

Hendersonville Police Department  
Public Monthly Report  
February 2025



## Chief's Monthly Summary

My wife told me to embrace the times when things are not so busy. Historically, the colder months bring with them fewer calls for service. That means, as the temperatures rise, so too does our workload. But, like you, we are readying for warmer weather and what comes with it.

Internally, we continue to work through the annual budget process. We attended the annual council retreat to get a better understanding of the most important priorities for City Council. From their priorities we develop ours and build a supporting budget. The police department's approach to budgeting is to only ask for what we need and avoid extraneous and unnecessary wants. We strive to be fiscally responsible as you would expect us to be.

Externally, we continue to answer questions about immigration. We understand public concerns and know people want clarity. We also know that immigration can be a polarizing issue with people generally on one side or the other. So, to add some clarity, know that we take no political side. Our duty is simply to uphold the laws in our country and treat everyone with respect and dignity regardless of legal status.

It is not our mission to police the immigration status of individuals. However, it is our mission to arrest criminals separate from their immigration status. We will never stop someone simply based on an assumption that they might be in this country illegally. To do so would be a violation of our oath and the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Moreover, we have very clear and specific policies prohibiting policing based on bias directed towards another person.

In over 30 years of policing, I have never been involved, nor seen other Officers involved, in enforcing immigration. I have interacted with many people over my career whose immigration status was questionable. Never was there additional inquiry beyond the reason for the encounter. We protect the community and keep its citizens safe from anyone intent on causing harm. We do not "round people up" based on identifiable traits.

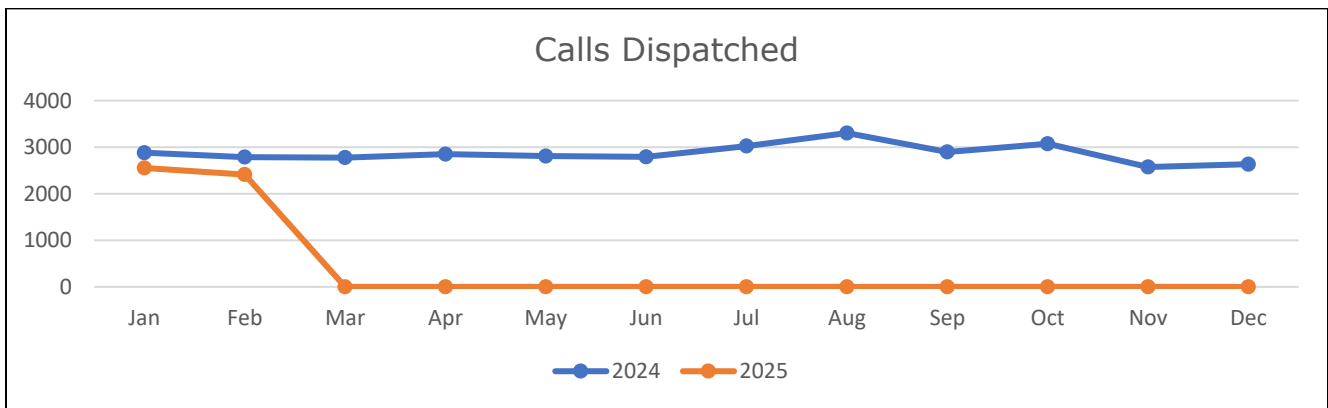
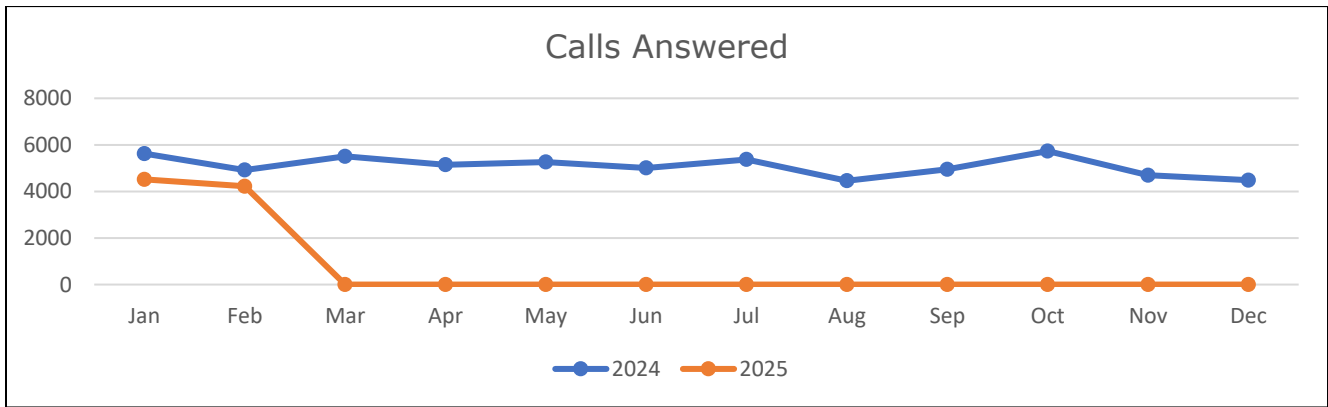
When a warrant is issued for violation of law, we arrest the person named in the warrant. When a warrant is issued for a violation of the federal immigration laws, we arrest the person named in the warrant. The person is subsequently transported and then detained in the county jail to later be processed through the criminal justice/immigration system.

We take no pleasure in taking someone's liberty; it is simply the responsibility you have given to us. We take that responsibility seriously and we will always and vigorously pursue people intent on harming our communities. We will always protect the innocent from harm. That is our oath and commitment to you.

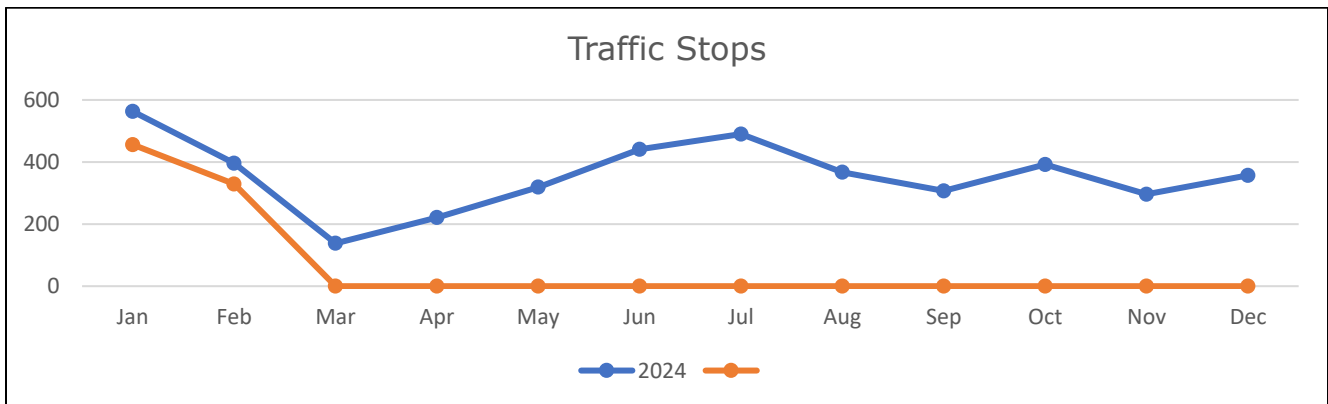


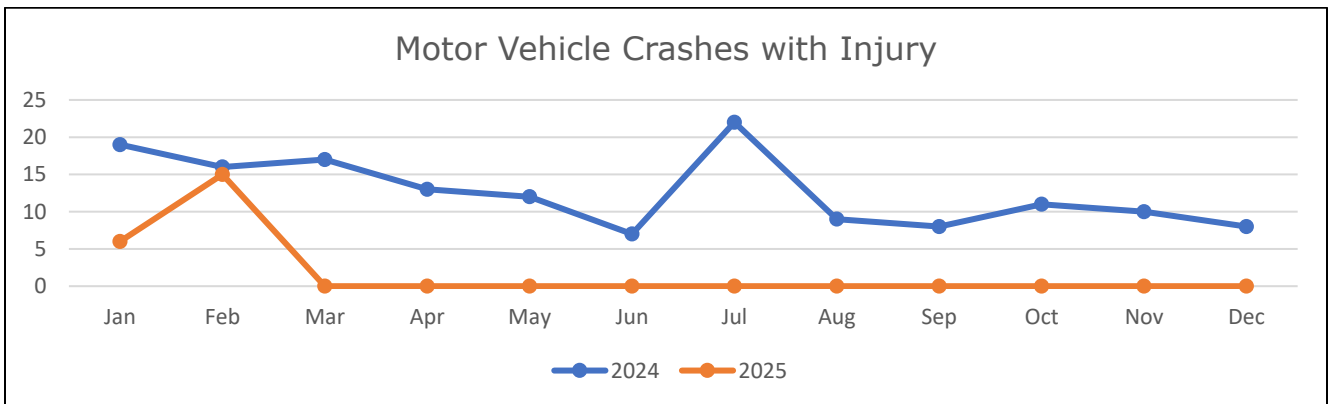
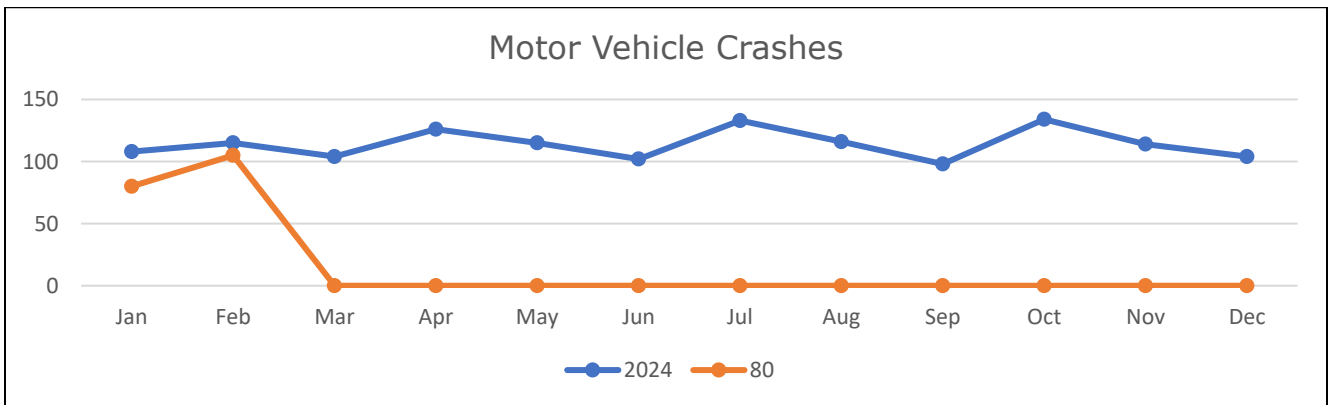
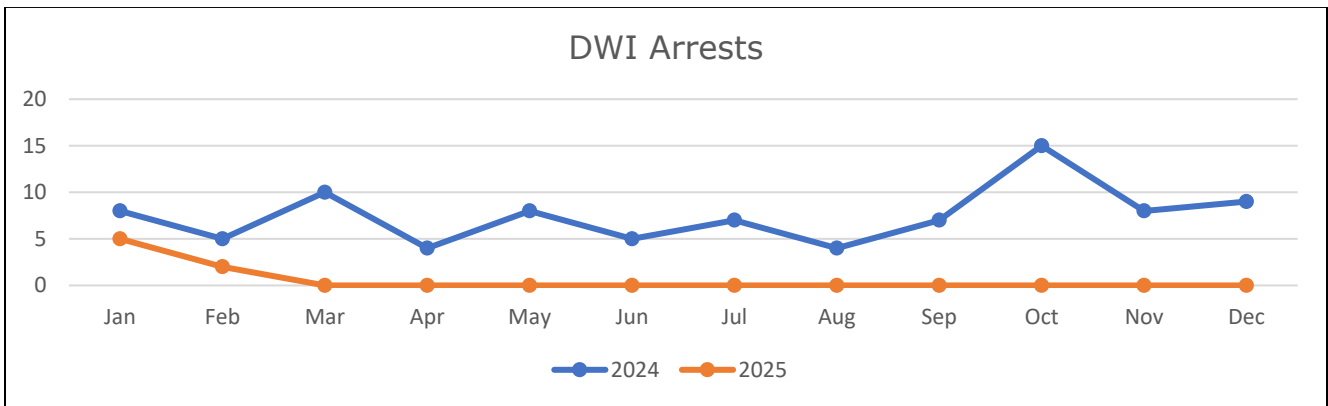
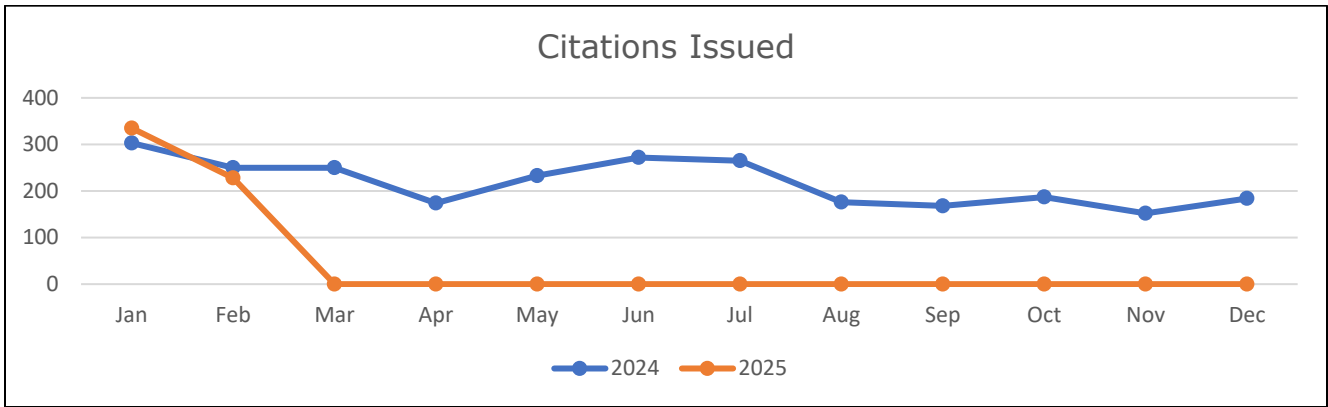
Blair Myhand  
Chief of Police

## **Calls For Service**



## **Traffic Safety**

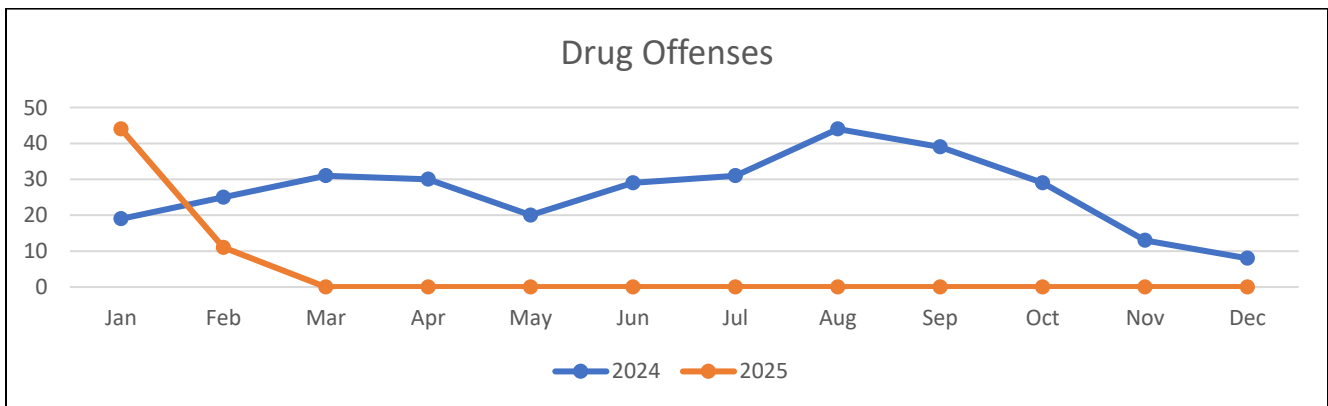
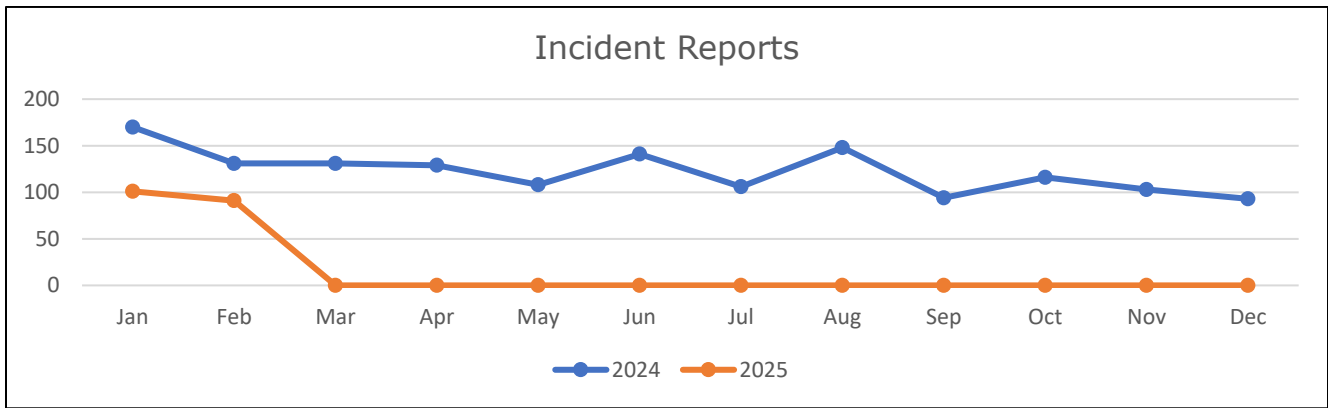
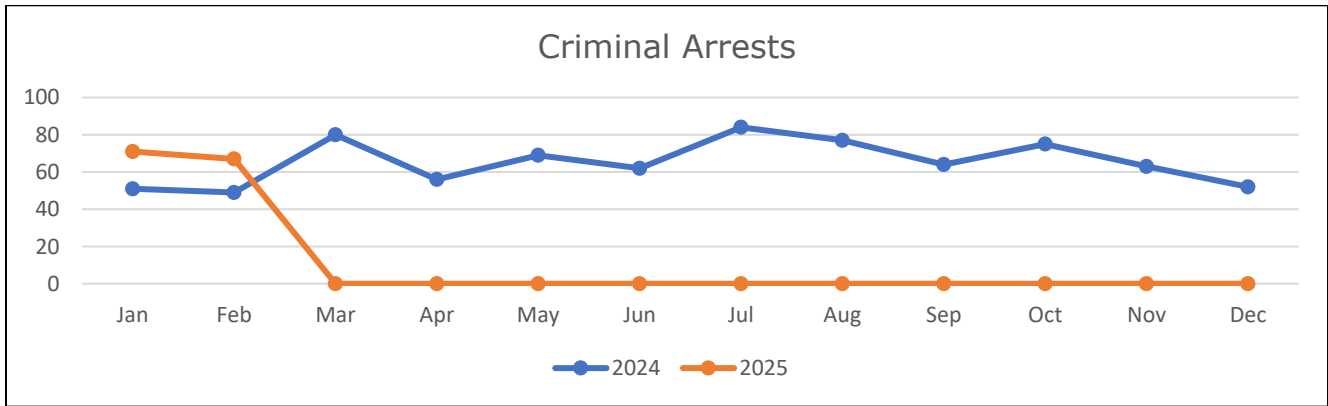


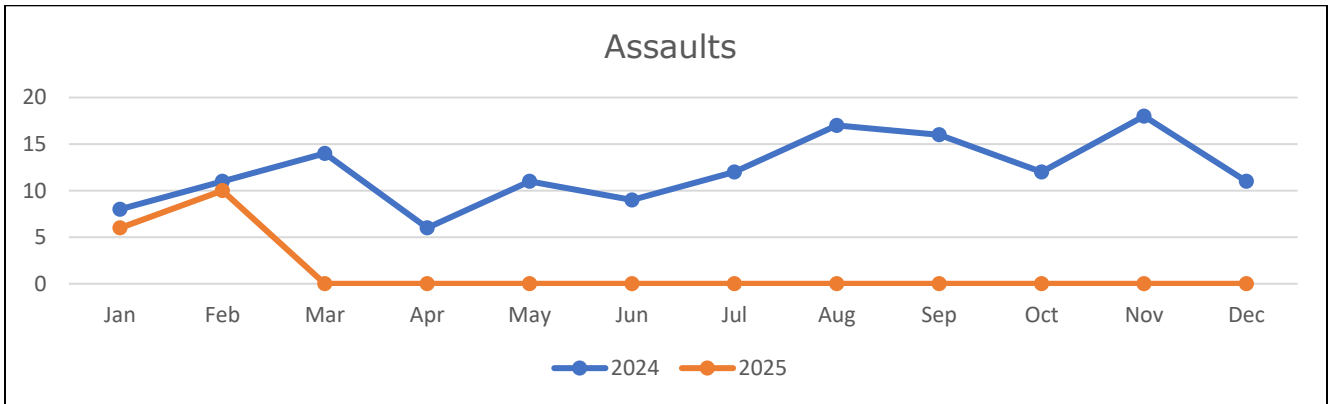
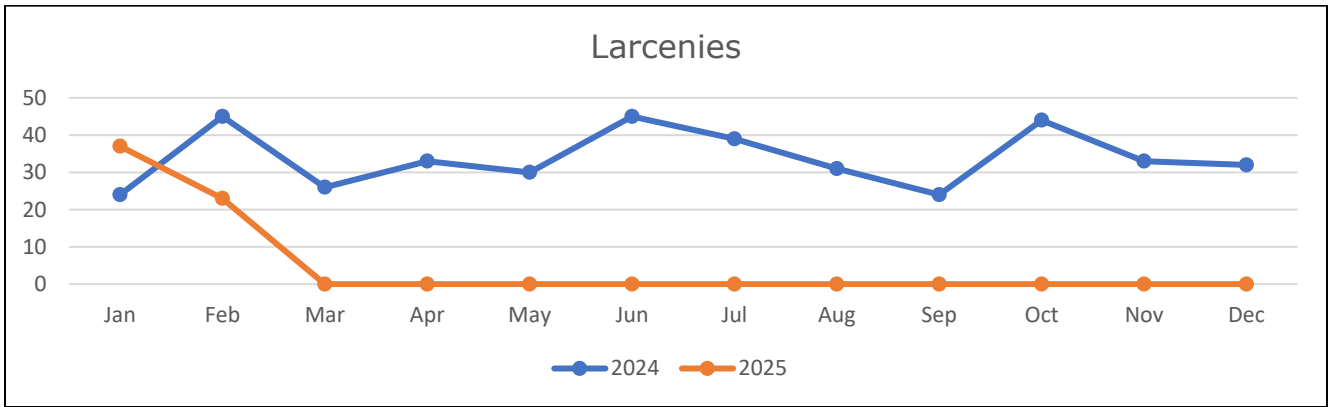


*Top five crash locations:*

#1	King St at 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave E
#2	King St at 6 <sup>th</sup> Ave E
#3	Chimney Rock Rd at Highland Square Dr/Old Chimney Rock Rd
#4	Four Seasons Blvd at Dana Rd/Duncan Hill Rd
#5	King St at E Allen St

**Crimes, Reports, and Arrests**





**Employee Actions**

- Records Clerk Sylina Holbrook was recently recognized for her outstanding dedication and commitment to service. Sylina went above and beyond to assist a person in need, demonstrating exceptional professionalism and care. In appreciation of her efforts, Sylina was given Service Excellence MVP recognition.
- Retired Captain Rich Olsen has returned from retirement as a Reserve Police Officer to support the agency in coordinating training efforts.
- Officer LeDoux and his wife are expecting their first child this summer.
- Officer Marcus Vance earned a certificate specializing in strength and conditioning from the International Sports Science Association.

**Safety Tip – Understanding Handicap Parking & Accessibility**

The Hendersonville Police Department is committed to ensuring our community remains accessible and welcoming for everyone. When parking in or near a handicap space, it’s important to understand the purpose of the **diagonal-lined areas** next to designated spots. These striped zones are not extra parking spaces, they are **access aisles** designed to provide enough room for wheelchair users to safely enter and exit their vehicles, especially those using ramps or lifts.

Here are a few reminders to help support our neighbors with mobility challenges:

1. **Never park in or block access aisles.** These spaces allow wheelchair users to safely enter and exit their vehicles.
2. **Only park in designated handicap spaces if you have a valid permit or placard.** Unauthorized parking in these spots can result in fines and inconvenience those who need them.
3. **Be mindful of curb ramps and sidewalk access.** Avoid blocking walkways that provide accessible routes for wheelchairs.
4. **Encourage awareness.** If you see someone unknowingly using an access aisle, politely educate them about its purpose.

By respecting these designated areas, we can create a more accessible Hendersonville for everyone.

### **Complaints and Findings**

- A citizen filed a complaint alleging unprofessional conduct by officers during an investigation at his residence. A thorough review of the incident was conducted, and the allegations were determined to be unfounded.

### **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- Officers were involved in a short vehicle pursuit early in the morning for speeding and reckless driving. There were no injuries or vehicle damage, and the violator eventually stopped voluntarily. The single vehicle occupant was arrested without incident. The pursuit was justified according to department policy.

### **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- None

### **Operations/Notable Events**

- Detectives investigated a complaint of an alleged statutory rape of a then 13-year-old female. An adult male suspect was arrested and the full investigation into the circumstances surrounding the incident continues.
- Detectives assisted Patrol officers in locating a missing person that was threatening suicide.

### **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 67% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$4,627,117 or 62% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)

### **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- Detective Thompson attended the Henderson County Substance Use Action Team meeting.
- Chief Myhand was interviewed by the Blue Ridge Community College media team as they filmed a documentary about the city's response during Hurricane Helene.

### **Grants Management**

- GHSP Grant – Applied for grant for Overtime Enforcement Activities – Pending Award

### **Recruiting/Retention**

- 0 of 14 non-sworn employee vacancies exist.
- 4 of 48 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - (15) applications received
  - (4) in background
  - () conditional offer made
  - (1) rejected
  - () withdrew