



The Patrol

Serving the communities of Wayzata and Long Lake

WE BUILT A WALL - AND MnDOT PAID FOR IT!

FROM THE CHIEF

April marks the beginning of my 14th year serving as the police chief for the city of Wayzata and my 28th year in law enforcement. The difference between way back then and now is significant.

The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing identified six "pillars" that police agencies should work towards achieving. One of these pillars is titled "Officer Wellness and Safety." According to the report, "The "bulletproof cop" does not exist. The officers who protect us must also be protected - against incapacitating physical, mental, and emotional health problems as well as against the hazards of their job. Their wellness and safety are crucial for them, their colleagues, and their agencies, as well as the well-being of the communities they serve." Officers will have a better chance at success if they are not only physically fit, but mentally and spiritually fit as well. We will be implementing several wellness initiatives in 2017 so that our officers are better equipped for their jobs as well as their lives. Stay tuned.



Police Chief Mike Risvold

What many in the community and surrounding area have come to know as the "corridor of death" is no longer. U.S. Highway 12 from Wayzata to County Road 6 in Orono ("the bypass") has been the location for some of the most horrific crashes anyone will ever see since its opening in 2008. Many of these crashes resulted in fatalities. Through the hard work of the Highway 12 Safety Coalition, much attention was brought to this problem. This stretch of roadway was identified in a MnDOT Safety Audit as one of the most dangerous two-lane highways in the state of Minnesota. Previous improvements, such as re-striping and adding center rumble strips helped, but fatal accidents continued. MnDOT engineers determined that the only way to prevent these crossover head-on crashes was to build a concrete center barrier wall. Several members of the coalition testified at the legislature. Some very courageous survivors of crash victims provided the most compelling testimony. Funding for this project was included in bills introduced in both the House and Senate and had support from both sides of the aisle. In the end, the legislature failed to pass any bonding bill, and we were back to square one. Members of the Highway 12 Safety Coalition were extremely disappointed, yet still very determined.

In continued meetings with MnDOT, another funding source for the wall was identified. MnDOT applied for year-end federal money that's set aside for projects based on need. This was easy to demonstrate based on the crash data and safety audit. While waiting to hear about potential funding, engineers worked behind the scenes on the design so that the project would be "shovel ready" when funding became available. The wall was constructed last fall and there have been no injury crashes on the bypass since.



While this portion of Highway 12 has been addressed, there are additional safety needs that were identified in the audit. The first of these projects includes an extension of the center barrier wall west of County Road 6 to County Road 29 near Maple Plain. The remaining two projects involve the realignment of intersections at both Highway 12 and County Roads 90 and 92, both in the city of Independence. The Highway 12 Safety Coalition will continue their work to improve the safety of Highway 12.



QUARTERLY STATISTICS

December 2016

Part 1 Crimes:

Robbery, homicide, rape, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, shoplifting, theft from vehicles, theft, bicycle theft, etc. 7

Part 2 Crimes:

Non-weapon assaults, fraud, vandalism, drugs, DWI, liquor laws, suspicion, curfew, runaways, etc. 18

Traffic & Parking:

Citations, verbal warnings, written warnings, bike citations, etc. 233

Medical & Other:

Trespassing, medical, fire alarm, found property, hazardous conditions, MV accidents, etc. 421

January 2017

Part 1 Crimes:

Robbery, homicide, rape, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, shoplifting, theft from vehicles, theft, bicycle theft, etc. 11

Part 2 Crimes:

Non-weapon assaults, fraud, vandalism, drugs, DWI, liquor laws, suspicion, curfew, runaways, etc. 24

Traffic & Parking:

Citations, verbal warnings, written warnings, bike citations, etc. 256

Medical & Other:

Trespassing, medical, fire alarm, found property, hazardous conditions, MV accidents, etc. 368

February 2017

Part 1 Crimes:

Robbery, homicide, rape, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, shoplifting, theft from vehicles, theft, bicycle theft, etc. 12

Part 2 Crimes:

Non-weapon assaults, fraud, vandalism, drugs, DWI, liquor laws, suspicion, curfew, runaways, etc. 13

Traffic & Parking:

Citations, verbal warnings, written warnings, bike citations, etc. 278

Medical & Other:

Trespassing, medical, fire alarm, found property, hazardous conditions, MV accidents, etc. 363