



CITY OF HACKENSACK

CITY MANAGER'S
YEAR END REPORT

2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER


The City Manager's Annual Report for 2023 documents a year of hard work and success of an organization that provides municipal services and programs to support Hackensack residents and businesses. From exceptional recreation facilities and special events, to infrastructure, maintenance and emergency services. This report will highlight some of the important work provided on a year-round basis by a diversified professional and dedicated workforce of the City.

I would like to thank every employee and volunteer for their exceptional work throughout the year 2023. The City has strived to protect the safety and health of our residents, and employees during this difficult time.

My office collaboratively with the City Council, the Chief Financial Officer, and all Department Heads will work to continually achieve fiscal responsibility while maintaining the highest quality of services and improving various areas of City's operations and connections to the community.

The City has completed a host of projects and purchases which will be documented in more detail throughout this report. We have worked very hard in making drastic improvements to infrastructure, and continued redevelopment which is revitalizing this City at an unprecedented level.

We are also fortunate in the City to have an elected City Council who selflessly contributes their time, energy, and intellect to ensure the proper governance of the City. It is because of the Council's thoughtful leadership that the City has been able to maintain the excellent services, programs, and facilities enjoyed by our residents while maintaining fiscal responsibility to the taxpayer and the City's future.



Vincent J. Caruso
City Manager



TAX INFOGRAPHIC - 2023

At a glance, where your property tax money goes....

2023 Property Tax Breakdown

Total Tax collected in 2023: \$186,260,084.01

Municipal Tax Levy: \$88,616,205.00
County Tax Levy: \$15,865,953.60
Board of Education Levy: \$86,277,826.00
Library Levy: \$2,373,433.00
County open Space Levy: \$713,700.30
Municipal Open Space Levy: \$340,800.00

Board of Education Levy - 46%

Municipal Tax Levy - 48%

County Tax Levy - 9%



County Open Space Tax
< 1%
City Open Space Tax
< 1%
Library Tax - 1%

REDEVELOPMENT UPDATES

DEPARTMENT HEAD: ALBERT DIB, DIRECTOR OF REDEVELOPMENT

PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS APPROVED, IN PROCESS OR COMPLETED

1. 50-52 Main St. 36 Units with retail. 2 buildings. Larger building complete fully leased. Construction of smaller building at 64 Main to start at some point in 2024.
2. 76 Main St. 24 Units over retail. Construction ongoing. Expected completion in 2024.
3. 149 Main St. 72 Units complete and fully leased. Retail space is now occupied.
4. 150-170 Main St. 379 unit project complete and fully leased. Retail spaces occupied: Salad House, Playa Bowls. Two retail spaces vacant. Tenants sought.
5. 210-214 Main St. 126 units complete. Residential fully leased. Gong Cha Bubble Tea retail is one retail tenant. Another retail tenant is sought.
6. 240 Main St. 110 units completed and fully leased. New Restaurant “Emma” open.
11. 321 Main St. Site plan approved for 200+ units over retail. Under construction. Completion expected mid-2024.
12. 359 Main St. 115 units. Site plan approved in December 2021. New developer modified site plan and received approve in late 2023. Demo expected soon.
13. 360 Main St. (YMCA). Site plan application expected shortly for approx. 300 units.
14. 389 Main St. 82 Units complete and fully leased. Retail tenant found (Grocer).

REDEVELOPMENT UPDATES

PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS APPROVED, IN PROCESS OR COMPLETED

15. 435 Main St. 255 Units. CO's issued. Fully leased.
16. 463 Main St. Revised Site plan approved on 12/13/23. Demo expected soon.
17. 18 East Camden. 254 units. Complete and fully leased.
18. 150 River St. Former Record Site HQ. Under Construction. First Phase of 271 units complete and fully leased. Two additional phases are under completion with another 424 units, in addition to retail pads, two of which are occupied. Total of 695 residential units.
19. 22 Sussex St. 88 Units completed and fully leased.
20. 22. W. Camden: 60 units nearing completion.
21. 17 Mercer St. 36 units. Site Plan approved. Under construction.



REDEVELOPMENT UPDATES

CITY/COUNTY OWNED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN PROCESS

1. **Parking Lot C: Planning Board approved amended final site plan in January for 389 units. Construction ongoing. Building 1 is complete. Building 2 is complete, CO's pending.**
2. **Green St.: 210 units. Redevelopment plan adopted. Site Plan Approved. Environmental Cleanup to commence in 2024.**
3. **Zabriskie St. (Former County Police/DPW): 377-unit project complete and fully leased.**
4. **Parking Lot D/Main St.: Developer designated and in the process of land acquisition with City cooperation. Expected groundbreaking in 2024.**
5. **89-91 Anderson St. (Former Building Dept.): 222 Units, site plan approved. Building is 60% complete with CO's expected by end of 2024**
6. **133 River (Probation Site): County project. Possible 96 unit "work-force" housing project with bus station and public parking. Meeting held 12/18.**
7. **Parking Lot T: Site designated for redevelopment with plan underway for 268-residential units, 60 Affordable. Site Plan approved. Groundbreaking expected at end of 2025.**

REDEVELOPMENT UPDATES

LOOKING FORWARD

1. 400 Main St. (E. Ward St) Redevelopment Plan approved for large mixed-use project. Pending financing.
2. 430 Main St. (S/E Corner of Main/Anderson). Former gas station/garage. 40 Units. Site Plan approved but expired.
3. 460 Main St. (Sears). Ongoing discussions for possible mixed-used project ongoing.
4. NPP Grant: \$100k for 5 years to revitalize Anderson Street Area. Going into year 3 in 2024.



PROJECT MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT HEAD : KRIS WHEATON AND RYAN WESTRA

Projects Completed

Sewers & Drainage

- Combined Sewers Separation
 - Clay Street Phase 2 Camden Ext to river outfall
 - Clay Street Phase 3 Railroad Ave to Park St
- Voorhis Pump Station Improvements
- Cleaning and CCTV
 - Nearly 22 miles of sewers cleaned and televised

Parks

- Staib
 - Safety Surfaces
 - Bathroom, concession building
 - Pavilion

Streets & Traffic

City-funded Resurfacing

- Anderson Street
- Blanchard Terrace
- Brook Street
- Byrne Street
- Club Way
- Colonial Terrace
- Crestwood Avenue
- Rowland Avenue
- Willow Street

Streets & Traffic Cont.

Resurfaced by Utility Company as required by Excavation Ordinance

- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| ▪ Blauvelt Pl | Hoffman St |
| ▪ Old Hoboken Rd | Michael St |
| ▪ W Franklin St | Bloom St |
| ▪ Ise St | Lodi St |
| ▪ Frederick St | Porter St |
| ▪ Holt St | West St |
| ▪ S Main St | Sutton Ave |
| ▪ Pink St | Simons Ave |
| ▪ Parker Ave | |

○ 2022 CDBG-funded Resurfacing in 2023

- Ames Street
- Hopper Street
- Kent Street
- Poor Street

○ 2022 NJDOT Funded Resurfacing in 2023

- Summit Avenue from Passaic to Spring Valley
- Atlantic Street Parking Garage Rehabilitation
- Atlantic Street Parking Garage LED Lighting Replacement
- Main Street Streetscape Sussex to Atlantic
- Roof Replacement of FHHQ to include Volunteer Ambulance Area
- Roof Replacement of Civic Center/Health Department
- Roof Replacement of 216 Union Street (John Earl Bldg.)

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Upcoming Projects

- **Parks**
 - Columbus Park Improvements – Phase II
 - Field Improvements
 - Rubber safety surface to be installed under play equipment
 - New Swing sets
 - New Playground Equipment
 - Foschini Park Fields 8, 9, 10 Improvements
 - Johnson Park Sports Complex – Facility and Site Work
- **Sewers & Drainage**
 - Continued implementation of CSO Long-Term Control Plan projects
 - East Kennedy Pump Station – Generator
 - Geographic Information System (GIS) – Stormwater Assets Phase I (aboveground)
- **Streets & Traffic**
 - 2023 Resurfacing (pending available funding and bid prices)
 - CDBG Funded
 - NJDOT Funded
 - City Funded

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Ongoing Projects

- **Parks**
 - Foschini Park Master Plan
 - Johnson Park Sports Complex Earthwork
 - Carver Park Basketball Courts
 - Polifly Park Drainage Improvements
- **Sewers & Drainage**
 - Combined Sewers Separation – Anderson Drainage Area
- **Streets & Traffic**
 - Support Traffic Division, Traffic Studies, Assessments of ADA Parking Spaces, Ramps, Loading Zones and Docks, Traffic Calming Devices
 - PSEG Ahead of Paving/Moratorium GIS Database
 - Improved Pedestrian Signal Heads First Street at Beech and First Street at Central
 - Signal Replacement – Summit Avenue at Passaic Street
- **Other**
 - Building Department Relocation to 216 Union St. (John Earl Building)
 - Fire House Headquarters Remediation
 - Coordination with Veolia regarding Lead Service Line Replacement Program
 - Public Utility Coordination
 - Redevelopment Support

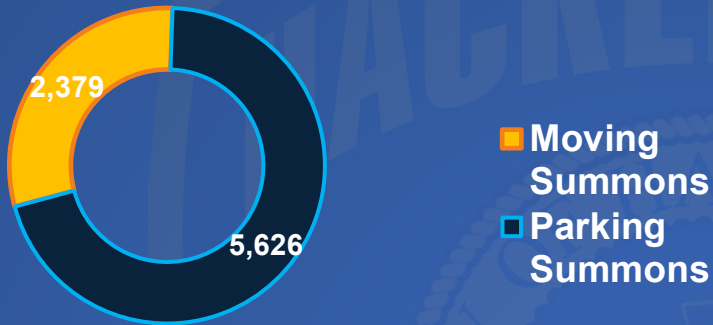
POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICE DIRECTOR : RAY GUIDETTI

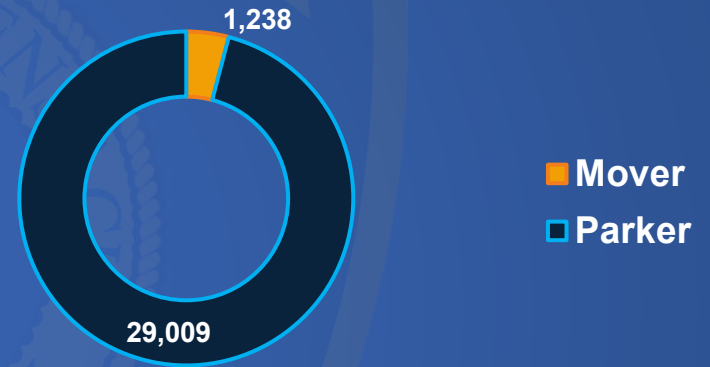
2023 ACHIEVEMENTS

- The hiring of personnel
- Promotions
- Affair and transparent system for personnel assignment to traffic details
- A robust scheduling system
- Technology enhancements including improvements to body-worn camera capabilities
Improvements and enhancements to the fleet
- The establishment of a School Threat Assessment and Crime Prevention Bureau
- Personnel assignment to the Northern New Jersey Real Time Crime Center
- Improved command accountability practices
- Greater engagement with the Main Street Business Alliance
- Working with the BCPO ensuring the OPS adheres to the standards of the AG IAPP
- A new, state-of-the-art drone program
- A new emergency services unit within the department
- New community outreach and engagement initiatives
- Enhanced crime documentation and mapping
- A structured process for identifying training needs
- Assessment and implementation of cyber resilience practices
- Pursuit of Re-Accreditation with the State Association of Chiefs of Police
- Arrive Together Pilot Program to assist individuals experiencing mental health crises
- Bolstered partnership with the County of Bergen Housing, Health and Human Services Center
- Officer Wellness pilot program

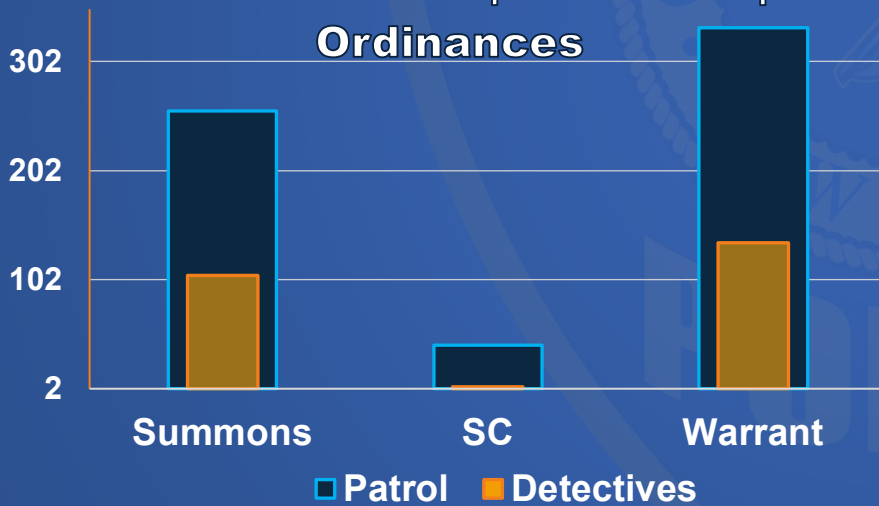
MV Summons Issued by Patrol



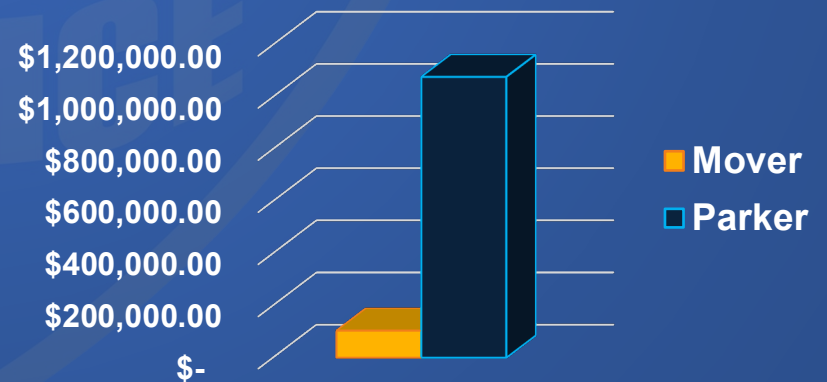
MV Summons Issued by Traffic



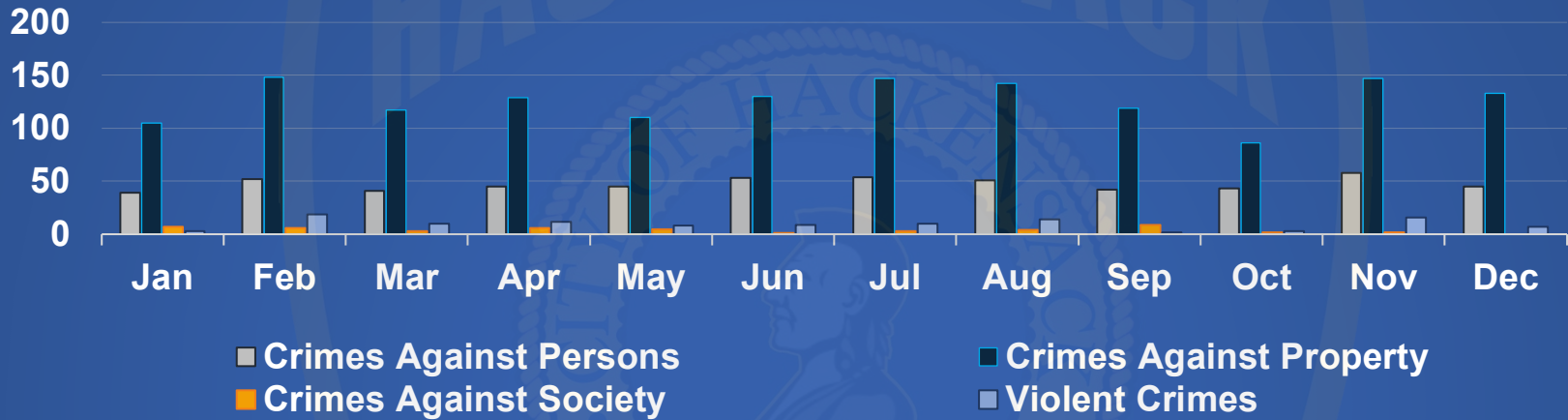
Total Warrants | Summons | Ordinances



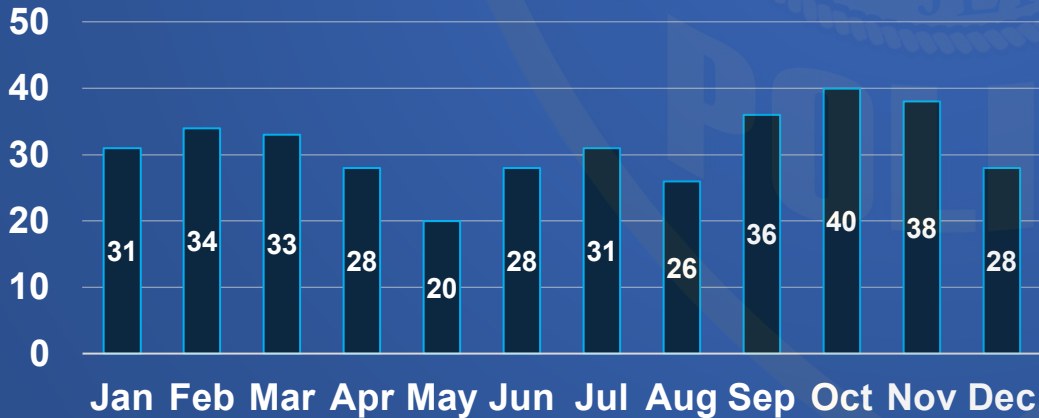
Total MV Fees Assessed



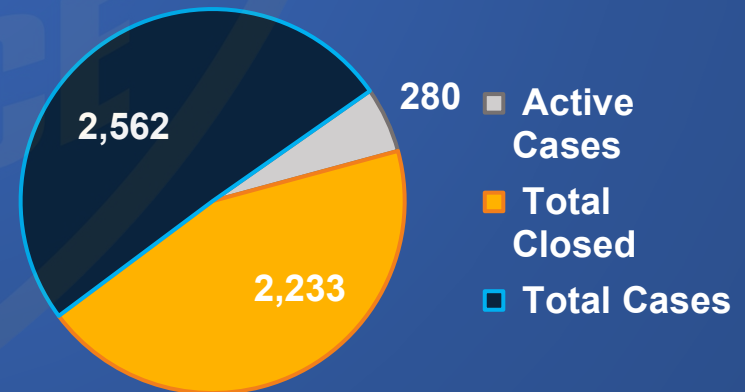
2023 Reported Crimes by Type



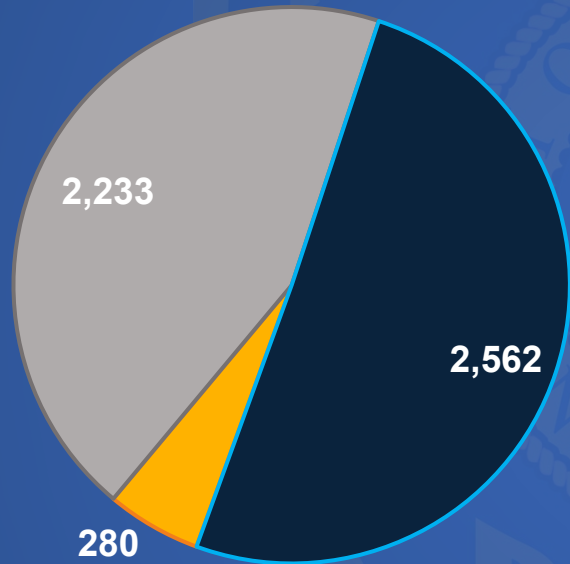
2023 Arrest by Month



2023 Closed Cases vs Active Cases

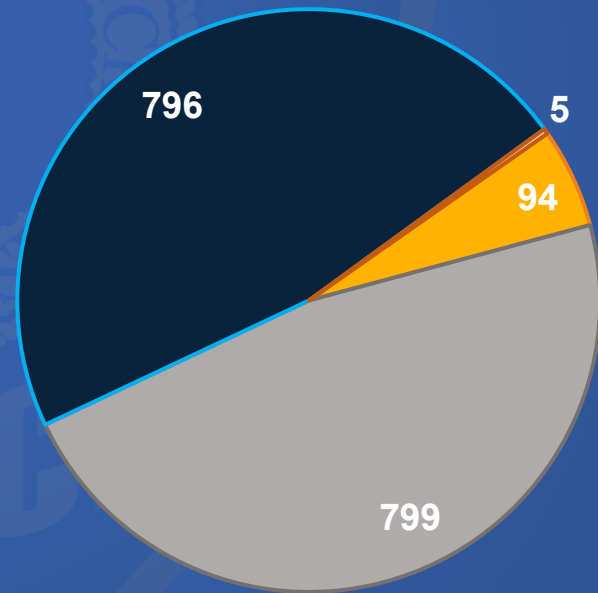


Closed Cases vs Active Cases



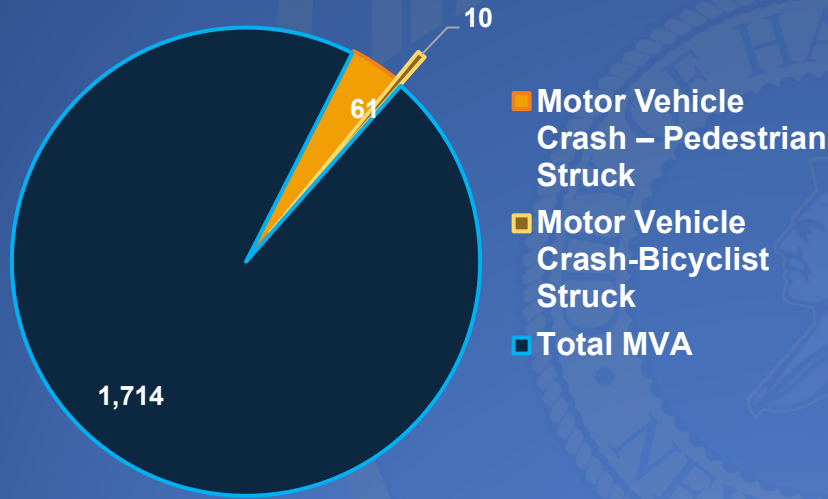
■ Active Cases ■ Total Closed ■ Total Cases

Closed Cases by Type

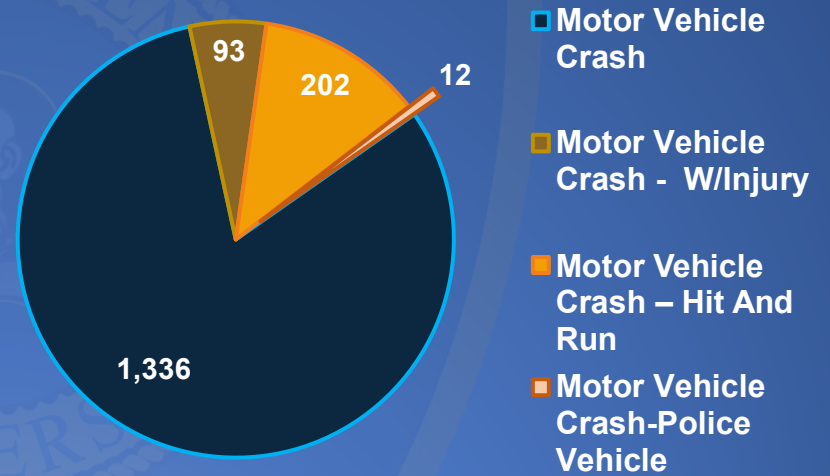


■ Arrests ■ Admin Closed
■ ExClr ■ Juv. Arr

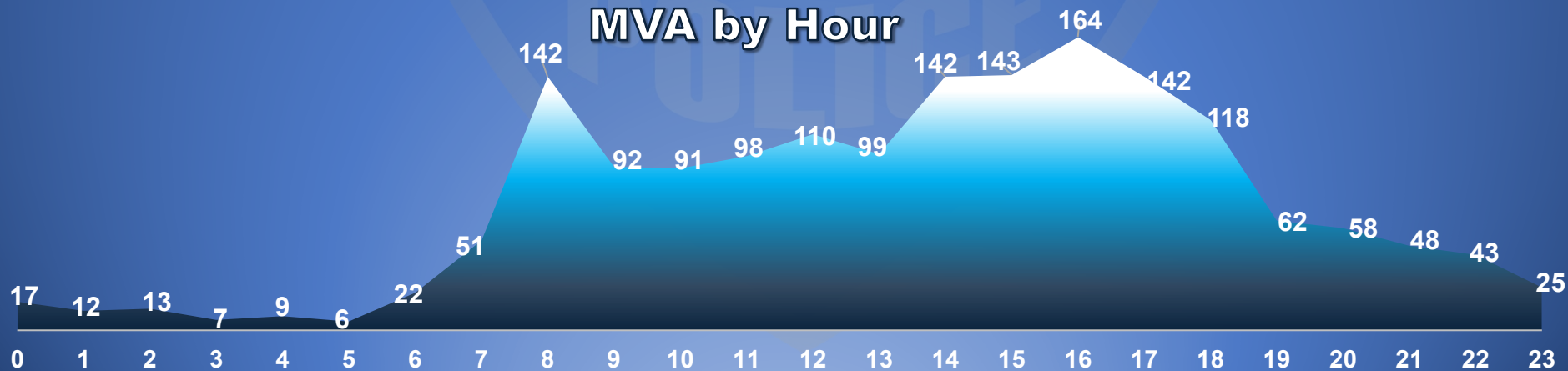
Total MVAs vs MVAs Involving Pedestrian/Bicyclist



Total MVA by Remaining Type



MVA by Hour



COMPLIANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

S. CAPT. DEAN MATTALIAN

- In 2023 the Constable has investigated and assisted the Zoning, Building, Health, Police and Fire Departments.
- Has been involved in 4,661 Calls for Service.
 - **63** Yard Sales
 - **43** Landscapers
 - **10** Snow Plows
 - **47** Warning Notices
- **2,490** Summonses or Special Complaints have been issued. These include violations for Zoning, City Ordinance, State Law and Emergency Orders due to the pandemic.
- Also served as City Photographer, DJ, Academy Instructor and Infant Car Seat Technician
- From June 6, 2023 to December 31, 2023 the approximate revenue obtained from summons issued is **\$156,547.00**.

H-Cop Unit

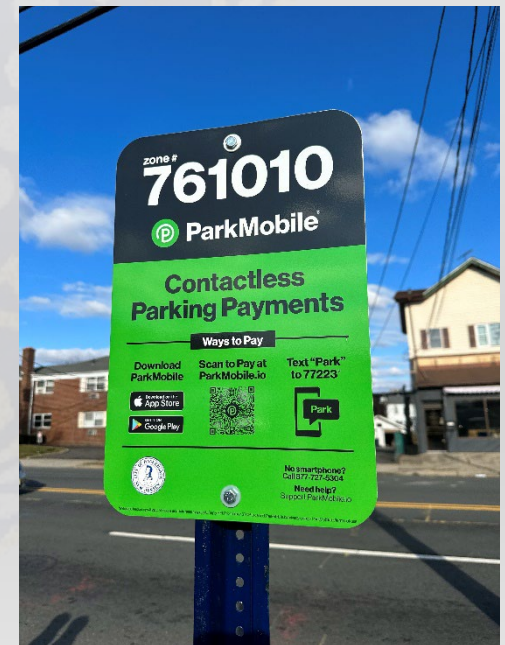
- Members served **1,168** hours total.
- The Unit handled **124** details in 2023.
- They covered many details this past year including **DMV Checkpoints, Food Giveaways, Holy Trinity Carnival, Concerts in the Parks, Security for School Football/Basketball Games and 14 Processions.**
- There were also **5** deployments of the **Fast Activated Specials Team**, aka "**FAST TEAM**".



PARKING UTILITY

DEPARTMENT HEAD: WILLIAM DALEY

- Park Mobile App installed & operational in Deck C & HUMC Garage in March and installed city wide in May.
- Increased Deck C 1 hour Rate to \$1.25 per hour and HUMC hour Rate to \$1.50 per hour.
- Installed LED Lighting in Atlantic St. Garage 1/5 and 1/6.
- Atlantic St. Garage project completed and fully reopened November 1, 2023.
- Commercial Vehicle Parking Lots on Green St. generated \$10,800.00 in new revenue.
- New Parking Deck C opened February 18, 2023 & has recorded over 14,000 transactions between the Park Mobile App & the Pay Station.
- Added 14 Metered Parking Spaces on Midtown Place.
- Purchased 65 new Beacon Smart Meter's for the Utility, plus an additional pay station in Deck C.
- Overall revenue increased 29% total from last year.
- Credit Card usage dropped 91,997 transactions as they were done on the phone app.



FIRE DEPARTMENT



Total # of Incidents: 6311



- 100 Series: Fire - **243**
- 200 Series: Explosion - **13**
- 300 Series: Rescue and EMS - **2599**
- 400 Series: Hazardous Conditions - **432**
- 500 Series: Service Calls – **853**
- 600 Series: Good Intent Call - **664**
- 700 Series: False Alarm & False Calls - **1478**
- 800 Series: Severe Weather & Natural Disaster - **1**
- 900 Series: Special Type – **13**
- Narcan saves - **5**



FIRE PREVENTION

The New Jersey Uniform Fire Code is a set of regulations that governs fire safety in the state of New Jersey. The code is updated regularly to ensure that it is up-to-date with the latest safety standards



- State LHU registrations - 437
- Local registrations - 2978
- Penalties issued - 15
- Periodic inspections performed - 2960
- Annual Overdue required inspections- 33
- Parking summons issued - 2
- Court summons issued - 1

COMMUNITY

- Spreading Holiday Cheer: The Hackensack Fire Department joins in the spirit of giving by participating in multiple toy and food drives, bringing joy and support to our community.



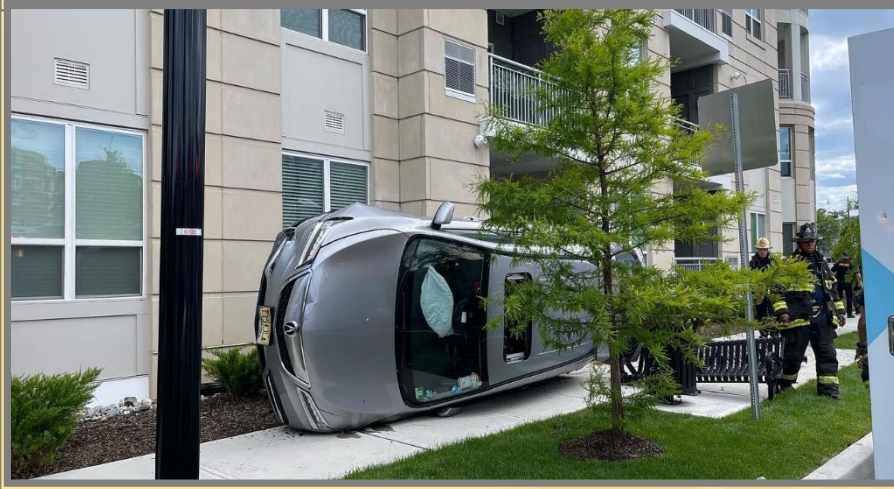


EDUCATION

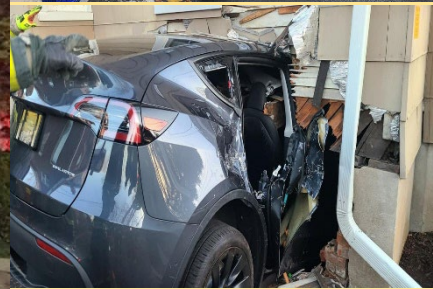
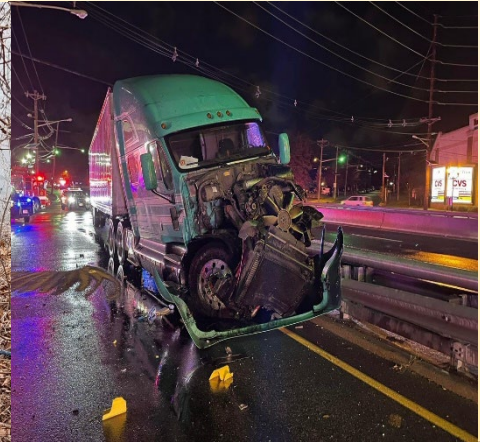
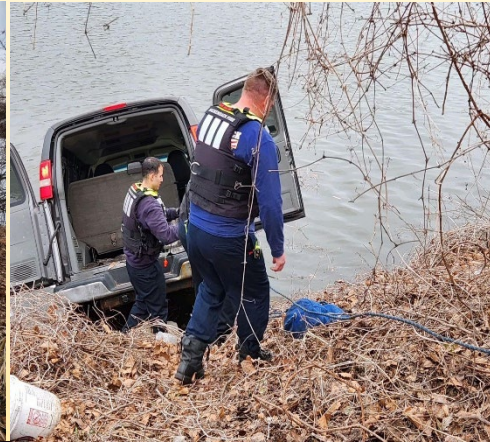
- From educating 2000+ students on fire safety to spreading crucial social media messages and supporting community events, the Hackensack Fire Department goes above and beyond to make our city a safer and better place. Proud to serve our community!.



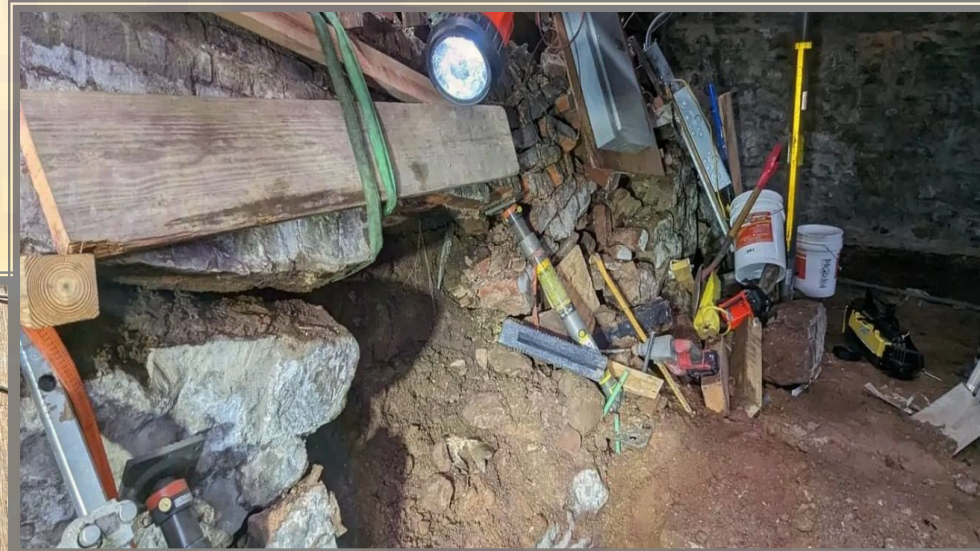
2023 OPERATIONS



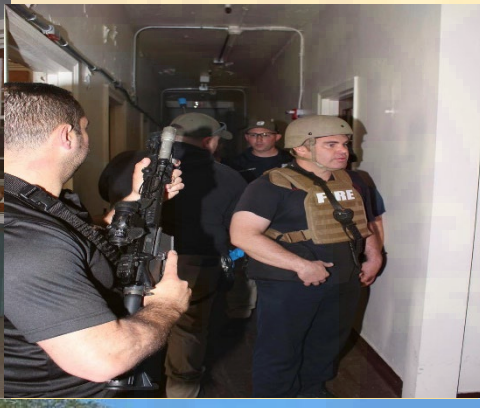
OPERATIONS CONTINUED



HACKENSACK FIRE DEPARTMENT SPECIAL OPERATIONS



HACKENSACK FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENT JOIN FORCES TO ENSURE PREPAREDNESS AND SAFETY AT AN ACTIVE SHOOTER HOSTILE EVENT DRILL



UNITING FOR SAFETY: THE HACKENSACK FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS COME TOGETHER TO LAUNCH AN INNOVATIVE DRONE PROGRAM, TAKING PUBLIC SAFETY TO NEW HEIGHTS.

- THE DRONES WILL BE OPERATED BY TRAINED MEMBERS OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND FIRE DEPARTMENT, AIDING IN RAPID RESPONSE TO CALLS FOR SERVICE AND FIRE ALARM CALLS.



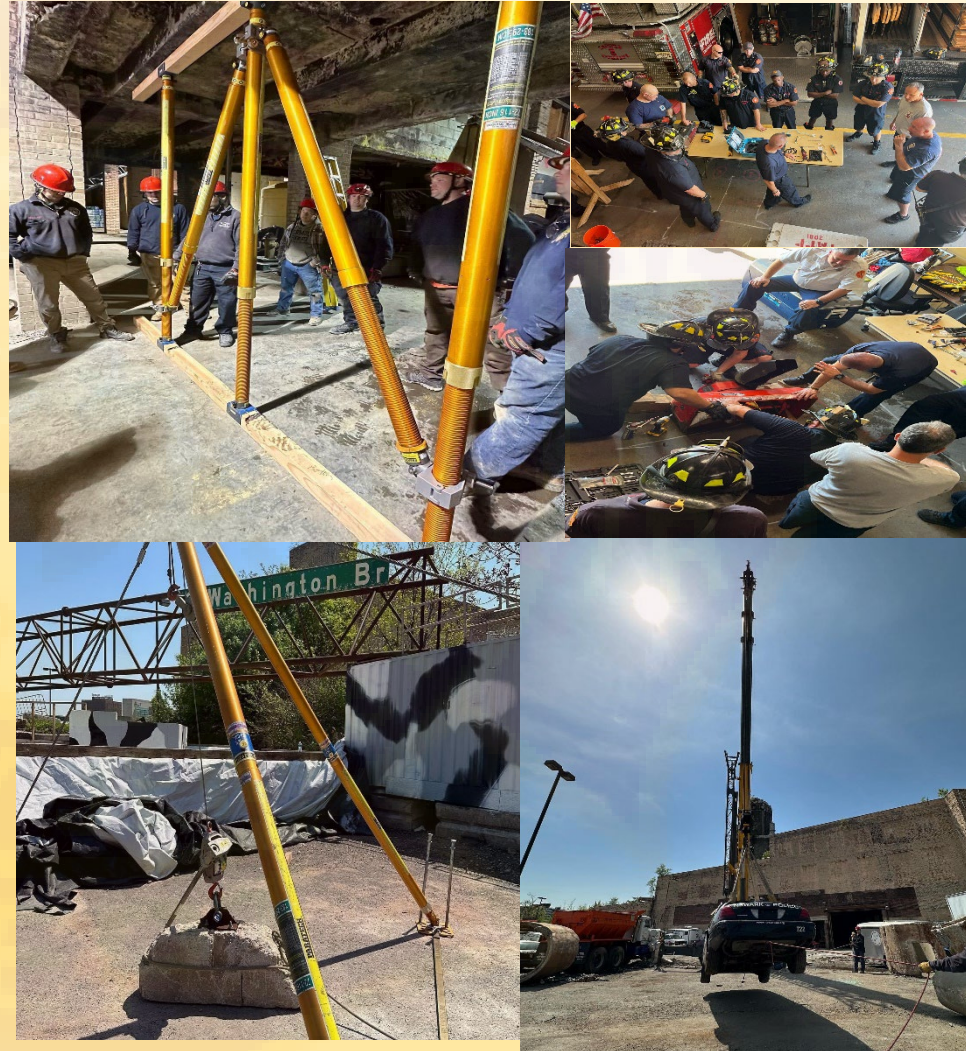


INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE RATING

- A fire department's [ISO rating](#) is a determination by the Insurance Services Office by how well your department is able to serve the community. You're assigned a score between 1 and 10, with lower numbers indicating a better score. High ISO scores can increase home insurance rates in the community.
- There are less than 100 fire departments in the United States with a Class 1 rating. Insurance companies use ISO information combined with other factors to establish local commercial business and residential property insurance rates – generally offering lower premiums in communities with better protection
- Of the more than 47,000 fire departments in the United States subject to the ISO survey, only 61 are rated as Class 1. In the state of New Jersey, [Hackensack](#), [Cherry Hill](#) and [Jersey City](#) are the only Class 1 fire departments.

TRAINING INCLUDES ISO REQUIREMENTS

- MINIMUM 18 HOURS PER MEMBER IN A 3 OR MORE STORY DRILL TOWER
- 16 HOURS MINIMUM MONTHLY PER FIRE COMPANY
- 12 HOURS ANNUALLY OFFICER TRAINING
- 60 HOURS INITIAL DRIVER TRAINING FOR NEW MEMBERS
- 12 HOURS DRIVER TRAINING REFRESHER YEARLY
- 6 HOURS ANNUAL HAZMAT REFRESHER PER MEMBER
- 240 HOURS FIREFIGHTER 1 FOR NEW MEMBERS





MUTUAL AID

Mutual Aid Given		Mutual Aid Received	
	Number of Incidents		Number of Incidents
Bogota Fire Department	4	Bergenfield Fire Department	5
Englewood Fire Department	7	Bogota Fire Department	15
Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department	1	Englewood Fire Department	10
Little Ferry Fire Department	3	Hasbrouck Heights Volunteer Fire Department	1
Lodi Fire Department	1	Little Ferry Fire Department	2
Maywood Fire Department	1	Maywood Fire Department	4
Newark Fire Department	2	Ridgefield Fire Department	2
Paterson Fire Department	4	Ridgefield Park Fire Department	8
Ridgefield Park Fire Department	4	River Edge Fire Department	4
River Edge Fire Department	3	Rochelle Park Fire Department	2
Saddle Brook Fire Department	2	South Hackensack Fire Department	1
South Hackensack Fire Department	1	Teaneck Fire Department	8
Teaneck Fire Department	8	Weehawken Fire Department	1
Weehawken Fire Department	1		
Total :	42	Total :	54

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Office of Emergency Management is responsible for identifying Vulnerabilities throughout the City, Providing Mitigation, Maintaining a high level of Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and Coordination for large-scale Emergencies and Disasters to the citizens of The City of Hackensack. For the purpose of Reducing or Eliminating Long-Term Risk to Property from Natural Hazards and their effects along with Saving Lives and Preventing Property Damage.

The City Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is Updated and Approved by the State of New Jersey annually.

TYPES OF DISASTER

Two Types – Natural and Manmade

Natural disasters:

- Flood
- Cyclone
- Earthquake
- Landslides

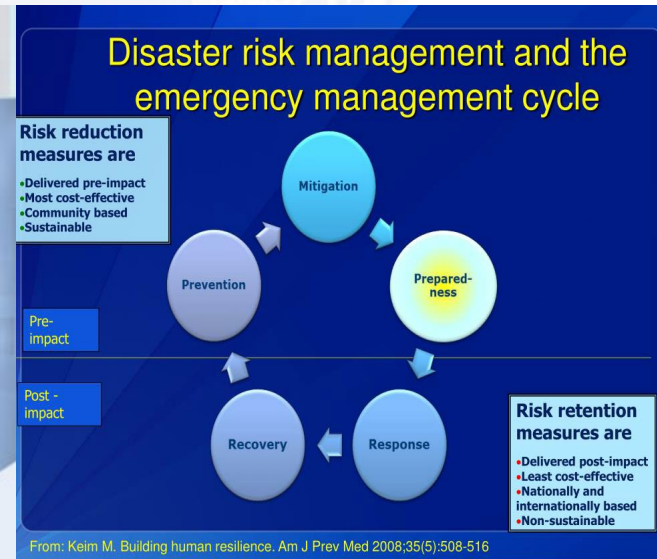


Swift911 Public

Text
SWIFT911
to
99538
Stay Informed!

Ensure You *KNOW*
Manage Your Alerts
Customize Your Information

Ameritrac



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT HEAD: CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL – ERNIE SISCO

Permit Count:

- ▶ **1,409** Issued
- ▶ **185** Updated/Issued

Inspections Scheduled:

- ▶ Building Subcodes: **753**
- ▶ Electrical Subcodes: **1,009**
- ▶ Fire Subcodes: **505**
- ▶ Plumbing Subcodes: **619**
- ▶ Mechanical Subcodes: **273**

Emergency Calls:

- ▶ **89** Calls After Hours
- ▶ **92** Calls During Regular Hours

Fee Totals

• Licenses	\$5,275.00
• Fees & Permits	\$1,370,389.00
• State Fees	\$55,619.00
• Zoning Bd	\$39,350.00
• Planning Bd	\$52,985.43
• Soil	\$600.00
• Film	\$1,200.00
• Business License	\$14,825.00
• Elevator Fees	\$343,864.22
• Zoning Permits/Fees	\$89,069.46
• Sewer Fees	\$850,000.00
• Excavation	\$122,601.00
• Waived Fees:	\$650,798.00

Total - \$2,945,778.11



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Zoning

- Zoning Permits Approved: **559**
- Zoning Permits Denied: **83**
- Zoning Notices of Violation: **111**
- Zoning Board Applications: **11**
- Planning Board Applications: **18**
- Zoning Inspections by Zoning Officer: **360**
- Planning Bd –Redevelopment & Ordinance Presentations: **9**

Property Maintenance

- Inspections Made: **1,136**
- Notices Issued: **938**
- Sidewalk Inspections: **92**
- Sidewalk Permits: **57**
- Complaint Inspections: **57**
- Summonses Issued: **37**
- CCO's Done : **227 (259 inspections made)**

Storage Containers:

78 Permits Issued
\$18,750 in Permit Fees collected

200' Lists:

200' Lists Prepared: **70**
\$700.00 in fees collected

OPRA Requests

563 OPRA's Responded to

MUNICIPAL COURT

DEPARTMENT HEAD: MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR - AARIKA WILL

- Total Tickets Entered: **38,041**
- Total Tickets Disposed: **36,820**

- Criminal Cases Entered: **1,541**
- Criminal Cases Disposed: **1,460**

- Bench Time for In-Person & Virtual: **515 hrs.**

- Public Defender Fees Collected: **\$30,156.00**
- POAA Funds Collected: **\$21,098.50**
- Fines & Costs turned over: **\$ 1,359,970.32**
- Total Collected: **\$ 2,066,249.77**
- Total to County of Bergen: **\$109,239.37**



TAX COLLECTOR

DEPARTMENT HEAD: ELISA COCCIA, CMTC

- Property Tax Cash Receipts: **\$194,872,791.78**
 - Online Cash Receipts(WIPP): **\$26,886,189.74**
 - Online WIPP Entries: **6,297**
 - Total Cash Receipts for the City: **\$225,370,056.29**
 - Total Cash Received for the City: **\$1,699.13**
 - Parking Coin Receipts From TD(279 Bags): **\$266,219.58**
 - Parking Cash Receipts by Credit Card + Phone App: **546,532**
 - State Board Judgements: **139**
 - County Board Judgements: **102**
 - Open Outside Liens: **45**
 - Open Municipal Liens: **5**
 - Total Open Liens at Month End: **107**
 - Special Charges (ie: Cut Grass): **2**
- *Accelerated Tax Lien Sale (Held on 12/27/23)***



TAX ASSESSOR

DEPARTMENT HEAD: ARTHUR B. CARLSON, JR., CTA

- The City of Hackensack is undergoing a re-assessment again for 2024. This process enables us to keep assessments at current market values with the flexibility to change assessments accordingly, and be up to date in real time. Thereby mitigating and alleviating any large tax refunds as much as possible, and making sure taxes are allocated fairly to current market conditions.
- The City's average residential tax payment for houses and condos was \$9,214 for tax year 2023, the 5th lowest of the 70 districts in Bergen County.
- In 2023, we had 163 County tax appeals and 138 Tax Court Appeals filed. In 2022, we had 285 County tax appeals and 201 Tax Court appeals filed.
- There were 262 residential sales in 2023. Sale prices on the average residential property are up approximately 6.5% from the prior year.
- In 2023, the average house sold for \$544,000 while the average condo sold for \$293,700 compared to last year 2022, average house sold for \$507,600 while the average condo sold for \$268,000.
- The City collected approximately \$120,992,384 in taxes from 1,453 commercial property while only refunding \$3,159,152 approximately 2.61% return rate on collected revenue for 2023 tax court appeals which also includes prior years in the refunds.
- The commercial properties pay the equivalent of 62% of the tax base, the best in Bergen County. In comparison, Paramus Borough, commercial properties pay 48% of the tax bill.
- *Lastly, to quote the late Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Homes, "Taxes are the price we pay for civilization"

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

DEPARTMENT HEAD: JOSEPH INGLIMA, CPWM

Building Maintenance:

- Maintain Six Pump Stations
 - **3** for Sewage
 - **3** for Storm Water
- All Custodial work is done by Maintenance Department
- Maintain all Sprinkler, Fire Alarm Systems, Generator and HVAC systems throughout the City
- Holiday Lighting and all decorations throughout the City
- Assisted with waste line repair at Engine 5
- Renovate City Manager's Office (Jaclyn's Office)

Tree Department

- Trees Planted: **43 (by Shade Tree Committee)**
- Trees Removed: **90**
- Trees Stumped: **84**
- Trees Trimmed: **527**

Parks Dept:

- Maintain 17+ Parks throughout the City, including playgrounds, trash collection, grass and snow.
- Responsible for the maintenance & repairs of Bus Stations, Parking Lots, Railroad Trestles and all Islands & Dividers.
- Maintenance of 45+ City owned properties, lots and sidewalks
- All City fields are cared for from March through October
- Tree decorating at Van Suan Park for Winter Wonderland



- **Snow Removal and Salt City Roads**
- **City Garage is responsible for maintaining and repairing Police and Sanitation Vehicles as well as Sweepers and Salt Trucks**
 - *1,955* Repairs were made to City Vehicles
 - *243* Service Calls for 2023
- **Maintain City Hall, Health and Building Department vehicles as well as handle any special requests from these Departments**
- **All Registrations and Titles for all City Vehicles and Equipment**



Street Department:

- *448* tons of asphalt used for repairs & potholes city wide
 - ▶ Cold Patch Completed(Winter): *47*
 - ▶ Clear Debris from Streets- *61* cleanups
 - ▶ Catch Basins: *27* completed
 - ▶ Man Holes: *5* completed
 - ▶ Sink Holes Repaired: *8*
 - ▶ Streets where potholes were filled: *121*

Sewer Department:

- ▶ *81* Service calls for sewer back-ups
- ▶ *4517* Inspections, Maintenance and Debris removal of catch basins
- ▶ *821* Storm Drains Cleaned

***There were *25* Show Mobile Requests (County Showmobile was not in service most of 2023. It also got refreshed with new graphics to replace the old ones.**

SANITATION AND RECYCLING

- Total Garbage collected **17,169.21** tons
(**\$1,653,132.88**)
 - Total Rubbish collected **1,298.24** tons
(**\$151,888.44**)
 - Cost: ***\$1,805,021.32***
 - Total Recyclable Materials collected
1,818.19 tons in the amount of
 - Cost: ***\$ 163,999.58***
 - Total Recyclable Mixed Yard Waste,
Leaves, Logs and Soil collected **6,639** Yard.
 - Cost: ***\$116,659.96***
-
- The DPW distributed 713 New garbage cans to residents on waiting lists.
 - There were 497 White Good Pickups in 2023





HEALTH DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT HEAD: SUSAN MCVEIGH, CHO

Vital Records Office Activities for 2023

- Births Recorded: *4,816*
- Marriages Recorded: *1,350*
- Deaths Recorded: *1,539*

Vital Records Issued

- Birth Certificates: *9,910*
- Marriage Certificates: *2,979*
- Death Certificates: *986*
- Total Number of Certificates Issued: *13,693*

Environmental Health

- Health Licenses Issued: *586*
- Routine Inspection Total: *983*
- Complaints Investigated: *224*
- New restaurant plan reviews: *20*
- OPRA requests: *316*



Animal Licenses

Cat: *198*

Dog: *745*

Bite Case Investigations: *38*

Animal Complaints: *22*

Immunization/Child Health Conference

Activity Summary

- Number of Child Health Clinics: *23*
- Child Vaccines Given: *705*
- Adult Vaccines Given: *324*
- Total Number of Visits: *598*

- Number of Vaccines Given: *69*

Women Infant Child Program Clients Served

Hackensack Clinics: WIC services resumed at the Hackensack Civic Center in the fall of 2023.



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Hackensack Health Department 2023 Accomplishments

- The mission of the Hackensack Health Department is to promote both physical and mental health and to prevent disease, injury and disability.

Covid-19

- The Covid-19 Global Pandemic declaration has ended; however, the virus continues to mutate and is starting to be in the endemic phase in our area. As of December 31, 2023, there have been 14,405 Hackensack residents afflicted with the virus since it began in March of 2020.
- The health department provided Covid-19 vaccination and testing supplies in the HD clinic and the community
- Received Vaccine Supplemental Funding \$50,000 and Public Health Infrastructure Funding grant \$670,000 to enhance the department and bring sustainable health education and resources to the community.
- Provided guidance to business, residents and schools

Public Health Clinics

- Monthly child health clinics for uninsured Hackensack residents.
- Annual resident and employee Flu Vaccine Clinic
- Two Rabies Clinics for residents Dogs & Cats.
dogs and cats vaccinated



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Hackensack Health Department 2023 Accomplishments Continued

Health Education and Grant Sponsored Events

Date	Event
03/04/23	Latin American Institute Health Fair
04/20/23	Spring Fling Senior event
05/03/23	Bergen County Stigma Symposium
05/13/23	Sun Safety Clinic
05/25/23	Popsicle Social
06/03/23	Strong Like a Woman
6/11/23	Pet Care Fair
6/13/23	Blood Drive
6/17/23	Juneteenth Festival
8/01/23	National Night Out
8/19/23	Community Care Day-Gathering Church
8/26/23	2 nd Annual HMS Jam
9/16/23	Buddies of NJ Resource Fair
9/30/23	3 rd Annual Breast Cancer Zumbathan & 2 nd Annual Men's Health Fair
10/30/23	Senior Coffee & Craft (Avoid Scam Talk)
10/12/23	HHS Parent Outreach Night



- In addition, HARP Hackensack Awareness Regional Program provided health education to our students, seniors and other residents. This Included various workshops integrated into our 6-week walking and wellness program. Workshops included cooking demos with Shoprite, a Yoga class Lifetime fitness, a Stretching class with Kai-Zen, involvement in the Slam Dunk the Junk Cleanup and other fitness, nutrition and stress management classes.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Various Events the Health Department/Stigma-Free Committee Participated in





Johnson Public Library

TARA COOPER - LIBRARIAN

Johnson Public Library

The Library won (201) Magazine's 2023 Best of Bergen Award for Best Library in Bergen County. This is the library's first time winning this prestigious award, which grants it special recognition among the 55 total public libraries in Bergen County.

For less than the cost of one hardcover book per household per month, the library provided access to thousands of physical and digital materials, early literacy classes, bilingual services, citizenship and ESL classes, programs for teens and seniors, museum passes, our art gallery and related programming, and much more.

Our usage continues to increase as the population grows within our City. This year, we circulated over 125,000 items, welcomed nearly 15,000 attendees to programs, and responded to 45,000 requests for support (reference questions, computer assistance and more).

The library added 1,376 new cardholders in 2023.





Johnson Public Library

Thanks to the hard work of staff, Trustees, and community stakeholders, the Library completed and launched its Strategic Plan for 2023-2026 this year. The three plan goals are community engagement, welcoming space and firm foundation. This Plan provides a roadmap for the Library in achieving these goals, and therefore providing Hackensack with the Library that it both needs and deserves.



The Library received a 100,000 dollar Community Development Grant from the County to renovate two smaller restrooms in the Children's Department into an accessible family restroom. Work for this will be completed in March of 2024. Additionally, the Library completed a large fire suppression project on the lower level, the final connection for which will be completed in January of 2024.



RECREATION DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT HEAD: GERARD CARROLL JR.

- We prepare a better place for our people. Sports change lives. Together we are a dynamic entity that will continue to consistently deliver the high level of quality the entire community wants, needs, and deserves. We are steadily establishing effective partnerships and connecting with all of our people here in Hackensack and throughout Bergen County by means of parent portals, social media outlets, the local newspapers, our city website, and personal sources of community outreach.
- Our vision for the future is rooted in a commitment to excellence and equity. We work collaboratively to identify innovative approaches that respond to the evolving interests and needs of our community. This involves expanding support for our dedicated staff of Recreation Leaders, strengthening support for families, providing high quality sports-specific instruction, holding high expectations and belief for ALL, and, above all, fostering an environment where every human being thrives.



RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Youth Sports Programs and Recreation Activities that operated under our direction in 2023:

Hackensack Youth Basketball	Hackensack Junior Cheerleading	Hackensack Adult Volleyball	Basketball Skills Clinic
Hackensack Junior Wrestling	Hackensack Junior Football	Zumba Kids	Storytime Yoga & Dance
Youth Indoor Track & Field	Youth Tennis	Dance and Tumble	Pickleball
Youth Spring Track	Karate	Writing and Painting	Coding Class
Baseball/Softball of Hackensack	Junior Golf	Flag Football Clinic	Improv



RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Special Community Events, Functions, Programs, and Trips in 2023

- Juneteenth
- *Our commemoration of emancipation represents an awakening of freedom, independence, and self-awareness celebrated throughout our entire community for eternity.*
- 4th of July
- *The best fireworks celebration in New Jersey with family and friends, food trucks, fun games, and performances by Fillet of Soul.*
- Summer Camp
- *Our program promotes a positive atmosphere that provides educational, social, and cultural enrichment activities that play an integral part in the lives of our young people.*
- Senior Luncheon
- *This was an extraordinary experience for our Seniors and our staff in building quality relationships around food and fun entertainment.*
- Halloween Party
- *Our Halloween Party was a major success filled with treats, magic shows, arts and crafts, music, and a mini parade. We expect an even bigger celebration next year.*
- Veteran's Day Ceremony
- *We commemorated the service of Veterans of all wars with many local organizations memorializing our Veterans with the presentation of their wreath to the Circle of Honor.*
- Writing and Painting Class
- *Our Writing and Painting Class has nurtured our young people's writing skills and encouraged creativity and self-expression. By the end of this program, each participant masterfully completed their own book that was published on Amazon.*
- 100+ Turkey Giveaway
- *We had an amazing 100 + Turkey Giveaway right before Thanksgiving sponsored by Forte Ristorante and Shop Rite of Hackensack.*
- Football and Cheer Banquet
- *Our Jr. Football program and Jr. Cheer program celebrated their season at our first Banquet hosted at the Recreation Center. We had a great turnout, and the food was amazing.*
- Senior Trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse
- *An amazing Christmas extravaganza shared with our Seniors that's purely enjoyable every year.*
- Children's Holiday Party

HACPAC

DEPARTMENT HEAD: GREGORY LIOSI

HACPAC Highlights of 2023

This was the first full year under the leadership of HACPAC inc. We have met and exceeded our attendance numbers to pre-pandemic levels.

January:

- Pac the House event “C4 trio” performed to a sold out house. C4 Trio is a Grammy award winning Latin American guitar group that performed to a SOLD OUT house.
- We also had 2 performances of “Howdy Stranger Improv. Comedy night”

February:

- Our Black History Month Programming included:
 - A talk back series with local Author and writer of the NY times best selling book “When Broadway was Black” The story of “Shuffle Along” Caseen Gaines
 - We also performed an original musical written and produced by African American Composer and writer, dealing with PTSD in the Black community, entitled “Second Time Around”
 - There was also another SOLD OUT Pac the House Performance of a “Couch Band” out of Boston.

March:

- For women’s history month we had a series of one act plays entitled “Corrected”. The plays were produced by an all-female theater organization.
- Bergen Catholic High School performed 3 productions of “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee” almost selling out for each performance.
- Hackensack High School performed 4 sold out productions of “Chicago High School Addition”
- A sold-out Pac the House series performance by the band leader from Dancing With The Stars, Grammy Award Winner and NJ native, Ray Chew

April:

- Jump start community action group of Hackensack performed an original play student written and performed. “Think Twice Little Gangsta”
- Howdy Stranger Improv. Comedy troupe performed
- Parisian Beauty Academy held there annual year end academic awards at the HACPAC for both the morning and evening sessions

HACPAC

May:

- Pac The House series continued in May with Bria Skonberg a Grammy award winning jazz trumpet player and singer. This event was sold out.
- The tony award-winning play “Steel Magnolias” had 5 nearly sold-out performances and was nominated for 2 NJACT Perry awards.

June:

- Hackensack Health Department had a talk back presentation with guest speakers entitled “Strong Like a Woman”
- J Irwin Productions presented a LGBTQ stand up comedy night to a sold-out house.
- Hackensack Theater Company had 5 performances of an original comedy musical by Star Kid entitled “Trail to Oregon”. 2 of these performances were sold out.
- The Northern New Jersey Community Foundation held a invite only film screening and talk back.
- We held numerus dance recitals by local dance companies: Kavita Dance Company, Studio 245 Dance company, Soul Expression School of Dance.

July - August

- In July and August, the HACPAC moves outside to Atlantic Street Park and uses the HACPAC as a rain and excessive heat location.
- HACPAC was also the home to the Recreation Department Theater Camp Program which performed “Once On This Island” to a sold out house.
- Every event listed below were all held in Atlantic St. Park and attended to almost capacity and had record breaking numbers of participants.
 - 18 Sunset yoga sessions
 - 5 Shakespear in the park performance “Othello” and “Mid-Summer Nights Dream”
 - 7 Sounds of Summer Concert Series performances
 - 4 Movies Under the Stars Events

HACPAC

September:

- Because of the popularity of sunset Yoga, we added 3 additional sessions.
- The Main Street Business held a dinner under the stars event in Atlantic Street Park and the gallery at HACPAC
- “The Italian Chicks” Stand up comedy night had an almost sold out performance.
- Howdy Stranger Improv Comedy held an Improv night

October:

- The Main Street alliance used Atlantic Street Park / The gallery and for the annual Octoberfest event.
- Howdy Stranger held an improv and stand-up comedy night.
- Nittoli Enterprises held a private screening of the film that they produced “Does the Band Eat” (Seen on Amazon Prime) for the cast and crew.

November and December:

- Late November and early December had the return of the HACPAC annual family holiday musical “The Christmas Caper”. There were 9 performances with the highest attendance numbers in the 6-year history of performing this show. 2 performances were sold out and 1 was nearly sold out.
- New Hope Baptist church held a private performance and Christmas Party.
- School of Rock in Maywood New Jersey held 2 recital performances for students and both were sold out.
- The Recreation Department held their annual children’s holiday party at the HACPAC.
- Howdy Stranger Improv Comedy had an Improv comedy night.
- Field Station Dinosaur returned for 3 sold out performances of “Dinosaur Dynamite”





CLEAN COMMUNITIES

2023 saw record breaking numbers for our 2 volunteers clean up events “Slam Dunk the Junk” Our participating numbers are increasing every year, and we were recognized by The Clean Communities Organization of our outstanding participation on social media of photos of our clean up days, and acknowledged our large participation.

- ❖ Our spring “Slam Dunk the Junk” Clean up (Held in early June due to weather related cancelations) Had the highest attended event with *52* local Non-Profit organizations attending and having *410 Participants*. We gave out \$26,000 in grant money to the organizations that participated.
- ❖ Throughout the school year Clean Communities sponsored an assembly program for the elementary schools in the Hackensack School System called “Professor W’s Earth Science litter abetment and Recycling” show. It was performed at:
 - ECDC School
 - Jackson Avenue School
 - Nellie K. Parker School
 - Hackensack Middle School
 - Fanny M. Hillers School.
- ❖ Our Fall Clean up had *390* participants from *44* different Hackensack Non-profit organizations. We gave out \$22,000 in grant money from Clean Communities.



CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

DEPARTMENT HEAD: DEBORAH KARLSSON, RMC

For the Year 2023 we have received and processed:

▶ **OPRA Requests: 1,595**

• **Council Meetings**

- Regular Meetings: 40

- Special Meetings: 1

• **Resolutions: 479**

• **Ordinances: 51**

Permits Issued

▶ **Landscaper - 63**

▶ **Snowplowing - 10**

▶ **Going Out of Business: - 0**

Elections

▶ **Primary - 1**

▶ **General - 1**

Licenses - Liquor

▶ **Renewals - 59**

▶ **Incomplete Renewal - 1**

▶ **Transfers - 2**

▶ **Incomplete Transfers - 2**

▶ **Amendments - 7**

▶ **Incomplete Amendments - 0**

▶ **Corporate Structure Changes - 2**

▶ **Liquor Permits Approved - 17**

Raffles and Bingo - 21

New Business Insurance Registry - 17

Landlord Registration - 74



General Request
For Access To
Government Records

FINANCE & AUDITING DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT HEAD: JAMES MANGIN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Current Budget

- Salaries & Wages (Budget) - \$44,546,200.00
- S&W Expended YTD - \$43,515,006.00
- Percent Expended - 97.7%
 - Decrease over previous year: -0.3%
- Dept. Other Expenses(Budget) - \$8,749,050.00
- Dept. O.E. Expended YTD - \$7,772,527.00
- Percent Expended - 88.8%
 - Increase from previous year: 2.1%

Requisitions

- Total Requisitions - 5,331
- Requisition Line Items - 13,009
- Requisition Total - \$40,846,216.47

Purchase Orders

- Total Purchase Orders - 5,216
- Purchase Order Total - \$64,074,841.99



FINANCE & AUDITING DEPARTMENT



Expenditures - Current Fund

- **Current Fund (Budget) \$119,231,993.97**
- **Current Fund (Non-Budget) \$114,295,616.98**
- **Current Fund Reserve \$2,481,988.65**
- **Current Fund Total- YTD \$232,441,076.05**
 - Increase from previous year: -1.5%
- **All Expenditures- YTD \$267,827,800.33**
 - **Parking Fund**
 - **Parking Fund (Budget) - \$1,880,109.67**
 - **Parking Fund (Non-Budget) \$26,938.55**
 - **Parking Fund Reserve - \$8,832.53**
 - **Parking Fund Total YTD- \$1,915,880.75**
 - Decrease over previous year: -6.6%

FINANCE & AUDITING DEPARTMENT

Insurance

Health Benefits (Budget) \$21,302,000.00

- Expended YTD \$23,976,746.00
- Percent Expended - 112.6%
- Increase over Previous Year - 15.7%

General Liability (Budget) \$2,072,000.00

- Expended YTD - \$1,285,180.00
- Percent Expended - 62.0%
- Decrease from Previous Year - (-33.6%)

Workers Comp (Budget) \$1,464,000.00

- Expended YTD - \$1,721,991.00
- Percent Expended - 117.6%
- Increase from Previous Year - (20.5%)
- Unemployment (Budget) \$120,000.00
- Expended YTD - \$7,196.00
- Percent Expended - 6.0%

FINANCE & AUDITING DEPARTMENT

Capital Fund

- **General Capital - \$20,069,119.00**
 - Decrease over previous year: 21.7%
- **Parking Capital - \$2,126,433.00**
 - Increase from previous year: 143.9%
- **Capital Fund Total - \$22,195,553.66**
 - Increase over previous year: 88.7%
- **Trust Fund - \$6,542,323.00**
 - Decrease from previous year: -24.2%
- **Escrow - \$1,164,444.00**
 - Decrease over previous year: -43.0%
- **Trust Fund Total - \$7,706,766.33**
 - Decrease from previous year: -27.8%



FINANCE & AUDITING DEPARTMENT

2023 Highlights

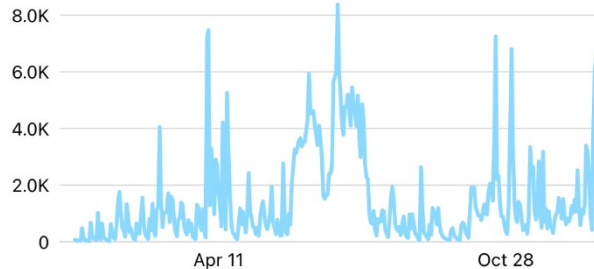
- For the second consecutive year, City Department expenditures on salaries are almost exactly the same as last year.
- Dept. Other Expenses increases by 201% over 2022, bringing total Current Fund spending slightly up over the previous year. Parking Utility expenditures decreased slightly in 2023.
- Health Benefit expenditures exceeded the budget by almost 16% and spending rose by \$3.2 million in 2023. Employees and retirees are continuing to have procedures performed that were postponed during the Covid pandemic. This, together with inflation is driving up our costs for the second year in a row. Steps have been taken to try and minimize the increase, but this will increase the 2024 budget significantly.
- Expenditures for Workers' Compensation claims also increased by 20% in 2023 over 2022. This will also impact the 2024 budget.
- There was another substantial increase in Capital spending for the second year in a row, as the City fully resumed projects that had been stalled because of the Covid pandemic.
- Spending from City Trust Funds dropped by almost 25% in 2023.
- Expenditures from Developer Escrow accounts also dropped significantly, as more projects came to fruition in 2023.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

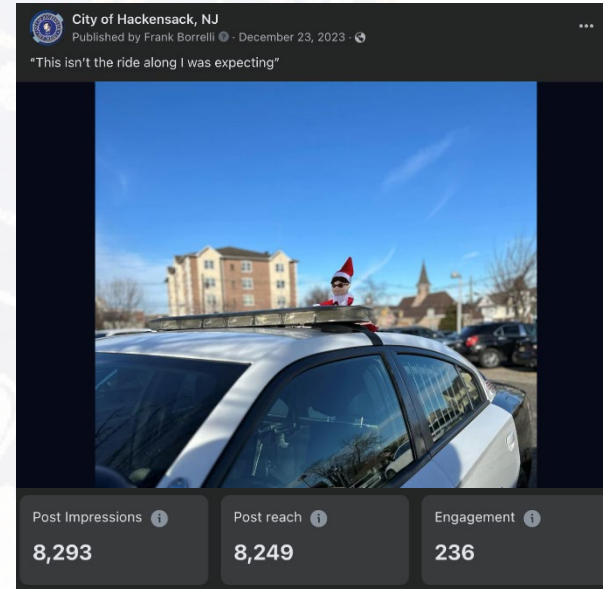
FRANK BORRELLI & LEO BATTAGLIA

- Updated Security Protocols
- Designed the Flyers and Promotional Materials for all City Events
 - Tree Lighting, 4th of July, 9/11 Memorial, Etc.
- Lead the City's Annual Golf Outing
- Increased involvement and engagement on our Social Media pages
 - Facebook, Twitter Instagram and YouTube
 - Collaborated with the Police Department on various social media campaigns

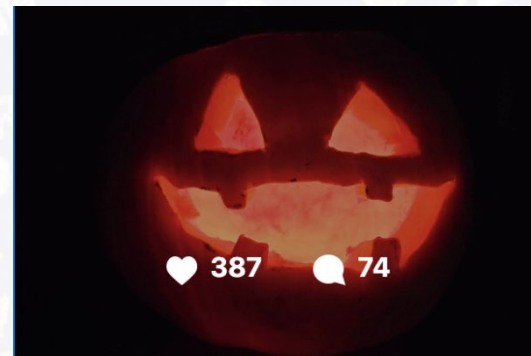
132,529 ↑ 68.7%



SOCIAL MEDIA REACH UP 68.7%



OUR MOST LOVED FACEBOOK POST



OUR MOST LOVED INSTAGRAM POST