



KENSINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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DATE: September 1st, 2024
TO: David Aranda: General Manager
FROM: M. Gancasz, Chief of Police
RE: Police Chief’s Monthly Report, August 2024

Patrol Operations

The Kensington Police Department responded to 1,417 incidents, a decrease from the 1,470 incidents recorded the previous month. Officers initiated 1,215 actions, including 127 traffic enforcement stops, which resulted in 59 citations. This reflects a sharp increase in traffic stops and citations compared to the previous month. Directed enforcement operations and increased patrols east of Arlington Ave led to a reduction in property crimes overall.

Officers responded to 202 dispatched calls for service, a decrease from 286 in July. Officers authored 29 investigative reports, compared to 25 the previous month. During August, six misdemeanor arrests were made. Investigations included residential burglary, domestic violence, two vehicle thefts, DUI, check fraud, theft, and a misdemeanor warrant service.

The average response time was 6 minutes, an increase of 0.3 minutes from the prior month.

Table 1. Date and Time Heatmap

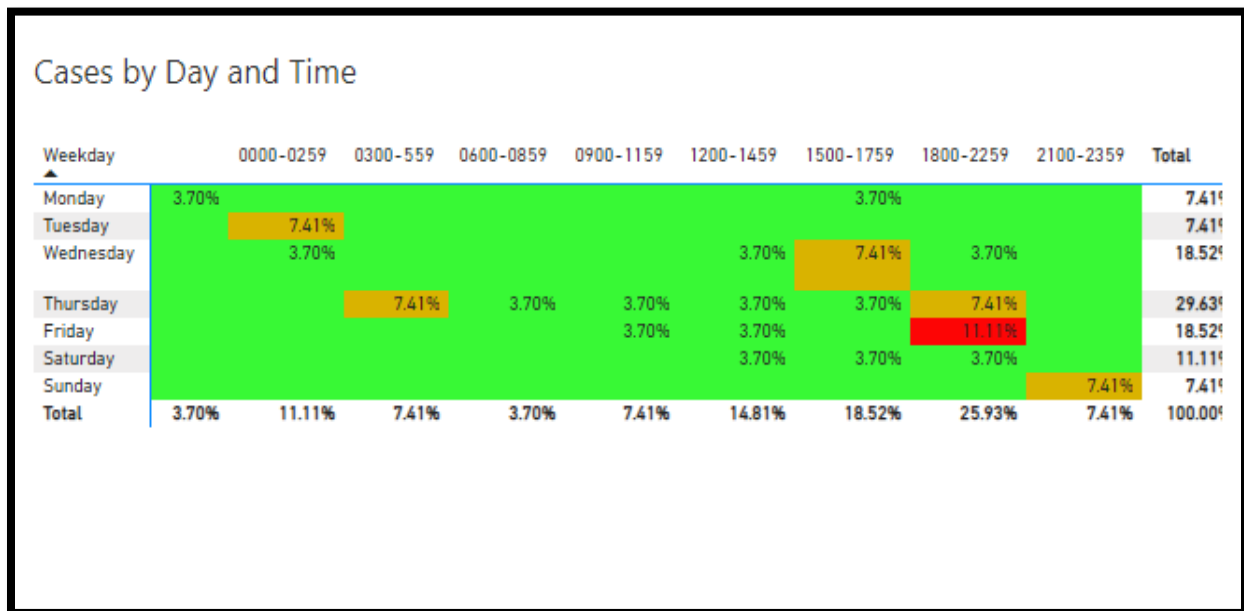


Figure 1 NIBRS Offense Data

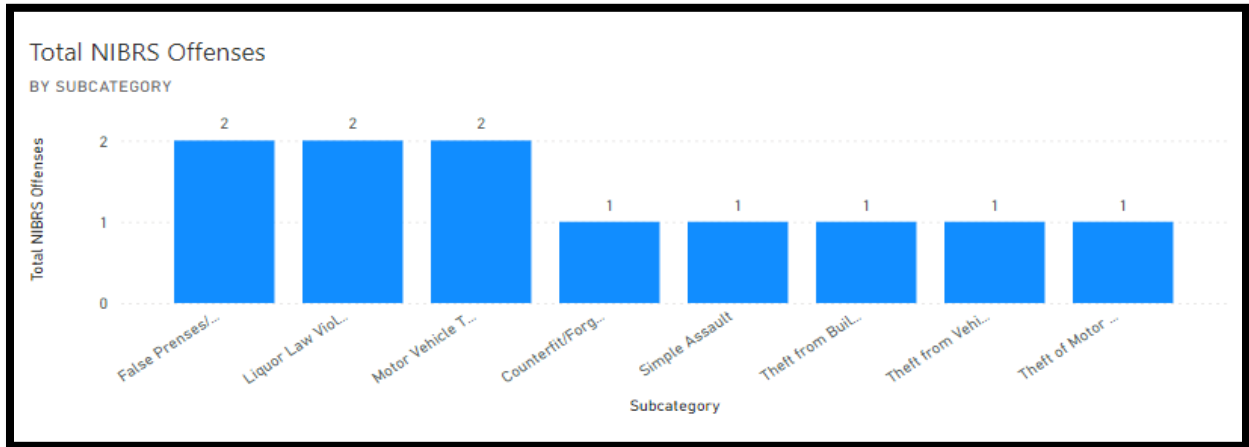


Figure 2. Month over Month

Case Count LM, MoM% - Cases, Month Case Count

BY SUBCATEGORY

Subcategory	Month Case Count	Case Count LM	MoM% - Cases
Wire Fraud			→ 0.00%
Welfare Fraud			→ 0.00%
Weapon Violations			→ 0.00%
Trespass of Real Property			→ 0.00%
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories	1		↑ 100.00%
Theft from Vehicle	1	3	↓ -66.67%
Theft from Coin Operated Machine			→ 0.00%
Theft from Building	1		↑ 100.00%
Suicide			→ 0.00%
Total	11	10	↑ 10.00%

Figure 3. Crime Trend Mapping

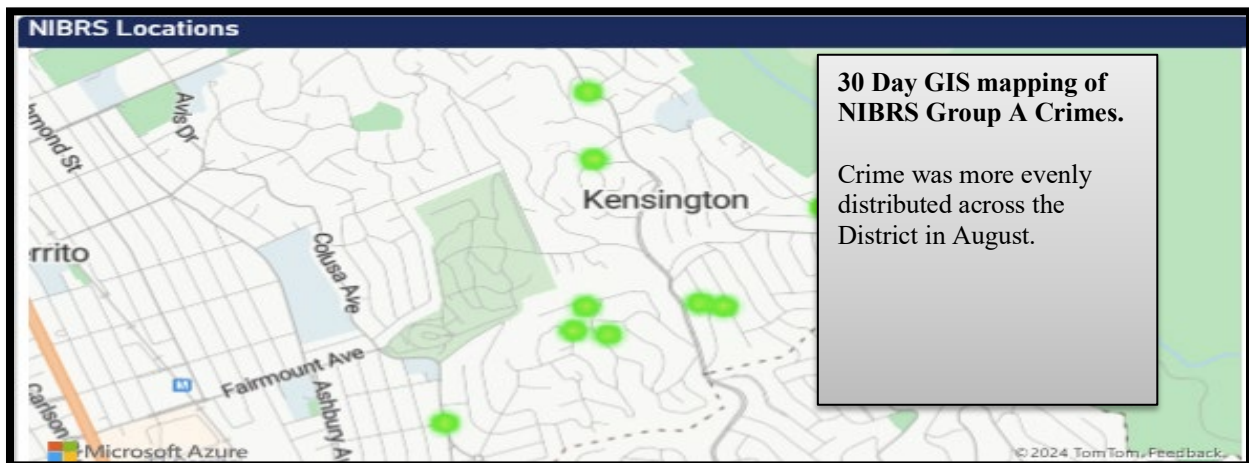
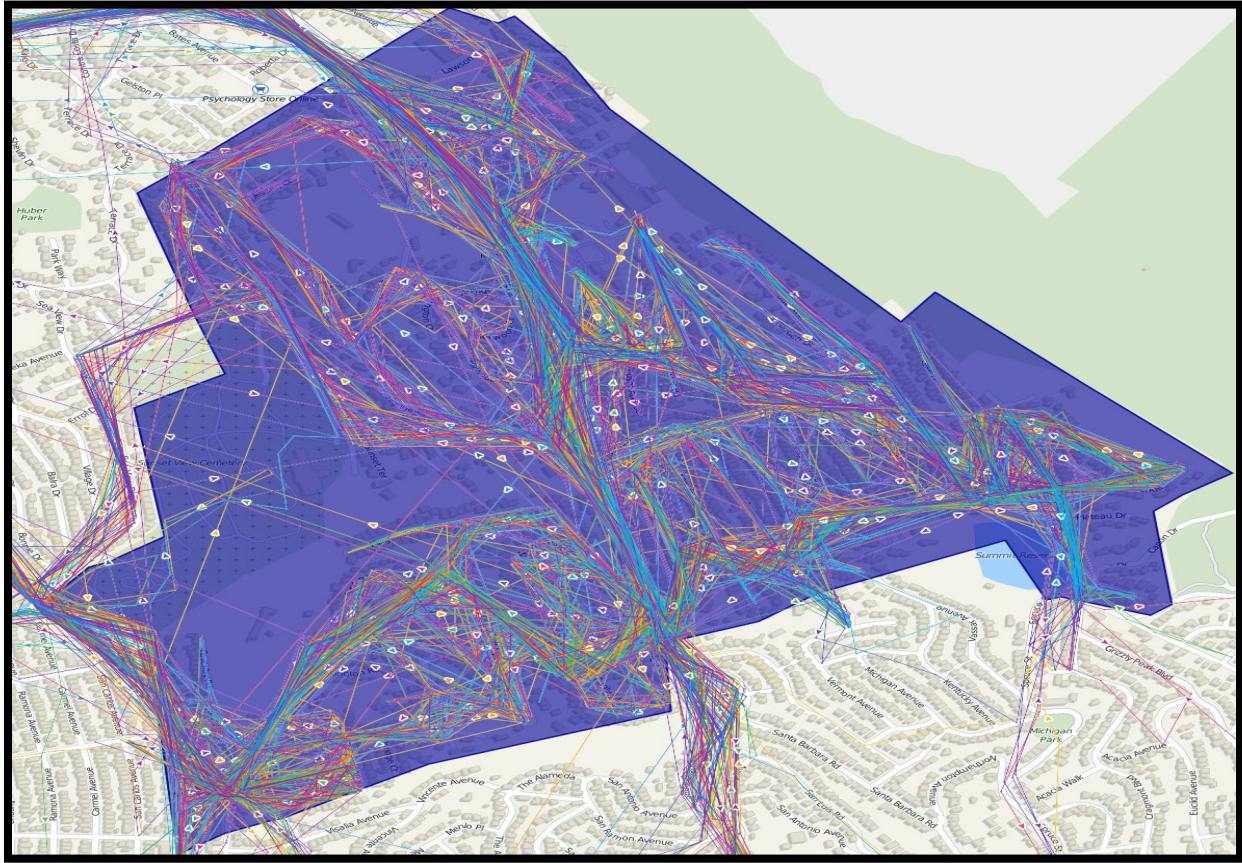


Figure 4. Patrol fleet mapping

Kensington's patrol fleet was upgraded with GPS technology, allowing real-time tracking and mapping. Figure 4 depicts the Special District of Kensington boundary (dark blue), and the six colored lines represent black-and-white patrol car locations inside the district throughout the month.



Activity Log

Aug 1: Officers investigated a parked vehicle on the public roadway with expired registration. A 72-hour notice sticker was applied, and the vehicle was subsequently moved.

Aug 2: Report of lost property taken.

Aug 2: An officer was hailed by a citizen to report a petty theft of consumer goods. Video surveillance was obtained, and a report was taken. The investigation is ongoing.

Aug 4: Police were dispatched to the 200 block of Amherst Avenue for a report of a cold auto burglary. Three bags containing miscellaneous property were stolen. An area canvass was completed, and an investigative report was taken.

Aug 7: Police responded to the 400 block of Beloit Avenue to investigate a recently marked abandoned vehicle. Officers previously applied a warning tag to the car, completed the appropriate paperwork, and ultimately impounded the vehicle.

Aug 7: Officers identified a parked vehicle with registration expired more than 180 days. The vehicle was impounded for the violation.

Aug 8: Officers responded to the 200 block of Yale Ave for a vehicle theft report. Flock cameras captured the vehicles fleeing on Arlington Ave, later recovered in Oakland.

Aug 9: Police were dispatched to Kingston Road for a stolen license plate. A report was taken, and the plate was entered into the Stolen Vehicle System.

Aug 9: Officers took a report of found property, which was placed in evidence for safekeeping.

Aug 10: Officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle bearing fraudulent registration stickers. The driver was cited and released.

Aug 13: Officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle where the driver had their license suspended for DUI. The driver was cited and released at the scene.

Aug 14: Officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle where the driver had their license suspended for DUI. The driver was cited and released at the scene.

Aug 15: Officers took a report of identity theft on Lenox Road. The victim received a spam email informing her that she would be charged for a streaming subscription. The victim's loss totaled \$10,000.00. A report was taken and forwarded to the San Francisco F.B.I. field office for follow-up.

Aug 18: Officers contacted a person on Colusa Circle who was a fugitive with an active warrant from Alameda County. The suspect was arrested and taken to jail.

Aug 19: Officers took a missing person report for an adult who was located unharmed in San Pablo later that day.

Aug 22: Officers conducted a traffic stop where they determined the juvenile driver was under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested for DUI and possession of Marijuana. A juvenile passenger was also arrested for being in possession of alcohol. The case was forwarded to the Contra Costa County District Attorney.

Aug 26: A non-injury traffic collision was reported near the 300 block of Colusa Avenue. Officers conducted a thorough investigation and completed a collision report.

Aug 28: A vehicle vs. pedestrian collision was reported at the 300 block of Colusa Avenue. The victim refused medical services. Officers conducted a thorough investigation and completed a collision report.

Aug 29: Officers received a call about a hit-and-run property damage collision in the 200 block of Amherst Avenue. A police report was taken.

Aug 29: Officers responded to Beverly Road for a report of a domestic disturbance. No arrests were made; however, a report was made to document the events.

Aug 30: Officers received a call about a hit-and-run property damage collision in the 300 block of Arlington Avenue. A police report was taken.

Aug 31: Officers responded to a report of a suspect trying to cash a fraudulent check at a business. They determined the subject was trying to cash a two-year-old check. A courtesy report was taken to document the events.

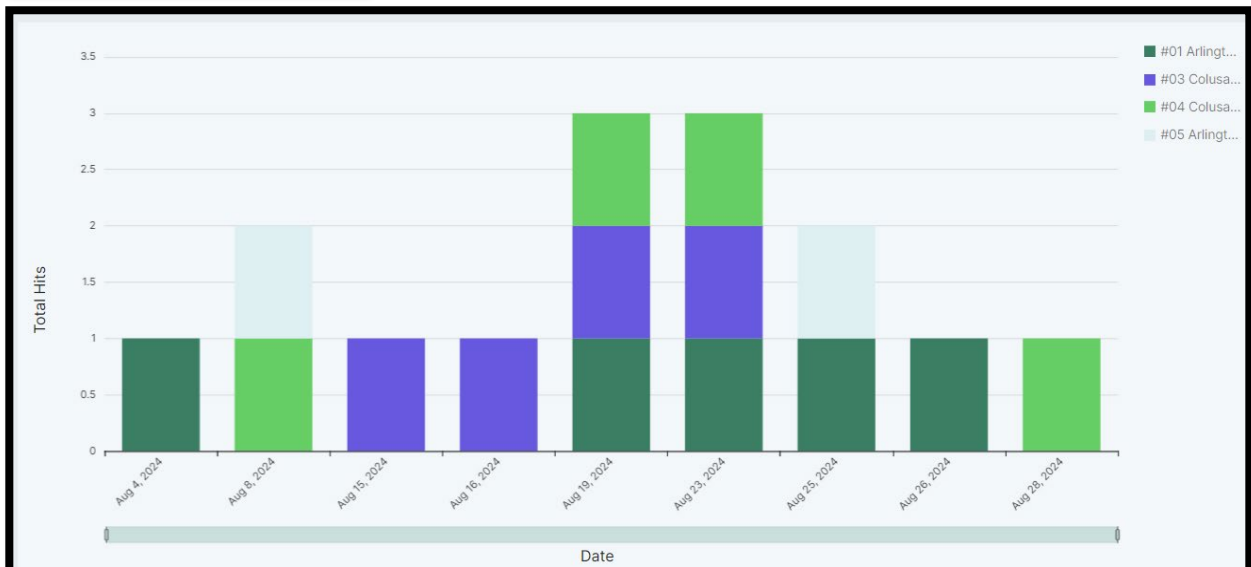
Aug 31: Officers responded to a possible burglary on Norwood Ave. Officers determined there was no crime but documented the events in a report.

Community Safety Cameras

Five felony vehicles were captured on Flock cameras in Kensington. The stolen vehicles' average time in the District was less than two minutes. The vehicles traveled northbound Arlington from Berkeley, exiting through El Cerrito and on Colusa Cir before leaving the District.



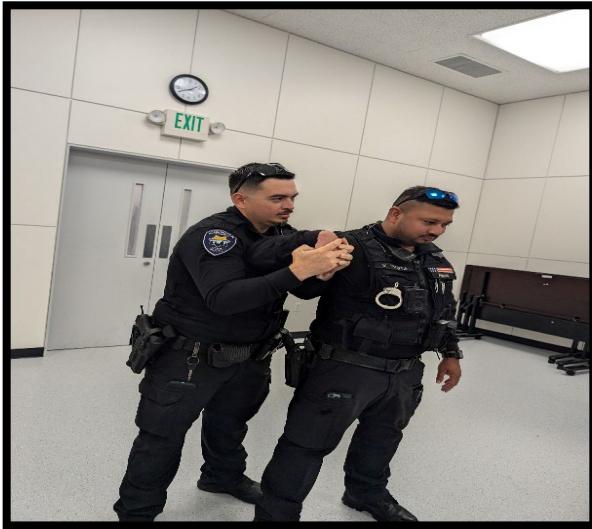
August Data Captured – five (5) cameras			
Type	Stolen Plates	Stolen Vehicle	Felony Warrant
Count	120	4	1



Training

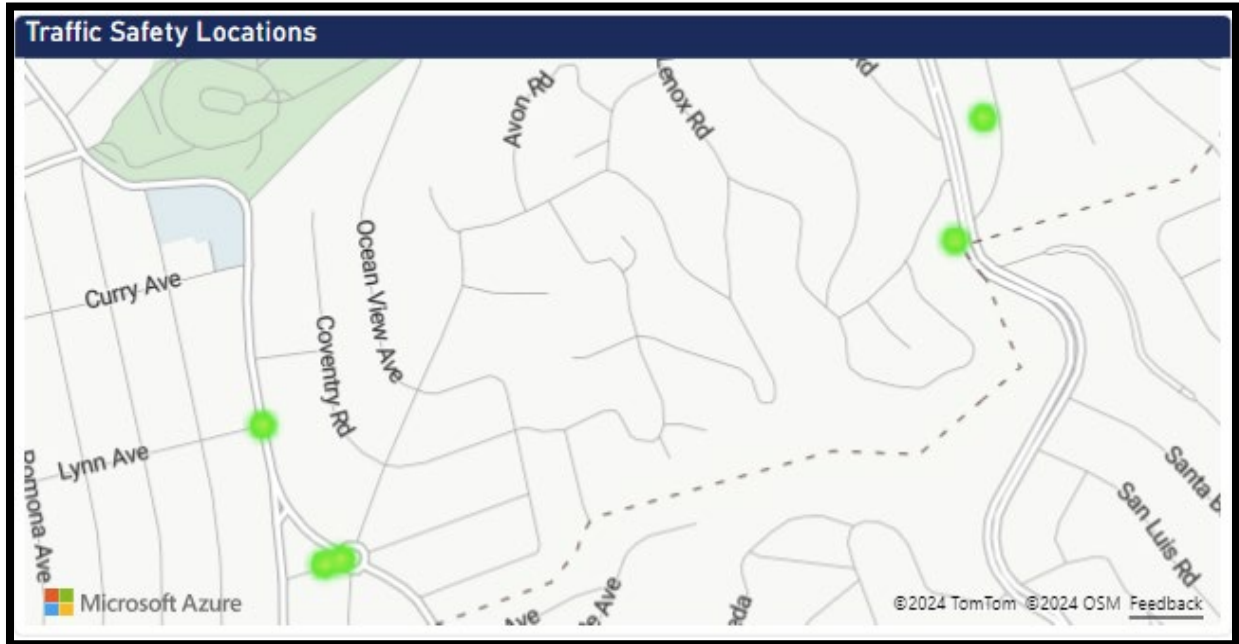
Officers participated in mental health evaluation training with the San Francisco Police Department Crisis Intervention Unit. They also received Advanced Officer Training at El Cerrito PD, which included refresher training on arrest and control techniques, building entry, search, and case law updates related to felony traffic stops.

Officer Gill completed the California Highway Patrol's DUI Detection (SFST) Course, and Officer De Santiago completed the Kensington Police Department Field Training Program and is now on solo patrol.



Traffic Safety

Officers completed two DUI investigations, making one arrest, two non-injury accidents, and two misdemeanor hit-and-run investigations.



Chief of Police

Lt. Nath, Sgt. Rivera and Officer Gill represented Kensington PD by attending the 200th Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff Basic Academy Training Graduation on Friday, August 23, in Walnut Creek. Forty recruits graduated from the academy and will join police departments throughout Contra Costa County. Officer Payne completed eighteen months of probation with Kensington PD, earning his permanent employee status. We held a swearing-in and promotional ceremony for Lieutenant A. Nath and Sgt Jose Rivera on August 8. Friends, family, and colleagues attended the regular Board of Directors meeting to congratulate them on their well-deserved achievements.



Community

The National Night Out was extremely successful. Kensington Police Officers were out and about in the neighborhood, attending 17 of 18 community functions.



Kensington Officers attending NNO



Volunteer Mike Logan at NNO



Officer Thota during NNO



Officer D. Payne completing probation

Cookies with a Cop, hosted by Raxakoul Coffee & Cheese, was well attended. Many community members came by to say hi and enjoy cookies and refreshments. Board President D. Spath and Director C. Duggan stopped in, as did a few Mental Health Outreach Team members from Contra Costa County, to show support.



Our next event, "Police in the Park," is scheduled for September 18th from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in our Kensington Community Park. We invite parents and children to meet the officers and volunteers, explore our police fleet vehicles, and enjoy snacks and refreshments. For more details on this and other upcoming events, please visit KPPCSD.org or follow us on Facebook and Instagram. We look forward to connecting with you.

