

# PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

## DATA AND ANALYSIS

### PUBLIC SAFETY IN THE TOWN OF PALM BEACH

The Town of Palm Beach shares the role of public safety under the auspices of the Police Department and the Fire Department in concert. Both serve the public and work together. However, their roles are independent. As such, the distinctions are being recognized with the subject Comprehensive Plan Amendment. Since the adoption of the current 2017 Comprehensive Plan, a new Fire Chief was appointed, and the Public Safety Director position was eliminated. This change has been reflected in the corresponding Goals, Objectives, and Policies for the Public Safety Element.



**We, the members of the Palm Beach Police and Fire Departments,** embrace these Core Values and Value Statement to guide our behavior in all we do.

#### VALUE STATEMENT

Every encounter is an opportunity to positively impact the lives of others.

We PROMISE to ACT with INTEGRITY in all our encounters and efforts.

We PROMISE to PROVIDE excellent service to all citizens.

WE PROMISE to BRING our best every day.

Our WHY...The PALM BEACH STANDARD.

INTegrity  
Honor • Honesty • Accountability • Ethical • Unflinching  
Do the Right Thing • Courage • Professional

#### WOW

Golden Rule • Care • Compassion • Transcend Expectations  
Extreme Passion • Intense Customer Service • Competence • Exceptional  
Unparalleled • Phenomenal • First Rate • Unprecedented • Sense of Urgency

#### GRIT

Never Quit • Overcome • Get It Done • Perseverance  
Passion • Never Ceasing • Relentless • Find a Way

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### History of the Palm Beach Fire Rescue Department

In the late 1800's, fire protection for the Town of Palm Beach was initially provided by a volunteer group of fire fighters known as the "Flagler Alerts". This group of volunteers were organized and equipped by Henry Morrison Flagler in 1894 for the purpose of protecting his properties and local interests. The Flagler Alerts were housed in City of West Palm Beach on the mainland. Separating Palm Beach and West Palm Beach is a body of water known as Lake Worth (Lagoon). Before it was dredged and became a part of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (through the work of the Army Corp of Engineers), this body of water was a freshwater lake, 21 miles long and up to a mile wide. At that time, no bridges existed, which meant the Flagler Alerts could only respond by ferry in the event of a fire. Given that firefighting equipment and fire personnel were not present on the island, Palm Beach was completely dependent upon outside assistance.<sup>1</sup>



Historic Photo of Fire Station and Firefighters late 1800's

In 1911, the official name of this volunteer fire department was changed from the Flagler Alerts to the City of West Palm Beach Fire Department. The West Palm Beach Fire Department continued to provide fire protection to Palm Beach until the Town of Palm Beach founding fathers were concerned about delayed response times and high fire insurance rates. In December 1921, the Town Council established a localized fire protection plan with the creation of the Palm Beach Fire Department. In early 1922, Elmer Schultz was appointed as the first Fire Chief.<sup>2</sup>

Palm Beach's first fire engine was a 1921 American La France, Model #75, triple, 750 gallons per minute (GPM), chemical and hose motor car. The new fire engine and crew were housed in the Town's first fire station located on Main Street (presently Royal Poinciana Way). Early Sanborn maps indicate that this fire station was located on the north side of the street adjacent to where the Henry's restaurant (f.k.a Testa's) is currently located. It was initially staffed by the Fire Chief and two (2) full-time paid firemen.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ibid

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

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*With the growth of the Town, a second fire station was constructed in June of 1924. It was located on ~~Worth Street~~, one block ~~south~~ of Worth Avenue. A second fire engine was also added.*

*Town of Palm Beach Fire Rescue  
Department Webpage*

In 1925, a new Town Hall was constructed at Australian Avenue and County Road. It contained the Town's administration along with several other departments. The new building was also home to the police and fire departments. The fire station was called Central Station or Headquarters, when the First Street location was closed.

By early 1926, following three fires in a single day, a ~~focused~~ attention was ~~focused~~ on Palm Beach's inadequate fire protection. The then Chief Schultz proposed a supplementary brigade of volunteer firefighters to be organized. Many of the prominent winter residents and businessmen joined the Fire Department.<sup>4</sup>

In November 1927, the Main Street (north end) fire station was closed when the fire station at the corner of Wells Road and County Road (Station 2) was opened. A third new American La France pumper was purchased. The north station was staffed mostly by volunteer firefighters. Increased development and population growth in the south end of Town created the need for a third fire station (Station 3) which was opened at 2185 South Ocean Boulevard in April of 1964. The station was reconstructed from the Phipps Park attendant's residence and originally housed an engine and squad truck. In 1995, a new South Fire Station was constructed in Phipps Ocean Park in place of the old station.<sup>5</sup>

By 1982, the Fire Department's name was officially changed to the Palm Beach Fire Rescue Department to emphasize the increased effort and workload in emergency medical services. In May 1987, renovation work was completed on the North Fire Station (Station 2) at 300 North County Road and the Administrative Offices for the Department were moved from Station 1 to the third floor of Station 2. In 2004, a new Central Fire Station (Station 1) was constructed at 355 South County Road across from the old central fire station.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Ibid

<sup>5</sup> Ibid

<sup>6</sup> Ibid

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### Fire Rescue as a Component to the Public Safety Element

The scope of the fire-rescue industry has grown dramatically over the last century, evolving from solely a fire department to an all-hazards department. In Florida, there is no state requirement for fire department staffing. In fact, fire departments are not mandatory. At present, many areas of the state of Florida provide fire rescue through a volunteer department, as the Town originally had.

The closest state "staffing" requirement for fire service is the requirement that when entering an atmosphere considered "Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health" (IDLH), such as a structure fire, firefighters operate in teams of two (2) as a minimum and that before firefighters enter the IDLH, there must be two (2) firefighters outside who are capable of a rescue should the two (or more) firefighters in the IDLH need rescuing. This is commonly referred to as the "two-in, two-out" rule.

For Emergency Medical Services (EMS), the only EMS staffing rule in Florida is that an Advanced Life Support (ALS) vehicle must be staffed by at least one (1) paramedic and one (1) Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). The Fire Rescue Department staffing, and distribution of personnel are based upon the Town's expectations for service, which includes the ability to get to any emergency within eight (8) minutes and to initiate effective emergency services upon arrival. On average, the Fire Rescue Department responds to an average of 2,600 calls per year.

~~*We Promise to act with integrity in all of our encounters and efforts.*~~

~~*We Promise to provide a WOW service to all citizens.*~~

~~*We Promise to bring an attitude of grit every day.*~~

~~*Our why..... The Palm Beach Way... Setting the standard.*~~

*Palm Beach Fire Rescue Vision*

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Today, there are three fire-rescue stations, north, central, and south station to minimize response time and provide maximum coverage to all areas of the island. Each station contains at least one rescue unit and one suppression unit. The Central Fire Station and the South Fire Station both house aerial ladder trucks. The mission of the Town of Palm Beach Fire Rescue Department is to continue to deliver the very best, cutting-edge services to all well into the future. As displayed in the Fire Rescue Zones Map, the Town is divided into three zones that correspond to each of the fire station locations.

### North Fire Station (Station #2) – located at 300 North County Road

- Primary Response Area is Royal Poinciana Way north the Town’s northern limit.
- This station is currently under restoration as it is a designated landmarked building.
- Staffing:
  - Four operational personnel, a Lieutenant/Paramedic, a Driver Engineer and two firefight/paramedics.
  - One Fire Engine permitted as an Advanced Life Support non-transport unit. This unit is cross staffed by the four person crew.
  - One Rescue Truck permitted as an Advanced Life Support transport unit. This unit is cross staffed by the four person crew.
  - One Reserve Rescue Truck permitted as an Advanced Life Support transport unit. This unit is staffed but is capable of being put into service immediately if needed or can replace a Rescue Truck that is in need of repairs or if an emergency.
  - The Administrative staff offices are located on the second and third floor of Fire Station #2. The Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief work from this location.



Exhibit 4-1 Fire Rescue Zones

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### Central Fire Station (Station #1) — 365 South County Road

- Primary Response Area is from Royal Poinciana Way south to Southern Boulevard.
- Staffing:
  - Seven operations personnel including a Battalion Chief, two Lieutenants, two Driver Engineers, four Firefighters who staff the emergency units at the Central Station.
  - One Fire Engine, permitted as an Advanced Life Support non-transport unit. This unit is cross-staffed by three of the personnel, a Lieutenant/Paramedic, a Driver Engineer, and a Firefighter/Paramedic.
  - One Battalion Chief who serves as the department's management representative on shift and has specialized training and is authorized by the medical director to provide advanced care and techniques.
  - One Squad (Heavy Rescue). This unit is unstaffed but can be brought to a scene by call in personnel. The unit serves as the department's air and light truck, providing scene lighting.
  - One Reserve Rescue Truck to provide Advanced Life Support transport unit.

### South Fire Station (Station #3) — 2185 South Ocean Boulevard

- Primary Response Area is from Southern Boulevard south to Town's southern limits.
- Staffing:
  - A total of six operations personnel including two Lieutenants, two Driver Engineers, four Firefighters who staff the emergency units at the Central Station.
  - One Fire Engine to provide Advanced Life Support non-transport unit.
  - One Rescue Truck to provide Advanced Life Support transport unit.
  - One Reserve Fire Engine. This unit is not staffed but is capable of being put into service immediately if needed.



# PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

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Shown on Exhibit 4-2 is a complete organizational chart of the Fire Rescue Department. As noted, ocean rescue falls under the authority of the Fire Rescue Chief.

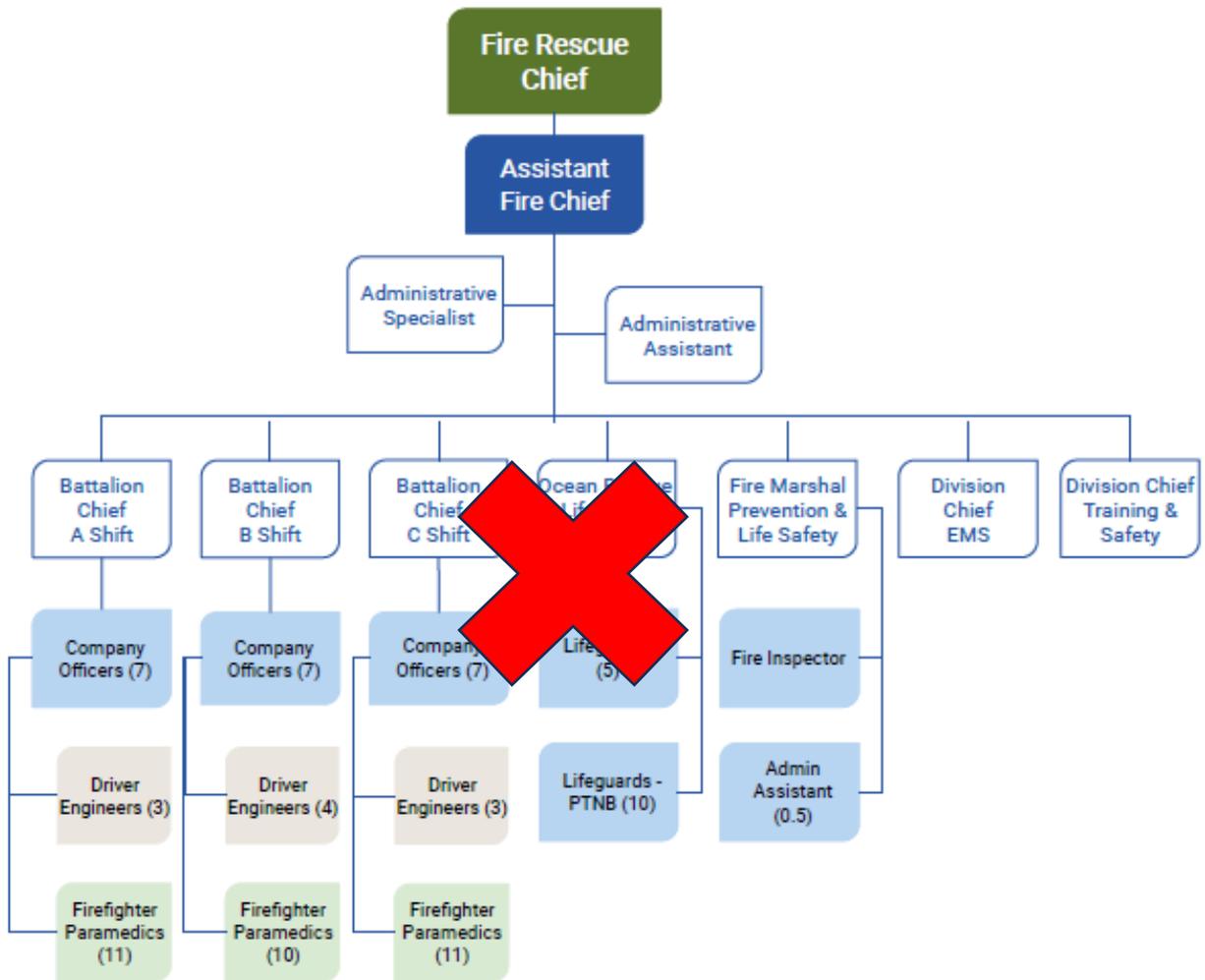


Exhibit 4-2 Fire Rescue Department Organizational Chart



# PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

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### Ocean Rescue

As a barrier island with over 12 miles of beachfront within the Town of Palm Beach corporate limits, the relationship between the Fire Department and Ocean Rescue (lifeguards) is critical. The Town of Palm Beach Ocean Rescue Unit operates under the Town of Palm Beach Fire Rescue Department. The Ocean Rescue Unit is responsible for the protection of life and property on the Town's public beaches and surrounding waterways.

The Town of Palm Beach employs six full-time lifeguards and seven part-time lifeguards, who are responsible for providing public safety and initial emergency medical service seven days a week, 365 days per year on the Town's two public beaches. Those Town operated beaches include the Mid-Town Municipal Beach and Phipps Ocean Park, that are both equipped with Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs), rescue paddle boards, rescue boats, response ATVs and state of the art lifeguard towers. Those within the Phipps Ocean Park have been approved for renovation in 2023.



Palm Beach Ocean Rescue, Palm Beach Civic Association Photo

All Ocean Rescue personnel are trained at first responder level for emergency medical care. Additionally, all lifeguards must complete an annual USLA re-certification that requires a 500-



Town of Palm Beach Ocean Rescue

meter swim test. The Ocean Rescue staff are also encouraged, and several employees have obtained supplemental advanced training, as paramedics and Emergency Medical Technician (EMTs). An EMT or Paramedic is generally assigned to each beach. In addition to providing service on the two (2) public beaches, Ocean Rescue responds to aquatic emergencies throughout the Town. Lifeguards are also assigned to the Town's Rescue Dive Team. The Unit is accredited by the United States Lifesaving Association and is recognized as a State of Florida Certified First Responder Agency.

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### **Police Department as a Component to the Public Safety Element**

The year 1911 also witnessed the establishment of the Town's Office of the Town Marshal. Through its first Town Charter, Joseph Borman was elected to the office and the first appropriation from the Town Council was \$1 for a "proper marshal's badge." Borman became the first Police Chief when the Palm Beach Police Department was formed on October 17, 1922. Chief Borman, known as "Mr. Palm Beach", served the Town from 1911 until his retirement in 1946. In addition to his duties as chief law enforcement officer, Chief Borman also served as tax collector, tax assessor, fire chief, voter registrar, code enforcement officer and building official, mosquito control officer, and secretary of the Town Caucus.<sup>7</sup>

The early days of the Palm Beach Police Department are summarized below.

1911– Society baseball games were held each year until the beginning of WWII. The New York "Police" vs. Philadelphia "Convicts", wearing appropriate uniforms, played on a field located at the present site of The Breakers tennis courts with Palm Beach Police officers playing on both sides. The games benefited the Palm Beach Police Pension Fund beginning in the 1920's. Members of the social register played on their respective home teams with the whole of Palm Beach watching. Players of note included Woolworth Donahue, E. F. Hutton and Walter P. Chrysler. Players in later years included heavyweight champ Gene Tunney and stage star Georgie Jessel.

1913– Theft of sand from the beach used for fill on the Lake Worth side was a significant problem. Fences were erected at the ends of most east-west streets to remedy the situation.

1917– The town bought the first motorcycle (referred to as a motorized bicycle) for law enforcement use.

1921– The town bought the first police car, an Essex, for \$1,700.

1924– Eight police call boxes were installed in town. A police substation was established on Royal Palm Way. The first Harley Davidson motorcycle was purchased for police use. Police officers worked seven days a week and lived in barracks above the fire station.

1926– Moved into police station and jail located at the current town Hall. First written Rules and Regulations were published.

1927– Last recorded accident of a car hitting a mule in Palm Beach; the mule died.

1928– A devastating hurricane struck the area. Martial Law was declared and 171 members of the National Guard patrolled Palm Beach. Other assistance included 15 volunteers from the Daytona Beach Police Department who were sworn in as special officers.

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<sup>7</sup> Town of Palm Beach Police Department webpage. "History of the Police Department", 2023

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~~1933— A Palm Beach resident donated a short wave radio with which the Palm Beach Police also dispatched for the West Palm Beach Police. WWII Years Military Police patrolled Palm Beach along with Palm Beach Police officers, as the town was a major rest and relaxation point for servicemen.~~

~~1947— Martial law was declared in Palm Beach after a hurricane caused great damage. The National Guard was again deployed in Palm Beach.~~<sup>8</sup>

Today, the Town of Palm Beach Police Department Officers are a group of law enforcement officials who carry out the law in the Town. More specifically, Town of Palm Beach Police Officers are Town employees who are certified as sworn law enforcement officers by the State of Florida. Along with the state certification comes regular training requirements and a myriad of other rules and regulations in addition to anything internal to the Town. The Town of Palm Beach Police Officers are licensed to carry firearms and other weapons used in the field. Police Officers also can be one (1) of the first responders to an emergency, such as a car wreck or fire.

The Palm Beach Police Department is organized into components which are grouped according to the functions they are designed to carry out. Levels of authority and responsibility within these components are established by rank and position. The order of command for sworn personnel is provided below.

*The Palm Beach Police Department is a full-service law enforcement agency that defines the highest level of service and excellence. The Department is committed to keeping the Town of Palm Beach and the safest communities in the nation. The Department's approach is pro-active and subscribes to the principles of mutual respect and shared responsibility in the effort to combat criminal activity.*

*Town of Palm Beach Police Department Website*

<sup>8</sup> Ibid

**PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT**

**DATA AND ANALYSIS**

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Chief of Police

Major

Captain

Lieutenant

Sergeant

Police Officer

Town of Palm Beach Sworn Officers

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The complete organizational chart for the Police Department, including both sworn and civilian personnel is outlined in the chart below.

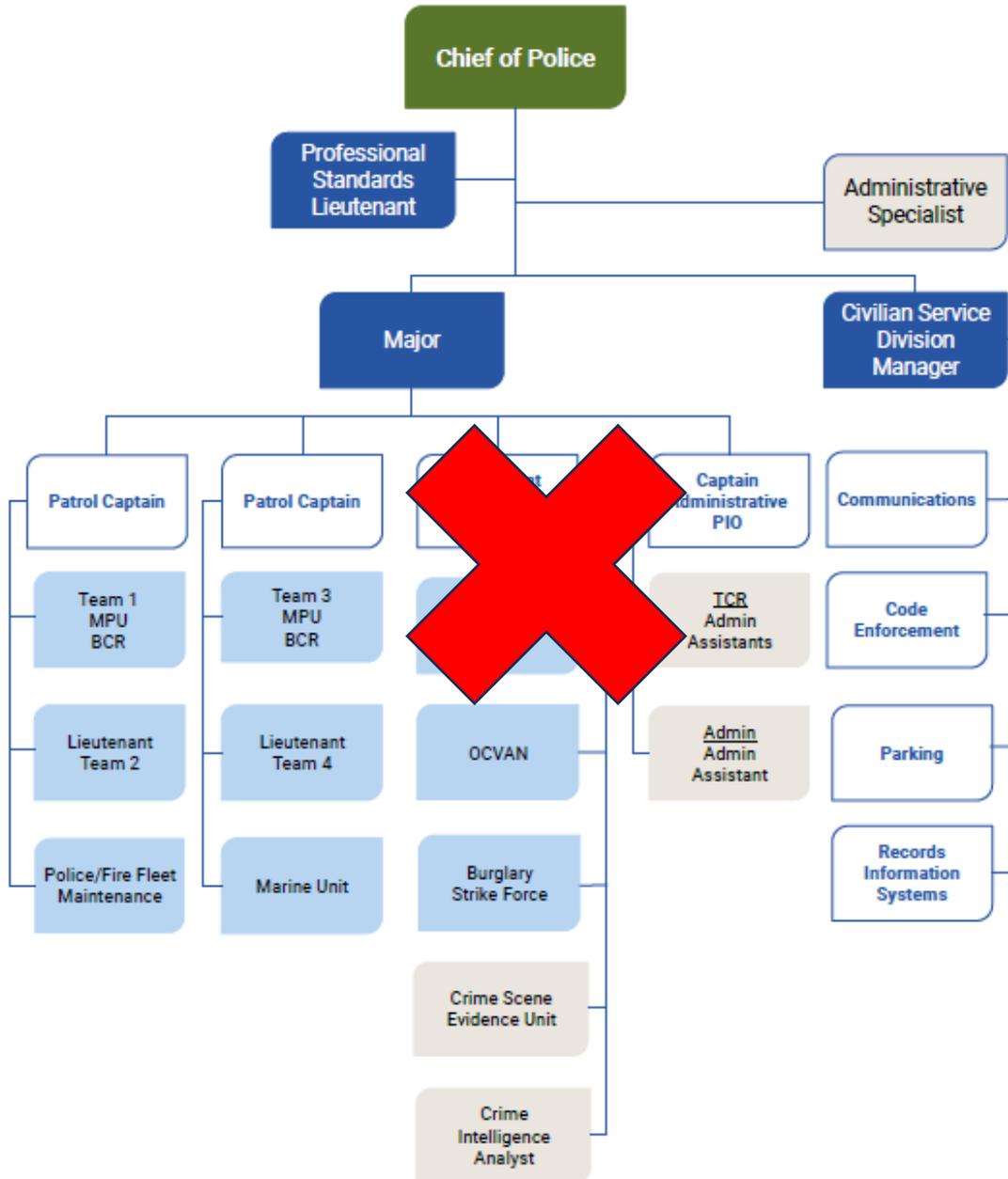


Exhibit 4-3 - Town of Palm Beach Police Department Organizational Chart

# PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

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The Police Department is divided into the Law Enforcement and Support Services components. Law Enforcement is commanded by the rank of Major and Support Services is managed by a civilian Support Services Manager. Currently, the Town of Palm Beach is staffed with 65 sworn officers and 26 non-sworn employees. However, the Town is authorized to staff 75 sworn and 32 non-sworn Police employees.

The Chief of Police is the Chief Executive Officer of the Department. The Chief of Police develops, organizes, coordinates, and directs all functions within the organization in the absence of the Chief of Police, the Major assumes the duties of the Chief of Police. The Major and Support Services Manager report directly to the Chief of Police. Each component is divided into units which are grouped according to the functions for which they are responsible.



Town of Palm Beach Police Department -345 S. County Road

All Terrain Vehicle – The Town of Palm Beach has approximately 13 miles of beachfront. ATV's are well suited for the patrol of beaches, parks and other rough terrain. ATV patrol also offers opportunities for positive personal contact between the officers and the community while patrolling the beaches and parks in the Town.

Bicycle Patrol Unit – The bicycle is considered by the Palm Beach Police Department to be an adjunct to the traditional patrol car. Officers assigned to this unit use the bicycle as an outreach from their patrol car in order to facilitate community policing.

Business and Community Relations – Police Officers assigned to this unit are multi-tasked. They focus on issues and concerns of businesses and community groups in Palm Beach, provide a variety of programs related to crime prevention and public safety, and establish relationships with the public through personal contacts.

Crime Intelligence Analyst – The Crime Intelligence Analyst is responsible for conducting detailed research and analysis of confidential intelligence and investigative information to law enforcement operations and programs.

Criminal Investigations Unit – The Criminal Investigations Unit is not one individual component but rather a combination of sub-units.

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Detective Bureau – The Detective Bureau is responsible for the investigation and follow-up of all crimes except those related to organized crime or other specialized long-term investigations.

Emergency Field Force Unit (EFF) – The Emergency Field Force Team (EFF) provides a ready response to situations which require the use of special weapons or tactics beyond the capabilities of the normally equipped and trained law enforcement agency personnel in response to civil disturbances and or mass arrest situations.

Marine Unit – The primary responsibility of the Marine Unit is to ensure waterway safety through enforcement of applicable State law and Municipal ordinances within the jurisdiction of the Town of Palm Beach.

Motorecycle Patrol Unit – The Motorecycle Patrol Unit is a highly mobile, highly visible patrol unit, able to rapidly respond to special problem situations within the community during peak problem times. The unit provides deterrence and vigilant protection for the residents and businesses in Palm Beach.

Organized Crime/Vice and Narcotics Unit (OCVAN) – OCVAN is responsible for the investigation of all incidents relating to organized crime, vice activities, narcotics and coordinates all intelligence-related activities. Crime Scene/Evidence Unit. The CSEU is responsible for crime scene investigations, latent investigation, collection and recovery of physical evidence, laboratory processing, photography and related duties in the field of forensic science.

Patrol – The primary responsibilities of Patrol are to protect life and property; to prevent and suppress crime; to preserve the public order; and to apprehend violators of State, County, and Town laws and ordinances. Patrol officers are the first responders to critical incidents and to all calls for help. They are the backbone of the Police Department, and their omnipresence has a deterrent effect on criminal activity within the Town of Palm Beach.

Professional Standards Unit – The Professional Standards Lieutenant conducts inspections and investigates complaints assigned by the Chief of Police. The Lieutenant is responsible for ensuring that all employees meet professional and ethical standards of conduct both while performing their official duties and in their personal lives.

Tactic Response Team (TRT) – These are groups of specially trained police personnel assigned to various units in the Department who, when called together, operate as a team to effectuate a mission not capable of being handled utilizing ordinary police methods.

Underwater Search and Recovery Team (Dive Team) – Consists of specially trained police officers assigned to various units within the Department who, when called together, operate as a team to conduct underwater search and recovery missions.

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The Police Department also has support services that include the Administrative Planning Unit, which is multifaceted component that is essential for the efficient and effective operation of the Department. This Unit is responsible for multi-year planning, staffing and allocation alternatives, and contingency planning. The Unit assists in budgeting, operational planning, and research.

Additionally, the Code and Parking Enforcement Unit is under the management of the Police Department. The primary responsibility of the Code Enforcement function is to ensure the highest possible quality of life is enjoyed by all residents of the Town of Palm Beach through enforcement of Town codes and ordinances. The Parking Enforcement function also regulates the use of all parking in the Town of Palm Beach by enforcement of parking ordinances and regulations in order to create an adequate turnover of the limited number of parking spaces available and to ensure compliance with residential permit parking programs. Both officers are dispatched through the Police Department's Communications Unit. Additionally, within the Code and Parking Enforcement Unit is sea turtle protection.

Currently, the Code Enforcement Unit maintains one (1) Parking Unit, that is led by one (1) Lead Parking Officer, two (2) Parking Officers, with two (2) new officers budgeted for fiscal year 2023. The officers operate marked vehicles with license plate reader cameras that run tags and indicate expired tags, stolen vehicles, and expired parking sessions. The Parking Officers also serve as the Town's school crossing guards, which average about 240 hours yearly. These officers also direct traffic at vehicle crash scenes.

The primary goal for code enforcement is voluntary compliance. However, if that is not achieved, the compliance is obtained through the Code Enforcement Board. The Code Enforcement Board hears cases involving violations of the Town Code and ordinances and imposes administrative fines and other noncriminal penalties where a pending or repeated violation exists. [Below, is a summary of citations issued from 2017 to 2023 to date.](#)

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>NUMBER OF CITATIONS</b>
<u>2017</u>	<u>12,227</u>
<u>2018</u>	<u>11,556</u>
<u>2019</u>	<u>9,918</u>
<u>2020</u>	<u>12,413</u>
<u>2021</u>	<u>11,747</u>
<u>2022</u>	<u>15,912</u>

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<u>2023</u>	<u>-9,912</u> <u>as of July 2023</u>
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Below, is a summary of code cases investigated from 2017 to 2023 to date. Common code complaints are Right of Way, Construction related, gas powered leaf blowers, and car carriers.

<u>TABLE 4-2 CODE CASES INVESTIGATED</u>	
<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CODE CASES INVESTIGATED</u>
<u>2017</u>	<u>1,519</u>
<u>2018</u>	<u>1,610</u>
<u>2019</u>	<u>1,530</u>
<u>2020</u>	<u>1,416</u>
<u>2021</u>	<u>1,585</u>
<u>2022</u>	<u>2,363</u>
<u>2023</u>	<u>1,214</u> <u>as of July 2023</u>

As displayed on the Parking Inventory Exhibit 4-4, the Town currently has an inventory of 1,897 on-street parking spaces generally located centrally in the Midtown area that contains a mixed of commercial, civic, and residential uses.

Currently, the Town of Palm Beach provides a variety of programs for on-street and municipal lot parking for residents, visitors, contractors, and service companies. The Town's parking regulations, residential permits, placard parking, and paid parking opportunities are provided by the Police Department.

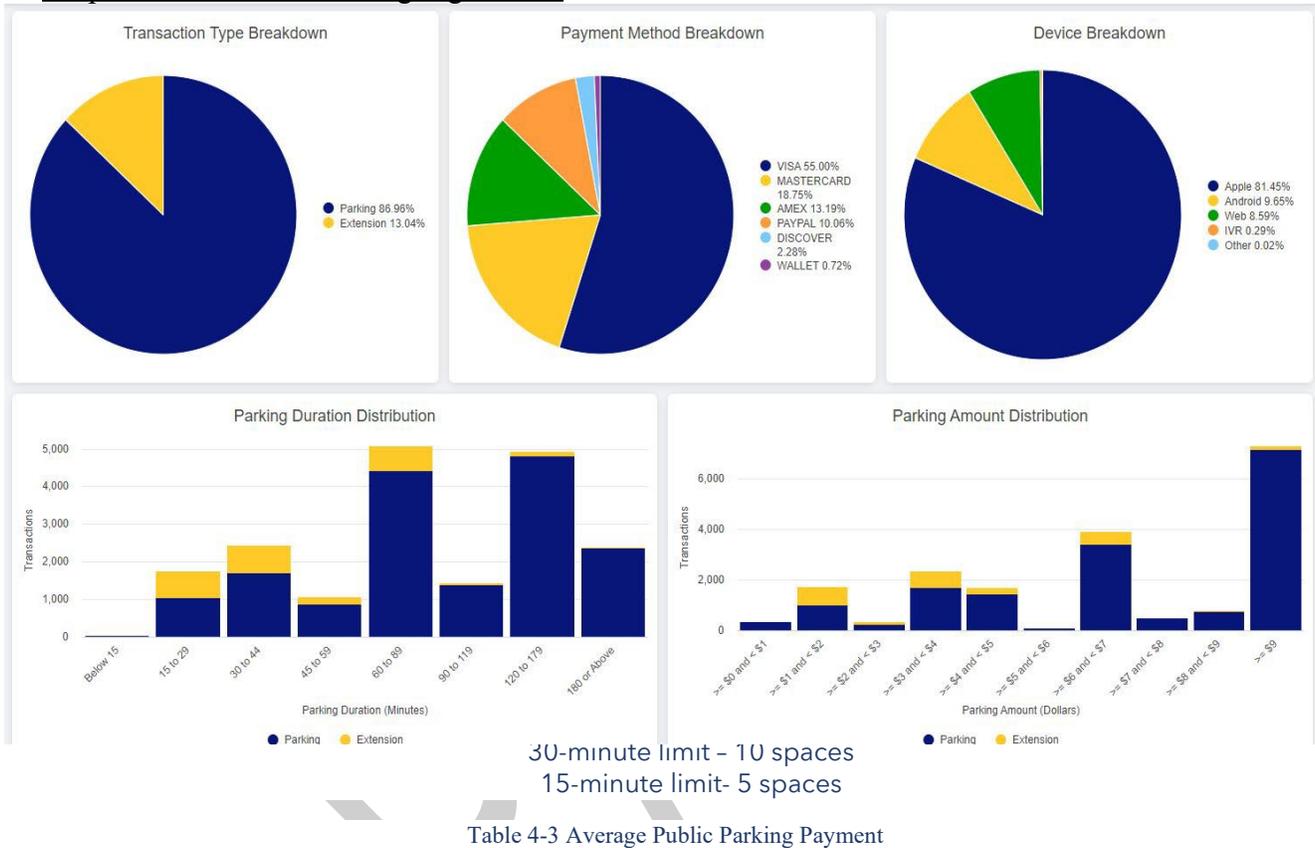


Palm Beach Parking Inventory

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Within the on-street parking managed area, currently varying rates and policies apply often along a short section of a roadway. The parking time limitations and differing fees and collection types are provided in the following Figure 4-1.



Due the inconsistencies in parking regulations, the Police Department in conjunction with the Business and Administration Committee (BAC), is transitioning to a ParkMobile parking program. The system tracks transactions, revenue, historical trends, and performance for individual zones. Reports can be generated in multiple formats and emailed to key personnel.

Data generated by the app-based system can be used to determine best practices and manage the Town's parking inventory effectively and efficiently. The apps can display parking availability in real time, making it easier to find a space. The system provides simple touch-free payment options (through the app, the web, text, or phone). Drivers are alerted when their time is running low, and they can extend their parking session without returning to the vehicle.



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### Sea Turtle Protection

Sea turtles are marine reptiles with streamlined bodies and large flippers that are well-adapted to life in the ocean. Six (6) species are found in U.S. waters, all of which are listed and protected under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Although sea turtles live most of their lives in the ocean, adult females lay their eggs on land. They migrate hundreds to thousands of miles every year between feeding grounds and nesting beaches. Leatherback turtles are among the most highly migratory animals on earth, traveling as many as 10,000 miles or more each year. Unfortunately, sea turtles face significant threats around the world that have led to these species remaining on the endangered species list.

The most common risks include the following.

- By-catch in commercial and recreational fisheries
- Loss and degradation of nesting and foraging habitats due to coastal development, pollution, and climate change
- In some areas, killing of turtles and collection of eggs for consumption
- Entanglement in marine debris
- Vessel strikes

In the United States, NOAA Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have shared jurisdiction for recovery and conservation of threatened and endangered sea turtles. We lead the conservation and recovery of sea turtles in the marine environment, while the U.S. FWS has the lead for the conservation and recovery of these animals on nesting beaches.<sup>9</sup>

Pursuant to Code Section 74-228. Enforcement of federal, state laws, the Town Police Department, through the Code Enforcement Unit, is the enforcement agency for applicable federal and state laws related to sea turtle protection. Should damage to sea turtles, sea turtle nests of hatchlings be observed, the notification to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection is required. Pursuant to Code Section, 74-225, the Town Code Enforcement issues citations for violations due to failure to comply with any provision of the subject Code Section.



Palm Beach Fire Rescue

<sup>9</sup> National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries website

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The individual citations for violation shall be the property owner responsible for placement and/or maintenance of lights on the property. Each property owner in violation of this division shall be notified of the violation by the town's code enforcement officer or his authorized representative, and each offense shall be punishable by a civil fine in accordance with the following schedule:

- 1st offense – Written warning
- 2nd and subsequent offenses – \$250.00
- Each day in which a violation of the provisions of this division shall occur shall constitute a separate offense.

Below is a summary of turtle monitoring enforcement cases from 2017 to 2023 to date. The protection of the sea turtle nesting sites is administered through the Coastal Protection Program.

<b>TABLE 4-4 TURTLE MONITORING CASES</b>	
<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TURTLE MONITORING ENFORCEMENT CASES</u>
<u>2017</u>	<u>64</u>
<u>2018</u>	<u>51</u>
<u>2019</u>	<u>80</u>
<u>2020</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>2021</u>	<u>58</u>
<u>2022</u>	<u>90</u>
<u>2023</u>	<u>68</u> <u>as of July 2023</u>

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### Activity and Personnel Allocation Study

It is the policy of the Palm Beach Police Department that every year a “Activity and Personnel Allocation Study” is performed to assign personnel according to service demands. In accordance with General Order I-24, an activity allocation and personnel assessment for Patrol Unit Officers and Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU) Detectives are conducted to address community needs. The study is used as a tool to ensure the proper allocation of Patrol Officers during peak demand times.

As displayed on Table 4-6, the Police Department operates four (4) patrol zones, several overlapping cover zones, and a number of mini zones in the commercial districts. Due to operational security risks, the details are not published with any specific information regarding the exact locations of the zones on a map.

Map Ref. Area	NORTH	SOUTH	EAST	WEST
1	Lake Worth Road	South Town Limit	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth
2	Old South Ocean	Lake Worth Road	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth
3	Kreusler Park			
4	Ibis Island			
5	Sloan's Curve	Old South Ocean	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth
6	Ocean View	Sloan's Curve	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth
7	Southern Blvd	Ocean View	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth
8	Southern Boulevard Causeway			
9	Banyan Road	Southern Blvd	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth
10	Worth Avenue	Banyan Road	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth
11	Everglades Island and Tarpon Island			
12	Worth Avenue			
13	Royal Palm Way	Worth Avenue	Cocoanut Row	Lake Worth
14	Royal Palm Way	Worth Avenue	Atlantic Ocean	Cocoanut Row
15	Barton Avenue	Royal Palm Way	Cocoanut Row	Lake Worth
16	Barton Avenue	Royal Palm Way	Atlantic Ocean	Cocoanut Row
17	44 Cocoanut	Barton Avenue	Cocoanut Row	Lake Worth
18	Royal Poinciana	Barton Avenue	Atlantic Ocean	Cocoanut Row
19	Royal Poinciana Plaza Complex			
20	Wells Road	Royal Poinciana	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth
21	Tangier Avenue	Wells Road	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth
22	Country Club	Tangier Avenue	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth
23	Colonial Lane	Country Club	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth
24	Reef Road	Colonial Lane	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth
25	North Town Limit	Reef Road	Atlantic Ocean	Lake Worth

Table 4-6 Geographic Distribution Locations

# PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

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The following Table 4-7 displays the Calls for Service over the last 10 years. The Calls for Service include both officer-initiated calls such as traffic stops, business and house checks, traffic incidents, etc., to more accurately reflect patrol officer activity demand levels. Priority 1 calls

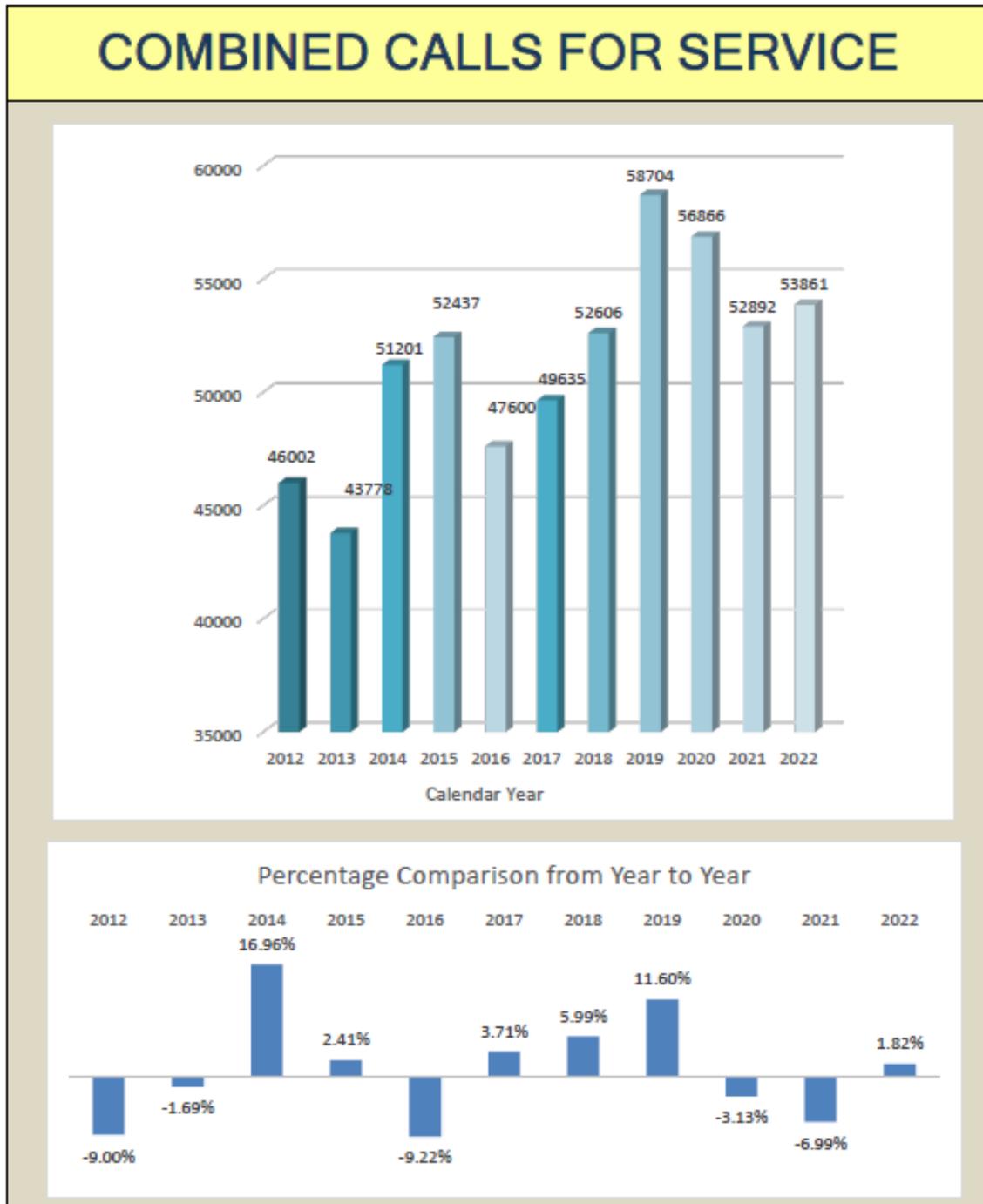


Table 4-7 Police Department Calls for Service

# PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

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require immediate response. The Percentages Comparison Chart within the graphic below is used to show how much one (1) year has increased or decreased compared to the previous year. For 2022, the average response time for Patrol Officers to respond to all Priority 1 calls was four (4) minutes and 25 seconds.

Table 4-8 below shows a comparison of the years 2021 and 2022 showing the percentage of 911 calls (emergency) and those citizen calls for service, which include all calls to the department including complaints related to code, parking and sea turtle incidents. As demonstrated, the majority of the calls are non-emergency calls. [Table 4-9 displays the comparison of the number of calls by week from 2021 to 2022.](#)

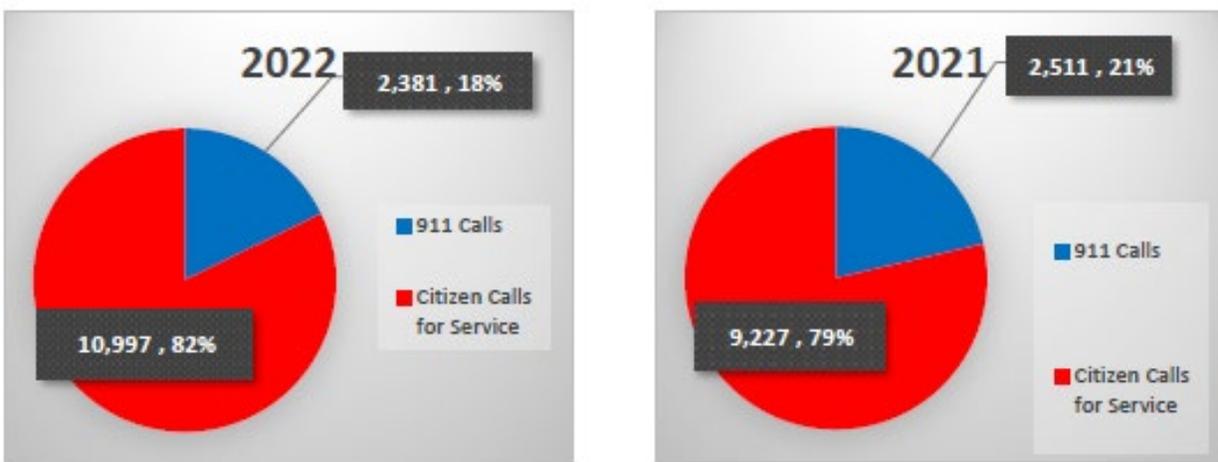
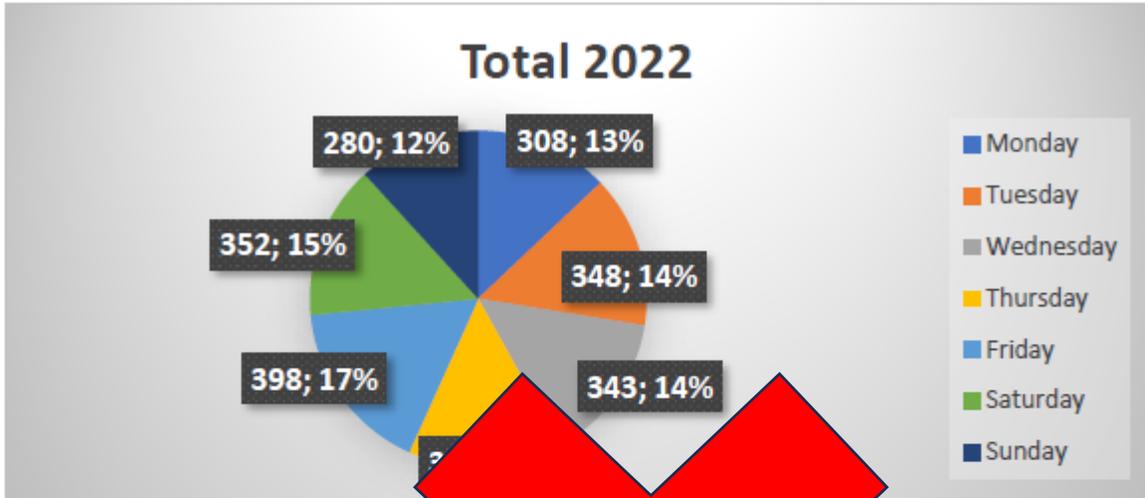


Table 4-8 2021-2022 911 and Citizen Calls

# PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

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### 2022 By Day of Week



### 2021 By Day of Week

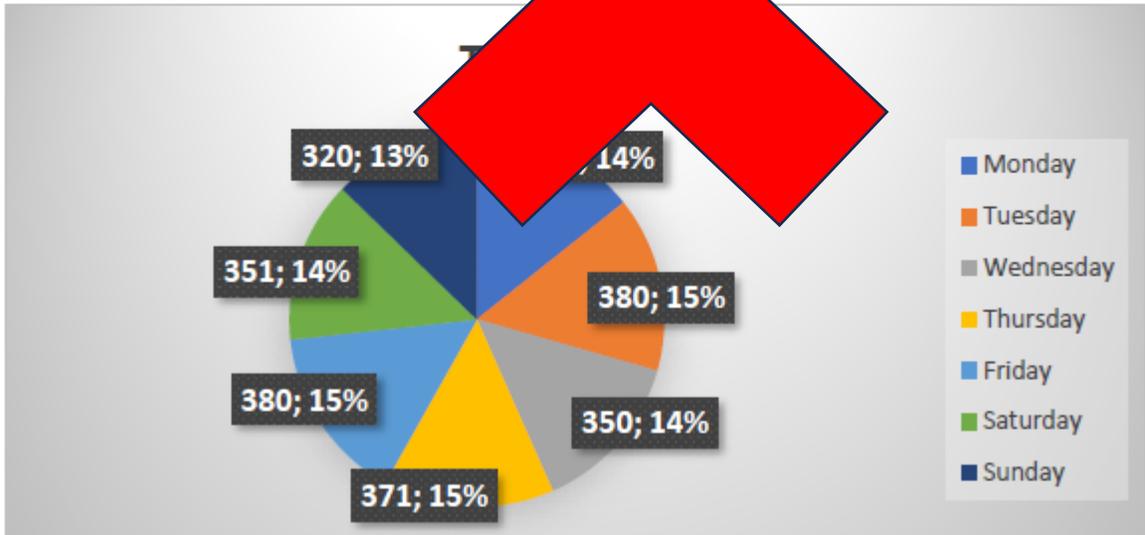


Table 4.9 Calls by Day of Week

# PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

## DATA AND ANALYSIS

On Table 4.10, accidents in the Town for the last three (3) years are shown, distinguished by those with and without injuries.

Accidents in the Town of Palm Beach 2021-2023

\*Police Zones\*

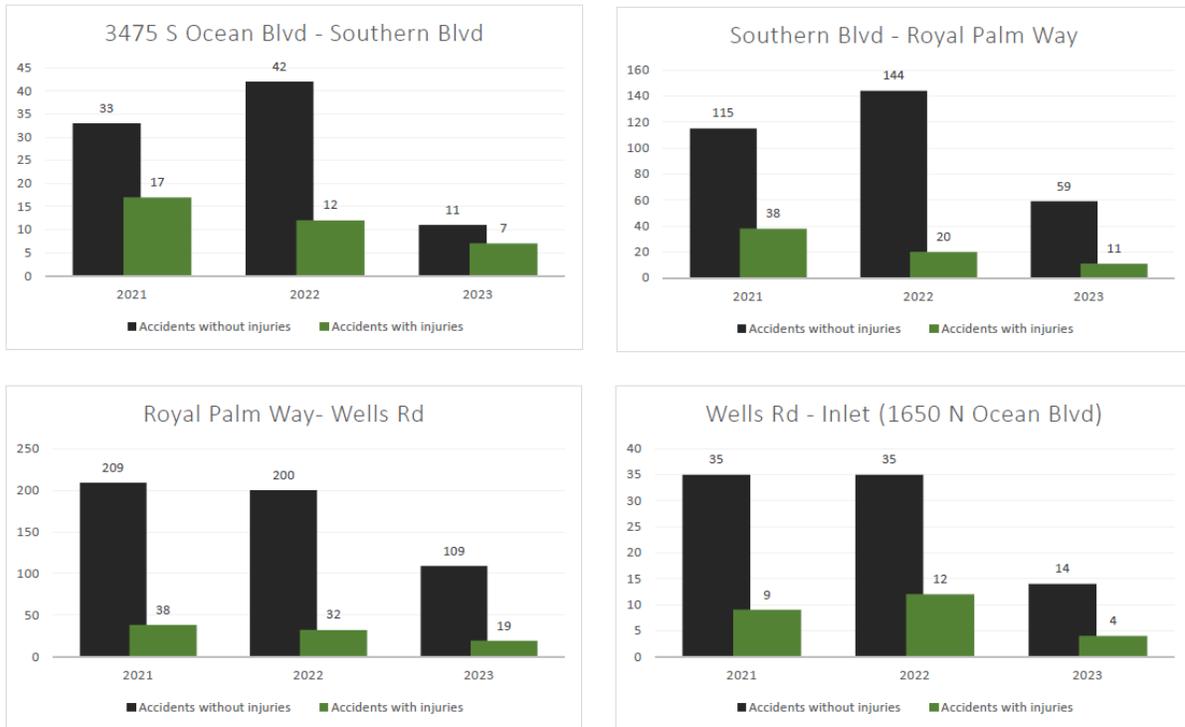


Table 4.10 Accidents 2021-2023

### Emergency Management in the Town of Palm Beach

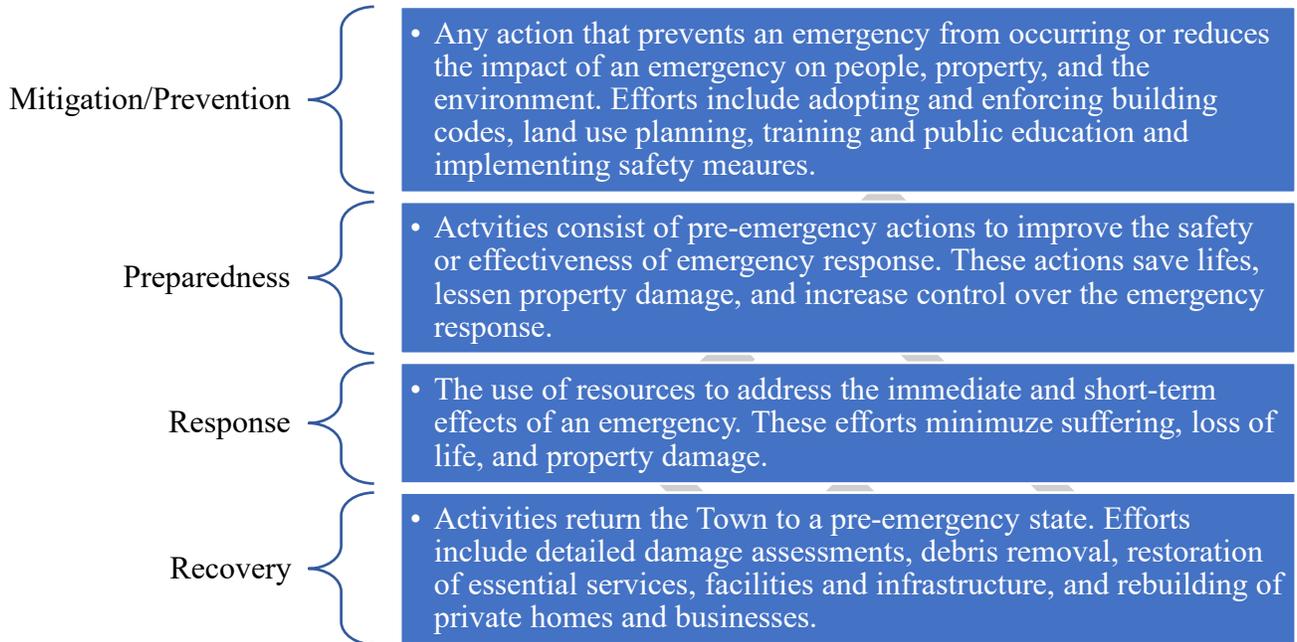
The Office of Emergency Management, which operates the Town’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC), is located in the Fire-Rescue Department’s Central Station.

As graphically presented below in Exhibit 4-5, emergency management incorporates four (4) specific phases.

# PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

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### Exhibit 4-5 Emergency Management Phases

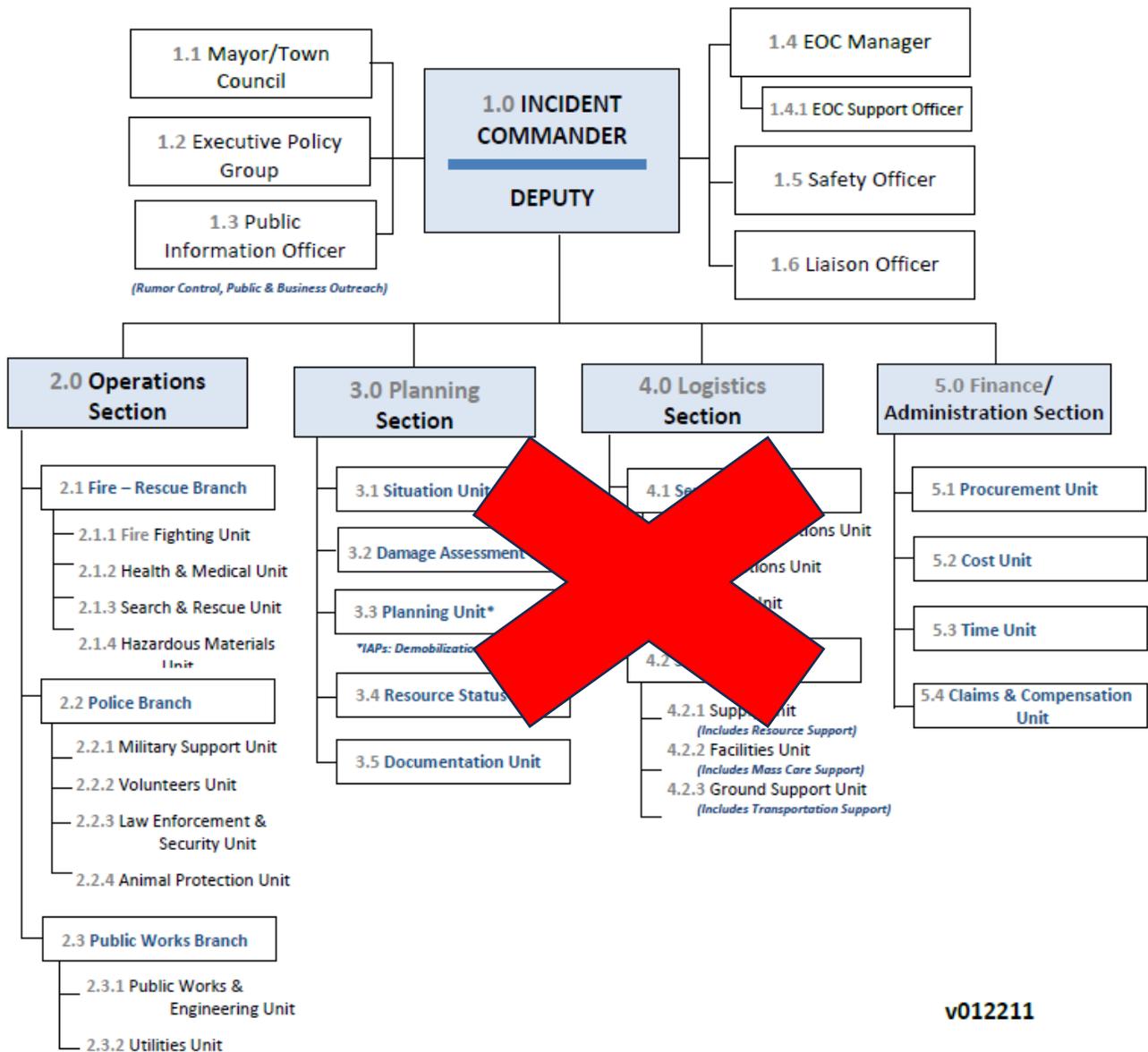


Emergency Management planning is guided through the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). The CEMP provides the basic strategies, assumptions, and mechanisms through which the Town of Palm Beach will mobilize resources and conduct activities to guide, coordinate, and support local emergency management efforts. Emergency management is an ongoing process even when there are no emergencies. The Town continually strives to prevent and diminish future emergencies through experiences and training.

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The organization chart for Emergency Management for the Town of Palm Beach is provided below in Table 4-5



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Table 4-5-Town of Palm Beach Emergency Operations Center

The CEMP was developed by a planning process coordinated by the Town’s Office of Emergency Management. It was promulgated by administrative procedures pursuant to the Town Code of Ordinances. The Town's Office of Emergency Management ensures that necessary changes and revisions to the plan are prepared, coordinated, published, and distributed. The Town Manager is

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the ultimate authority for disaster preparedness and response and the Emergency Management Director has the responsibility for coordinating the entire emergency management program on behalf of the Town Manager. The Town Manager has been delegated as the executive authority for all emergency operations and powers of Emergency Management.

The plan will undergo revisions for the following reasons.

- ✓ Information errors or omissions have been identified
- ✓ New issues, requirements, or supplementary material have been identified which are not adequately addressed
- ✓ There has been a change in information, data, or assumptions from those on which the Plan was based
- ✓ The nature or magnitude of identified risks have changed
- ✓ There are implementation problems, such as technical, political, legal or coordination issues with other agencies
- ✓ Legislative changes affecting organizational structure of local or State agencies
- ✓ There is a need to incorporate new State or Federal guidelines or directives and /or to address significant operational issues
- ✓ Exercises reveal deficiencies or shortfalls

The CEMP establishes the Town of Palm Beach's comprehensive emergency management program. The plan authorizes all officers and employees of the Town to be a part of the emergency preparedness and response organization. The CEMP is always in effect and available for implementation and works to ensure the Town is continually ready to coordinate response activities, including everyday incidents, without formal activation. However, it should be recognized that an order or proclamation of a local State of emergency or disaster by the Town Manager or designee may activate special components of the emergency management plan when deemed necessary. The Town Manager is the ultimate authority for disaster preparedness and response and the Emergency Management Director has the responsibility for coordinating the entire emergency management program on behalf of the Town Manager. By Municipal Ordinance the Town Manager is delegated executive authority for all emergency operations and powers of Emergency Management.

As a part of the emergency management plan, the Town of Palm Beach has formally adopted and uses the National Incident Management System (NIMS). NIMS provides a consistent national approach for Federal, State, and local governments and non-governmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among Federal, State, and local capabilities, NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, terminology, and technologies covering the incident command system; multi-agency coordination systems; unified command; training; identification and management of resources (including systems for classifying types of resources); qualifications and certification; and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.

# PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

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### SUMMARY

Since the Town's inception, public safety has been at the forefront. In fact, incorporation of the Town coincided with the establishment of Police and Fire Rescue services in 1911 as a necessity. To ensure the Town residents, visitors and resources are protected, it is recommended that the Town continue to ensure Police and Fire Rescue Department personnel is adequately staffed based upon the Town's expectations for service and the ability to get to any emergency and initiate effective emergency services upon arrival. Additionally, The Town of Palm Beach Fire Rescue Department should seek ocean rescue personnel who are trained at first responder level emergency medical care and are United States Lifesaving Association (USLA) certified.

Further, the Town should include the Police and Fire Rescue services in the building permit review process to require the "Town of Palm Beach Exterior Lighting Requirements" for sea turtle protection. With regard to development, the Town should designate Police Service personnel to participate in the site plan review process administered through the Planning, Zoning and Building Department for consideration of "Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design" (CPTED) concepts and techniques for multifamily and commercial development and redevelopment.

Lastly, with regard to Emergency Management, the Town of Palm Beach should continue to coordinate with adjacent municipalities, Palm Beach County, the Florida Department of Transportation and other responsible agencies, to ensure that the regional transportation network provides for the safe and timely evacuation of residents in a hurricane or other emergency event.