

MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 2023

KENSINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



10940 San Pablo Ave
El Cerrito CA, 94550
510-526-4141

January 2023 Monthly Report

Happenings

The Kensington Police Department welcomed police applicant David Payne to the team. After a rigorous testing process, which included several interviews and a background check, David accepted his badge on Thursday, January 26, and is scheduled to start his field training program on February 9 with Sergeant B. Lande. The POST approved training program typically lasts 16 weeks. We look forward to him being a part of our future.

Our recruiting team received and reviewed five applications for police officer. Only two met the criteria to move forward in the process. Both applicants were interviewed by the Chief of Police and are now in the background phase of the hiring process. Police officer backgrounds typically take two months.

The Kensington Police Department follows the guidelines set forth by the Department of Justice related to incident-based reporting. We received our certificate of compliance on January 27th. This achievement would not have been realized if not for the attention to detail applied to this program by Sergeant A. Nath and staff. The certificate can be found at the end of the monthly report.

We have stepped up our social media awareness messaging to include tips on how to avoid becoming a victim of online theft. <https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/scammers-use-fake-emergencies-steal-your-money>

Going forward, officers will deliver informational flyers to members of the community when appropriate. Members of the community can also pick up these useful tips which are located in the police department lobby free of charge. Any member of the community can always call and ask for an officer's assistance if they need help with this type of issue.

Organization

1. Chief of Police	M. Gancasz
2. Lieutenant	B. Harms
3. Sergeant	A. Nath
4. Sergeant	B. Lande
5. Officer	J. Fajardo
6. Officer	D. Siebert
7. Officer	M. Farley
8. Officer	Vacant
9. Officer	Vacant
10. Support Staff	J. Haynes
11. Volunteer	L. Stokes
12. Volunteer	M. Logan
13. Volunteer	E. Woo

January 2022

Fleet.....	All Cars in service
CIBRS/NIBRS.....	Compliant
RIPA.....	Compliant
Training.....	Supervisory Leadership/DV
CCW Program.....	up to date

January 2022

On duty Injuries.....	Zero
On duty collisions.....	Zero
Complaints.....	Zero
Compliments.....	Three
COVID Exposure.....	Zero

PATROL OPERATIONS

INCIDENT SUMMARY	
DESCRIPTION	COUNT
Incidents Captured	1019
Public Calls for Service	177
Officer Initiated Events	842
Traffic Stops	28
Citations Issued	35
Arrests	1
Reports taken	28

PART 1 CRIMES	
DESCRIPTION	COUNT
Assault	1
Murder	0
Sex Offenses	1
Robbery/Extortion	0
Burglary	0
Theft	8
Arson	0

INCIDENTS BY TYPE		
INCIDENT TYPE	DESCRIPTION	COUNT
10-33	Alarm	12
10851 VC	Vehicle Theft	1
11-24	Abandoned Vehicle	9
11-82	Vehicle Accident - No Injury	2
20002 VC	Hit and Run - Property Damage	3
23103 VC	Reckless Driving	2
415 PC	415 PC - Disturbance of Peace	2
459 PC	Burglary	2
484 PC	Theft	1
484G	Fraud Use of Credit Card	1
487 PC	Grand Theft	2
488 PC	Petty Theft	2
530.5 PC	Identity Theft	2

594 PC	Vandalism	1
911CALL	911 Call	20
ADVICE	Person Seeking Advice From PD	3
ANIMAL	Animal Call	1
AREACHK	Area Security Check	269
BEATINFO	Beat Info	1
BOLO	BOLO	1
CITECORR	Citation Correction	2
COP	Community Oriented Policing	11
EXTPATRL	Request for Extra Patrol	369
FLAG	Flag down of Officer	1
FNDPROP	Found Property Report	1
FOLLOWUP	Case/Incident Follow-Up Activity	35
HAZARD	Hazard	5
INFO	INFORMATION	8
KPDASST	KPD Assist	1
MPAIDED	Citizen Assist	41
MPAUTO	Mis Pub Auto	3
MPCIVIL	Misc. Civil Matter	2
OUTASST	Assistance to an Outside Agency	16
PARKER	Parking Citation	22
PARKNWLK	Park and walk	3
PEDCHK	Misc. Check of a Pedestrian	2
PROPDMG	Damage to Property (City or Private)	1
PROPPKUP	Property Pickup	1
RIDER	Ride Along	3
ROADCLS	Road Closure	11
SECURITY	Security or Business Check	60
SUSCIRC	Suspicious Circumstance	9
SUSPERS	Suspicious Person/s	2
SUSVEH	Suspicious Vehicle	7
TRFHAZ	Traffic Hazard	8
TRIP	Check Vehicle Registration & Status	15
VACWATCH	Vacant Home Watch	6
VEHRELS	Vehicle Release	2
VEHSTOP	Vehicle Stop	28
WELFARE	Welfare Check	7

Total Incidents 1019

- On Thursday, January 5, officers took a report of online theft in the 100 block of Arlington Avenue. The loss was approximately \$2,000. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Friday, January 6, officers responded to a road rage incident on Anson Way. Officers determined a hit and run collision took place on Sunset Drive near Arlington Avenue. The at fault driver who fled the scene was contacted, arrested, and charged with hit & run, unlicensed driver, and an additional right of way violation. The case is being reviewed by the District Attorney for prosecution.
- On Wednesday, January 11, officers took a report of online theft in the 100 block of Lenox Road. The loss was approximately \$8,000. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Thursday, January 12, officers took a report of a stolen catalytic converter in the 200 block of Stanford Avenue.
- On Wednesday, January 18, officers took a report of online theft in the 200 block of Columbia Avenue. The loss was estimated to be \$6,500.
- On Wednesday, January 18, Officers took a report of a hit and run collision in the area of Stanford Avenue and Yale Avenue.
- On Monday, January 23, officers took a stolen vehicle report in the 100 block of Arlington Court. Investigating officers helped the owner track his car using a mobile app. The vehicle was recovered later that day by the Oakland Police Department.
- On Tuesday, January 24, officers responded to a non-injury collision in the 200 block of Willamette Avenue.
- On Thursday, January 26, officers responded to a hit and run collision between Wellesley Avenue and Arlington Avenue. Officers obtained surveillance photos of the suspect car which was broadcast to surrounding agencies. The suspect is still at large, and the investigation is ongoing.
- On Monday, January 30, Officers took a report of online theft. The estimated loss is unknown.
- On Tuesday, January 31, Officers responded to a structure fire in the 200 block of Stanford Avenue. Officers completed traffic control and scene security while firefighters extinguished the blaze. Officers contacted the Red Cross to assist the resident with safe housing. The home was red-tagged the following day by County Code Enforcement who returned to the scene with officers. Fire Investigators have not determined a cause.

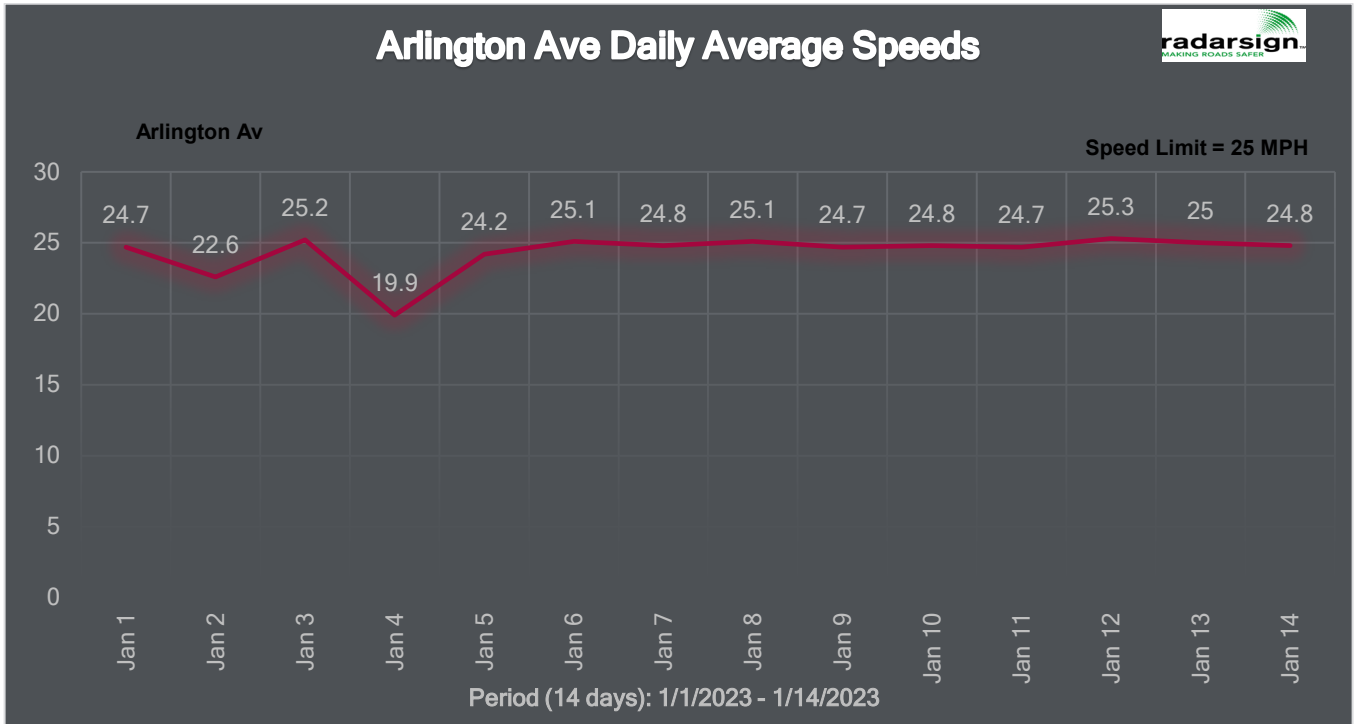
Traffic Safety

During January, traffic collisions were down 16%, from 6 to 5, even though traffic through Kensington, as measured by the Radar sign on Arlington Ave, increased by 11.5%. The stop sign at Grizzly Peak and Spruce Ave had been knocked down by an unreported motor vehicle collision. KPD requested Contra Costa County Public Works replace the sign. KPD received three online supplemental traffic safety reports in January. All three were resolved.

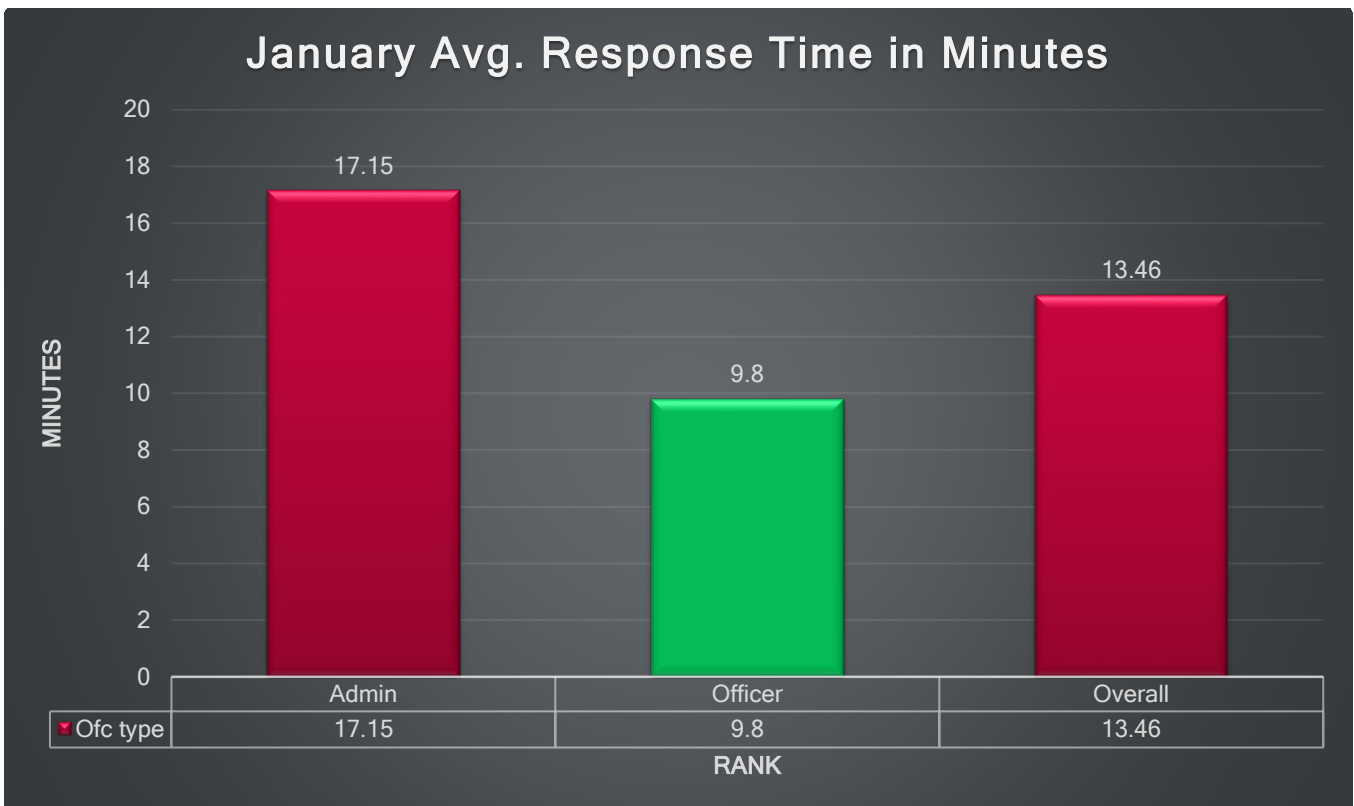
KPD Officers also responded to and coordinated numerous road closures due to downed trees and other storm-related damage. All closures were handed off to the appropriate partner agencies, which included: PG&E, Contra Costa County Public Works, EBMUD, and Stege Sanitation District. As of the end of January, KPD was no longer maintaining any road closures.

KPD continued to monitor speeding on Arlington Av and observed that the average speeds remained consistent with December 2022. The average vehicle speed on Arlington Ave is consistent with the 25 MPH posted speed, showing a two-week average speed of 24.35MPH. There is a minor fluctuation between average and peak speeds with most speed violations occurring between 1130am and 330pm. There is no obvious trend regarding speeding by the day of the week.

During January 2022, 24,230 cars passed the radar sign, and 33 of those vehicles exceeded the speed limit by 15mph or more. For every 1000 cars passing the radar sign on Arlington Ave, 1.36 vehicles will exceed the speed limit by 15mph. The 85th percentile speed averaged 31.29 MPH. That means that 85% of all vehicles passing the radar had a speed no more than 6.29 mph above the speed limit. Of all the vehicles passing the radar, 21.5% of all vehicles exceeded the speed limit by 5 mph (an increase from December 2022) and 1.5% exceeded the limit by 10 mph.



New Location



Staff reports they are very happy with the new facility and are pleased to have adequate parking, sufficient work space, and modern equipment. The Police Officers Association purchased a small exercise gym for the membership and

worked with the Chief to select an area for placement that wouldn't interfere with day-to-day operations. The small gym is regularly used by officers before and after their shifts. The gym has many advantages including, enhancing employee health and wellness, physical fitness, reduced on the job injuries, and an additional recruiting tool for the hiring team.

Response time for officers is consistent with times in December. Staffing levels dropped from 7 to 6 on January 15, due to scheduled and unscheduled absences. A new officer will start on February 9, and an officer on leave will return February 19, bringing staffing up to 8. We have another officer in the background process and anticipate them starting the first week of March, bringing the police department to the authorized staffing level of 9.

Training

Sergeant B. Lande attended a POST approved, 40-hour, Field Training Supervisor Course and was appointed the Supervisor of the Kensington Police Training Program. Sergeant A. Nath attended session #2 of the POST approved Supervisory Leadership Institute. Chief Gancasz attended the annual Contra Costa County Police Chiefs Conference in Napa. Attendees included every Chief in Contra Costa and District Attorney D. Smith. Subject matter included legislative updates, implementing reporting procedures for SB2, and common staffing challenges throughout the profession.