

# Council Executive Report

Charles P. Potucek, City Manager

July & August 2024

#### Highlights

- → The Sierra Vista Fire & Medical Services department responded to 56 snake removal calls in the month of July.
- → SVPD held its first "Coffee with a Cop" since the pandemic on August 17<sup>th</sup> at Target.
- → In 2023, an ad video promoting the Vista 2040 General Plan received nearly 67,000 views.
- → June saw decrease with monthly ridership at Vista Transit falling back below 10,000 passengers, but July was over 11,000 and August passed 13,000 riders.

Departments	Page
Marketing & Communications	3
Parks, Recreation, & Library	7
Public Works	14
Tourism & Economic Dev	19
Administration	27
Community Development	29
Fire and Medical	35
Police	45

## City Manager's Message

Staff often talk about how there are no slow times of the year anymore and that is certainly true of the past few months! The major issue that took quite a lot of staff time over the past few months was the acquisition of the Pueblo del Sol Country Club. The transition occurred relatively smoothly and the City officially took ownership on September 6. Paradigm Golf Group also began management of the course and clubhouse that day. You heard an update from staff and public comments on the pool at the golf course at the last work session, and staff will be working on some options for consideration.

Fall brings the start of our major event season and this year promises to be an exciting one with something for everyone to look forward to. The City kicked off the events calendar with our annual Oktoberfest which was a terrific success. Just over 28,000 people attended the two-day festival, and I hear we were down to the very last inches of beer in the last two kegs by the end of Saturday night. Most food vendors also sold out of their food by the end of the event. The addition of German beer this year was a huge hit, and our distributor assures us we'll be able to get even more next year (German beer is surprisingly hard to get!). The Special Events and Sports teams added multiple new events this year including a 5K hosted Saturday morning that welcomed over 170 participants, including people from Casa Grande and Phoenix, and other fun events such as keg rolling and beer stein holding contests. Well done to our staff for putting on another excellent event!

Also look out for upcoming events such as Vineyards in the Park at the annual Art in the Park event on October 5, the annual Veteran's Day Parade on November 11, and a full menu of Christmas activities once again starting in

# Upcoming Council Meetings

(City Hall Council Chambers except where noted)

Oct. 8, 3:00 p.m. - Work Session

Oct. 10, 5:00 p.m. - Council Meeting

Oct. 22, 3:00 p.m. - Work Session

Oct. 24, 5:00 p.m. - Council Meeting

Nov. 12, 3:00 p.m. - Work Session

Nov. 14, 5:00 p.m. – Council Meeting

Nov. 26, 3:00 p.m. - Work Session

Nov. 28, 5:00 p.m. - Council Meeting

Offices will be closed on Monday, November 11, 2024 in observance of Veteran's Day; and on Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup> in observance of Thanksgiving.

# City Manager's Office Contacts

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December! It's hard to believe the holidays are just around the corner once again.

Also regarding events, I want to commend the staff and thank our incredible local businesses for making the inaugural Hummingbird Month a resounding success. You are all Hummingbird Heroes, and I look forward to sharing more information about the success of the month's events soon.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to Victoria or me.

Chuck Potucek, City Manager

#### **Communications**

Providing marketing and communications services to all departments: The

Communications team provides promotional services for all City departments, to include flyers; business cards; slides at City facilities; posters; brochures; and print, digital, and broadcast advertising. In addition to maintaining the City's websites, Communications staff completed the following City projects during July and August 2024:

- **Animal Control:** Designed and produced flyers and posters for the September Super Paws adoption event. Staff also assisted with social media promotion of this event. Updated magnets and rack cards marketing licensing, leashing, and spay/neutering. Assisted with promotion of dog sleepover foster program.
- **Aquatics:** Updated various materials for The Cove's hours of operations and swim lessons. Designed marketing materials for a SCUBA class. Assisted with promotion of Tsunami Night. Assisted with the announcement of reduced hours due to a shortage of lifeguards.
- City Clerk: Assisted with miscellaneous updates to the City's website.



- **City Manager's Office:** Developed talking points for multiple speaking opportunities and completed flyers and online marketing of City Council Meet & Greets. Hosted the City's annual Spotlight Breakfast, which saw an attendance of 179 people. Staff assisted with photography and presentations, in addition to planning all event logistics and giveaway items. Communications staff also created a recent accomplishments booklet for the event.
- **Community Development**: Updated the Vista 2040 General Plan website in preparation for an ad campaign reminding residents to learn about the plan

before casting their vote in November.

- **Cochise County Tourism & Economic Council**: Communications staff assisted with several ad campaigns, designing ads for print and digital placements.
- **Economic Development & Sierra Vista Tourism:** Assisted with the promotion of Hummingbird Month in August, to include frequent social media posts, dedicated webpages, and ads. Supported the grand re-opening of the visitor center in July. Created articles and advertisements for economic development publications with a focus on opportunities at the airport and quality of life in the community.
- **Finance:** Completed a variety of internal signage for the department designed to improve the division's sense of identify and teamwork.
- **Library & Cultural Events**: Projects included creating numerous Facebook events for division programs, updating the City's website calendar, and producing digital/print marketing materials for events/programs to include child & family programs, and hummingbird month programs.
- **Henry F. Hauser Museum**: Assisted with promotion of the museum's grand re-opening to include marketing materials, earned media opportunities, advertisements, and displays at the museum.



- Parks, Recreation & Special Events: Designed materials for numerous programs and events. Drafted an article for the PDS golf course newsletter in advance of the City acquiring that property. Assisted with the development of a logo for the Sierra Vista Golf Center at Pueblo del Sol. Coordinated ad campaigns for several major events including the Hummingbird Triathlon and Oktoberfest. Took photos and b roll of requested programs.
- **Police**: Assisted with press releases, social media, and monthly traffic safety PSAs, as well as traffic trivia videos. Gathered footage of the SVPD's Citizen Police Academy activities both for internal and external uses. Assisted with communications and media relations associated with the visit of presidential candidate Donald Trump. Developed materials and advertised several events including Tip-a-Cop, National Night Out, the Bearcat Pull, and Coffee with a Cop.
- **Public Works:** Assisted with the development of a recycling survey and published recycling information in the City's print newsletter *Vistas*. Assisted with media coordination and communications associated with an update on the City's Buffalo Soldier Trail reconstruction project.
- **Sierra Vista Fire & Medical Services:** Produced marketing materials for the department's 9-11 remembrance ceremony. Assisted with various social media posts and videos. Updated the grief support materials.

**Internal Communications.** Communications staff has been supporting and assisting the establishment and activities of an internal communications task force for several months. In August, staff assisted with a City-wide survey to inform improvements to internal communications processes, to include visiting with teams throughout the City.

**eNewsletter.** The City's **weekly eNewsletter** is sent to more than 5,290 subscribers. Over the July-August period, the eNewsletters received an open rate of 43% with a 3% click rate. The industry averages are 40% and 3%.

**Local Communications.** In addition to marketing and communications projects noted in the above list, the Communications Division continued efforts to reach local audiences.

The fall issue of **Vistas** was mailed to local residents the first week of September. This issue's cover story highlighted the expansion underway at the Nancy J. Brua Animal Care Center and other shelter news. This issue also covered the City's plans for the Sierra Vista Golf Center at Pueblo del Sol, SVF&MS Camp SPARK, and the museum's grand re-opening.

Communications staff participated in several earned media opportunities to include appearances on Cool FM Online and the First Watch radio show. Staff also assisted with numerous local media inquiries.

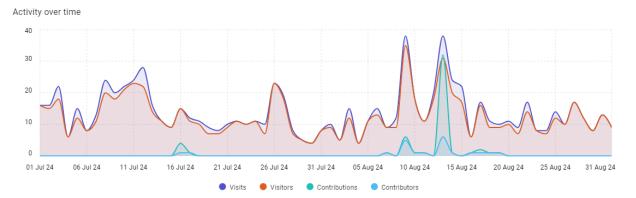
**Website performance.** The tables below share a snapshot of website data from July 1 through August 31, 2024.

Website Visits, By City (top 10 cities)			
State	# Users		
Sierra Vista	18,432		
Phoenix	8,415		
Las Vegas	4,594		
Unlisted	4,461		
Tempe	2,942		
New York	2,872		
Tucson	1,994		
Southeast SV	1,342		
San Jose	1,295		
Los Angeles	1,029		

Top Page Views			
Page Title	# Views		
Home Page	25,539		
The Cove Homepage	9,907		
Pay Bills	7,541		
Calendar (Fourth of July event)	4,671		
Residential Trash/Sewer	4,637		
Calendar Homepage	4,241		
Animal Care Homepage	4,097		
Employment Information	4,085		
Open Swim	3,885		
Trash/Sewer	3,542		

Date Range	<b>Users</b> (thousands)	Sessions (thousands)	Page Views (thousands)	Average Duration
July 1 – August 31, 2024	65	97	186	55 seconds

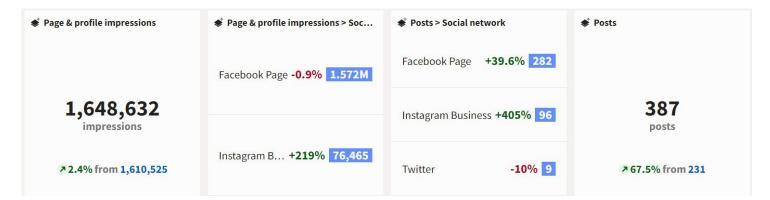
**Engage.** The **Engage.SierraVistaAZ.gov** website saw 856 total visits, 52 contributions, and 12 new registrations during July -August 2024. The graphic below is a Visitors Summary report from Engage.



**Podcast.** In July, the Let's Talk Sierra Vista podcast featured BlackStar Orbital Technologies CEO Christopher Jannette and City of Sierra Vista Tourism and Economic Development Director Tony Boone. The episode discussed the company's plans to create a spaceplane-satellite hybrid with an engineering and manufacturing facility located at the Sierra Vista Municipal Airport. It also detailed the City's efforts to become a spaceport reentry site, enabling BlackStar and other potential users to use the airport for return trips from space. This episode has received 354 downloads as of Sept. 12.

**Social Media.** Social media posts for all 10 of the City's social media pages on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter (X), received 1.65 million impressions for the period of July-August 2024, which is up 2.4% from the same period in 2023. Total impressions on Facebook dropped by 0.9%, while impressions on Instagram rose by 219%. The number of posts across social media platforms rose by 67.5%, with a 405% increase on Instagram. This reflects an emphasis on leveraging Hootsuite to enable staff from other departments to provide posts and to share that content to Instagram, in addition to Facebook. Video views dropped by 85.2% (from

119,692 views to 17,751 views). This is due to two high performing videos in 2023. One was an ad video promoting the Vista 2040 General Plan that received nearly 67,000 views due largely to paid promotion and an organic video celebrating the retirement of SVF&MS Captain Dave Wilcox, which generated nearly 43,000 views. The actual number of videos posted only dropped by 2.9%.



The City's **YouTube streaming** page, where Council meetings and work sessions are both streamed live and archived, has 432 subscribers.

Date (2024)	Broadcast Description	Views
July 8	City Council Special Meeting	924
July 23	City Council Work Session	68
July 25	City Council Meeting	123
Aug. 6	City Council Work Session	156
Aug. 8	City Council Meeting	152

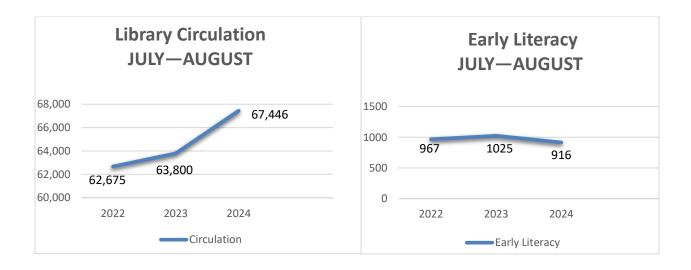
**Multimedia Projects.** Staff produced fewer multimedia communications projects in the July-August 2024 period due to the division's Marketing Production Designer filling in on graphic design work until the full-time graphic designer position is filled. Projects included:

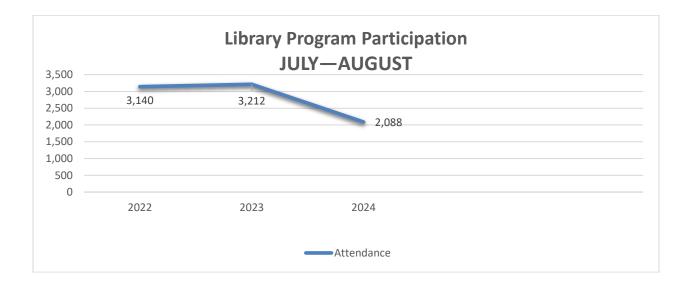
Project	Media	Department
Traffic Safety Trivia Videos	Video	SVPD
Misc. Sports Program Photos/Broll	Photos/Broll	Sports
Podcast	Audio	Communications
Meeting Broadcasts	Livestream	City Council
Spotlight Breakfast	Photos	City Manager
Citizen Police Academy	Broll	SVPD

# Department of Parks, Recreation, and Library

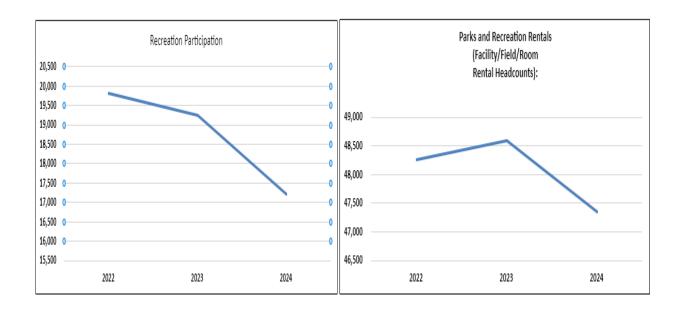
JULY—AUGUST 2024 Dashboard (Years: 2024 vs. 2023 vs. 2022)

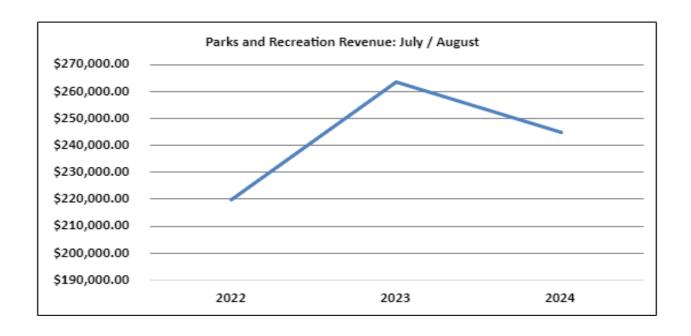
Library Circulation: JULY—AUGUST	72,688
Library Program Participation: JULY—AUGUST	2088
Early Literacy Participation: JULY—AUGUST	916





Parks & Recreation Participation: JULY—AUGUST	17,206
Parks & Recreation Rentals	47,350
Parks & Recreation Revenue: JULY—AUGUST	\$244,782.01





#### Child and Family Division's "Southwest Saturday".

The Child and Family Programming division hosted Southwest Saturday as part of the department's Hummingbird Month celebration. The program featured a variety of hands-on activities, including a unique craft where participants created their own hummingbird perches. One of the event's highlights was a scavenger hunt through the library's botanical gardens, where visitors searched for hummingbirds hidden among the trees and bushes. Those who successfully completed the hunt were rewarded with a special prize, adding an extra layer of excitement. Attendees of all ages enjoyed classic backyard games in the courtyard such as cornhole, ladder ball, bucket ball, and four-in-a-row, fostering a fun and lively atmosphere. This free event for all-ages was a fantastic opportunity to connect with the community.



Henry F Hauser Museum OPEN For Business! Over 60 community members were treated to a



private opening for the newly renovated Henry F Hauser Museum, complete with a New Orleans Jazz Style Band and exquisite catering by West End Catering, on the evening of August 19<sup>th</sup>. Attendees not only enjoyed the music and food, but were able to tour the new space, which gives a glimpse of "Sierra Vista Through the Ages." Exhibits include favorites from the early fossil records and prehistoric period, through the famed first McDonald's drivethru and City incorporation in the 1950's. Curator Miller was on hand to answer direct questions and showcase the modern exhibit space and gift shop.

Exciting changes include new flooring, lighting, paint and proper museum-standard display cases. Perhaps most importantly, the space now boasts a children's discovery area, consisting of a modern version of Fry's Grocery Store, new computers, a reading area, and a popular fossil finding station. The updated museum, which is owed to a generous donation by the Sierra Vista Historical Society and a grant from the Tohono Odham Nation, is sleek and

clean, and ready for you to tour. The museum is open Monday-Friday, 10-5, Saturday 10-2, and is free to all participants. The museum hosts free monthly programs, including Dusk with the Dead, which will be happening in October and includes a tour of the Fry Pioneer Cemetery, complete with live actors.

**Adaptive Adults Compete in the Library Olympics.** Did you know about the local Library Olympics?!? It was a Friday night event for the "books" (see what we did there)? Participants in our Adaptive Adult Recreation Program competed in events such as the wild and wonderful book cart races, book stacking competitions (think book JENGA), the famous "scan and shelve", as well as pool noodle javelin throwing in the meeting rooms. The winning team received special "Library Olympic" medals, made by staff. Special shout out to our librarian, Susan, for creating this terrifically cool and fun event. Thank you to all the athletes who competed, and we hope to see you again next year at the Library Olympics!



**1st Hummingbird Celebration Month A Success!** The entire Parks, Recreation and Library Department successfully celebrated its 1<sup>st</sup> annual Hummingbird Celebration Month this August and is swiftly pivoting to fall events such as Oktoberfest and Halloween as the cooler weather closes in. We thank everyone who attended over 20 events throughout the department, including cooking classes, art workshops, story times, and even a triathlon!

Manager Emily Duchon accepted the proclamation from Mayor McCaa in late July, declaring the



City of Sierra Vista the hummingbird capital and August it's special month due to the hummingbird's pattern of migration through this area. Members of the Southwest Wings Birding Festival were also in attendance to receive the recognition.

Thank you to the teams in Economic Development and Marketing, who aided in designing logos, created the "Hummingbird Heroes" designation, and recruited local businesses to participate in the special month for the City. Our community's businesses were a central key to success with Hummingbird Month, and we look forward to working with them again in 2025!

**End of Summer at the Cove.** During the month of July, the Cove was still in its summer hours and offered open swim daily, aerobic classes, youth swim lessons, a Tsunami Night, lap swim, and lastly splash time.

Open swim is one of the most attended programs with a total of 8,419 people of all ages who attended in July. Once the Sierra Vista Unified School District goes back to school in August a decrease was seen in attendance, which is expected in open swim with a total of 1,844. In July, lap swim had a total of 1,306 attendees and a total of 1,095 attendees in the month of August. To wrap up youth swim lessons in July, we had 269 children ranging from 6 months old to 17 years of age.



Closing our The Cove's summer season with a Tsunami Night on July 26th, 633 people enjoyed pizza, music, and soda. We had 407 people pay at the door and 226 people who purchased their tickets prior to the event.

**Sports Programming.** Our popular Summer PeeWee Sports Camp for little ones ended on July 13<sup>th</sup>. There were 16 participants in that session, and everyone had a great time! Our August 3<sup>rd</sup> camp had 19 participants. We look forward to continuing this program in the future.



The Fall Recreation Soccer program that is partnered with Coronado Athletic Club is scheduled to begin its season in mid-September. There are more than 700 registered participants. That's a great turnout for the community!

The Fall Adult Softball league began in early August. This season, 11 Men's teams and 10 Coed teams registered.

The Summer Adult Basketball League concluded on August 9th. There were 11 teams participating this year!

Archery Session 4 began on August 10th. Between the basic and advanced levels, there are 27 participants.

#### **Summer Mini Camps.**

Football Camp ran from July 8th – July 21st. There were 22 registered participants.

July Introduction to Archery ran the 22nd and 23rd. We maxed out the participation with 17 kids!

Our Summer Kickball Camp ran July 29th and 30th. There were 27 registered participants.

**Tournaments.** Our partners at Sierra Vista Little League hosted the Little League Baseball Majors Division District tournament at Stone Fields in Sierra Vista from July 1st through July 8th.

They also hosted the extremely popular Little League Baseball Majors Division State Tournament in the same location. The tournament started July 15th and ran through July 25th. There were 14 teams representing different districts from all over the state which brought a lot of new folks to Sierra Vista who stayed in our hotels and supported local businesses for more than a week.

Despite the rain delays, the feedback was extremely positive, and folks loved the weather and hospitality!

**Fourth of July Celebration.** On July 3rd and 4th, staff supported the Rotary Club for another great July 3rd Street Dance and 57th Annual 4th of July Celebration! The event was enjoyed by many in the community with food, music, and entertainment all day long in Veterans Memorial Park. The firework ground and aerial display went off from the Sports Complex and was amazing.

#### **Summer Favorites**



**Summer Concerts in the Park.** The Summer Concerts in the Park had a total of eight bands this year and an estimated 2,000 in attendance! Great weather and great entertainment were enjoyed by all who attended. Staff would like to thank the following bands who entertained community members with their music: Bipolar Weather, Cowboy Poetry, Desert Swing, JEMM, King Crawdaddy and the Mudbugs, Psilobots, and Desert Fever. Concerts in the Park will resume October 3rd.

**Dine a Night.** On July 11th, we had 10 people join us at Pizzeria Mimosa restaurant. On August 8th, we had 11 people join us at the Brite Spot. This group seems to enjoy meeting new people and experienced great food and great fun!

**Christmas in July.** July 20th, Christmas in July Bazaar had 31 vendors out displaying their wares and approximately 400 people in attendance.

**Wine Tour.** The wine tour this summer took us to Willcox! We had a total of 24 participants who enjoyed wine tastings at Golden Rule, Bodega Pierce and Coronado Vineyards. Good times had by all!

Hummingbird Hunt \*NEW\*. On August 10th and 24th, to celebrate Hummingbird Month, staff transported two vans of interested birders who participated in a Hummingbird Hunt! Birders were taken to the San Pedro River and Ramsey Canyon to experience gorgeous landscapes and beautiful hummingbirds.



#### **Coming Soon!**

#### **Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony**

Date: Monday, November 11

Location: Fry Blvd and Veterans Memorial Park

#### **Senior Holiday Dinner**

Date: Tuesday, November 12

Located: Ethel Berger Center located at 2950 E Tacoma Street.

Time: 4pm - 6:30pm

#### **Tree Lighting and Holiday Market**

December 6-7

Location: Veterans Memorial Park Time: Dec 6- 4:00pm-11pm Time: Dec 7- 11am-9:00pm

#### **Public Works**

#### Administration

**Grants.** The Engineering and Administrative Sections in conjunction with the Community Development Department have submitted a variety of grants. Below is a brief description of each grant which is currently awaiting review or was recently awarded:

Threatened and Endangered Species Program, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), originally \$850,000 and later revised to \$543,400 with no match – An application was submitted in mid-May by the City and partner agencies for funding to help protect threatened and endangered species along the San Pedro River. If awarded, the grant would help fund the efforts of the Adaptive Management Committee, specifically modeling work along the San Pedro River to document baseline conditions and to evaluate the effectiveness of planned improvements in preserving flows and riparian habitat of the river. The grant amount was revised at the request of BLM to remove federal partner work, such as monitoring performed by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Other mechanisms will be used to help fund that work. Staff is awaiting word on whether the revised application was successful.

Foundation for America's Public Lands, BLM, \$300,000 per year for three years with no match – An application was submitted in early August to assist with monitoring and survey costs for the USGS in support of the modeling work being done by the Cochise Conservation and Recharge Network and the Adaptive Management Committee. On September 12<sup>th</sup>, it was announced that the application was successful and a total of \$1,500,000 had been awarded to the City, the Friends of the San Pedro River, and the Borderlands Restoration Network.

Fort Huachuca cooperative agreement, Upper San Pedro Partnership support funds, \$100,000 per year for five years with no match – In early August, staff submitted an application to Fort Huachuca for funding to help support the operations of the Upper San Pedro Partnership. The application was successful, and the funds will be delivered to the City, acting as the fiscal agent of the USPP. Without a dedicated funding source, the available balance of USPP funds has been declining for several years. The infusion of funds from Fort Huachuca will help to provide operational funds to assist with upkeep of the Web-Based Hydrologic Information Portal, monitoring work, and water mitigation project implementation.

Congressional Appropriations Applications, about \$10,700,000 – The reconstruction effort along BST is desperately needed and staff anticipates phasing the segment between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Hatfield into six separate phases in order to tackle the reconstruction effort one piece at a time. In a visit to Sierra Vista in early September 2023, Congressman Juan Ciscomani announced that the project would receive about \$3.7M in funding. Those funds will be managed by the State, and the City is awaiting news from ADOT on the path forward. In April, additional segments were submitted to Congressman Ciscomani's office, and during a visit in early September 2024, Congressman Ciscomani confirmed that an additional \$7.0M to fund more phases has been submitted as part of the federal budget package.

#### **Streets**

**Monsoon.** After 2023's "nonsoon", the 2024 monsoon season ended up delivering quite a bit of rainfall to our area and it is not quite done yet. Monsoon season runs from June 15<sup>th</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>, and most of Sierra Vista's annual rainfall total typically occurs within those three months. The 2023 monsoon season recorded a paltry average of three inches of rain in the Sierra Vista area. By comparison, the 2024 monsoon season has seen an average of between seven and eight inches thus far with three weeks still remaining in this year's season. Rainfall totals did

show more variability across the City this year, with some areas being hit hard in particular storms while other areas received very little or no rain. However, City infrastructure generally fared very well, and save for some clean-up work, no major problems were encountered.

State Route 90 Repair. Although not a City-owned roadway, ADOT's State Route 90 Rehabilitation Project has drawn a lot of resident interest due to the rapidly deteriorating condition of the roadway. The scheduled start date for the project was April 28<sup>th</sup>, but pavement work has not yet begun. In a disappointing update from ADOT at the August 15<sup>th</sup> SVMPO Technical Advisory Committee meeting, regional staff indicated that the paving work through Sierra Vista had been delayed from this fall to next spring due to temperatures being too cold for nighttime work. Staff had a follow-up conversation with ADOT after the meeting to discuss potential options, including shifting the segment through Sierra Vista from nighttime to daytime work. Although ADOT is looking into options, it is not clear if any changes can be made at this point. ADOT is aware that the roadway is deteriorating rapidly and may not make it through the winter. More information about the project can be found on the project website here: State Route 90: Border Patrol Station to Moson Rd. | Department of Transportation (azdot.gov)

#### **Airport**



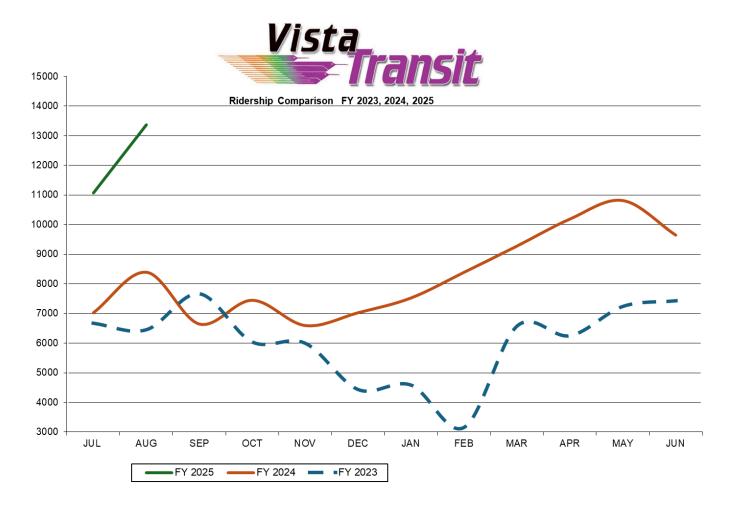
**Dignitary Visits.** A smaller but important part of airport operations is helping to facilitate dignitary visits to the area. Both J.D. Vance and Donald Trump flew into the Sierra Vista Municipal Airport recently which required close coordination with local, state, and federal entities to provide a safe environment as well as aviation ground support. The visits also had to be coordinated with local tenants to help minimize disruptions to their work or travel plans. Airport operations ran smoothly during the visits, and Airport Technician Wayne Durham received a challenge coin from the Secret Service in recognition of his efforts. Great job, Wayne!

Airport Capital Improvement Plan (ACIP). The ACIP was submitted to both the Federal Aviation Administration and the Arizona Department of Transportation in late July. The ACIP is a 5-year planning document to help prioritize projects at the airfield. Since a 10-year master planning effort is currently underway, the ACIP consists primarily of pavement maintenance projects for now, since the FAA has indicated that any new construction projects will need to wait until the master plan update has been completed. However, the pavement maintenance projects are still exciting opportunities for the airport, and if funded, federal and state funds would cover over 95% of the total project cost.

#### **Transit**

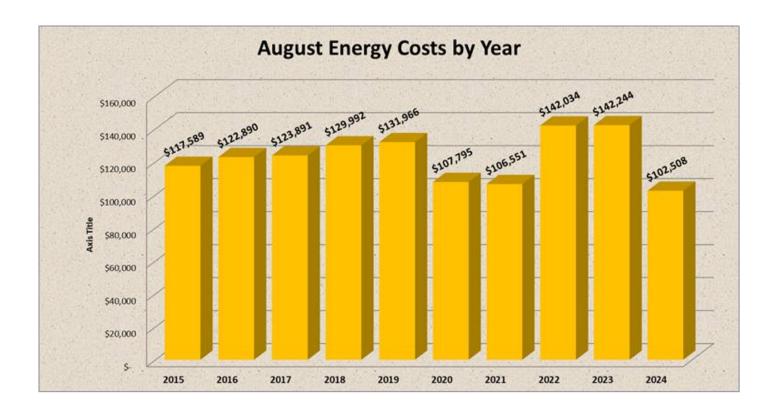
**Federal Transit Administration Visit.** Thanks to the efforts of Justin Hembree and Karen Lamberton with the Sierra Vista Metropolitan Planning Organization, two staff each from both the Federal Transit Administration and the Arizona Department of Transportation were in Sierra Vista on Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup> for both a tour of the Transit Center and a meeting with SVMPO and City staff. The visit was not a compliance meeting and was instead an opportunity for everyone to meet each other in-person and for the new ADOT and FTA staff members to visit Sierra Vista for the first time. Our guests indicated that they enjoyed their visit and would like to come back again in the future. The nearest FTA offices are in California, so it is rare for them to be available to visit smaller agencies such as Sierra Vista, and this visit was the first of its kind for our area.

**Ridership.** Based on the data staff has been monitoring, ridership continues on a sharp upward trend. With the exception of one small dip which was limited to September 2023, all other months have trended well above the previous two years with some months running triple the prior year. Monthly ridership for March 2024 crossed 9000 people for the first time since COVID, and April and May ridership exceeded 10,000 passengers per month. June finally saw a bit of a decrease with monthly ridership falling back below 10,000 passengers, but July was over 11,000 and August passed 13,000 riders. Although the increase in ridership is a positive from a community mobility perspective, it has resulted in standing room only on buses at times and a very full paratransit schedule. As a whole, paratransit demand in FY24 increased by almost 40% over FY23. The introduction of a second pink line route is planned for September, pending staff availability.



#### **Facilities**

**Electricity Cost.** Staff was notified by SSVEC in June that the Wholesale Power and Fuel Cost Adjustor, which was previously a charge of several cents per kilowatt hours, had now become a credit of one cent per kilowatt hour. The difference on electricity payments is clear. In August 2022 and 2023 when the cost adjustor was high, the City was paying an additional \$40,000 per month in electricity. August 2024 meanwhile had the lowest monthly cost during the last ten years, to include COVID during which some City facilities were closed.



#### **Engineering**

State Route 90 Sewer Repair. Work is currently underway to install a bypass for a major sewer line under State Route 90. The existing line has a dip and some other structural issues, and repairing the line is not feasible due to the age and condition of the pipe. In addition, the existing line has a manhole in the middle of a median on State Route 90 which is unsafe for maintenance crews to access due to the narrow width of the median and the volume of traffic on the adjacent roadway. The project has been delayed somewhat by repeated rainstorms which have filled the area with stormwater, but the project is currently on-track to be completed in November.



#### **Commissions**

**Transportation.** The Transportation Commission currently has a full contingent of five members. For its October meeting, the commission is planning a field trip to the Transit Center to learn more about Vista Transit. Meetings are usually held at 3:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room at City Hall, and the October meeting will follow this same schedule just with a different location.

**Environmental Stewardship.** The Environmental Stewardship Commission also has a full contingent of five members. For its August meeting, the commission did a field trip to the Environmental Operations Park. Three commission members were able to join four City staff members on the tour, and those in attendance indicated they learned a lot on the tour. The commission is also in the final stages of releasing their recycling survey and will have a booth at Vineyards in the Park to help publicize the survey. The commission recently updated the recycling

section of the City's website, and updated recycling opportunities can be found here: https://www.sierravistaaz.gov/our-city/departments/public-works/recycling/recycling-opportunities

# **Tourism and Economic Development**

#### **Economic Framework Strategy Development**

Mayor and Council have formally adopted the six objectives and staff continues to work to activate these objectives. The framework objectives were not entirely captured within the new strategic plan and are currently being reviewed by the Economic Development Commission.

- Tourism and Retail Development with Mexico
- Maximize economic impact of municipal airport
- Improve and sustain parks and community events
- West End redevelopment
- Increase awareness of Sierra Vista
- Expand awareness and opportunity of military missions on Fort Huachuca

#### **Priority 7: Enhance and improve infrastructure that supports Economic Development**

**Continue Ongoing Efforts to Revitalize the West End.** Economic Development staff continues to work with Community Development to share the West End Partnership Grant opportunity with west end businesses and prospective businesses. Staff assisted and discussed the grant opportunity with new west end business Alien Pups Grooming, as well as Julie & Sammy's for their potential expansion.

**Maximize Economic Impact of the Municipal Airport.** Staff continues to work with Launch on Demand on the Spaceport Feasibility study for the potential spaceport re-entry Part 433 licensure. The feasibility study has reached 60% completion as of the August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, with no indication of a negative outcome. The full study is still on track to be completed in October with a presentation to Fort Huachuca leadership and Council scheduled for October 8<sup>th</sup>.

Staff continues to engage with BlackStar Orbital and is happy to share that the company's CTO, Kit Carson, and his family have successfully relocated to Sierra Vista. CEO Chris Jeanette gave a successful brief at the July 9<sup>th</sup> Good Morning Sierra Vista. Staff coordinated a two-page advertisement focused on the spaceport and innovation that can be viewed at - https://bit.ly/fdiallianceint\_summer\_issue\_2024\_sierra\_vista

Priority 10: Actively engage economic development stakeholders, especially current and future potential businesses.

**Expand support of, awareness of, and opportunity for military missions on Fort Huachuca.** Nothing significant to report this period.

**Economic Development Activities and Key Engagements.** Bludot engagement software reports that so far this year staff has completed 2,083 total activities and engaged with 1,766 businesses out of 3,088. Here is how we are engaging.

#### Sky Islands Regional Partnership (SIRP) Engagements

Staff attended the Moonshot Rural Arizona state pitch competition in support of our Sierra Vista winner, Adam Mayer, founder and CEO of AIGM. Adam did a great job and gave a great pitch, but unfortunately did not win. He was, however, selected as the next tech-based business for the UACI Sponsored Launch Program. The City will share the cost of the sponsorship for AIGM through UACI's incubator program with the Sky Islands Foundation. Staff look forward to receiving one more briefing from Port 194, the first tech-based business selected as a sponsored launch winner, as they approach the end of their year of sponsorship in November. Staff also supported ribbons cuttings and grand re-openings at Spruce and Sky, Haven Health, and Gunny's Barbecue.







### University of Arizona Center for Innovation August 19 at 3:01 PM · 🚱

incubation support to advance their Al-driven tabletop games.

Congrats to Artificial Intelligence Game Master (AIGM) for winning the UACI Sponsored Launch, powered by the City of Sierra Vista and the Sky Islands Foundation!

Thank you to our partners and selection committee for making this possible. Together, we're driving innovation and economic growth in Southern Arizona!

#Innovation #AI #Gaming #UACI #CityofSierraVista #SkylslandsFoundation #TechStartup









#### **SEAZ Hispanic Chamber Partnerships**

Staff continues to engage with the business members of the SEAZ Hispanic Chamber and attended two Chamber mixer events receiving updates from the City of Benson and Huachuca City.

#### SBDC and SBA Partnerships

Economic development staff continue to work with the Cochise SBDC on business engagement walks with local businesses and is working on plans for a 2024 Women in Business Conference on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Plans are also beginning for next year's DECA District competition.

Staff supported two AZ SBA VBOC Boots to Business classes, one for soldiers and family members on Ft. Huachuca and one new program specifically targeting military spouses held off the installation and hosted by Cochise College. There were several entrepreneurs interested in establishing a business locally upon their separation of service.

#### AREDF Partnerships

Staff participated in a tour of Ft. Huachuca hosted by the AREDF for members of Arizona Association for Economic Development. The event brought several economic developers from across the state to Sierra Vista to tour the Fort and gain a better understanding of the impact of military installations to their local communities. The event concluded with a mixer sponsored by Allo Fiber at Tombstone Brewing West End.

#### **New Business**

Staff distributed 25 donation boxes to various businesses and organizations throughout Sierra Vista and Cochise County. The total amount raised from city facilities and the hummingbird basket auction at the Visitor's Center re-opening totaled \$131.24. Businesses should be submitting their donations directly to SABO and we look forward to hearing the total raised by our Hummingbird Heros.

Staff also supported one courtesy inspection, four zoning compliance inspections, three presubmittal development meetings and two DRC meetings for new development approvals. The City's inaugural summer internship opportunity has concluded. Of the 6 interns selected, one is now employed full-time as a CSR at the OYCC, and one has extended her tenure in Community Development until the end of the year. Interns completed a short exit survey to provide feedback on their experiences. All rated their experiences highly, stated they would consider City employment in the future, and felt that it was an experience that helped prepare them for future employment.

"I liked that I was able to gain work experience. As a high school student, I have found it hard to get a job."

"The team I worked under built the confidence to make headway for growing my professional experience."

"I loved meeting all the incredible staff and would love to continue to help improve the City of Sierra Vista."

"The TED department truly provided a wonderful internship experience that I hope will continue into the future."

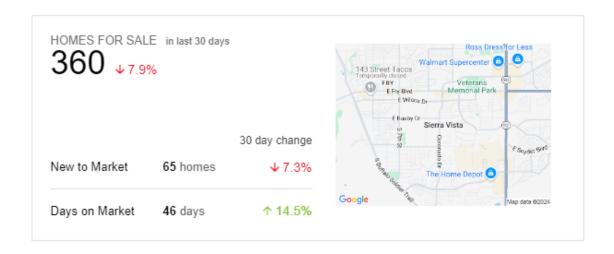
Staff is looking forward to meeting with department directors and managers to gather their feedback and inputs for the future of the program.

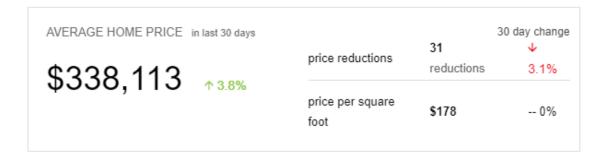
**Economic Development Commission.** The Economic Development Commission met on August 14<sup>th</sup> and selected the 2024-2025 business recognition program winners. Recognition of the 2024 minority-owned business of the year will take place at the September 12<sup>th</sup> city council meeting. Staff will meet with Dean Packard, Chair of the Commission, on September 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss the commissions insight and finalization of a city economic development SWOT analysis. This analysis will serve as the basis for further discussion and development of an updated plan for prosperity at the next commission meeting, scheduled for Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Jobs Report.** The latest jobs report from AZ@Work shows 1042 vacant positions across Cochise County with 373 being in Sierra Vista, and 262 on or in direct support of Ft. Huachuca. Jobs in high demand on the Fort continue to be primarily in the information technology, cyber, and intelligence industries. In Sierra Vista nearly 46% of available jobs are direct care jobs within the medical field. Job vacancies in education remain the second highest, at almost 23%.

**Housing Report.** According to the August end of the month real estate report courtesy of Long Realty, the number of homes for sale is down while the number of days on the market is up.

Average list price and sold price are both up however price adjustments and reductions are being reported more frequently in the past 30 days, also representing a change from this time last year.





AVG SOLD PRICE in last 30 days			in last 30 days
\$306,534 16.2%	sold last 30 days	76	↑8.6%
Ф300,334 ↑6.2%	Sold to Listed Ratio	76:65	<b>↓</b> 23.2%

# **Initiative 14.2: Evaluate and consider Visitor's Center and Museum Options**Nothing significant to report this period.

**Initiative 14.4: Conduct Feasibility study for a regional convention center** This initiative has been overcome by the acquisition of the Sierra Vista Golf Center @ PDS. Staff have met with a structural engineer as well as an architect to identify the potential concepts to open up the golf center's clubhouse to accommodate additional people for events, dinners, and other meetings.

**Tourism Commission.** The Tourism Commission is scheduled to meet November 4<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in the Oscar Yrun Community Center Conference Room. They will continue discussion of short term, mid-term, and long-term projects as well as upcoming community tourism events. They recently in July finalized volunteer work for Grand Re-Opening of the Visitor Center and the Southwest Wings Summer Festival.

Staff worked in tandem with the commissioners and manned a booth at the Southwest Wings Festival.



**Advertising- Print and Social Media.** In July, staff put in an application with the Arizona Office of Tourism to participate in their Co-Op Program, where AOT pays for 50% of a DMO's ad selection. This year, staff made new selections for Google Ads, *San Diego Magazine*, Cactus League Digital Destination Guide in USAToday.com, AMERICA Journal, and Content Creator Evaluator from HypeAuditor. In August staff received word that they received all ads that were applied for. The Content Creator Evaluator was a deal, offered at no cost, and gives staff the ability to see the analytics of influencers to help determine audiences they may reach in advertising with an influencer.

In July, staff also launched a blog called Exploring Sierra Vista, with the hopes of reaching different audiences on Facebook and Instagram. The blog features itineraries, firsthand accounts of activities and events the city puts on, and advertising for upcoming events.

**Visitor Center.** At the end of July, staff hosted the Grand Re-Opening of the Visitor Center. Turnout was successful, with at least 70 individuals showing up. The Hispanic Chamber and Sky Islands Regional Partnership showed their support at the event.





**Sierra Vista Adventure Guide App.** The Sierra Vista Adventure Guide App continues to be advertised at the Visitor Center, on social media, and the city website. By the end of August, staff saw 193 downloads of the app.

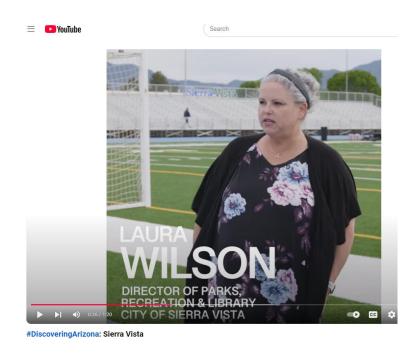
**Governor's Conference on Tourism.** In August, staff attended the Govern's Conference on Tourism. Staff took this opportunity to learn more about AI in tourism, sports tourism, microinfluencers, and wellness tourism. At GCOT, AOT revealed the new logo for Arizona and AOT that city staff supported by coordinating a listen session in Sierra Vista. One version of the logo features a hummingbird in homage to Sierra Vista being the hummingbird capital of Arizona. The video explanation can be watched: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rvJAgVQ-AQ0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rvJAgVQ-AQ0</a>







Tourism Staff coordinated with AOT on their Discovering Arizona campaign with the City of Sierra Vista video highlighting our Parks, Recreation, and Library Sports Division and the community - Check out the Video. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k2sO4U2G0fo





# **Cochise County Tourism and Economic Council (Explore Cochise) Executive Report**

The City of Sierra Vista Tourism and Economic Development report includes a regular report for the Cochise County Tourism and Economic Council (CCTEC). The activities of the CCTEC are defined through an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the participating communities and Cochise County. Funds received from each entity are cooperatively invested in marketing efforts to promote Cochise County as a destination for tourists and economic investment. The Council committee members, defined through the IGA, are the Cochise County administrator and city managers from each invested community, which include Benson, Bisbee, Douglas, Sierra Vista, and Willcox.

**Ads: Print and Digital.** Staff received data from the Visit USA Parks campaign that kicked off in May and ended in August. The campaign ran around the itineraries and blog posts put out from Sydney Rasmussen's visit to Cochise County back in April. The campaign received the following analytics:

Impressions: 306,000

• Engagement rate: 28% (industry average is 8-12%)

• Link clicks: 5,300 (approx.. 2,000 of these were to explorecochise.com)

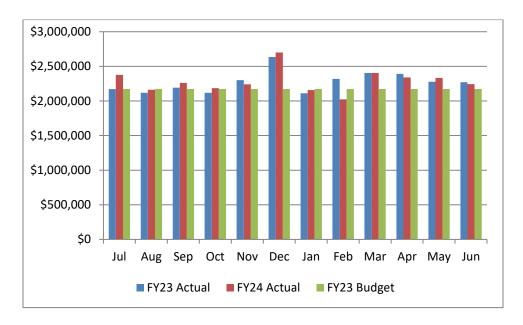
Staff applied for the Arizona Office of Tourism Co-Op for CCTEC and took a focus on history, RV, culture, and arts to further represent all cities and towns in Cochise County. Notably, staff applied to ads for AZ RV guide, Smithsonian, Sojern, and True West. Staff was informed in August that they got all ads that were applied for and have begun to meet deadlines.

**Benson City Council Visit: August 12, 2024.** Staff traveled to Benson on August 12<sup>th</sup> to go before Benson's City Council and propose a return for Benson to CCTEC. Benson City Council voted to pass this motion and Benson has begun the process to rejoin CCTEC.

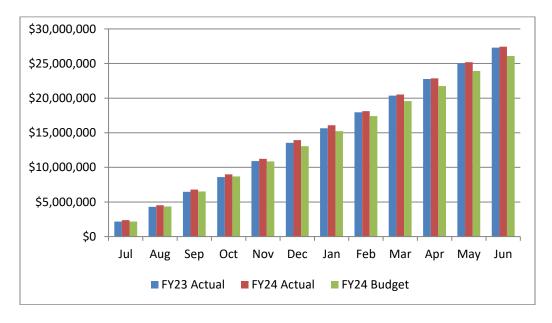
#### **Administration**

**Sales Tax Collection.** Gross privilege tax collections were down \$26,219, or 1.16%, for June over last fiscal year.

The chart below provides a monthly comparison of FY24 actual, FY24 budget, and FY23 actual.



For Fiscal Year 2024, collections were up \$124,595, or 0.46%, over last fiscal year and \$1,335,062, or 5.12% over budget. The chart below provides a monthly comparison of FY24 actual, FY24 budget, and FY23 for the Fiscal Year.



Description	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24
Utilities	122,248.00	131,483.50	118,956.49	101,680.14	95,205.36	100,315.46	129,626.95	122,985.50	72,948.36	127,236.63	92,499.62	100,414.59
Communications	19,231.63	19,531.13	19,105.63	26,332.93	19,759.65	20,214.61	19,921.47	20,697.28	20,613.49	19,942.35	22,205.51	21,182.60
Publication	680.95	801.86	718.61	1,012.55	435.47	614.07	801.75	738.46	667.25	618.88	737.19	652.37
Restaurant & Bar	252,670.96	245,886.18	271,752.44	245,512.57	220,182.29	289,316.94	233,978.41	249,261.24	264,990.87	264,038.02	251,445.55	267,280.32
Contracting - Prime	86,755.79	62,204.66	54,757.88	57,494.52	39,136.83	99.060,88	37,222.65	(46,082.83)	93,913.81	114,614.62	74,160.46	107,850.14
Retail Sales	1,224,444.77	989,047.41	1,122,527.21	1,044,552.63	1,076,972.09	1,295,657.03	986,788.74	972,819.95	1,162,928.71	1,084,611.28	1,102,513.14	1,012,942.66
Use Tax Purchases	(3,361.75)	58,367.67	47,589.86	68,650.93	85,997.92	87,782.38	67,666.24	64,062.77	55,503.63		74,867.01	68,108.46
Use Tax from inventory	2,559.72	230.97	1,035.92	82.15	2,085.73	241.10	1,104.69	1,546.63	144.92		619.75	2,654.36
Residential Rental	39,820.07	36,843.09	48,370.88	40,725.81	38,840.54	77,939.32	53,759.35	41,509.58	49,819.36		45,570.65	50,415.27
Retail Food for home consumption	292,156.47	297,761.63	285,413.86	285,350.63	320,895.75	414,202.11	328,012.55	292,897.84	318,439.34	298,720.48	320,253.05	304,574.54
Commercial Rental	28,570.64	28,712.34	31,760.19	28,855.99	30,251.28	31,894.31	33,114.40	29,853.78	32,117.53	25,760.43	30,029.00	30,240.05
Tangible Property Rental	25,652.04	25,071.90	24,195.84	22,288.35	22,537.95	23,696.31	23,231.27	21,506.23	25,921.38	24,573.19	29,701.45	29,384.68
Extended Stay	118,078.82	111,648.41	96,205.93	111,121.05	100,121.61	86,076.69	100,179.83	105,372.30	139,430.17	124,685.36	116,981.58	86,213.81
Online sales	124,950.95	112,616.93	110,110.84	121,593.32	146,104.51	146,861.20	115,773.51	119,735.38	134,321.62	122,180.00	126,989.29	130,741.29
Other	43,003.85	40,606.67	29,610.86	30,659.79	42,416.56	36,923.70	26,352.83	26,342.66	31,702.03	38,146.65	44,016.75	30,511.16

## **Community Development**

**Council Approvals.** On August 8, 2024, the City Council approved a 30-day public comment period on a proposed text amendment to amend the operating hours of marijuana facilities from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The application was initiated by Formula 420 dba Trulieve of Sierra Vista. The implementing ordinance was approved by Council on September 12, 2024.

**Development Review Committee (DRC).** On August 9, 2024, the DRC approved two site plan applications:

Applicant	Use	Location	Site Area
BH DevCo, LLC	28,000 sq. ft. warehouse facility (Project Summer)	SE Corner of N. Commerce Dr. and N. Columbo Ave.	8.35 Acres
Taryrn McGann	Demolition and rebuild of 2,556 sq. ft. quick serve restaurant (Taco Bell)	3920 E Fry Blvd	1.36 Acres

**Commission Meetings.** The Commission on Disabilities Issues (CoDI) and the Neighborhood Commission did not meet due to quorum issues. Regular meetings will resume now that the Commissions are back to full membership after recent Council appointments.

**Citizenserve Implementation.** Staff is working with the implementation team at Citizenserve to customize a comprehensive, public facing, online, community development software application that will handle processing and payments for planning and zoning, right-of-way and building permits, code enforcement cases, business licensing applications and renewals, and customer tracking. We are in the process of completing the scanning of the Department's archive files, which will be made available online. The software will improve the management and reporting of active cases, improve customer service, and increase government transparency.

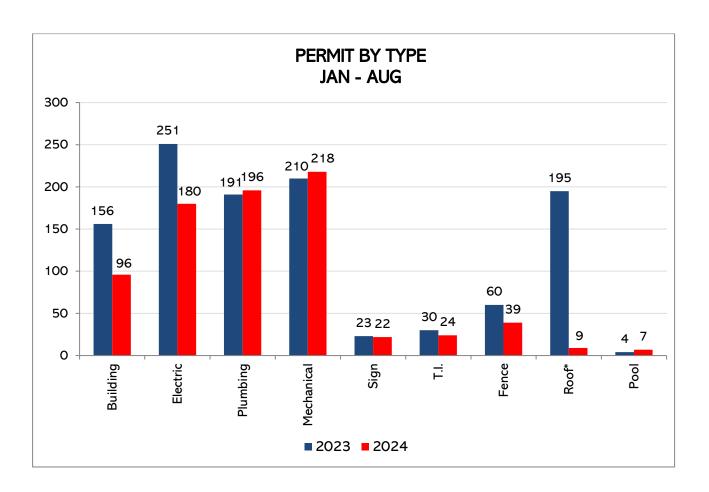
#### **Building & Inspection Services**

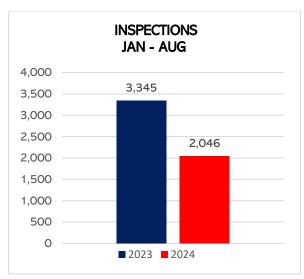
The following projects were reviewed/inspected/completed during July/August 2024:

PLANS UNDER REVIEW				
PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	PROJECT ADDRESS		
Do8it - repair collapsed building	Tenant Improvement	650 E. Wilcox Dr		
Haws & Haws	Commercial New	10778095C		
SBA Structures Inc remove & replace existing antennas	Cell Tower	1300 Fort Avenue		
S.V. Public School - Shed	Accessory Commercial	5225 Buena School BLVD		
Walmart	Tenant Improvement	500 N Highway 90		
PLANS APPROVED				
PROJECT NAME	PROJECT NAME PROJECT TYPE PROJECT ADDRESS			
Garden Canyon Clubhouse	Commercial New	405 South Garden Ave		
Good 2 Go	Commercial New	2632 E Fry Blvd		

Park Professional Building Remodel 2nd Floor	Tenant Improvement	2700 E Fry Blvd
Project Summer-Crossroads Commerce Center	Commercial New	4795 Industry Drive
PERMIT ISSUED/UN	DER CONSTRUCTION	
PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	PROJECT ADDRESS
550 W Fry	Tenant Improvement	550 W Fry Blvd
Allo	Accessory Commercial	1011 N Coronado Ave
American Leadership Academy - Field House	Commercial New	4400 E. Buffalo Soldier Tr.
Avvenirre LLC	Tenant Improvement	936 E Fry Blvd
Boys & Girls Clubs	Tenant Improvement	1746 Paseo San Luis
Campus Drive Business Park	Tenant Improvement	4481 Campus Drive A
Casa De La Sierra - Stairs & Landing Repair	Tenant Improvement	500 S. Coronado Dr
Circle K	Commercial New	5058 Highway 90
Comfort Inn - electrical changes	Tenant Improvement	3500 E Fry Blvd
COSV Animal Care Center	Commercial New	6799 E. Highway 90
Deer Creek RV Park	Tenant Improvement	733 S Deer Creek
Economic Technologies LLC	Tenant Improvement	1048 E Fry Blvd
EMS Substation	Cell Tower New	2155 S 7th St
Event Center Renovation	Commercial New	302 El Camino Real 01
Garden Ave & Fry Improvements	Addition - Commercial	1011 N Coronado Ave
Highland Woods Stairs	Tenant Improvement	555 N 7th St
Jackson Dental	Tenant Improvement	1906 S Highway 92
Medical Office	Tenant Improvement	2250 El Mercado Loop
Pepsi	Commercial Addition	175 West Kayetan
Popeyes Chicken	Commercial New	467 E. Hwy 90
QT Quality Tight - Grant	Electrical - Commercial	164 E Fry Blvd
Sierra Suites Elevators	Tenant Improvement	391 E Fry Blvd
Sierra Vista Methodist Church	Tenant Improvement	3225 St. Andrews Drive
Sierra Vista Surgical Center	Commercial New	1940 E Wilcox Dr
SVRHC Office Complex LLC	Commercial New	302 El Camino Real 01
Taco Bell	Commercial New	3920 E Fry Blvd
U-Box	Commercial New	2011 E Fry Blvd
Westwood Village Apartments	HVAC - Commercial	201 N Garden Ave
PROJECT C	OMPLETED	
PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	PROJECT ADDRESS
AZ20527 Cell Tower	Cell Tower New	1300 Fort Ave
Camber & True	Tenant Improvement	365 Short St
Canyon De Flores - Dental Office Expansion	Tenant Improvement	3477 Canyon De Flores (B)
COSV Shower	Tenant Improvement	2900 MLK PKWY
Divided Homes Façade	Addition - Commercial	3827 S. Highway 92
Leawood Loop House - Electrical Improvements	Tenant Improvement	2685 Leawood Loop
Panda Express Hood	Tenant Improvement	480 Highway 90 A1
Proposed Transformer Stepdown to 120/240V to Power Shed	Accessory Commercial	7250 E Highway 90
Public Works Fleet Bathroom	Tenant Improvement	401 Giulio Cesare Ave
Rothery Sports Complex	Tenant Improvement	3305 Est Fry Blvd
US Towers 433	Cell Tower	532 Suffolk Drive

Veteran's Park - Restrooms	Accessory Commercial	3405 E Fry Blvd
140 W Fry Blvd	Tenant Improvement	140 W Fry Blvd
ALA - Admin Building/TCO ISSUED	Commercial New	4400 E. Buffalo Soldier Tr.
ALA - Classrooms/TCO ISSUED	Commercial New	4400 E. Buffalo Soldier Tr.
Burger King	Tenant Improvement	415 N Highway 90
Casa del Sol - Fire sprinklers in new buildings	Tenant Improvement	1020 S Carmichael Ave
Cochise Medical Office Park LLC	Tenant Improvement	5151 E Highway 90
Coldstone Creamery	Tenant Improvement	480 N Highway 90 Ste A1
Coronado Cochise Venture LLC	Tenant Improvement	2387 E Fry Blvd
Fry's Food - Fire Sprinkler System	Tenant Improvement	4351 E Highway 90
Gyfted Creations	Tenant Improvement	209 W Fry Blvd
Haven Health - Fire System	Tenant Improvement	660 N Coronado Drive
Hummingbird Assisted Living - Kitchen Hood	Tenant Improvement	2047 Highway 92
Marshall's	Tenant Improvement	629 N Highway 90
Northrop Gruman	Tenant Improvement	4067 Enterprise Way
Rothery Sports Complex - Fire Alarm	Tenant Improvement	3305 Est Fry Blvd
Sierra Vista Regional Health Center Inc	Tenant Improvement	5700 E Highway 90
SV Flowers & Gifts	Reroof - Commercial	1400 East Fry Blvd
Tractor Supply	Tenant Improvement	4860 E Highway 90
Walmart Village at Charleston Crossing - Ansul system	Tenant Improvement	480 N Highway 90 - A1





Note: In 2024, the City stopped performing roofing inspections on one- and two-family residential structures due to occupational safety.

CONSTRUCTION TRENDS (JAN - AUG)				
CONSTRUCTION TYPE	NEW CONSTRUCTION			
CONSTRUCTION TIFE	2023	2024		
SINGLE-FAMILY UNITS	15	2		
SINGLE-FAMILY ADDITIONS	1	3		
MANUFACTURED HOME UNITS	28	23		
MULTI-FAMILY UNITS	0	0		
NON-RESIDENTIAL (SQ. FT.)	3,052	8,257		

#### **Code Enforcement**

As documented in the following table, Code Enforcement handled 186 complaints during the reporting period. The top violations were overgrowth; sidewalk obstruction; abandoned property; and blight.

CODE REFERENCE	COMPLAINT	MAY/JUNE 2024	DESCRIPTION
150.15.C	ABANDONED PROPERTY	12	SHOPPING CARTS LEFT ON ROADWAY
150.25.4	ALLEYWAY MAINTENANCE	5	OVERGROWTH, OBSTRUCTION, DEBRIS INTERFERING WITH USE OF ALLEYWAY
150.23.3	ANIMAL WASTE	4	EXCESSIVE ANIMAL WASTE ON PRIVATE PROPERTY
150.23.20	BLIGHT	13	UNSIGHTLY, UNSAFE, OR UNSANITARY CONDITIONS
150.23.14	CLEAR VISION	3	OBSTRUCTING CORNER VISIBILITY
150.24.A	ILLEGAL DUMPING	3	DEPOSITING LITTER OR DEBRIS ON ANY LAND
150.23.17	INOPERATIVE VEHICLE	7	NO REGISTRATION, FLAT TIRES, DISABLED MOTOR
150.25.5	OVERGROWTH	90	TALL GRASS & WEEDS (OVER 12")
91.11.B.1	RIGHT-OF-WAY ENCROACHMENT	7	OBSTRUCTION, NON-PERMITTED IMPROVEMENT IN PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY
150.12	ROOF DRAINAGE	1	WATER DRAINING FROM ROOF IMPACTING NEIGHBORING PROPERTY
150.04.015	RV LIVING	2	OCCUPYING AN RV FOR MORE THAN 14 DAYS IN RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICT
150.25.1	SANITATION	2	NO SANITATION SERVICE/TRASH BUILD-UP
150.23.13	SIDEWALK OBSTRUCTION	23	ANYTHING OBSTRUCTING A 36" WIDE PATHWAY OR 80" OVERHANG
150.10.006	SIGN VIOLATION	2	NONCONFORMING ELECTRONIC SIGNS
150.25.10	SWIMMING POOL	4	GREEN AND STAGNANT POOL
71.02	TRAILER PARKING	4	EXTENDED PARKING TRAILER OR RV ON PUBLIC STREET
150.18 (A)	UNSAFE STRUCTURE	1	UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION/STRUCTURALLY COMPROMISED
150.10	WATER LINE BREAK	1	WATER SUPPLY LINE IN NEED OF REPAIR
	TOTAL	186	

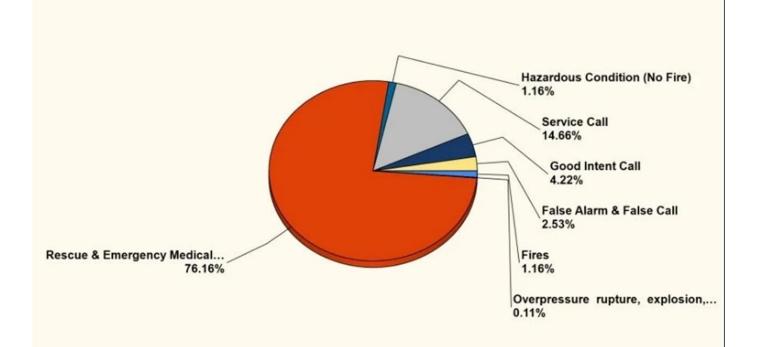


Unsafe Building at 373 Short Street being Demolished pursuant to Court Order. All costs of abatement, including inspection fees, plus allowable interest, will be assessed as a lien against the property.

# Sierra Vista Fire and Medical Services (SVFMS)

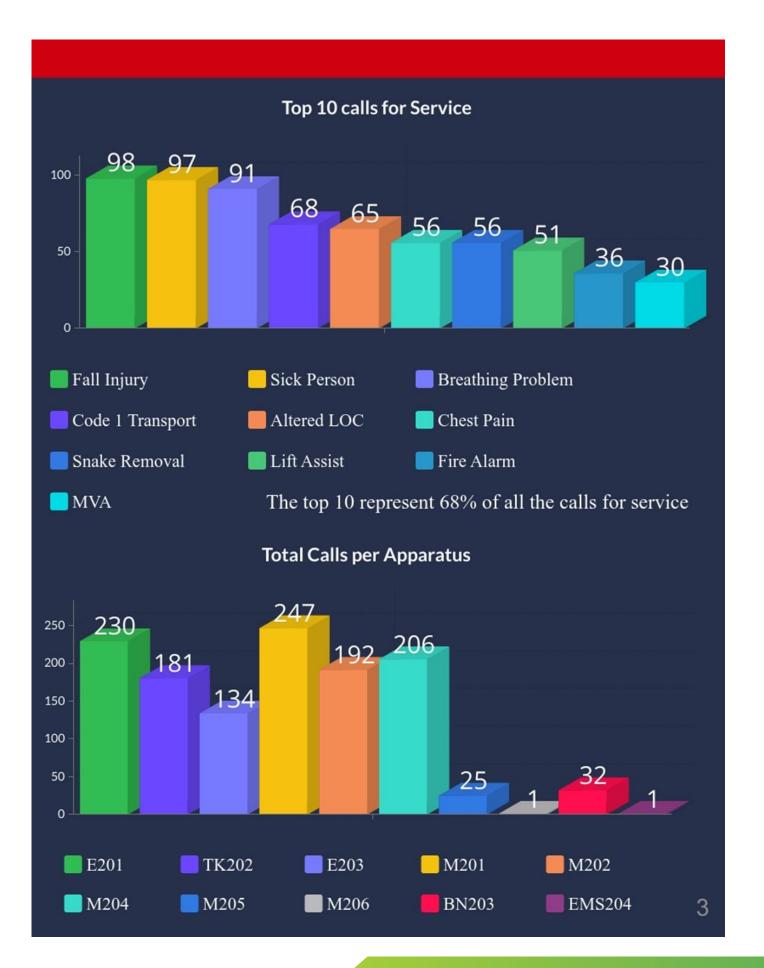


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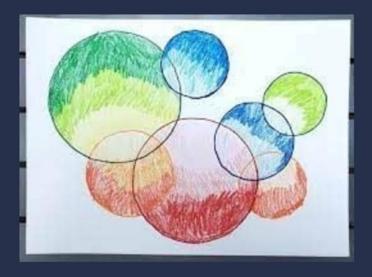
- 722 EMS calls
- 140 Service calls
- 40 Good Intent
- 26 False Alarm
- 12 Hazardous Condition
- 11 Fires
- 1 Overpressure Rupture

2



# Overlap

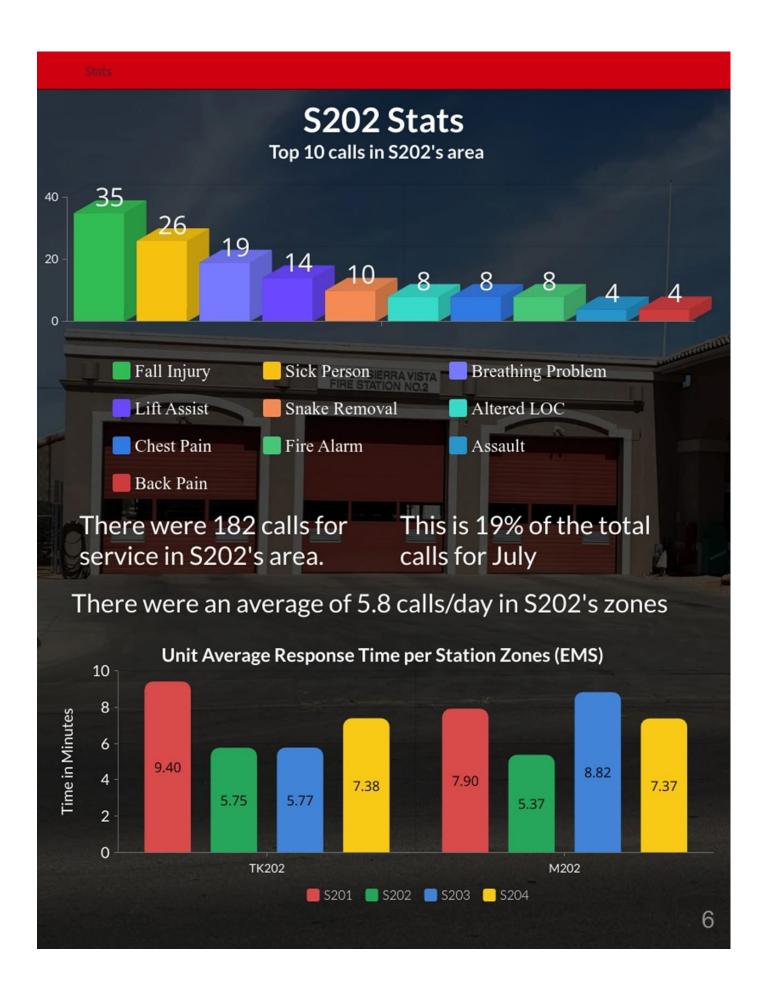
SVFMS had 679 calls that overlapped during the month. This represented 71.62% of the monthly call volume.

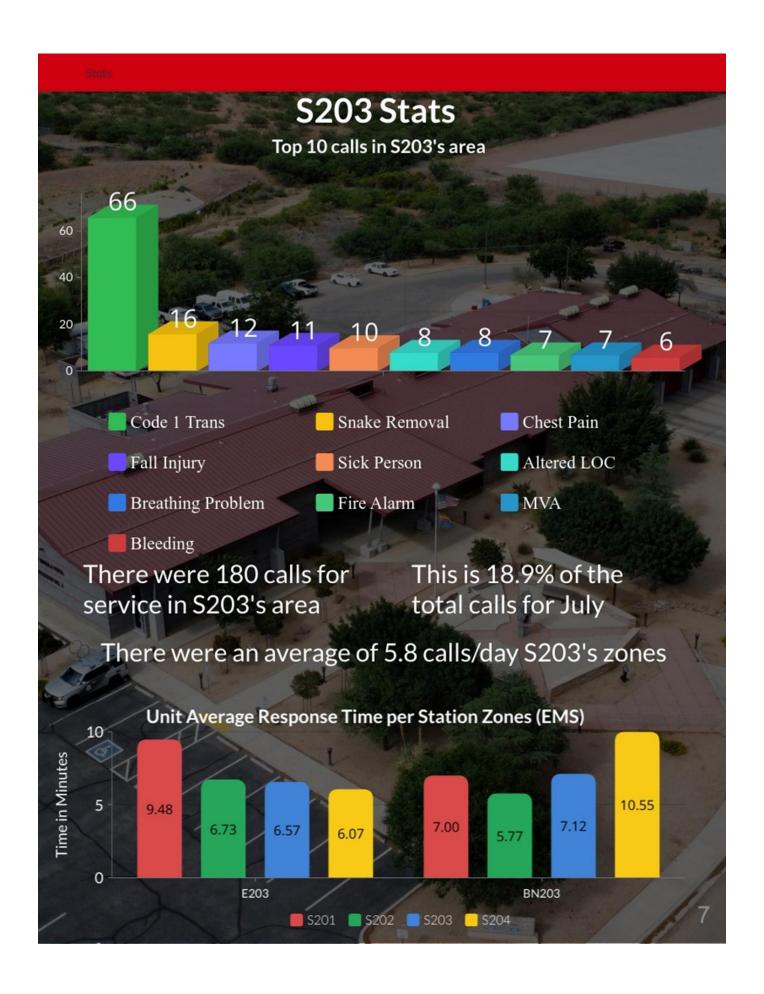


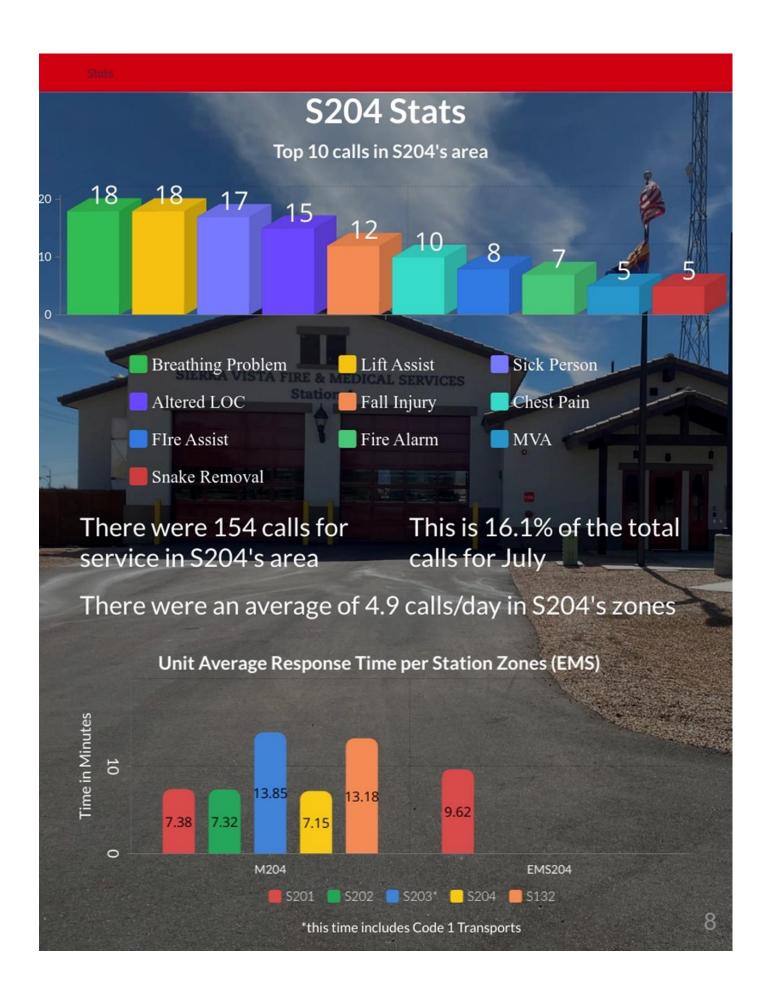
Overlap is defined as two or more calls for service occurring at the same time.

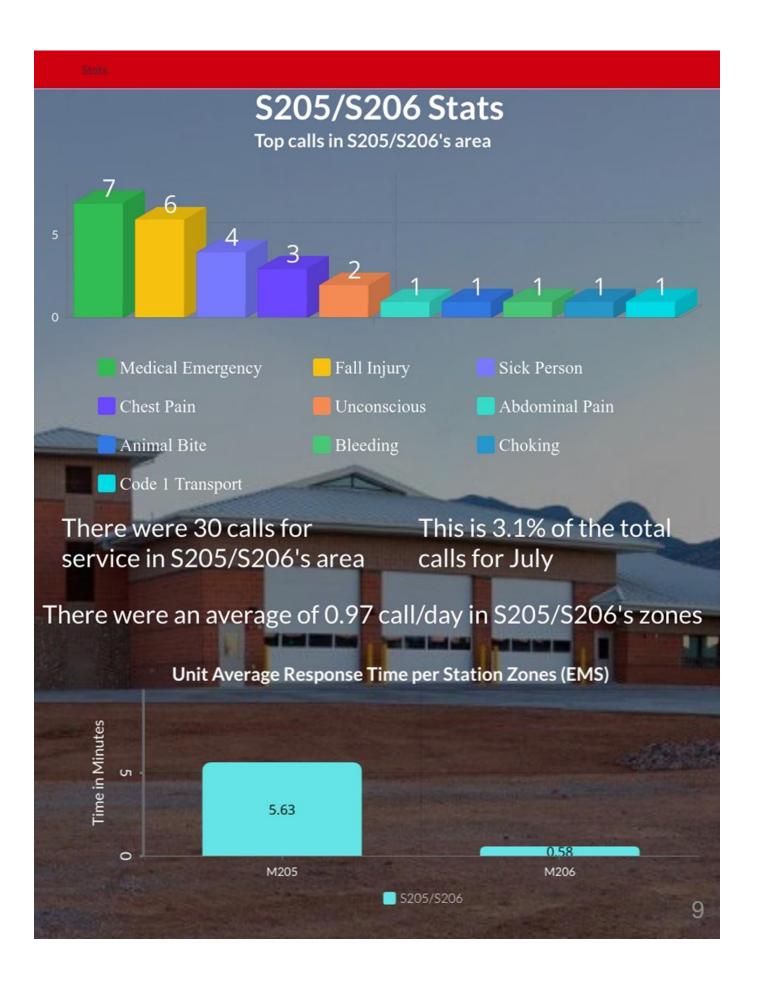
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### **NFPA 1710**

Recommends an average response time (call received to on scene time) of 6 minutes and 20 seconds (380 seconds) for EMS calls and 6 minutes and 40 seconds (400 seconds) for Fire calls.

- Performance Objectives
  - · Alarm Answering Time
    - 15 sec 95%
    - 40 sec 99%
  - Alarm Processing Time
    - 64 sec 90%
    - 106 sec 95%
  - Turnout Time =
    - 60 sec EMS
    - 80 sec Fire
  - First Engine Arrive on Scene Time
    - 240 sec (4 min)
  - Initial Full Alarm (Low and Medium Hazard) Time
    - 480 sec (8 min)
  - Initial Full Alarm High Hazard/ High-Rise Time
    - 610 sec (10 min 10 sec)





There were 63 calls (6.6%) that were not in SVF&MS's primary response area in June.

There were 56 (5.9%) calls for snake removals in July.

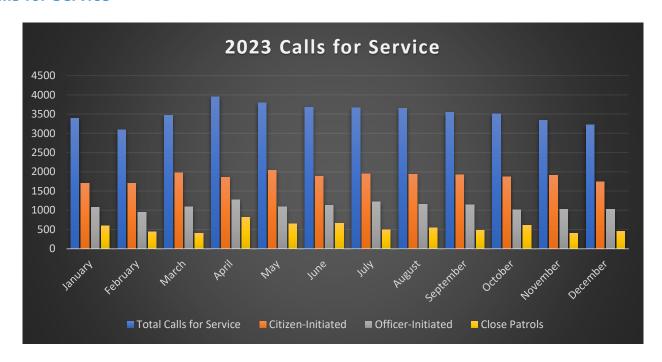
Sierra Vista Fire and Medical Services has responded to 5736 calls in 2024. This is 194 more calls than 2023 or a 3.4% increase.

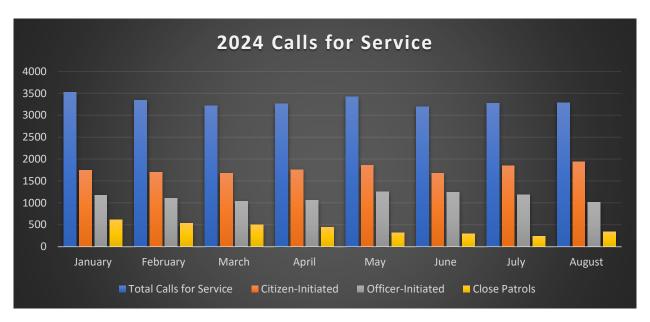
The department is running an average of 27.1 calls/day.



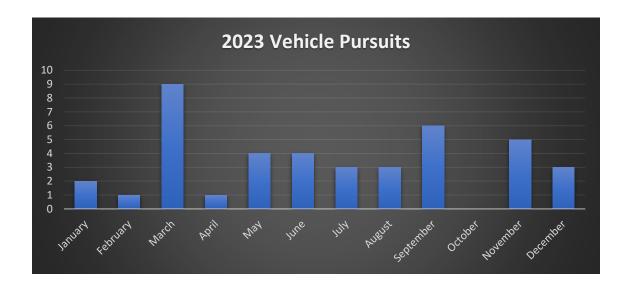
## **Police Department**

#### **Calls for Service**





July 2024 saw a total of 3,272 police calls for service while August 2024 saw a total of 3,284 calls for service. This represents a decrease in calls for service in comparison to the same months last year, which saw 3,665 and 3,651 calls, respectively. The decreases were reflected in both citizen-initiated calls for service and close patrols, while officer-initiated calls increased slightly.





There were no vehicle pursuits in July and August in which SVPD officers were the primary pursuing unit. SVPD officers did assist with traffic control and apprehensions with vehicle pursuits in the area involving other law enforcement agencies. A slow-down in vehicle pursuits is noted for our specific area, but pursuits involving load vehicles continue to occur daily in other parts of the county. We will continue to monitor trends in this activity.

**Exceptional Incidents.** An evaluation of both quantitative and qualitative information in the context of obligated time is important for assessing how readily available officers are for proactive police work and responding to calls for service. Qualitative analysis looks at significant calls for service or "exceptional incidents." An exceptional incident may count only as one single call for service but represents an above-average strain on police resources in terms of availability. Factors qualifying an incident as exceptional may include:

- ✓ The requirement of multiple officers on scene to resolve the incident
- ✓ A prolonged length of time to resolve the incident
- ✓ The requirement of specialty resources activated (i.e. Tactical Unit, Air Unit, K9)

Some examples of exceptional incidents in July and August of 2024 include:

- ➤ July 1<sup>st</sup>: Subject fired a weapon at Veterans Park and fled into a nearby field, causing the Cove to be placed on lockdown and the establishment of a large field perimeter. An adult male subject was located and arrested on multiple felony charges. An exhaustive search of the area and interview of the suspect ultimately resulted in locating the firearm that had been tossed.
- July 3<sup>rd</sup>: A traffic stop revealed evidence of narcotics sales. A follow-up search warrant at the subject's residence resulted in the seizure of five pounds of cocaine. An adult male subject was arrested on multiple felony charges involving the sale of narcotics as well as a weapons offense.
- ➤ July 8<sup>th</sup>: Officers responded to a local apartment complex for a report of a shot fired. A tenant fired a round that penetrated into a neighboring apartment, striking the occupant of that apartment. The subject who discharged the weapon left the scene. An adult male subject was later located that same day and arrested on multiple felony charges, including aggravated assault. The victim in the case sustained a nonlife-threatening injury.
- > July 22<sup>nd</sup>: Officers responded to a report of a shots fired call in the 2900 block of Player Ave. The incident was determined to be a domestic violence disturbance in which a firearm was discharged. The suspect was barricaded in a trailer on the property. After a period of negotiations, and adult male subject came out of the trailer without incident and was taken into custody on multiple domestic violence charges.
- ➤ July 31<sup>st</sup>/August 1<sup>st</sup>: Senator JD Vance visited Sierra Vista and the border with Mexico. Both SVPD and CCSO SWAT teams jointly provided assistance to the Secret Service for motorcade traffic control and security both days.
- August 22<sup>nd</sup>: Former President Trump visited Sierra Vista and the border with Mexico. Both SVPD and CCSO SWAT teams jointly provided assistance to the Secret Service for motorcade traffic control and security.
- August 26<sup>th</sup>: Officers responded to a residence with a subject who was suicidal and armed with a gun. The Tactical Unit was activated, and neighboring evacuations were made. After almost four hours of negotiations, the subject was successfully detained without incident and connected with mental health professionals.



August 27<sup>th</sup>: Officers responded to the 70 block of El Camino Real for a report of an assault. Information learned upon arrival was that a victim was assaulted by two suspects and a firearm was used (but not discharged). A joint investigation by patrol officers and detectives the following two days resulted in the arrest of one suspect for multiple felony charges and various firearm seized. The suspects and victim were known by each other, and this was not a random event. The case continues to remain under investigation.

**SVPD Strategic Plan Update.** Within the last couple months, several developments/action items were completed in fulfillment of the SVPD Strategic Plan. Below is a breakdown of the progress completed:

- An internal multi-disciplinary team was created to facilitate dialogue on innovation and change implementation that leads to efficiency. This team mapped out some key components to finishing out the field implementation of the AZTraCs platform. Members of the team also piloted the use of the Blueink platform for efficient file sharing of subject management reports. This has reduced the paperwork and lag time that comes with completing a subject management review due to electronic submission and file sharing for signatures and comments.
- FOLICE.
- > A fulltime School Resource Officer was assigned to Joyce Clark Middle School.
- > The field implementation of Grapplers was completed, alongside a thorough policy revamp on pursuit operations that addresses some strategies and tactics that may be utilized to safely end pursuits, such as boxing-in. The new policy was the product of a new process that required a review period and comments by line employees before final approval.
- ➤ The CCSO and SVPD Tactical Units continue to train jointly in order to align tactics and improve more cohesive operations when working jointly. This objective was put to the test when both agencies were required to work together on protective details for the recent visits of Senator JD Vance and former President Donald Trump. Leadership from both agencies felt these two operations showed some exceptional teamwork between SVPD and CCSO.
- > SVPD had its first "Coffee with a Cop" since the pandemic. The event was held on 8/17/24 at Target and was well-attended. More sessions will be held throughout the coming year at various locations in the city.





Coffee with a Cop

➤ Efforts continue to support our local advocacy center, "Lori's Place." Chief Hiser appeared on a radio show interview with the sexual assault nurse examiner discussing the need for the resource in our community. A recent article on Lori's Place was published in the Sentinel. Lastly, the "Faith & Blue" event on October 4<sup>th</sup> is scheduled to be a combined DV

awareness event at Lori's Place. This same event last year brought in donations for Lori's Place through some faith-based organizations.

The SVPD will continue to work on areas of its internal strategic plan moving into 2025.

#### **Employee Profile: Corporal Diana True**

Corporal Diana True is a 20-year veteran of the SVPD. She formerly held the position of School Resource Officer at Joyce Clark Middle School, as well as various elementary schools in the community. She has also been cross trained in 9-1-1 dispatching and has helped cover dispatching shifts in the past. In her role as a corporal, Diana is a field supervisor for a patrol shift and serves as a field training officer, training new officers fresh out of the academy.

As a collateral duty, Diana is a domestic violence investigations instructor, and she is the co-chair of the Cochise County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team. Diana not only dedicates herself to the community as a police officer, she also stays very busy in her off time as a mother and wife.



Cpl. Diana True

#### **SVPD Pink Patch Campaign**

Members of the SVPD will participate in the Pink Patch Campaign throughout the month of October. Officers will wear pink shoulder patches on their uniforms to raise awareness of breast cancer. The



pink patches will also be sold to citizens and the proceeds will go to Relay for Life, which is part of the American Cancer Society. Pink patch buttons will also be available for sale. There will be social media coverage on this campaign throughout the month of October.

