



Public Safety Commission

AGENDA

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

7:00 p.m.

This meeting includes in-person and virtual participation.

Albany Police Department

2600 Pacific Blvd SW, The Community Room

Or join the meeting here:

<https://council.albanyoregon.gov/groups/saf/zoom>

Please help us get Albany's work done.

Be respectful and refer to the rules of conduct posted by the main door to the Chambers and on the website.

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Approval of February 5, 2025, minutes. (Pages 1-4)
4. Department reports
 - a. Police- Marcia Harnden
 - b. Fire-Chris LaBelle
5. Guest speaker Hillary Kosmicki, Community Paramedic Program.
6. Business from the members
7. Next meeting date: Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at Albany Fire Department, Station 11.
8. Adjournment

This meeting is accessible to the public via video connection. The location for in-person attendance is accessible to people with disabilities. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please notify city staff at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting at: rochelle.james@albanyoregon.gov 541-917-7564

albanyoregon.gov



Testimony provided at the meeting is part of the public record. Meetings are recorded, capturing both in-person and virtual participation, and are posted on the City website.



MINUTES

February 5, 2025

7:00 p.m.

Ralston Room, Albany Fire Department/VIRTUAL

Draft

Call to Order

Cynthia Greene called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Cynthia Greene, Adam Brenneman, Erik Rau, Erik Anderson, Kevin Kreitman, Nicholas Fowler, Katie Pleis, Bessie Johnson

Members absent:

Staff present: Marcia Harnden, Police Chief; Chris LaBelle, Fire Chief;
Julia Tremain, Clerk III

October 2, 2024, Minutes were approved as submitted.

Staff Updates

Fire Update – Chief Chris LaBelle

This has been a record year for calls. In calendar year 2024 we ran 11,884 calls and for this current FY we are well beyond 12,000. We are hoping to maintain or increase our staffing to adapt to the increase in calls.

Fire and Life Safety evaluations were higher in Fiscal Year 21 and 22 due to higher staffing. When we decreased our staff the numbers decreased but have started to increase in FY 25 due to a staff member on light duty doing business inspections. Response times are still improving and so are our community paramedic activities. Our Community Paramedic has applied for and received a grant for \$75,000 to purchase lifting devices for our care facilities as well as some high risk individuals who still live on their own. Individuals are staying at home much longer because they cannot afford the care facilities, meaning more calls for service, especially lift assists. These are the devices that we carry on our emergency vehicles currently so there will be training given to these recipients in order to ensure proper operation. This will ideally reduce the number of times we are called out for a lift assist, leaving our engines and ambulances more available for emergencies.

There have been an increase of calls happening simultaneously which is why we are looking to move our single role ambulance to a 24 hour shift as well as adding an additional person at the North Albany station. This would relieve pressure off the North Albany station as well as keeping coverage in that area. Once you see the crews spending a certain amount of time consistently dedicated to an emergency call you have to think about adding an additional unit to prevent burnout and make sure they can still train, work out, rest and get a meal period.

Comparing Albany to a bigger or similar city to mimic staffing is difficult to do since a house fire requires different staffing than an apartment fire so strictly population size is not enough to compare.

Recruitment and retention is made difficult due to COVID and the decrease in paramedic programs, but also because bigger cities can offer better incentives and fewer calls per station. Oregon and one other state are the only ones that require an Associates degree to be a paramedic. This makes finding lateral applicants difficult because a qualified applicant would not be hired without an Associates even with previous years of experience. We have extended 6 conditional job offers for fire fighter paramedic, three of which are laterals. We have also started a single role academy which will bring us to 6 and let us move from 12 hour shifts to 24 for our single role medic unit.

We sent five people to California to help with the wildfires; a four person engine company as well as our Division Chief of EMS for a full 17 day deployment. This is all reimbursed, at \$100 per hour for the engine as well as wages and benefits for those deployed and coverage for those covering their shifts.

We did a presentation to the council for the levy. It is worth 16 firefighter positions so it is extremely important. Our daily staffing is 21 fire fighters so if we lost the levy it would eliminate an ambulance and engine off the road every day. Last time it passed by 77% so we are hopeful it will pass again.

Police Update – Chief Marcia Harnden

APD is running around 49,000 calls a year. We are a smaller police department than Corvallis, but run more calls. This has a lot to do with the freeway and the situations that go along with being right next to a freeway like narcotics. We successfully stopped a bitcoin scammer who was scamming residents in town for \$10,000 a shot who had come from Washington State and had ties to Chinese organized crime.

Crime stats are looking good and violent crime is in a good place. OD deaths are dropping from where they were in 2023 back to similar numbers from 2022 which are still high but the goal is to get back where we were in 2019. The trend we are seeing is that there is more naran around but we are also not seeing people call 911 for fentanyl. The one we are concerned about now is cocaine since the number of overdoses increased from three last year to seven this year. Every time there is a death from narcotics it is treated like a homicide investigation and the dealer associated with that death can be arrested. Any possession of an illicit drug became illegal September 1, 2024, and we have had 123 misdemeanor arrests since then.

The time of arrival is concerning due to the call numbers increasing with staffing staying the same. This has made us move to an online reporting system to improve efficiency. Hiring is a challenge so we have a goal to be under 1% vacancies. We have accomplished that with only two vacancies, one of which is an over-hire for a retirement in July. We also got a grant for a DUI position from ODOT, and will be asking for funding for three more officer positions. We still struggle with dispatchers, currently we are down three. We have a large pool of applicants but they cannot pass backgrounds. We are in the process of building our budget, since all of our equipment and software has grown 25%. We are anticipating that when asking for our next budget but we are not asking for an increase to the levy. We have 15 positions paid out of the levy, and 91% of money from the levy goes toward personnel including a park ranger, dispatch, records, and four community service officers.

With concerns around federal funding, our drug task force is largely funded by HIDTA (High Incident Drug Trafficking Area). We don't foresee any changes unless its the language around our harm reduction policies. If they see anything as going against presidential orders we have to change the wording, but this will not effect funding.

The camera at Queen and Geary has been upgraded to speed and red light, and North Albany Road at Thorton Lake Road is going to be the next one. Nights and weekends it registers at 11 over posted, school days 11 over the school zone limit. Grand Prarie and Waverly or 34th and Waverly are the next goals.

With concerns about immigration, we will honor the 4th amendment. This means we have to have an arrest warrant signed by a judge. The sanctuary policy law means that law enforcement can work with Immigration if there is a criminal overlap. For example a marijuana grow operation, forced labor, human trafficking or labor trafficking cases will be given to immigration in the event there are undocumented individuals involved. We will also work with them if a suspect is charged with felony or misdemeanor. This will allow us to work with Immigration to deport them to their country of origin. If a location is open to the public, Immigration can go in, if it's a secure facility then to get entry they need a warrant.

Business from the Commission:

Bessie Johnson was nominated for vice chair by Kevin Kreitman and accepted with unanimous agreement.

Cynthia Green was nominated for chair by Nick Fowler and the nomination was seconded by Bessie Johnson with unanimous agreement.

Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Wednesday, April 2, 2024, at the Albany Police Department.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Julia Tremain
Clerk III

Reviewer's Name
Reviewer's Title

**Documents discussed at the meeting that are not in the agenda packet are archived in the record. The documents are available by emailing cityclerk@cityofalbany.net.*



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION DEPARTMENT REPORT February 2025



CRIME SNAPSHOT						
Selected Group A Offenses	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	% Chg	2024 YTD	2025 YTD	% Chg
Person	35	42	● 20.00%	3	1	● -66.67%
Homicide	0	0	● N/C	0	0	● N/C
Rape	3	2	● -33.33%	0	0	● N/C
Ag Assault	6	6	● 0.00%	0	0	● N/C
Assault - Other	22	27	● 22.73%	2	0	● -100.00%
Sex Crime	4	7	● 75.00%	1	1	● 0.00%
Human Trafficking	0	0	● N/C	0	0	● N/C
Domestic (subset of above)	14	9	● -35.71%	1	0	● -100.00%
Property	122	154	● 26.23%	10	10	● 0.00%
Robbery - Residence	0	0	● N/C	0	0	● N/C
Robbery - Business	0	0	● N/C	0	0	● N/C
Robbery - Other	1	1	● 0.00%	0	0	● N/C
Robbery 3 (subset of above)	1	0	● -100.00%	0	0	● N/C
Burglary - Business	3	6	● 100.00%	0	0	● N/C
Burglary - Other	2	0	● -100.00%	0	0	● N/C
Burglary - Residence	9	6	● -33.33%	0	0	● N/C
Stolen Vehicle	10	3	● -70.00%	0	1	● N/C
Larceny - From Vehicle	12	19	● 58.33%	1	1	● 0.00%
Larceny - Shoplifting	36	49	● 36.11%	5	3	● -40.00%
Larceny - Other	34	27	● -20.59%	3	2	● -33.33%
Arson	0	3	● N/C	0	0	● N/C
Vandalism	6	13	● 116.67%	0	0	● N/C
Fraud - Credit Card	1	3	● 200.00%	0	1	● N/C
Fraud - ID Theft	4	8	● 100.00%	0	1	● N/C
Fraud - Other	4	16	● 300.00%	1	1	● 0.00%
Society	29	54	● 86.21%	3	4	● 33.33%
Animal Cruelty	0	0	● N/C	0	0	● N/C
Drug Laws	4	22	● 450.00%	0	3	● N/C
DUII	21	21	● 0.00%	3	1	● -66.67%
Weapons Laws	4	11	● 175.00%	0	0	● N/C
Livability	54	66	● 22.22%	1	3	● 200.00%
Abandoned Vehicle	53	62	● 16.98%	1	3	● 200.00%
Junk/Trash	1	4	● 300.00%	0	0	● N/C
Overnight/Prohibited Camping	0	0	● N/C	0	0	● N/C
Calls for Service	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	% Chg	2024 YTD	2025 YTD	% Chg
Call Source	3025	2697	● -10.84%	171	210	● 22.81%
Dispatched Calls	1370	1592	● 16.20%	82	118	● 43.90%
Self-Initiated Calls	1655	1105	● -33.23%	89	92	● 3.37%
Response Time (Minutes)						
Priority P & 1	3.90	5.98	● 53.28%	3.37	1.48	● -55.94%
Priority 2 & 3	11.02	31.38	● 184.64%	9.36	7.29	● -22.17%
Priority 4+	4.13	13.24	● 220.53%	2.28	4.29	● 88.44%

Changes in small numbers can result in large percentage changes and must be viewed with caution.

01/28/2025 11:21



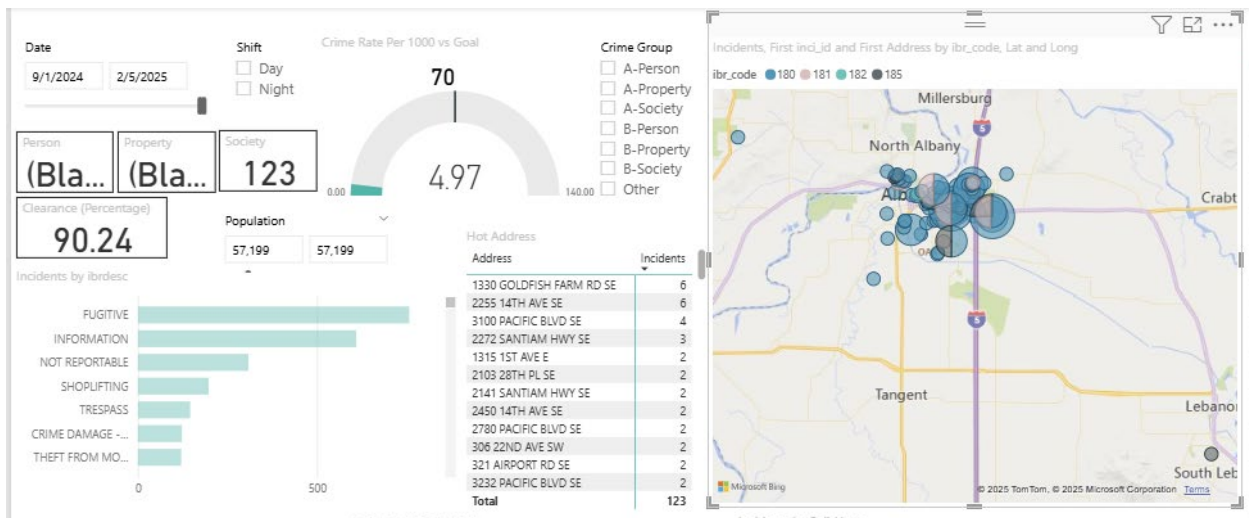
Albany Police Department								
Narcan	Year	ODs	OD Death	Heroin	Fentanyl	Meth	LSD	Cocaine
10	2019	21	2	12	2	3	1	0
20	2020	29	1	14	4	6	2	1
39	2021	50	4	21	15	7	1	1
72	2022	91	11	14	63	18	0	1
155	2023	126	18	5	105	23	1	3
82	2024	95	11	0	68	13	1	7
10	2025	7	1	0	6	0	0	0

*Year to Date



HIRING

2024 HIRING	
2024 total hires	10
PENDNG HIRES	2 POLICE OFFICERS
VACANCIES	5 (2 PO AND 3 TC)





PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION DEPARTMENT REPORT January 5, 2024



Albany Fire Department Total Responses					
Month	FY 21 Total	FY 22 Total	FY 23 Total	FY 24 Total	FY 25 Total
July	858	1,070	992	1,001	1,015
August	884	1,048	968	1,018	1,118
September	893	1,010	920	862	998
October	866	958	972	957	1064
November	824	941	970	891	938
December	876	945	1158	970	997
January	883	911	1007	1118	999
February	817	829	914	816	
March	795	853	880	936	
April	926	864	905	922	
May	905	896	891	996	
June	922	936	924	973	
Total	10,449	11,291	11,495	11,459	7,129

Fire & Life Safety Evaluations					
Month	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25
July	126	142	79	67	79
August	113	98	97	51	91
September	113	88	60	98	70
October	123	69	54	82	98
November	144	85	31	70	143
December	114	95	83	86	70
January	107	172	72	52	
February	86	132	72	52	
March	117	110	102	76	
April	145	92	54	77	
May	205	73	57	81	
June	175	175	75	72	
Total	1,568	1,083	836	864	551

Average Response Times City of Albany Calls Only 911 Call Received to Arrival Time					
	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25
Emergent Responses	7:15	7:10	7:18	7:06	6:55
Structure Fires	6:08	6:18	6:09	6:35	6:30

Community Paramedic Activity					
Month	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25
July	24	40	47	28	57
August	33	50	29	45	20
September	16	45	26	24	19
October	46	46	38	40	34
November	70	13	40	53	34
December	35	14	23	39	33
January	42	30	58	56	
February	16	21	19	45	
March	17	14	54	21	
April	9	33	33	22	
May	24	29	64	58	
June	38	44	46	20	
Total	370	306	477	373	197

Top 25 Responses	Count
SICK PERSON	1050
FALL	656
LIFT ASSIST	583
BREATHING PROBLEMS	461
UNCONSCIOUS FAINTING	407
CHEST PAIN	359
TRANSFER	344
FIRE ALARM ACTIVATION	330
MVC INJURY	326
UNKNOWN MEDICAL PROBLEM	294
SEIZURE	177
EMERGENCY TRANSFER	154
ABDOMINAL PAIN OR PROBLEMS	150
STROKE CVA TIA	149
OD INGESTION POISONING	147
HEMORRHAGE BLEED	138
PSYCHIATRIC SUICIDE ATTEMPT	121
HEART PROBLEMS AICD	119
TRAUMA INJURY	102
DIABETIC PROBLEM	96
SMALL MISC FIRE	85
CARDIAC OR RESPIRATORY ARREST	73
FIRE MOVEUP ONLY	72
BACK PAIN	69
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	61

Concurrency	
# of Calls	Frequency
1	2586
2	2404
3	1371
4	526
5	182
6	38
7	13
8	2
9	1
10	

Row Labels	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Grand Total
00	30	18	24	30	28	21	32	183
01	29	27	25	27	18	25	26	177
02	31	16	24	20	22	31	23	167
03	23	24	15	14	25	21	27	149
04	23	26	25	13	16	19	20	142
05	19	18	23	19	17	19	17	132
06	21	26	32	30	36	38	24	207
07	23	36	42	36	39	35	30	241
08	30	49	55	38	36	48	42	298
09	44	47	50	46	61	64	46	358
10	59	60	77	58	55	54	45	408
11	48	70	52	62	61	65	47	405
12	46	65	63	61	58	62	46	401
13	53	63	57	60	44	55	51	383
14	53	61	60	61	60	67	72	434
15	50	52	57	72	71	59	53	414
16	57	49	71	51	66	72	47	413
17	60	60	42	57	66	64	51	400
18	53	50	53	55	67	56	39	373
19	42	54	55	49	43	56	47	346
20	37	51	57	50	53	36	51	335
21	34	35	43	49	45	50	47	303
22	37	31	33	26	27	31	41	226
23	28	29	33	30	33	42	34	229
Grand Total	930	1017	1068	1014	1047	1090	958	7124

CUSTOMER SERVICE · DIVERSE ORGANIZATION · INTEGRITY ·
HEALTH & WELFARE · PROFESSIONALISM & TEAMWORK

CUSTOMER SERVICE · DIVERSE ORGANIZATION · INTEGRITY ·
HEALTH & WELFARE · PROFESSIONALISM & TEAMWORK