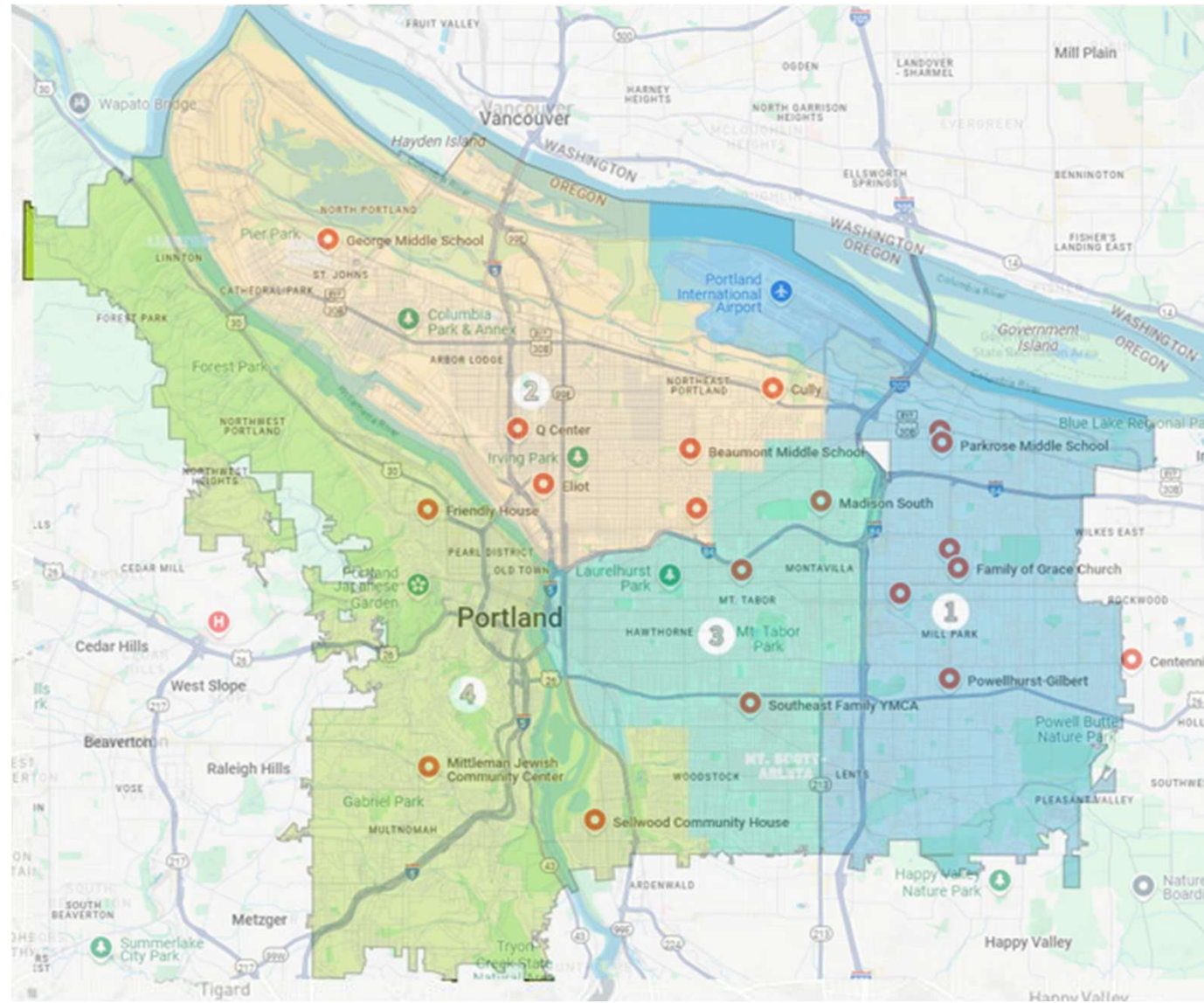
Our Reach

We reach participants across the Portland Metro Area.

And we partner widely across the City, including with:

- Portland Parks & Rec
- PBOT
- Planning & Sustainability
- Civic Life

We are also reaching community members who are unhoused. Through organizations such as Rahab's Sisters, New Avenues for Youth, Bybee Lakes Hope Center and the Salvation Army training more than 500 folks



Rose City Self Defense

Total Program Budget: \$313K (\$285K ongoing GF)

RCSD FY25 Budget

■ Personnel ■ Operational Expenses ■ Program Expenses



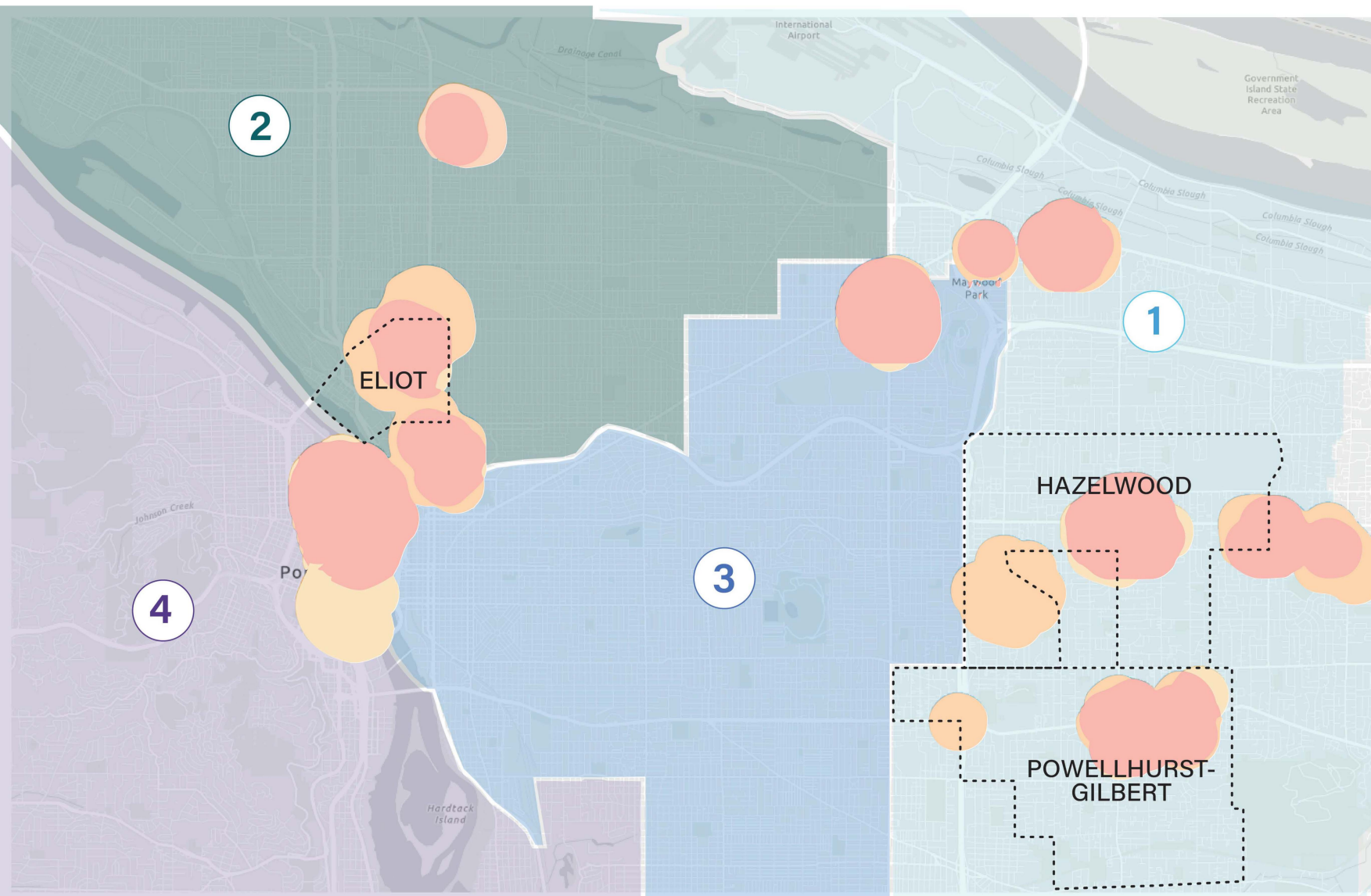
Safe Blocks

Community-Focused Violence & Crime Prevention

Our primary programs include:

- Place-based interventions & placemaking
- Community resource fairs
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessments
- Community safety trainings & facilitation
- Party On Portland! (POP!)
- Drug Take Backs





Shooting Clusters Map

2019 - 2023

Data from:
Portland Police Bureau
Gun Violence Archive

Safe Blocks

Our programs are evidence-based & data-driven.

We respond to public safety needs identified through:

- Qualitative engagement with residents & partner CBOs
- Annual Community Safety Surveys in our program neighborhoods
- PPB & Gun Violence Archive data

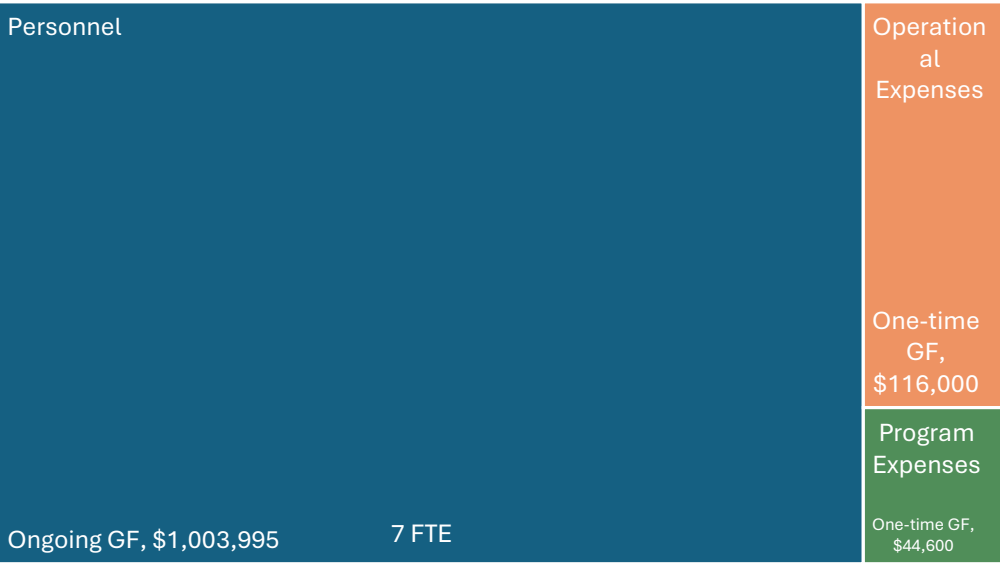


Safe Blocks

Total Program Budget: \$1.7M

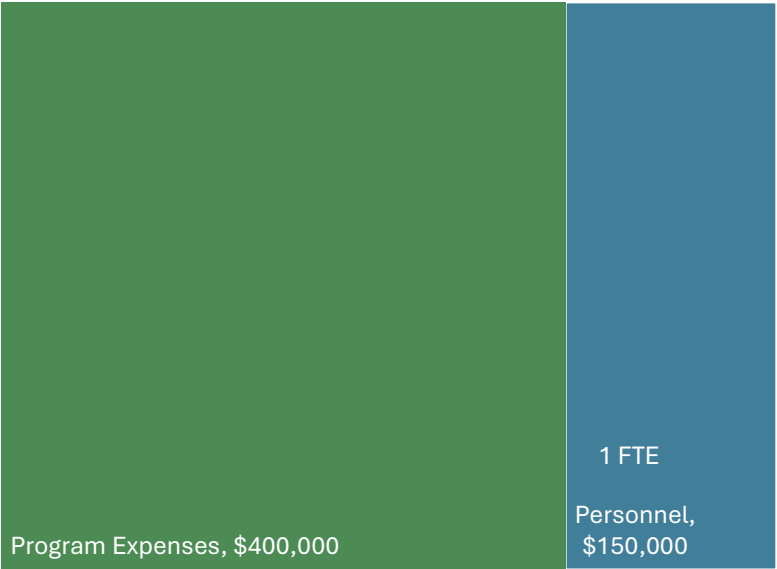
Safe Blocks FY25 General Fund Budget

■ Personnel ■ Operational Expenses ■ Program Expenses



Safe Blocks FY25 Byrne Grant Budget

■ Personnel ■ Program Expenses





Questions & Answers

