



City Council - Public Safety Committee

**Thursday, August 27, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at City Hall,
Sharon Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, 149 Church St, Burlington**

When: Aug 27, 2026 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: Public Safety Committee Meeting 8/27

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:
<https://zoom.us/j/98371757959>

Phone one-tap:
+19292056099,,98371757959# US (New York)
+13017158592,,98371757959# US (Washington DC)

Join via audio:
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
+1 305 224 1968 US
+1 309 205 3325 US
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 646 931 3860 US
+1 689 278 1000 US
+1 719 359 4580 US
+1 253 205 0468 US
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 360 209 5623 US
+1 386 347 5053 US
+1 507 473 4847 US
+1 564 217 2000 US
+1 669 444 9171 US
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Webinar ID: 983 7175 7959

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/axq4ZTvRh>

1. Adopt the Agenda

1.1. Motion to amend/adopt agenda

2. Adopt Minutes

2.1. Motion to adopt draft minutes from July 23, 2026 and July 27, 2026

3. Public Forum (30 Min)

Subject **3.1. Verbal Comments**

Meeting August 27, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, August 27, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at City Hall, Sharon Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, 149 Church St, Burlington

Category 3. Public Forum (30 Min)

Department

Type

4. Consent Agenda

Subject 4.1. BPD Report with questions/answers from committee members

Meeting August 27, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, August 27, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at City Hall, Sharon Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, 149 Church St, Burlington

Category 4. Consent Agenda

Department

Type

Recommended Action

Subject 4.2. BFD Report with question/ answers from committee members

Meeting August 27, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, August 27, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at City Hall, Sharon Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, 149 Church St, Burlington

Category 4. Consent Agenda

Department

Type

Recommended Action

Subject 4.3. Proposed Amendment to BCO Sec 21-45A(f)(3) - Appeal Hearing Scheduling Timeline

Meeting August 27, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, August 27, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at City Hall, Sharon Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, 149 Church St, Burlington

Category 4. Consent Agenda

Department Council and Board

Type Action (Consent)

Recommended Action Approve the memo and refer to Ordinance Committee

5. Deliberative Agenda

Subject 5.1. Mary Danko Fletcher Free Library Public Safety Data/Feedback Report

Meeting August 27, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, August 27, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at City Hall, Sharon Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, 149 Church St, Burlington

Category 5. Deliberative Agenda

Department Fletcher Free Library

Type

Subject 5.2. Rachel Jolly CJC: Update on City Circle

Meeting August 27, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, August 27, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at City Hall, Sharon Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, 149 Church St, Burlington

Category 5. Deliberative Agenda

Department Community Justice Center

Type

Subject 5.3. Discussions on Items in Burlington Forward

Meeting August 27, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, August 27, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at City Hall, Sharon Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, 149 Church St, Burlington

Category 5. Deliberative Agenda

Department Council and Board

Type

6. Adjournment

Subject 6.1. Motion to adjourn

Meeting August 27, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, August 27, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at City Hall, Sharon Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, 149 Church St, Burlington

Category 6. Adjournment

Department Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

7. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements

Subject 7.1. This agenda is available in alternative formats upon request. For more information on access, call Lori Olberg, Licensing, Voting and Records Coordinator (802-865-7136)(TTY 802-865-7142). Persons with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate are encouraged to contact 802-865-7000 (voice) or 802-865-7142 (TTY) at least 72 hours in advance so that proper arrangements can be made. The City of Burlington will not tolerate unlawful harassment or discrimination on the basis of political or religious affiliation, race, color, national origin, place of birth, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, veteran status, disability, HIV positive status, crime victim status or genetic information.

Meeting	August 27, 2026 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, August 27, 2026, 5:30 PM, Remote via Zoom OR In-person at City Hall, Sharon Bushor Conference Room 1st Floor, 149 Church St, Burlington
Category	7. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements
Department	Council and Board
Type	

Public Safety Committee
Monday, July 27, 2026
Remote via Zoom/In-Person in Sharon Bushor Conference Room, 1st Floor, City Hall,
Burlington, Vermont
DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Buddy Singh (Chair), Melo Grant, Evan Litwin, Laura Sanchez-Parkinson

Staff Present: Hayley McClenahan (Assistant City Attorney), Jessica Brown (City Attorney)

Public Present: Eric Gravel, Daniel Pecor, Todd DeLuca, Michael Van Gulden

Meeting called to order at 6:06 PM by Councilor Singh.

1. Adopt the Agenda

1.01 Adopt the Agenda

Motion to Adopt Agenda as written.

Motion by Councilor Grant, Seconded by Councilor Sanchez-Parkinson

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

2. Public Forum

2.01 Verbal Comments

Todd DeLuca commented on the appellant's right to record in public spaces and hopes the Committee will overturn precedent set from the appellant's previous trespass appeal hearing.

A member of the public recounted the incident leading to issuance of a trespass from City Hall two years ago, stating they felt the grounds for trespass were unfair.

Public Forum closed at 6:11 PM.

3. Appeal of Trespass Order/Hearing

3.01 In re: Matter of Eric Gravel

The Committee heard from Eric Gravel as well as Daniel Pecor and Michael Van Gulden of Chocolate Thunder, represented by City Attorney Jessica Brown. The Committee had the opportunity to ask questions of both parties before moving to Deliberative Session.

7. Adjournment

7.01 Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the public portion of the meeting and move into Deliberative Session.

Motion by Councilor Grant, Seconded by Councilor Litwin
Final Resolution: Motion Passes
Yes: Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 PM.

DRAFT

**Public Safety Committee
Thursday, July 23, 2026
Remote via Zoom/In-Person in Sharon Bushor Conference Room, 1st Floor, City Hall,
Burlington, Vermont
DRAFT MINUTES**

Members Present: Buddy Singh (Chair), Melo Grant, Evan Litwin, Laura Sanchez-Parkinson

Staff Present: Hayley McClenahan (Assistant City Attorney), Michael Curtin (BFD Chief), Shawn Burke (BPD Chief), Jessica Brown (City Attorney)

Public Present: Todd DeLuca, Daniel Pecor

Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM by Councilor Singh.

**1. Adopt the Agenda
1.01 Adopt the Agenda**

Motion to Adopt Agenda as written.

Motion by Councilor Litwin, Seconded by Councilor Sanchez-Parkinson

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

**2. Adopt Minutes
2.01 Motion to Adopt Draft Minutes from June 25, 2026 and July 1, 2026**

Motion to Adopt Draft Minutes from June 25, 2026 and July 1, 2026.

Motion by Councilor Litwin, Seconded by Councilor Sanchez-Parkinson

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

**3. Public Forum
3.01 Verbal Comments**

Public Forum closed at 5:32 PM.

**4. Chiefs' Reports
4.01 Fire**

Chief Curtin presented on BFD's latest incident, response, and personnel data. No action was taken.

4.02 Police

Chief Burke presented on BPD's latest incident, response, and personnel data. No action was taken.

5. Appeal of Trespass Order/Hearing

5.01 In re: Matter of Todd DeLuca

The Committee heard from Todd DeLuca as well as Daniel Pecor of Chocolate Thunder, represented by City Attorney Jessica Brown. The Committee had the opportunity to ask questions of both parties before moving to Deliberative Session.

6. Appeal Hearing Proceedings Discussion

6.01 A committee discussion on how to better formalize the appeal hearing process

The Committee discussed possible changes to the ordinance for the appeal process and the hearing format and protocol. No action was taken.

7. Adjournment

7.01 Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the public portion of the meeting and move into Deliberative Session.

Motion by Councilor Grant, Seconded by Councilor Sanchez-Parkinson

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

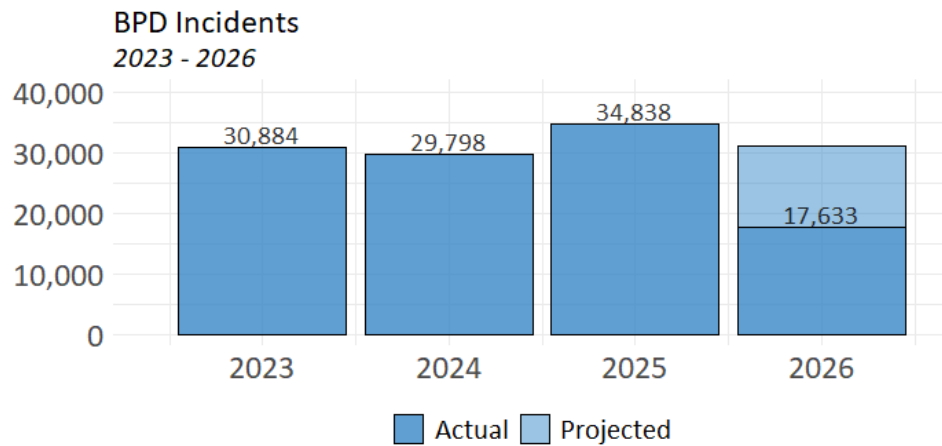
The meeting was adjourned with no objection at 7:48 PM.



**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

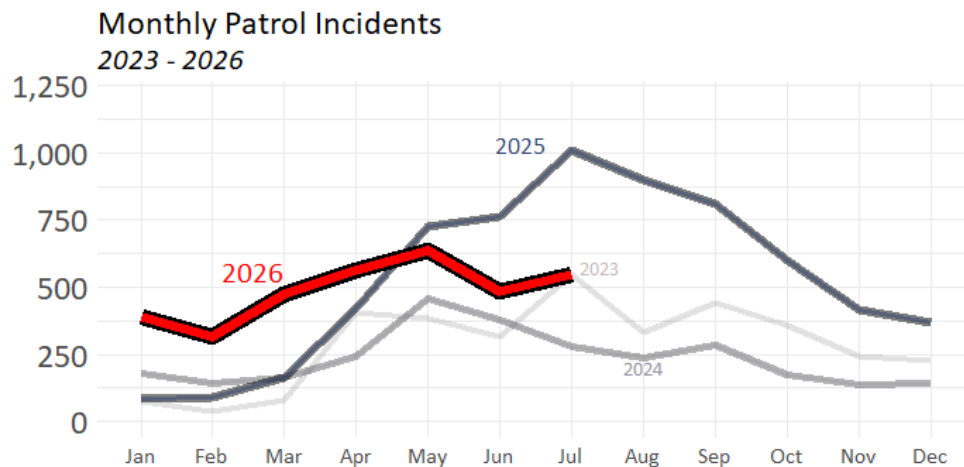
August 2026 Burlington Police Commission – Public Safety Committee Report

Incidents



*Data through 07/31/2026
Projected based on 57% of past year's incidents having occurred by that date.*

Patrols



*Data through 07/31/2026
Includes Foot Patrols and Directed Patrols by all staff.*



**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

Community Service Officer Incidents

Top Call Types for CSOs, Past 12 Months													
Call Type	Total	July 2026	June 2026	May 2026	April 2026	March 2026	February 2026	January 2026	December 2025	November 2025	October 2025	September 2025	August 2025
Directed Patrol	2,305	246	146	240	290	240	122	129	158	86	109	243	296
Foot Patrol	799	63	68	77	89	83	58	61	59	48	48	63	82
Found/Lost Property	588	71	49	57	46	33	26	46	31	47	48	64	70
Animal Problem	561	57	71	45	54	47	32	27	28	34	46	58	62
Ordinance Violation - Other	443	50	75	78	65	30	16	17	5	19	15	27	46
Noise	353	28	36	45	45	22	23	12	20	21	14	48	39
Crash - Property damage only	304	23	21	30	20	15	34	34	28	24	22	29	24

Community Support Liaison Incidents

Top Call Types for CSLs, Past 12 Months													
Call Type	Total	July 2026	June 2026	May 2026	April 2026	March 2026	February 2026	January 2026	December 2025	November 2025	October 2025	September 2025	August 2025
Assist - Public	385	31	38	26	31	43	26	27	24	30	35	33	41
Welfare Check	237	30	21	29	17	21	14	10	15	17	20	21	22
Foot Patrol	243	12	23	23	23	24	20	14	18	23	23	21	19
Encampment Outreach	117	24	14	12	20	7	5	1	1	5	10	7	11
Service Coordination	122	15	15	9	8	17	17	4	2	8	7	10	10
Mental Health Issue	65	9	3	1	4	3	5	4	5	13	3	4	11
Assist - Agency	60	3	2	11	10	4	1	3	3	6	7	7	3
Threats/Harassment	59	8	3	2	1	4	5	3	6	3	6	7	11



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

Sworn Officer Incidents

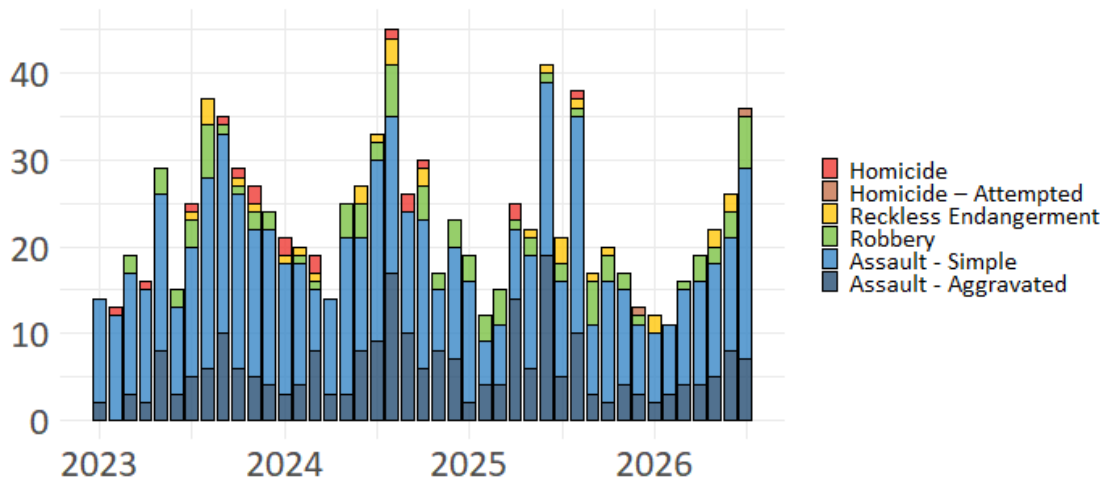
Top Call Types for Sworn Officers, Past 12 Months													
Call Type	Total	July 2026	June 2026	May 2026	April 2026	March 2026	February 2026	January 2026	December 2025	November 2025	October 2025	September 2025	August 2025
Suspicious Event	2,580	280	240	214	197	186	152	171	152	155	205	293	335
Trespass	1,517	140	120	110	87	114	76	100	117	134	187	166	166
Foot Patrol	1,485	134	156	180	76	59	43	60	37	114	141	226	259
Directed Patrol	1,375	89	88	111	83	69	73	125	93	101	149	206	188
Traffic	913	63	110	68	82	69	57	79	87	95	59	53	91
Alarm	824	77	79	86	61	52	50	67	81	53	69	68	81
Disturbance	804	103	71	57	61	39	30	45	52	76	92	99	79
Assist - Agency	793	81	55	60	50	56	53	64	66	92	68	67	81
911 Hangup	680	77	83	72	52	40	43	52	51	39	56	68	47
Welfare Check	573	57	56	48	29	33	43	40	41	38	47	55	86
Mental Health Issue	562	51	53	49	47	33	40	40	31	40	48	66	64
Larceny - from Motor Vehicle	542	50	22	22	14	18	19	58	31	57	64	85	102
Assist - Public	514	46	43	43	35	45	23	42	36	44	47	59	51
Motor Vehicle Complaint	489	58	52	51	46	38	17	36	21	29	51	48	42
Arrest on Warrant	497	52	42	61	32	30	24	34	47	25	52	33	65
Drugs	462	102	50	33	21	20	7	21	15	22	47	53	71
Overdose	456	54	58	41	20	11	7	14	17	48	62	56	68
Retail Theft	441	72	38	36	37	27	27	22	24	38	45	47	28
Domestic Disturbance	411	40	37	32	23	25	27	38	33	47	31	35	43



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

Violent Incidents

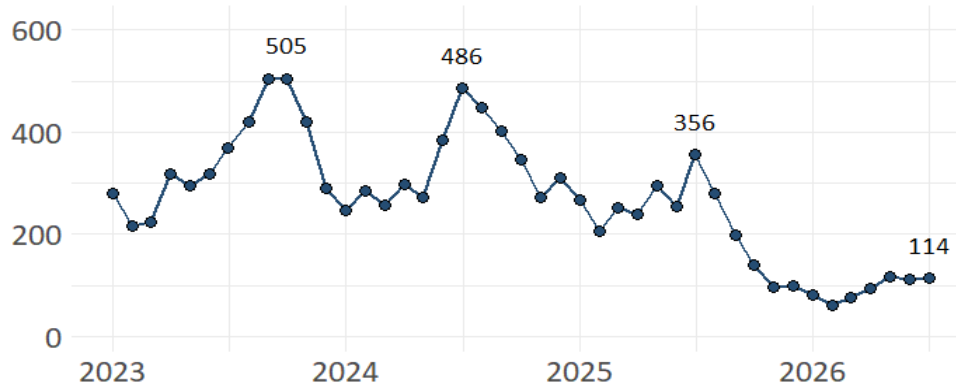
Monthly Violent incidents
2023 - 2026



Data through 07/31/2026

Stacked / Cancelled Incidents

Monthly Stacked / Cancelled Incidents
Incidents labeled as 'Stacked' or 'Cancelled' by the OIC in Valcour



Data through 07/31/2026

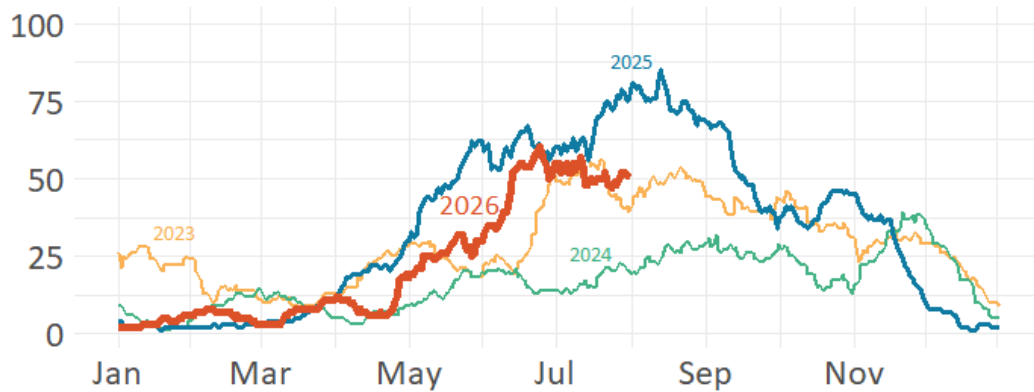


POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

City Hall Park

BPD Incidents in City Hall Park

Incidents over the Past 30 Days



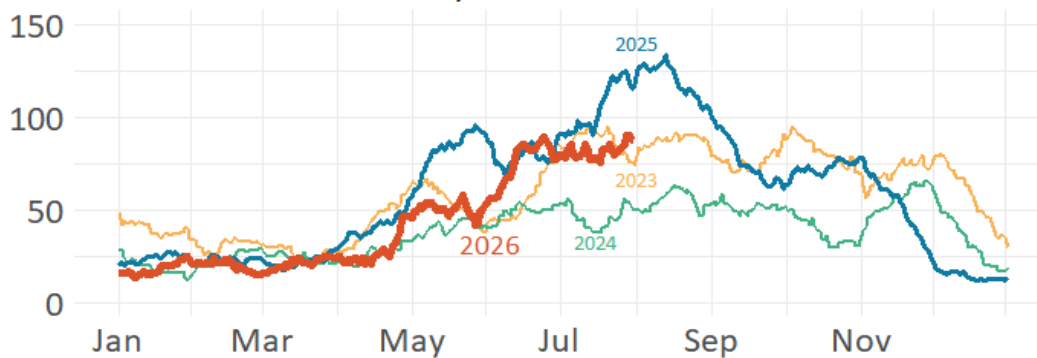
Data through 07/31/2026.

Proactive incidents (Patrols, Traffic, Outreach, etc.) excluded.

Officer-initiated incidents also excluded.

BPD Incidents in the vicinity of City Hall Park

Incidents over the Past 30 Days



Data through 07/31/2026.

Proactive incidents (Patrols, Traffic, Outreach, etc.) excluded.

Officer-initiated incidents also excluded.

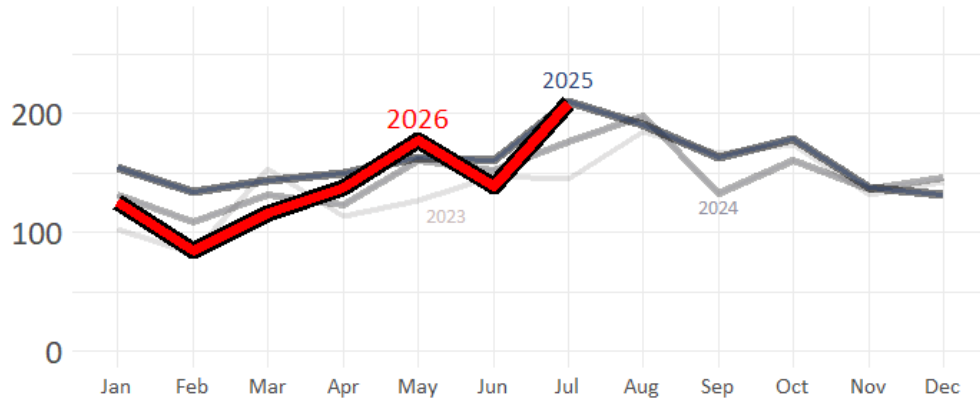
Area defined as Main & St. Paul to Church & College.



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

Arrests

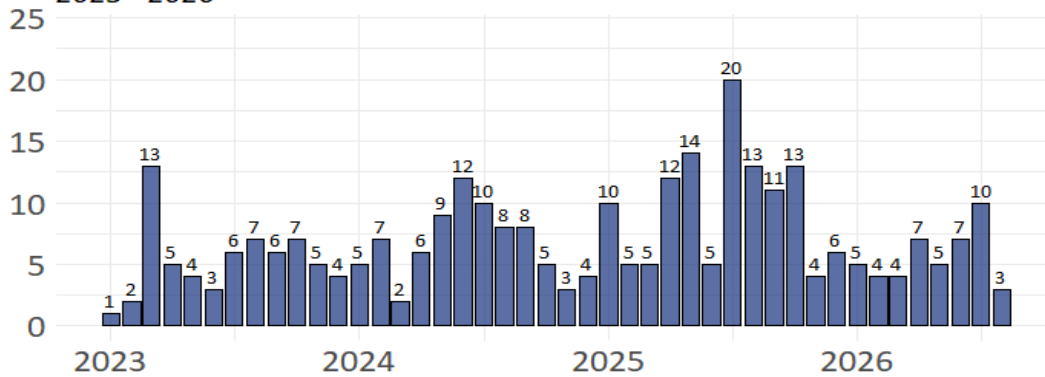
Monthly Arrests
2023 - 2026



All arrests city-wide.
Data through 07/31/2026

Drug Arrests

Monthly Drug Arrests
2023 - 2026

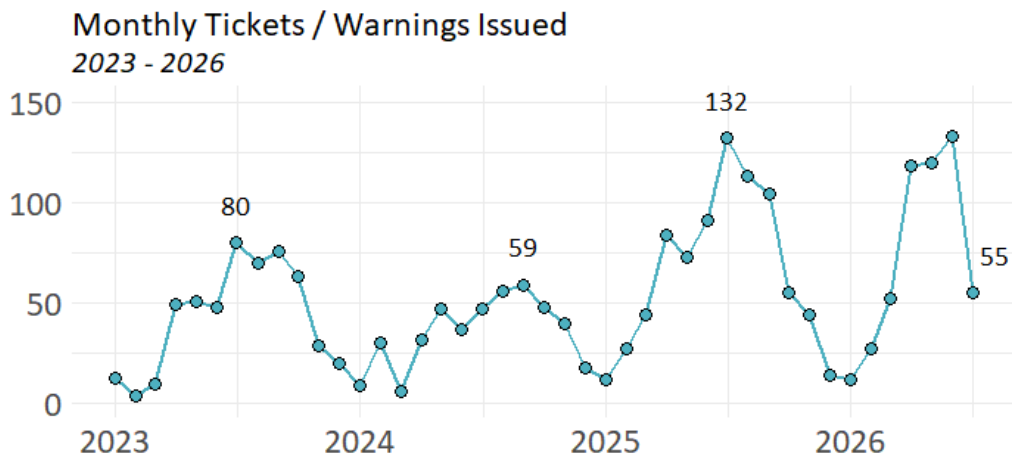


City-wide arrests with at least one drug-related charge.
Data through 07/31/2026



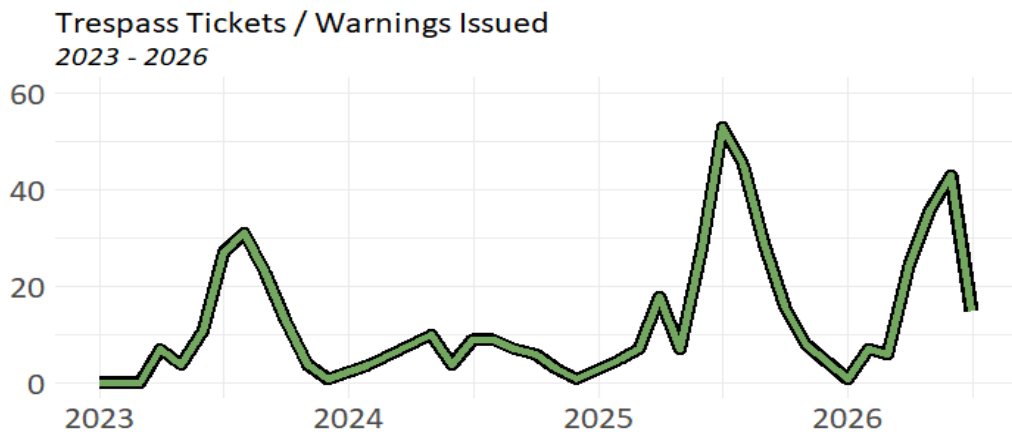
POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

Tickets / Warnings



Data through 07/31/2026.
Includes tickets/warnings issued by sworn officers & CSOs.
Excludes traffic tickets.

Top Ticket Types

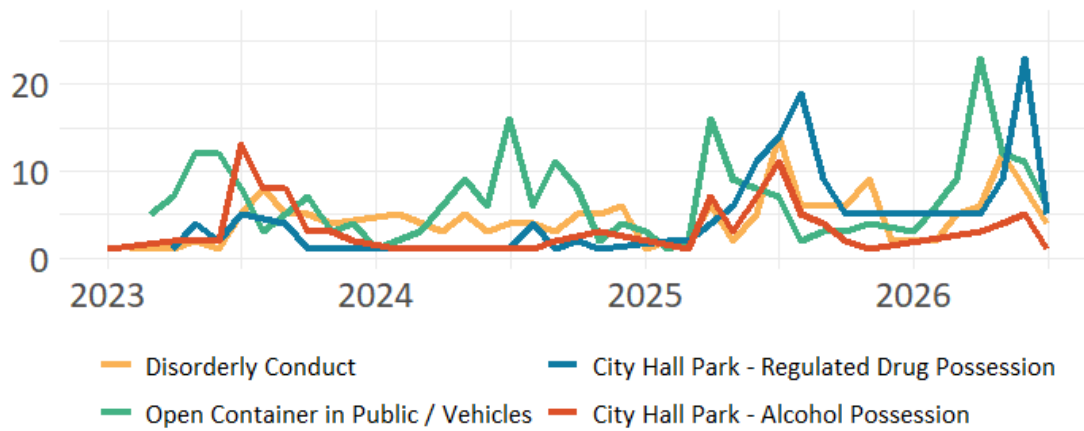


Data through 07/31/2026.
Includes tickets/warnings issued by sworn officers & CSOs.



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

Top Monthly Tickets / Warnings Issued
2023 - 2026

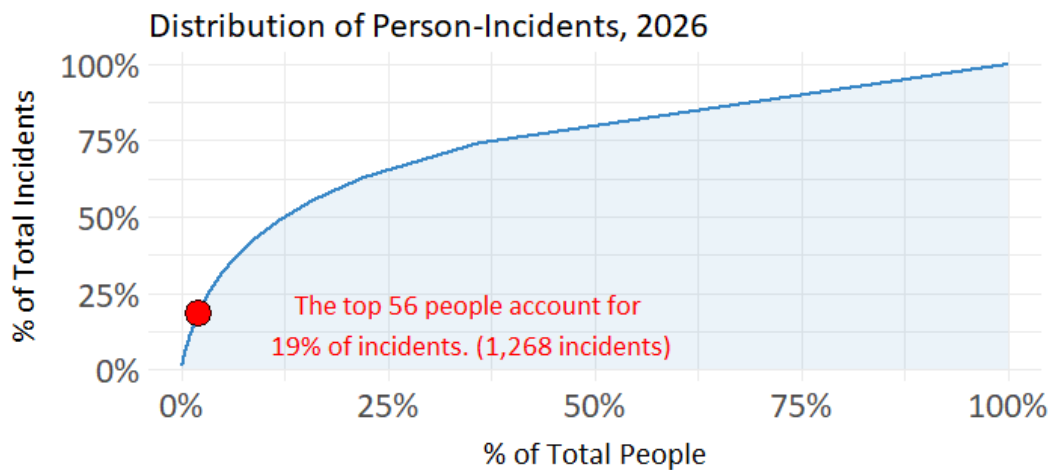


Data through 07/31/2026.
Includes tickets/warnings issued by sworn officers & CSOs.



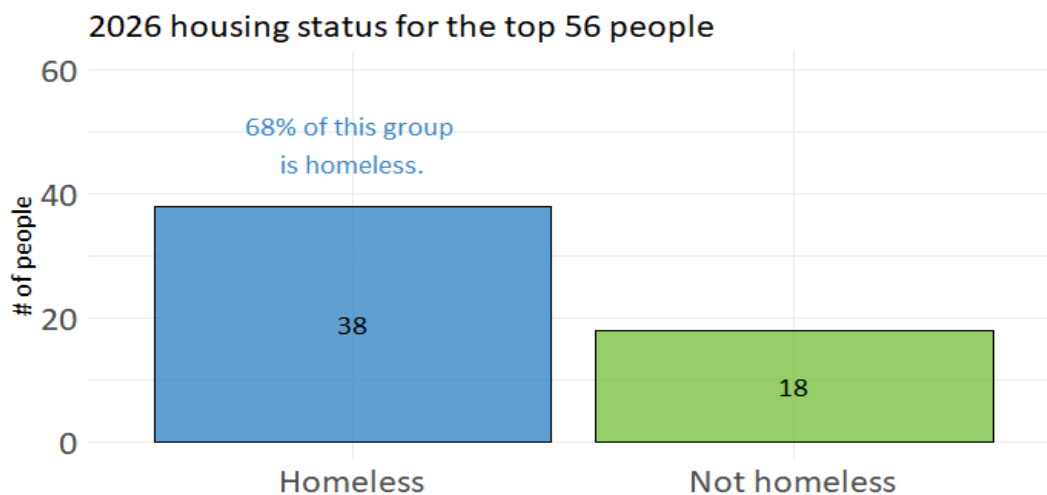
POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

Distribution of Incidents



*Patrol and outreach incidents excluded.
Counting people labeled 'Person of Interest', 'Suspect', or 'Arrestee'.
Data through 07/31/2026*

Housing Status of Top 56

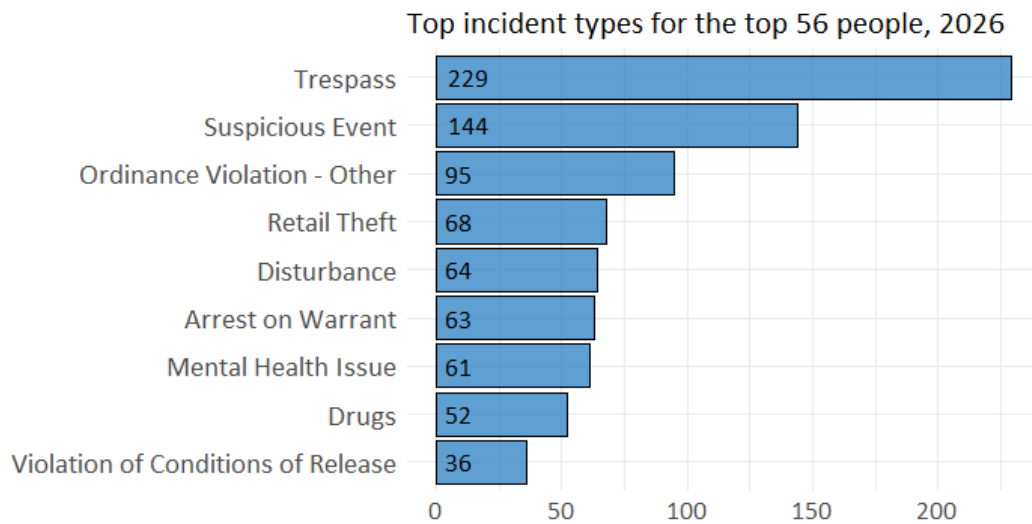


Housing status determined via address field in Valcour.

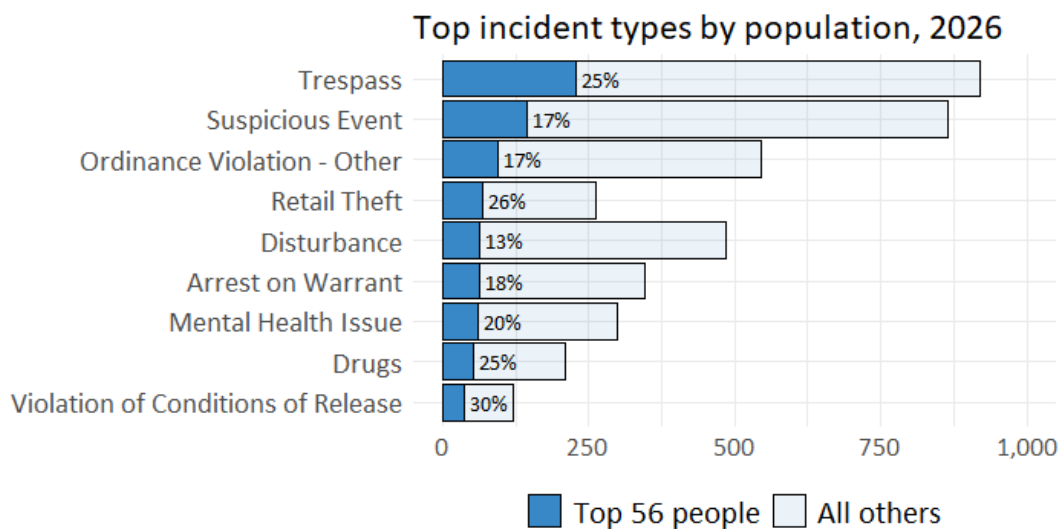


POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

Incidents of Top 56



Data through 07/31/2026

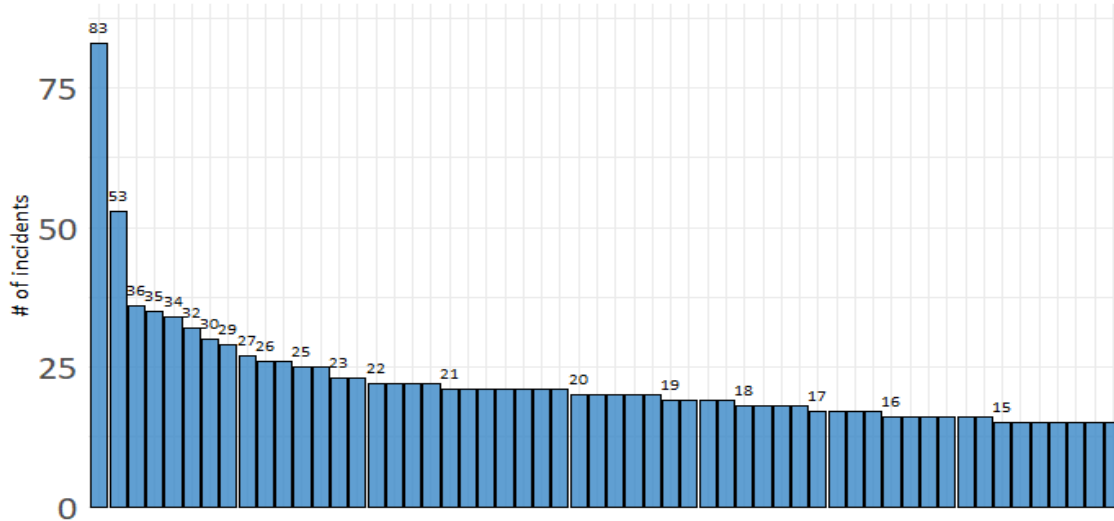


Data through 07/31/2026

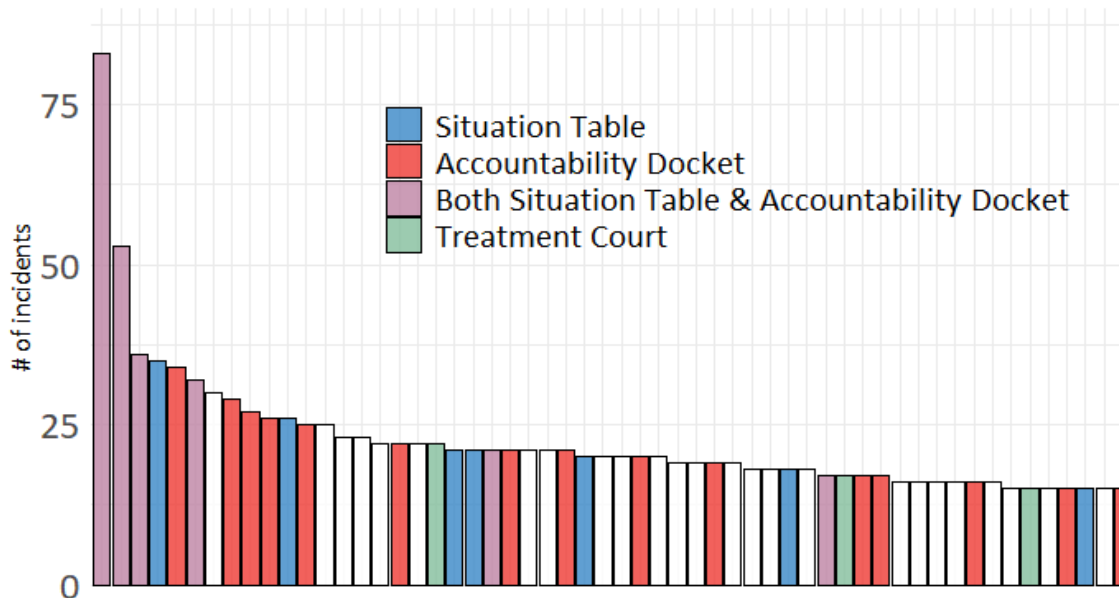


POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

Incident counts for the top 56 people, 2026



Service involvement for the top 56 people, 2026





**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON**

Staff Report

The Burlington Police Department currently has a total of 92 employees: 55 sworn officers and 37 professional staff. Sworn staff allocation:

Division	BPOA	Supervisor	Total
USB	20	7	27
BIAP	4	0	4
DSB	8	2	10
Long Term Leave	5	0	5
Training	4	0	4
Recruiter	1	0	1
Command	0	4	4
Total	-	-	55

In calendar year 2026 the department has had three sworn members retire from service and four sworn members resign.

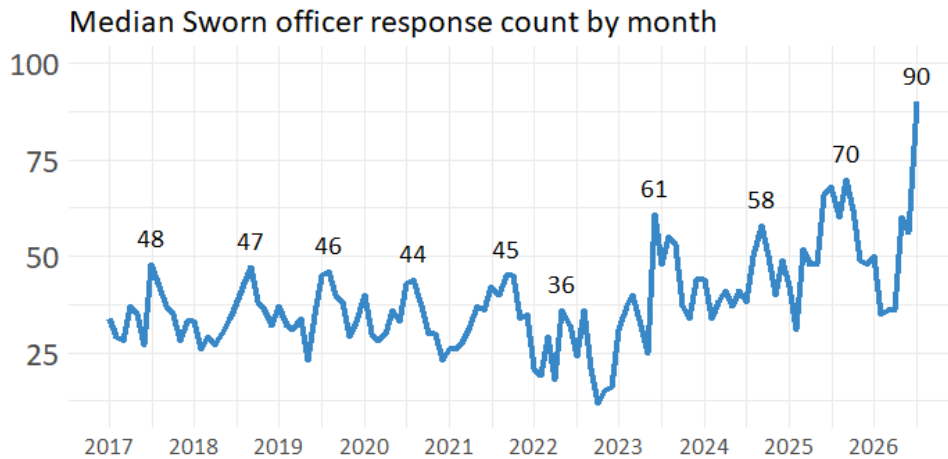
The department continues to actively recruit for sworn police officers, community service officers, emergency communication specialists, and for a community support liaison.

The department has a very successful year with our Beach and Parks Patrol. Several of these employees are considering career opportunities with the Burlington Police Department when they complete college. Lastly, the department is welcoming an intern from Champlain College this semester with the hope of using this opportunity to develop future workforce.

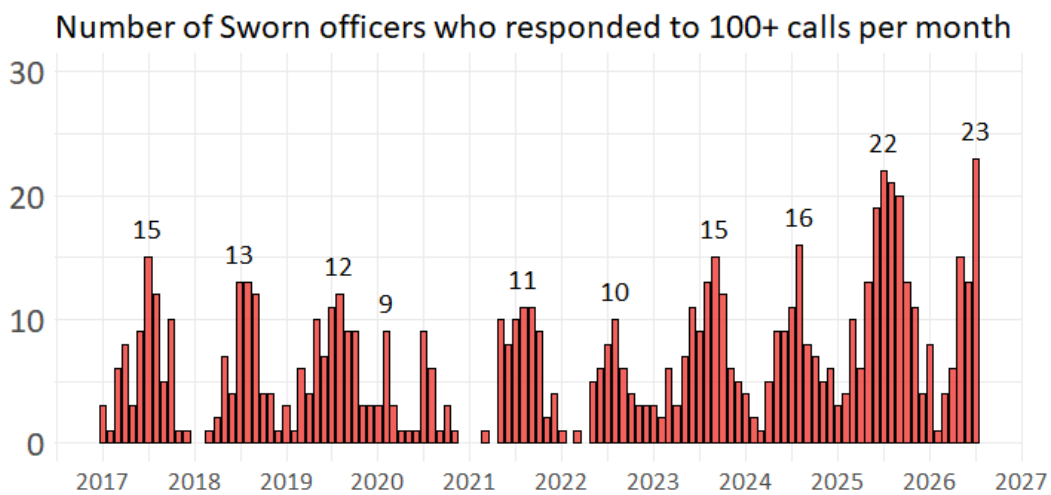
Officer Workload



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON



Traffic stops, patrol incidents and Airport incidents removed.
Data through 07/31/2026



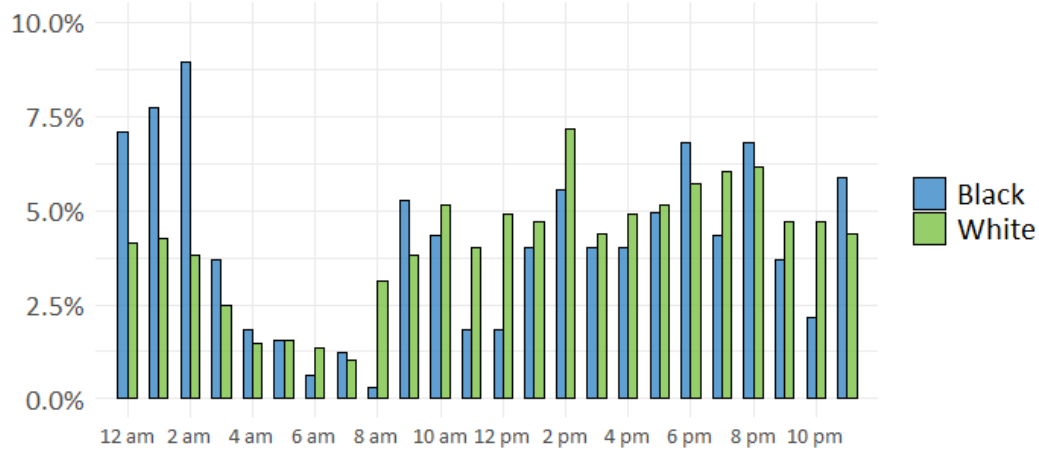
Traffic stops, patrol incidents and Airport incidents removed.
Data through 07/31/2026



POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

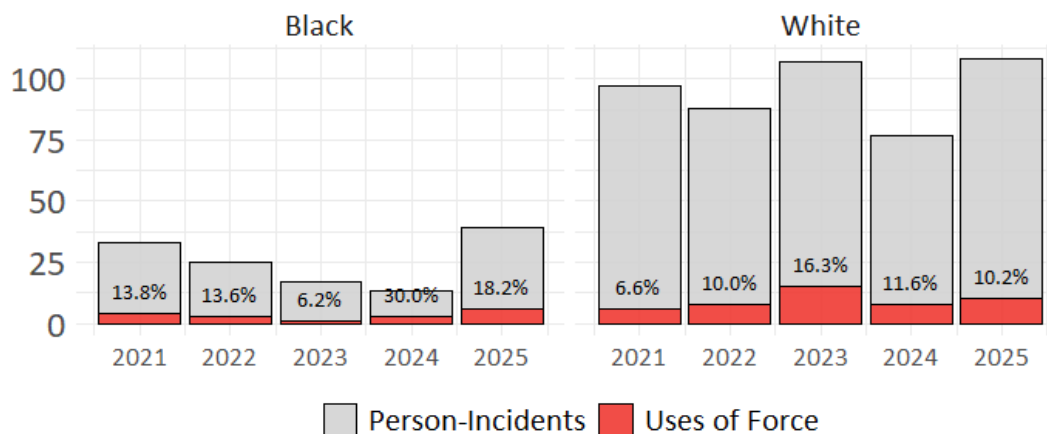
Use of Force Follow-up

Percentage of Total Uses of Force by Race by Hour
2021 - 2025



N values: Black - 319, White - 885

Disorderly Conduct POIs and Uses of Force by Race

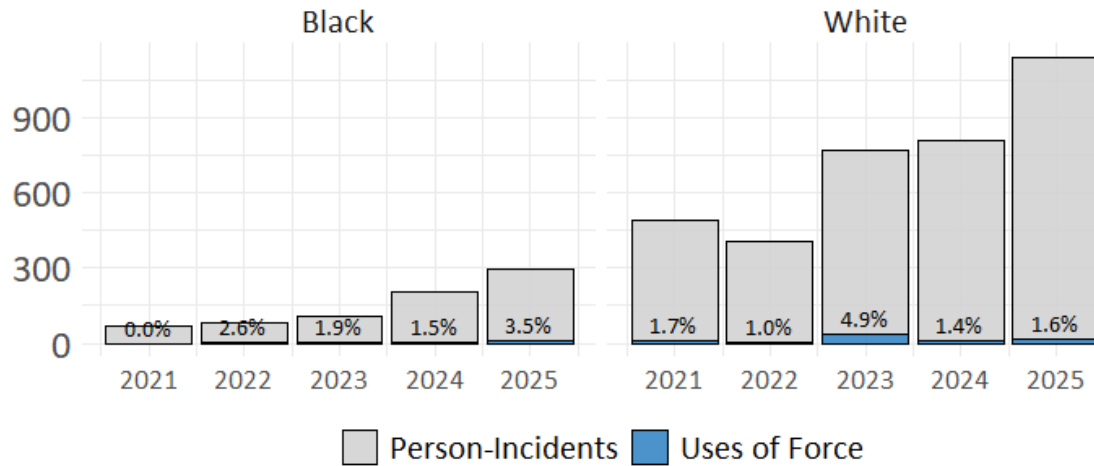


Total White Person-Incidents: 430. Total White Uses of Force: 47
Total Black Person-Incidents: 110. Total Black Uses of Force: 17



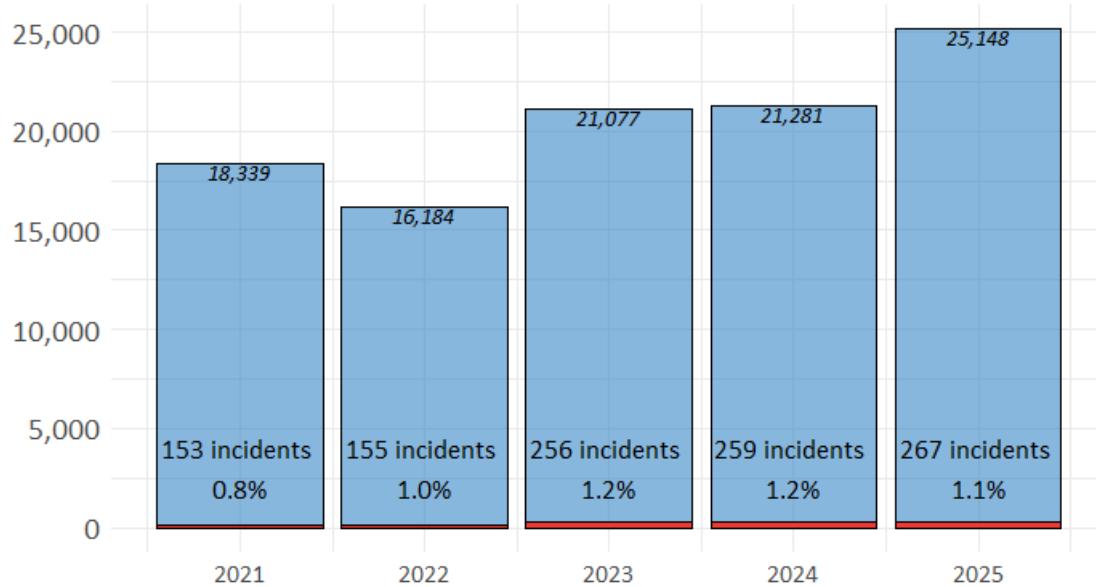
POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BURLINGTON

Trespass POIs and Uses of Force by Race



Total White Person-Incidents: 3,538. Total White Uses of Force: 77
Total Black Person-Incidents: 740. Total Black Uses of Force: 17

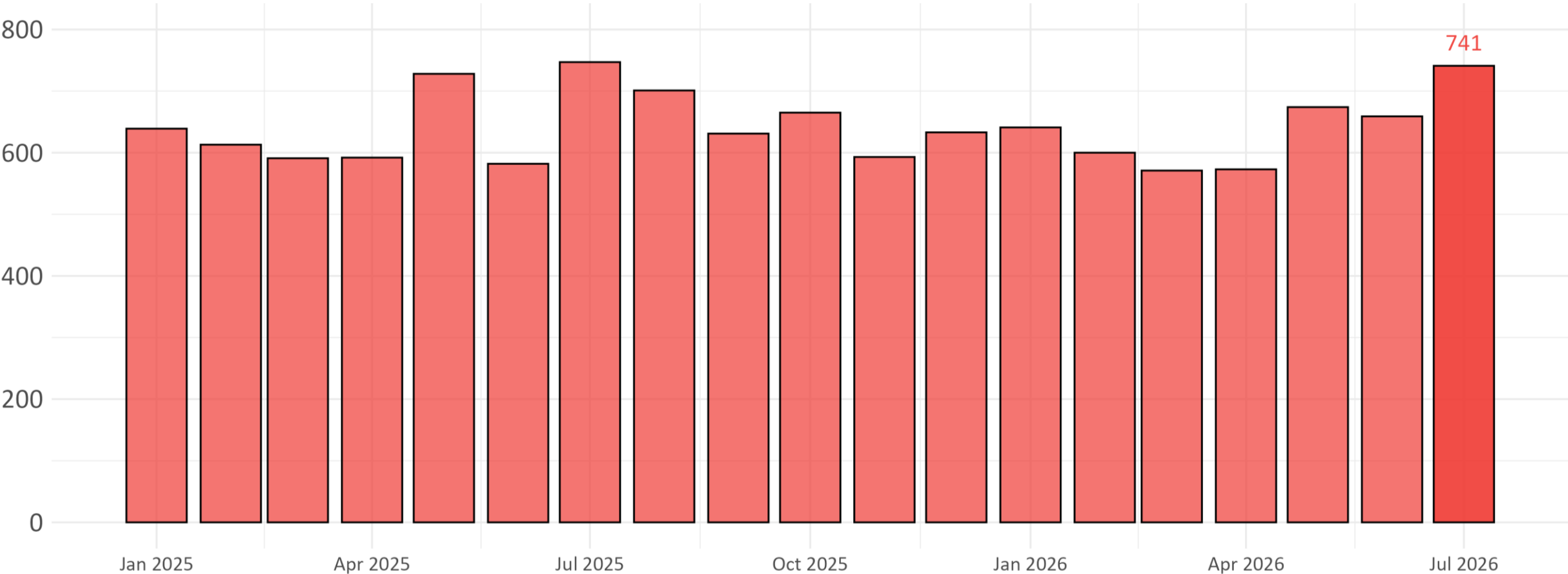
Use of Force incidents and total Sworn officer incidents



August EMS Report

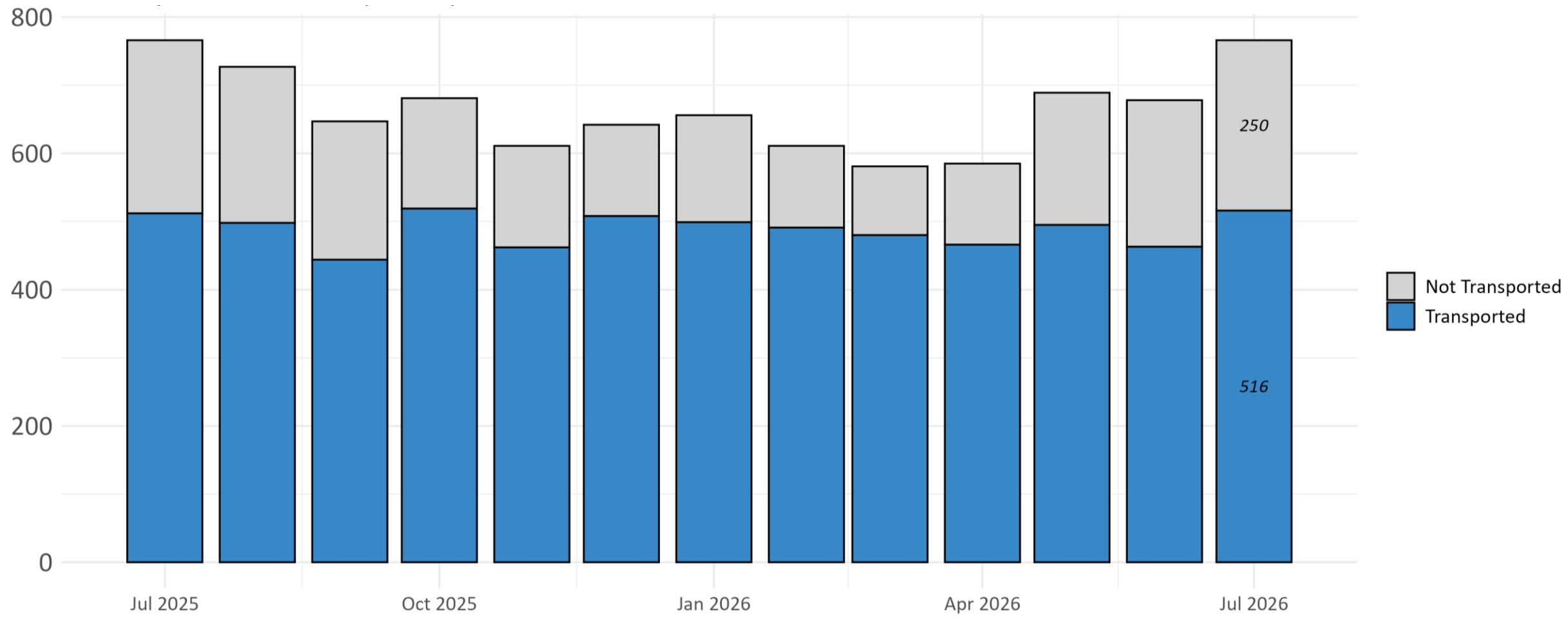
Total Monthly Incidents

July had the highest incident count so far in 2026.



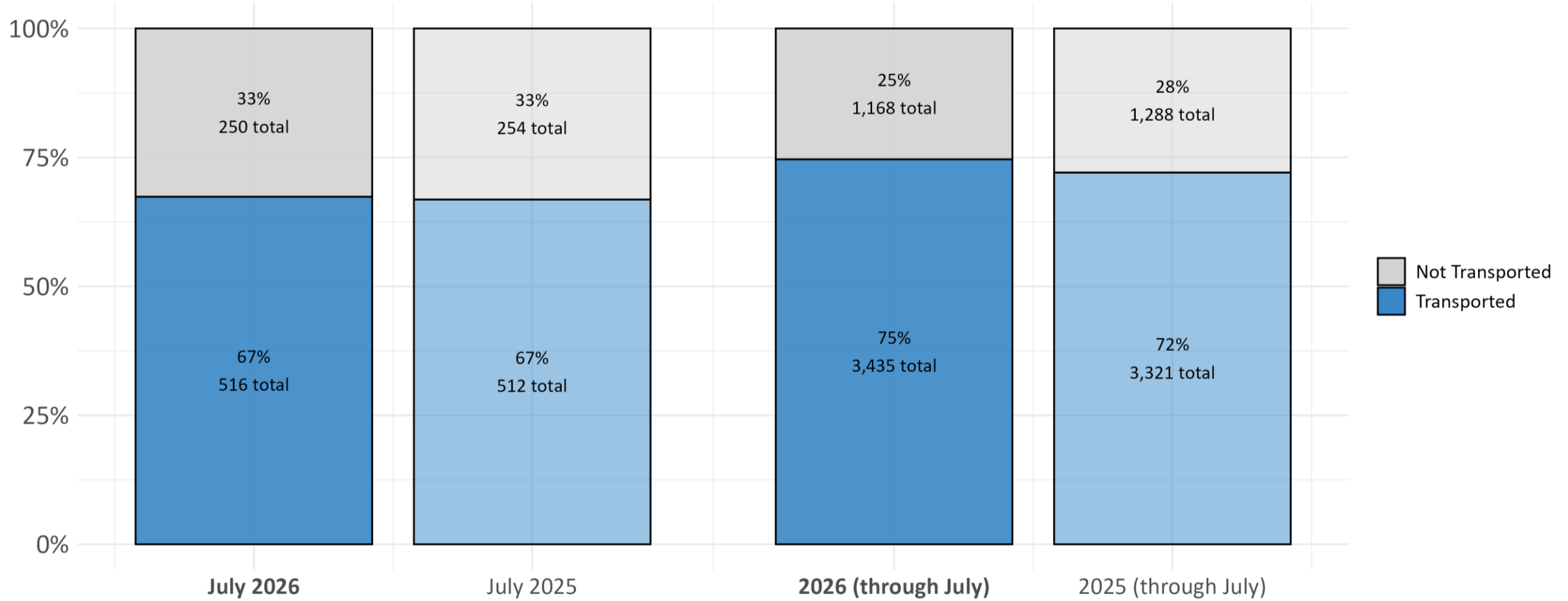
Monthly Transports

July had the lowest transport rate so far in 2026.



Transport Rates July + YTD

EMS is transporting at a slightly higher rate in 2026 than they were at this point in 2025.

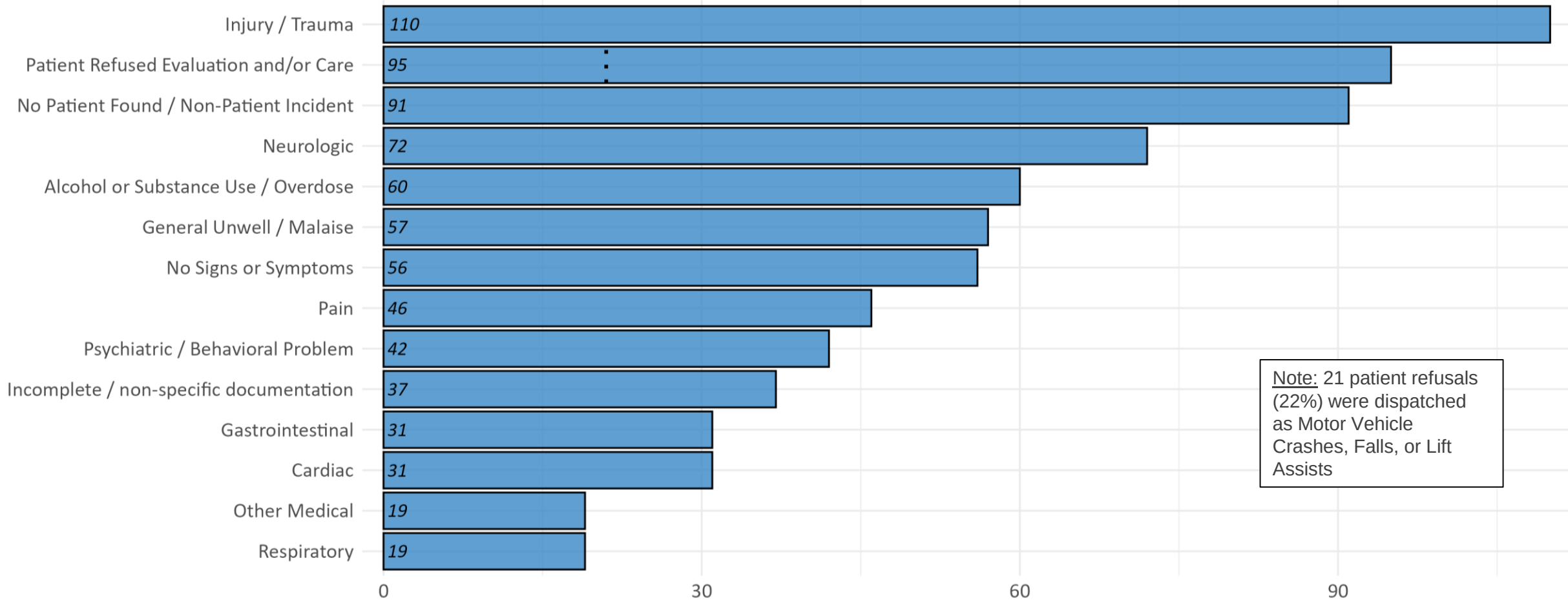


Data through 7/31/2026

Analysis preliminary and subject to change.

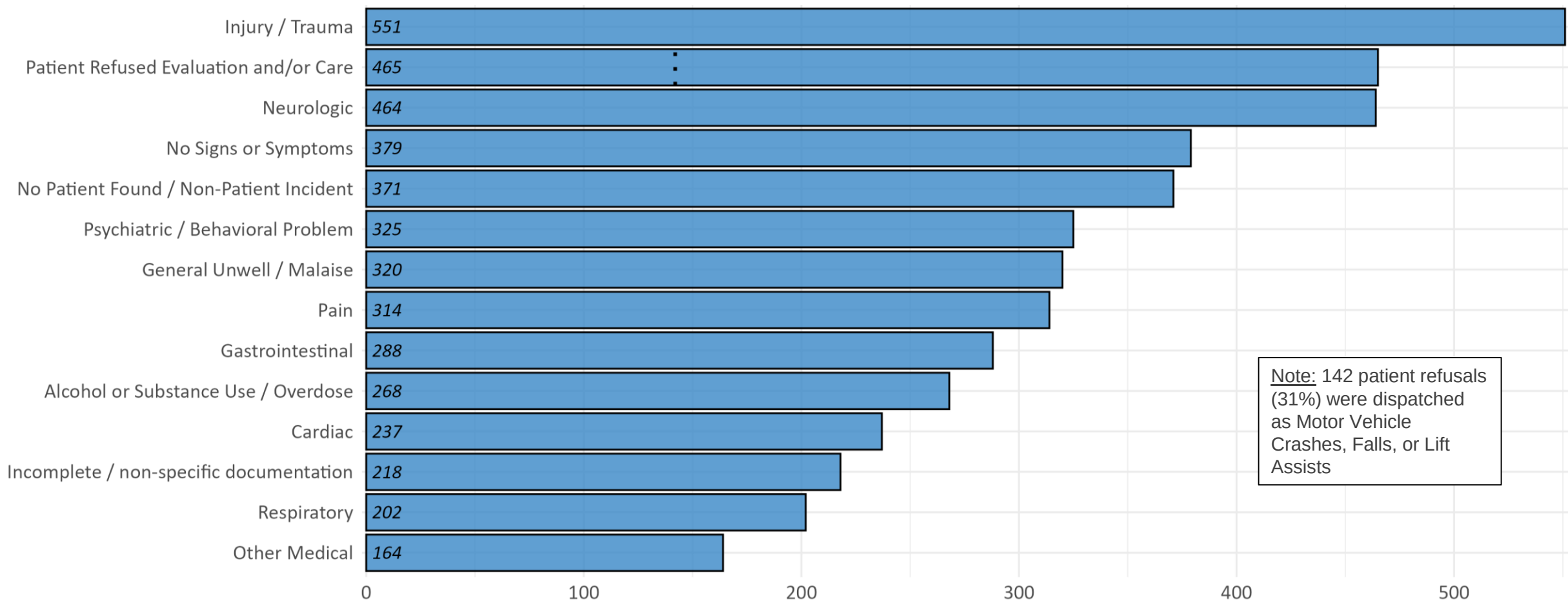
Call Categories July 2026

Injury / Trauma was the top call category, followed by patients refusing evaluation/care and patients being gone on arrival.



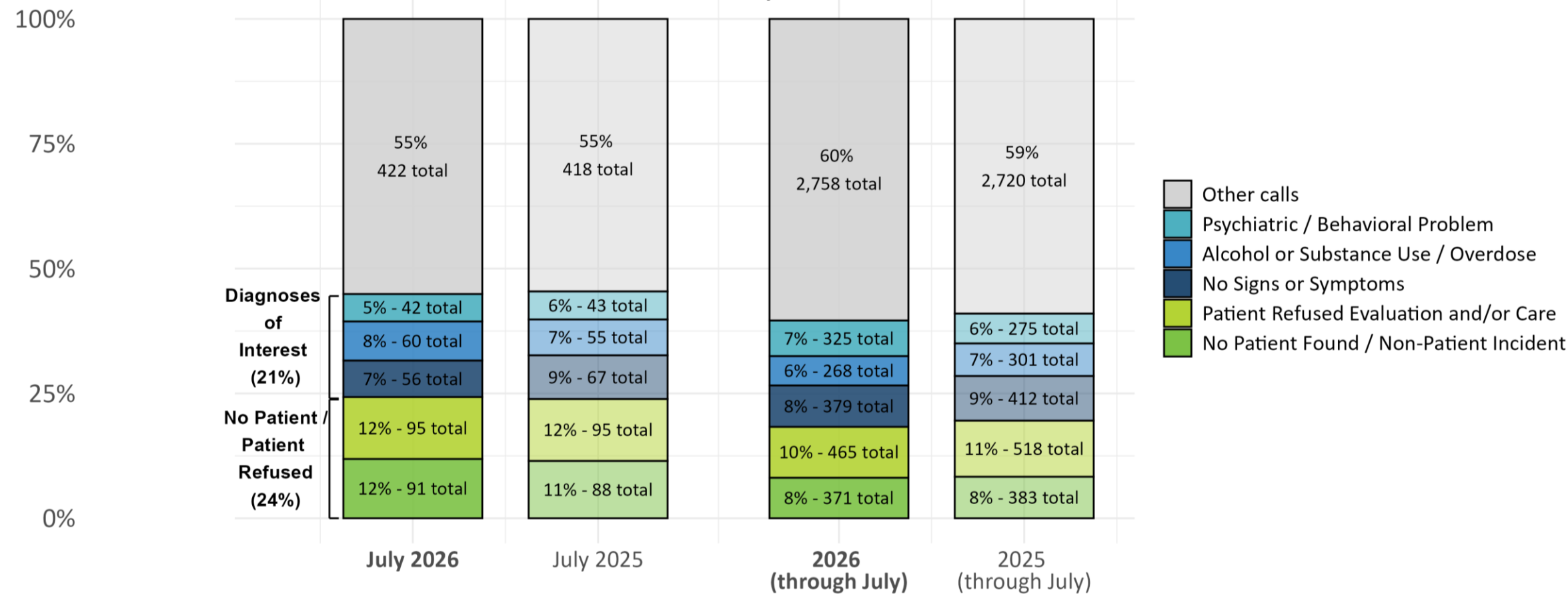
Call Categories, YTD 2026

For the year, Injury / Trauma is the top category, followed by patient refusals and neurologic calls.



Categories of Note July + YTD

2026 rates look very similar to 2025 rates.



Data through 07/31/2026

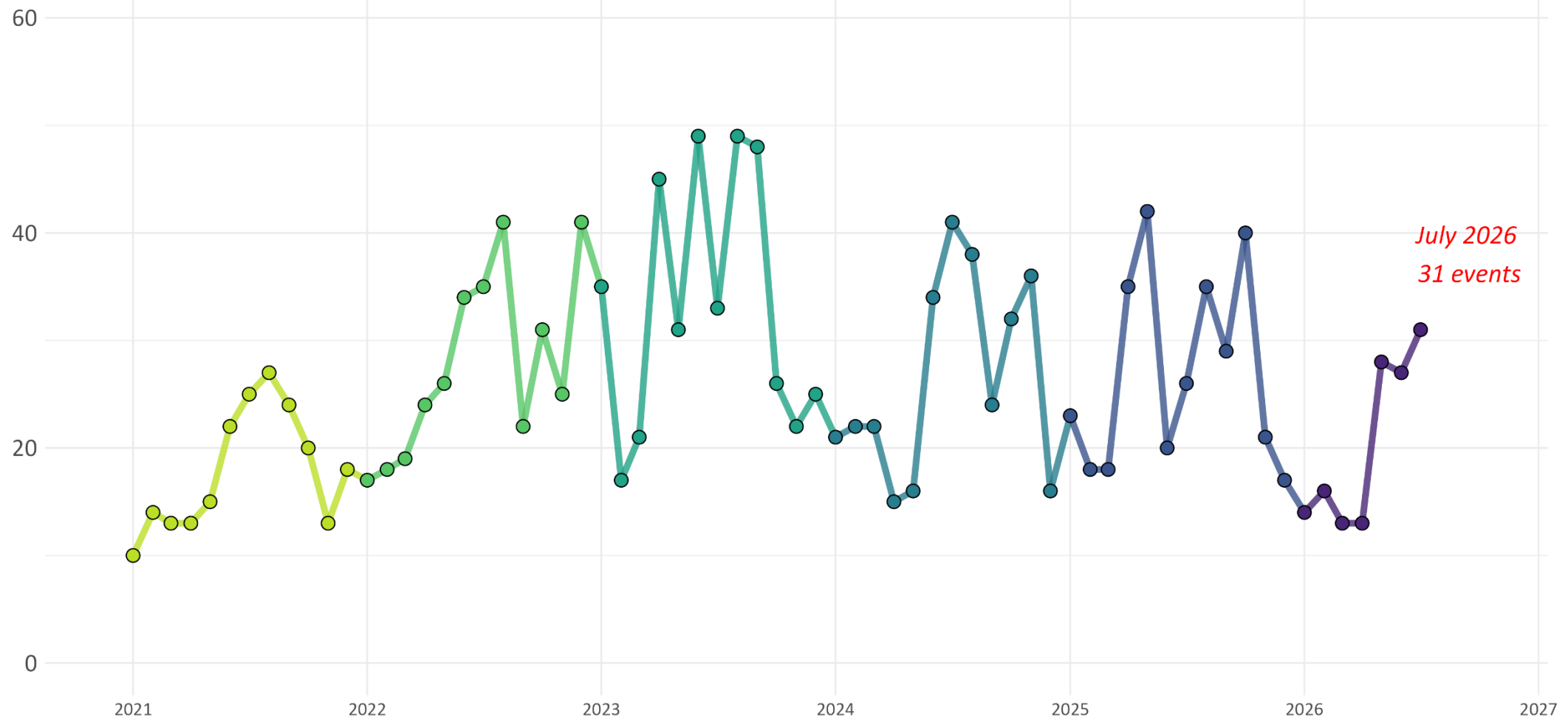
Data through 7/31/2026

Categories derived using the crews on-scene diagnosis.

21 patient refusals In July 2026 were dispatched as Motor Vehicle Crashes, Falls, or Lift Assists.

Substance Use Events

While July was the highest month in 2026, so far this year has the lowest count since 2021.*



**Incidents where 'substance use / overdose' is in the crew's diagnosis and/or Narcan was administered.*

Does not include all calls dispatched as overdoses that may or may not have been reversed by the time the crew is on scene.

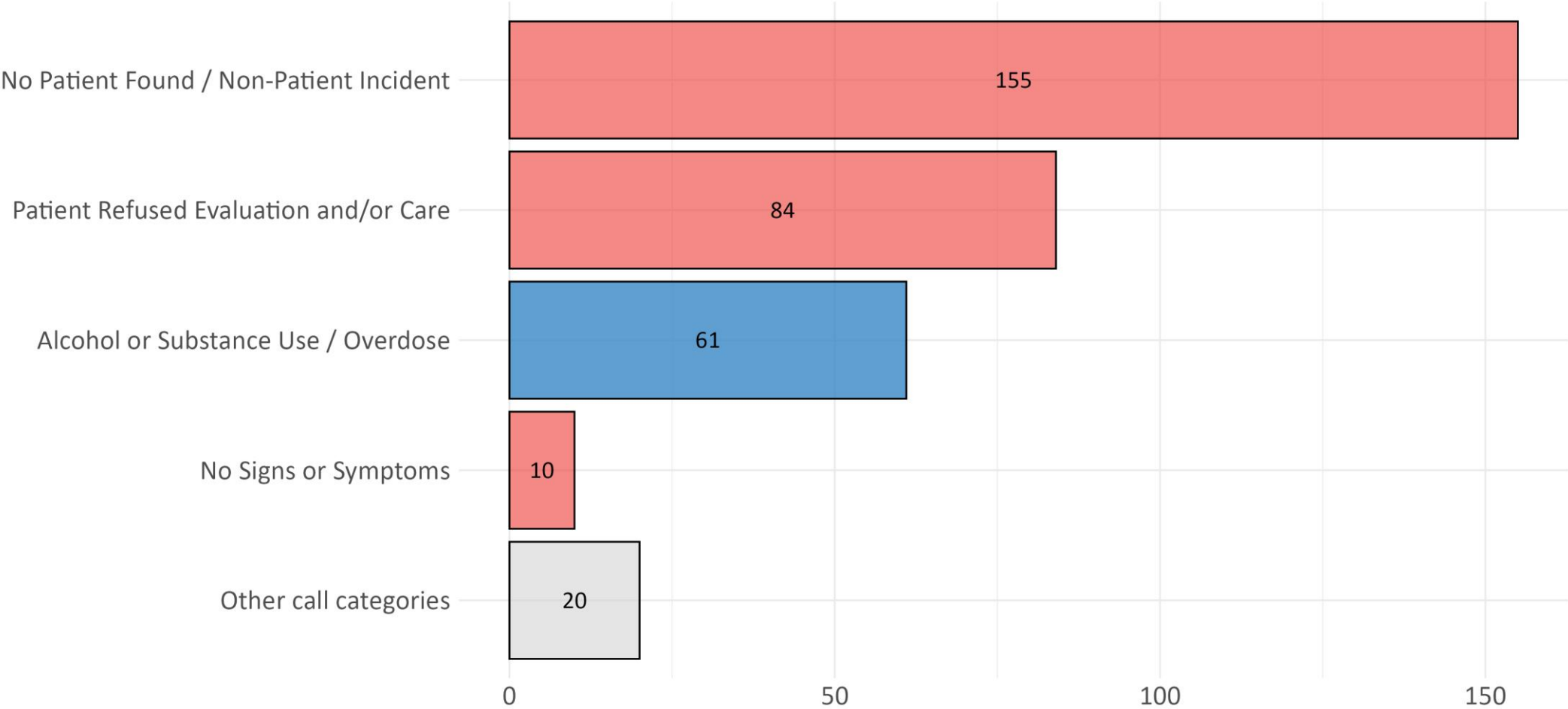
**July 2026
31 events**

Data through 7/31/2026

Analysis preliminary and subject to change.

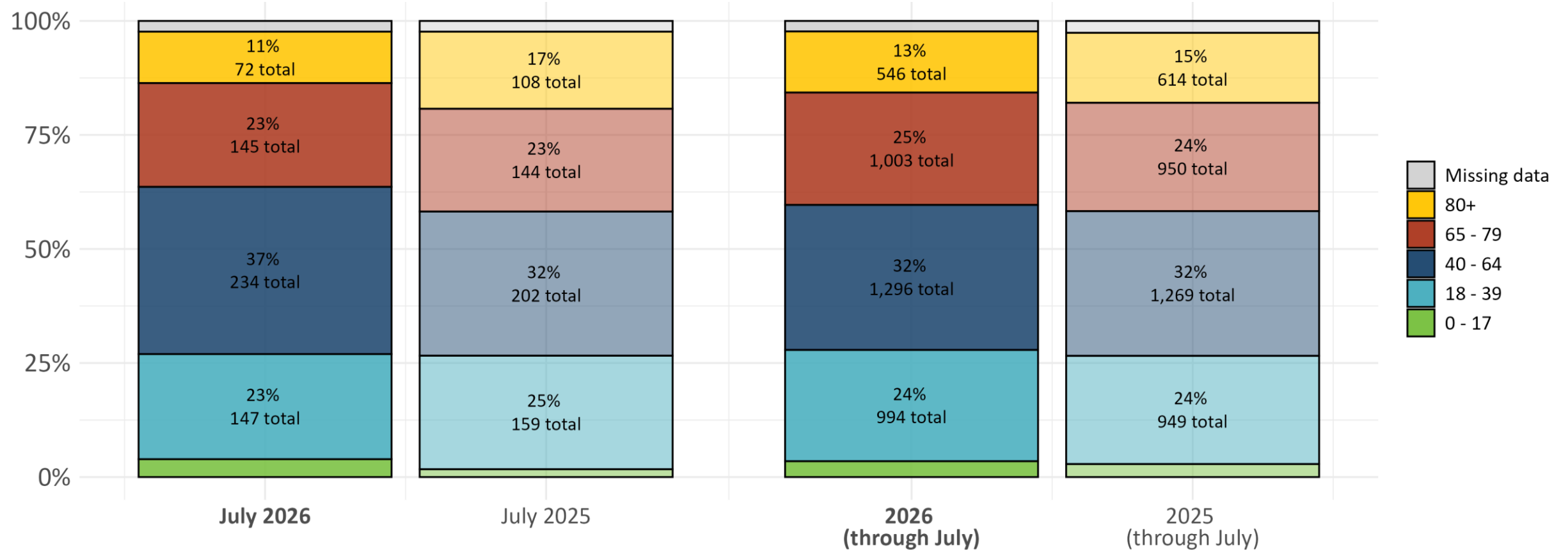
Calls Dispatched as ‘Overdose / Poisoning / Ingestion’, YTD 2026

72% of these calls are no patient incidents or patients refusing evaluation/care



Top ‘other call categories’:
Neurologic,
Psychiatric /
Behavioral
Problem

Patient Age July + YTD



Does not include ages of patients for whom information was not recorded.
These are largely patient refusals / no patient incidents.

Data through 7/31/2026

Analysis preliminary and subject to change.

Top Call Categories by Age, 2026 YTD

Top Call Categories by Age Group, 2026 YTD			
Age Group	Call Category	Count	% of Calls for this Age Group
0 - 17	Injury / Trauma	34	24%
	No Signs or Symptoms	20	14%
	Patient Refused Evaluation and/or Care	17	12%
18 - 39	Injury / Trauma	135	14%
	Psychiatric / Behavioral Problem	133	13%
	Neurologic	127	13%
40 - 64	Injury / Trauma	153	12%
	Psychiatric / Behavioral Problem	142	11%
	No Signs or Symptoms	124	10%
65 - 79	Injury / Trauma	130	13%
	Neurologic	110	11%
	General Unwell / Malaise	100	10%
80+	Injury / Trauma	95	17%
	Neurologic	86	16%
	General Unwell / Malaise	52	10%

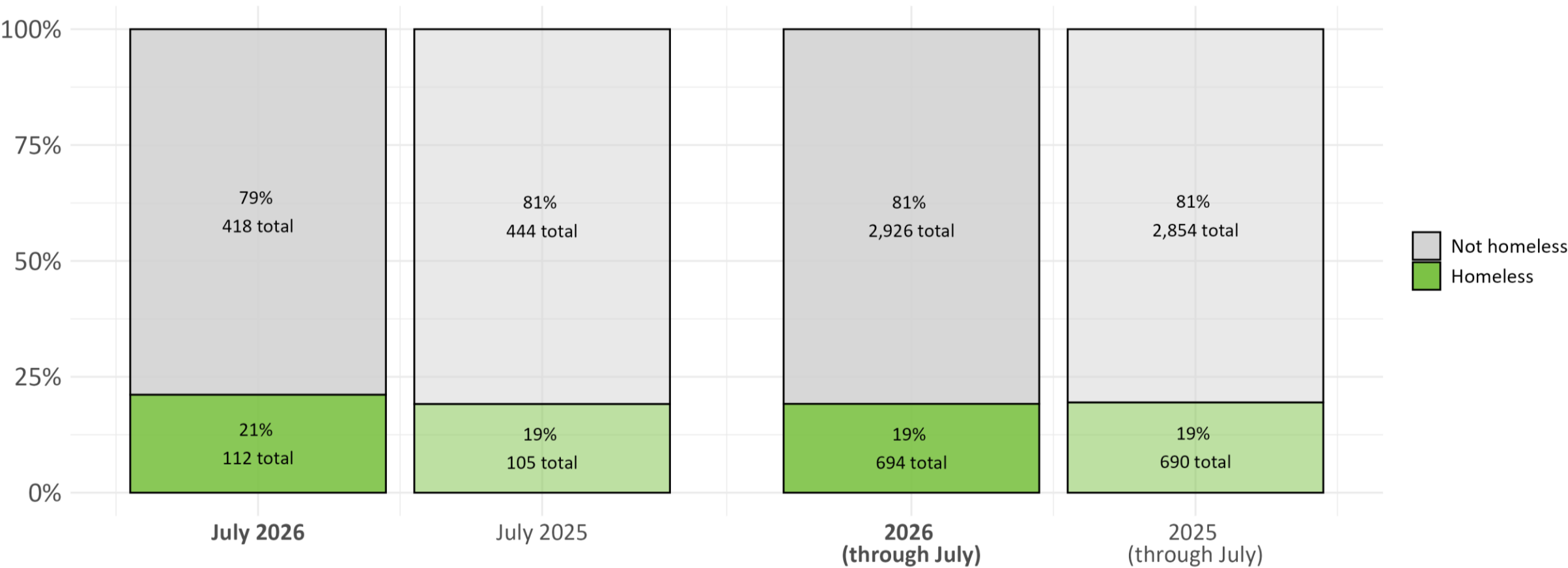
Does not include ages of patients for whom information was not recorded.
These are largely patient refusals / no patient incidents.

Data through 7/31/2026

Analysis preliminary and subject to change.

Patient Housing Status

2026 rates are similar to 2025 rates.



Does not include housing status of patients for whom information was not recorded.
These are largely patient refusals / no patient incidents.

Analysis preliminary and subject to change.

Impact Cohort

Impact Cohort members are people who have had at least 3 EMS responses in a given month.

Impact Cohort, June & July 2026		
Impact Cohort Metric	June 2026	July 2026
Impact Cohort Individuals	21	24
Calls Generated	96	122
% of Patients	4.5%	4.9%
% of EMS Call Volume	16.6%	19.1%
Top Categories	No Signs or Symptoms, Psychiatric / Behavioral Problem, Patient Refused Evaluation and/or Care	Alcohol or Substance Use / Overdose, No Signs or Symptoms, Neurologic
Individuals Present in Previous Month's Cohort	3	6

*Percentages calculated by removing patients with no recorded name from the denominator.
These are largely patient refusals / no patient incidents.*

Analysis preliminary and subject to change.

Data through 7/31/2026

Community Response Team

73% of CRT responses in 2026 have been no patient incidents or patient refusals.

Community Response Team, 2026		
CRT Metric	July 2026	2026 YTD
Staffed CRT Days	5	65
Total CRT Responses	9	67
No Patient Found responses	5	31
Patient Refused Evaluation/Care responses	2	18
Other responses	2	18

Situation Table

BFD has brought more Situations than any other agency in 2026

Situation Table, 2026	
Situation Table Metric	2026 Count
Number of Situations Presented by BFD	16
Situations Closed with Lowered Risk	9
Number of Assisting Agencies	19

Strategic Questions

- What emerging EMS trends should we continue monitoring over the coming months?
- How can EMS data continue to inform operational planning and community partnerships?
- What does the current CRT data tell us about where the program is providing value and where adjustments may be warranted?
- What additional data or performance measures would help guide future EMS initiatives?

Appendix: Working Diagnosis Categories

Alcohol or Substance Use / Overdose

Abuse of Alcohol (F10.9)
Alcohol Abuse and Effects (F10)
Alcohol abuse with intoxication (F10.12)
Misuse of Medication / Adverse Effect (Accidental) (T50.90)
Overdose / Abuse of Cocaine (F14)
Overdose / Abuse of Opiate (i.e. Heroin) (F11)
Overdose / Abuse of Other Illicit Drug or Misuse of Meds (F19.129)
Overdose / Abuse of Psychoactive or Hallucinogenic Drug (Meth, MDMA, LSD...) (F19)
Overdose of Medication (Intentional Self-Harm) (T50.992)
Withdrawal: Alcohol (F10.239)

Cardiac

Cardiac Arrest (I46.9)
Cardiac Arrhythmia/Dysrhythmia (I49.9)
Cardiac Tamponade (I31.4)
Chest Pain, Cardiac / Acute Coronary Syndrome (I20.0)
Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) (I50.9)
HYPERtension (I10)
HYPOtension (I95.9)
Myocardial Infarction (Non-STEMI) - Chest Pain (I21.4)
Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) - Chest Pain (I21.2)
Shock, Cardiogenic (R57.0)
Unspecified Cardiac Disorder (I42.8)

Appendix: Working Diagnosis Categories

Gastrointestinal
Appendicitis, Acute Onset (K35.80)
Constipation (K59.00)
Diarrhea (K59.1)
Foreign Body in Esophageal/GI Tract (T18.9)
GERD (Reflux) (K21)
GI Bleed (Upper and Lower) (K92.2)
Hematemesis (vomiting blood) (K92.0)
Nausea/Vomiting (Unknown Etiology) (R11)
Pain, Abdominal, Acute Onset (R10.0)
Vomiting Due to Pregnancy (O21.9)

General Unwell / Malaise
Bedridden (Z74.01)
Dehydration (E86.0)
Fever (Unknown Cause) (R50.9)
General Unwell / Malaise (Unknown Cause) (R53.81)
Heat Exhaustion (T67.5)
Hyperkalemia (E87.5)
Infection/Infectious Disease (Unspecified) (B99.9)
Kidney / Renal Disease (N18.9)
Muscle weakness (generalized) (M62.81)
Obesity Related Disorders (E66.9)
Other Metabolic Disorder (E88.9)
Reduced Mobility (Z74.09)
Sepsis (With or Without Shock) (A41.9)

Appendix: Working Diagnosis Categories

Injury / Trauma	
Abrasion of unspecified thumb, initial encounter (S60.319A)	Injury, Face (S09.93)
Acute pain due to trauma (G89.11)	Injury, Foot (S99.92)
Burns (T31)	Injury, Forearm (S59.91)
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning (T58)	Injury, Genitalia (S39.94)
Concussion with L.O.C. (S06.0X9)	Injury, Head / Scalp (S09.90)
Concussion without L.O.C. (S06.0X0)	Injury, Hip (S79.91)
Decompression Sickness (e.g. scuba diving) (T70.3)	Injury, Knee (S80.91)
Effects of Stings, Bites, Plant Contact (T63)	Injury, Lower Back / Lumbar Spine (S39.92)
Electrocution (T75.4)	Injury, Lower Leg (S89.9)
Frostbite With Tissue Necrosis (T34.90)	Injury, Lung Pneumothorax (S27.0)
Frostbite, Superficial (T33.90)	Injury, Neck (S19.9)
HYPOTHERMIA (T68)	Injury, Nose (S09.92)
Heatstroke (T67.0)	Injury, Pelvis (S39.93)
Inhalation of Toxic Gases / Vapors / Chemicals (J68)	Injury, Shoulder or Upper Arm (S49.9)
Injury, Abdomen (S39.91)	Injury, Thigh, Upper Leg (S79.92)
Injury, Ankle (S99.91)	Injury, Thoracic Spine (S24.109)
Injury, Brain / TBI (S06.9)	Injury, Thorax / Chest (S29.9)
Injury, Cervical / C-Spine (S14.10)	Injury, Wrist, Hand, or Fingers (S69.9)
Injury, Ear (S09.91)	Multisystem Trauma (T07.XXXA)
Injury, Elbow (S59.90)	Shock, Traumatic (T79.4)
Injury, Eye / Orbit (S05)	Smoke Inhalation (T59.81)

Appendix: Working Diagnosis Categories

Incomplete / non-specific documentation
Encounter for examination and observation for unspecified reason (Z04.9)
Not Applicable
Other / No Other Appropriate Choice (R68.89)
(blank)

Neurologic
Altered Mental Status (R41.82)
Headache or Migraine (R51)
Hemiplegia (Paralysis on One Side of Body) (G81.90)
Meningitis (G03.9)
Paralysis (G83.9)
Seizures, Nonstatus Epilepticus (G40.909)
Seizures, Status Epilepticus (G40.901)
Stroke / CVA (I63.9)
Syncope / Fainting (R55)
TIA (Transient Ischemic Attack) (G45.9)
Unconscious / Coma (Non-Overdose, Unknown Etiology) (R40.2)
Visual Disturbance / Vision Problems (H53.9)
Weakness (Unknown Etiology) (R53.1)

No Signs or Symptoms
No Signs or Symptoms (Z00)

Data through 7/31/2026

Analysis preliminary and subject to change.

Appendix: Working Diagnosis Categories

Other Medical	
ALTE / BRUE (Brief Resolved Unexplained Event) (R68.13)	Hypoglycemia, Non-diabetic (E16.2)
Adrenal Insufficiency (E27.40)	Miscarriage (Suspected) (O03)
Allergic Reaction (T78.40)	Newborn Care Not otherwise Listed (P15)
Allergic contact dermatitis (L23)	Newborn Meconium Aspiration (P24.0)
Anemia, Unspecified (D64.9)	Newborn, Pre-Term (P07.3)
Cancer (Complications Related to) (D49)	Obvious Death (R99)
Childbirth / Delivery Complicated (O75)	Other Urinary Problem, unspecified (N39.9)
Childbirth / Delivery Uncomplicated (O80)	PID / Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (N73.9)
Congenital Deformity (Q89.9)	Postpartum Hemorrhage (O72)
Contact with and (suspected) exposure to unspecified communicable disease (Z72.0)	Pregnancy Related Conditions or Complications, Unspecified (O26.9)
Contractions (O62.0)	Preterm Labor Without Delivery (O60.0)
Diabetic: HYPOglycemia (E13.64)	Preterm Labor with Delivery (O60.1)
Eclampsia or Pre-Eclampsia (O15.9)	STD (Complications Related to) (A64)
Encounter for immunization (Z23)	Sexual Abuse/Rape (Suspected) (T76.2)
Epistaxis / Nose Bleed (Non-Traumatic) (R04.0)	Shock, Anaphylactic (T78.2)
Exhaustion due to excessive exertion (T73.3XXA)	Shock, Hypovolemia (R57.1)
Foreign Body in Ear (T16)	Shock, Unknown Cause (R57.9)
Foreign Body in Eye (T15)	Sickle Cell Anemia / Crisis (D57.0)
Foreign Body in Genitourinary Tract (T19.9)	Sunburn (L55.0)
Foreign Body in Nose (T17.1)	UTI / Urinary Tract Infection (N39.0)
HYPERglycemia, Diabetic (E13.65)	Vaginal Bleeding (N93.9)
Hematuria (R31)	

Data through 7/31/2026

Analysis preliminary and subject to change.

Appendix: Working Diagnosis Categories

Pain
Chest Pain, Non-Cardiac (R07.89)
Chronic Pain (G89.2)
Dental Pain or Problems (K08.8)
Pain in ankle and joints of foot (M25.57)
Pain in limb, unspecified (M79.60)
Pain, (Non-Traumatic) Not Otherwise Specified (G89.1)
Pain, Arm (Non-Traumatic) Unspecified Cause (M79.603)
Pain, Back (Non-Traumatic) (M54.9)
Pain, Eye (H57.10)
Pain, Leg (Non-Traumatic) Unspecified Cause (M79.606)

Psychiatric / Behavioral Problem
Anxiety Attack / Acute Stress Reaction (F43.9)
Excited / Agitated Delirium (R41.0)
Psychiatric / Behavioral Problem (F99)
Suicide Attempt (T14.91)

Respiratory
Asthma, Reactive Airway Disease (J45.901)
Bronchitis, Acute (J20.9)
COPD (Emphysema / Chronic Bronchitis) (J44.1)
COVID-19 (U07.1)
Croup (J05.0)
Epiglottitis (J05.1)
Foreign Body in Airway (T17.9)
Influenza (Flu Like Symptoms) (J11)
Pneumonia (J18.9)
Pneumothorax (J93.9)
Pulmonary Edema Acute Onset (J81.0)
Pulmonary Embolism (I26)
RSV (B97.4)
Respiratory Arrest (Non-Overdose with Pulse) (R09.2)
Respiratory Distress Unknown Cause (J98.9)
Shortness of breath (R06.02)
Suffocation / Asphyxia (T71)
URI / Upper Respiratory Infection (J06.9)



BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

136 S. Winooski Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401

Phone: (802) 864-4554 Fax: (802) 865-5387

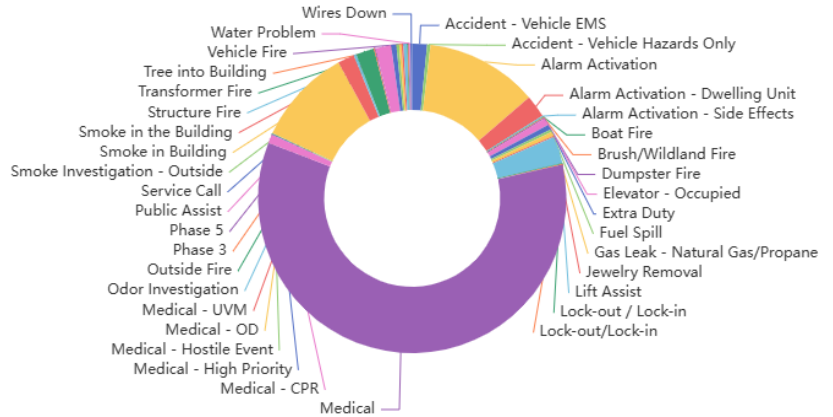
Chief's Report to the Public Safety Committee: July Data Points August 27, 2026

Call Volume & Activity Summary:

Total Incidents for the month of July: **1,097**

Total Incidents: (As of 8/1/26) **6,448**

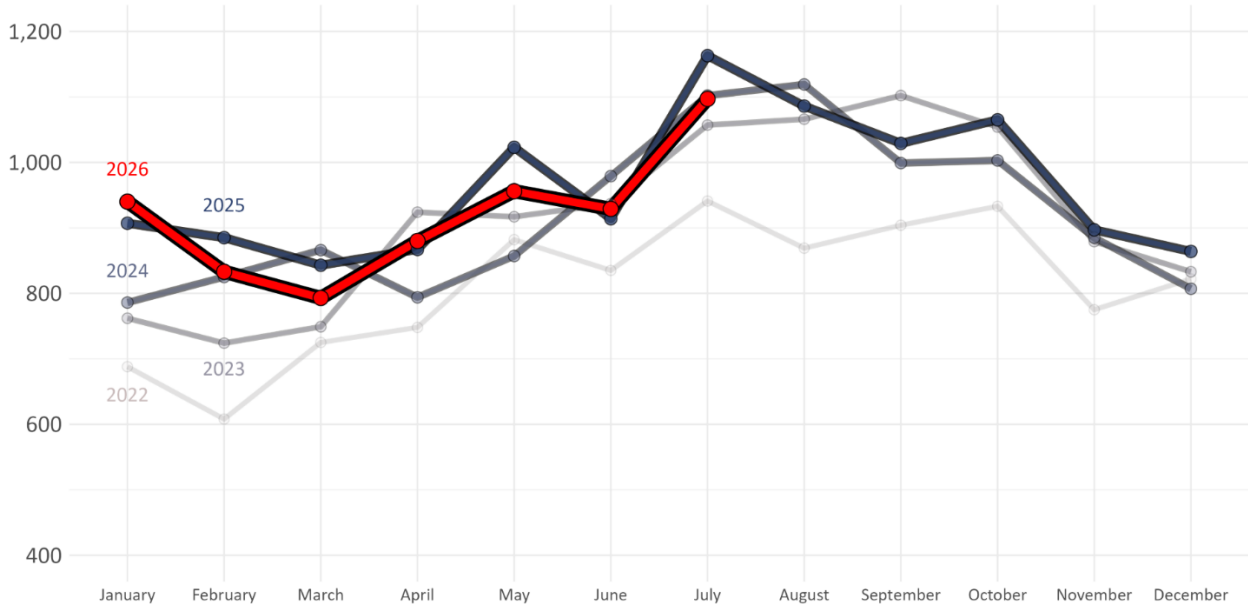
- Fire Incidents: **194**
- EMS: **810**
- Hazmat: **8**
- Technical Rescue: **9**
- Significant Incidents:
 1. 7/15 3rd Alarm Mutual Aid to Shelburne
 2. 7/23 2nd Alarm South Winooski Ave.
 3. 7/25 1st Alarm Central Ave.



During the same period in 2025 we responded to **1163** incidents, a **5.6 %** decrease from last year.

Fire Department Monthly Response Totals, 2022 - 2026

Source: First Due



Data through 7/31/2026

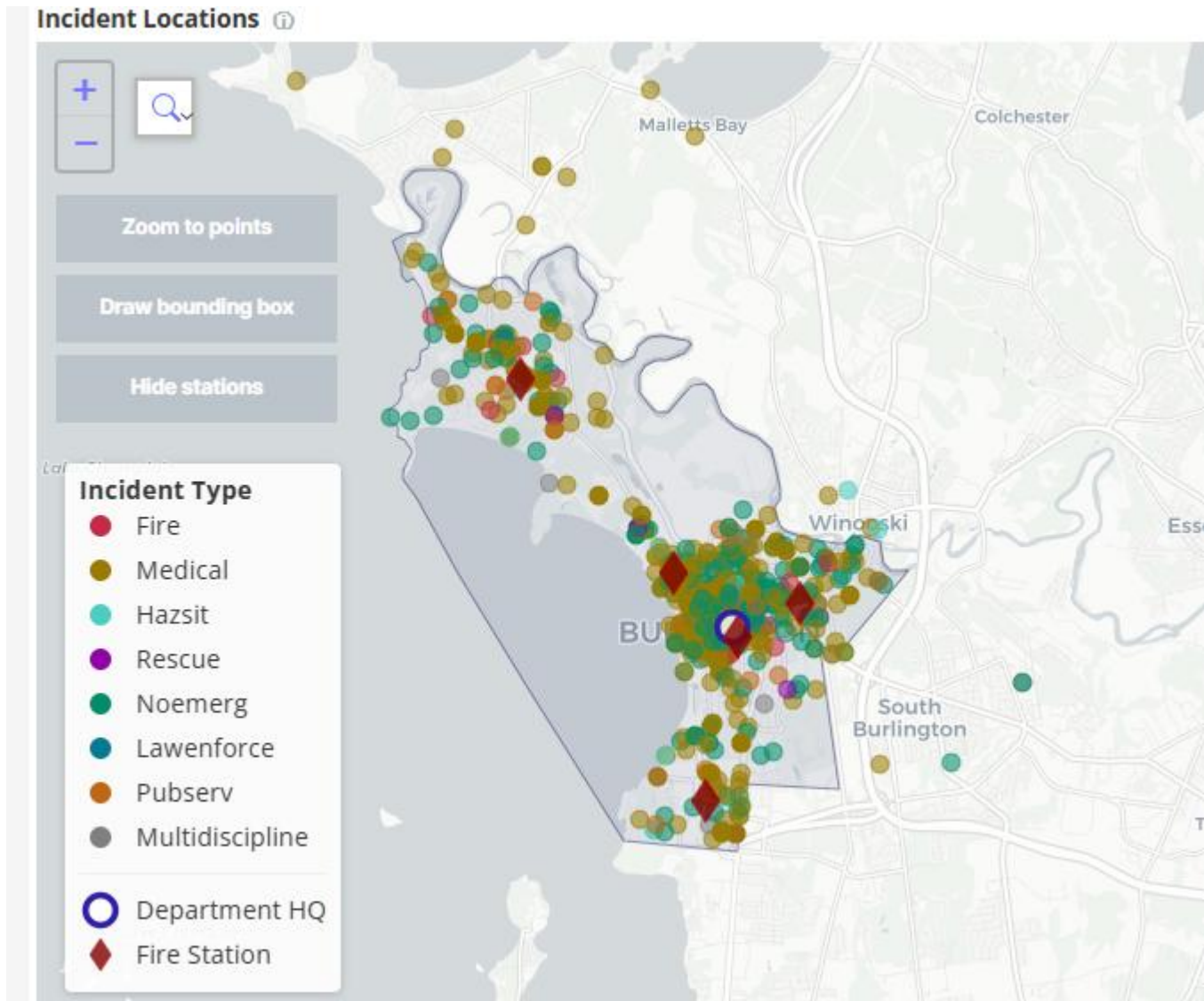




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EMS DATA:

BC McCombie

Data Analyst Jeff Nicholson





BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Personnel & Staffing

Total Department Staff: Uniformed Members **91** / Authorized **98** (5 recruits started 5/26)

- Minimum Daily Staffing: **22**
- Vacancies: **7** (5 Recruits do not count for staffing until completion of academy)
- Injuries/LOA/FMLA: **4**
- Staff Training Hours: **1895**
- Company Level Inspections: **1**

Overtime Type	2025 Hours	2026 Hours
Minimum Staffing	662.5	1288.25
Mandatory	48	288.25
CRT	157	90
Emergency	16	32
Extra Duty Events	31	41

BFD First Boat



Community Engagement

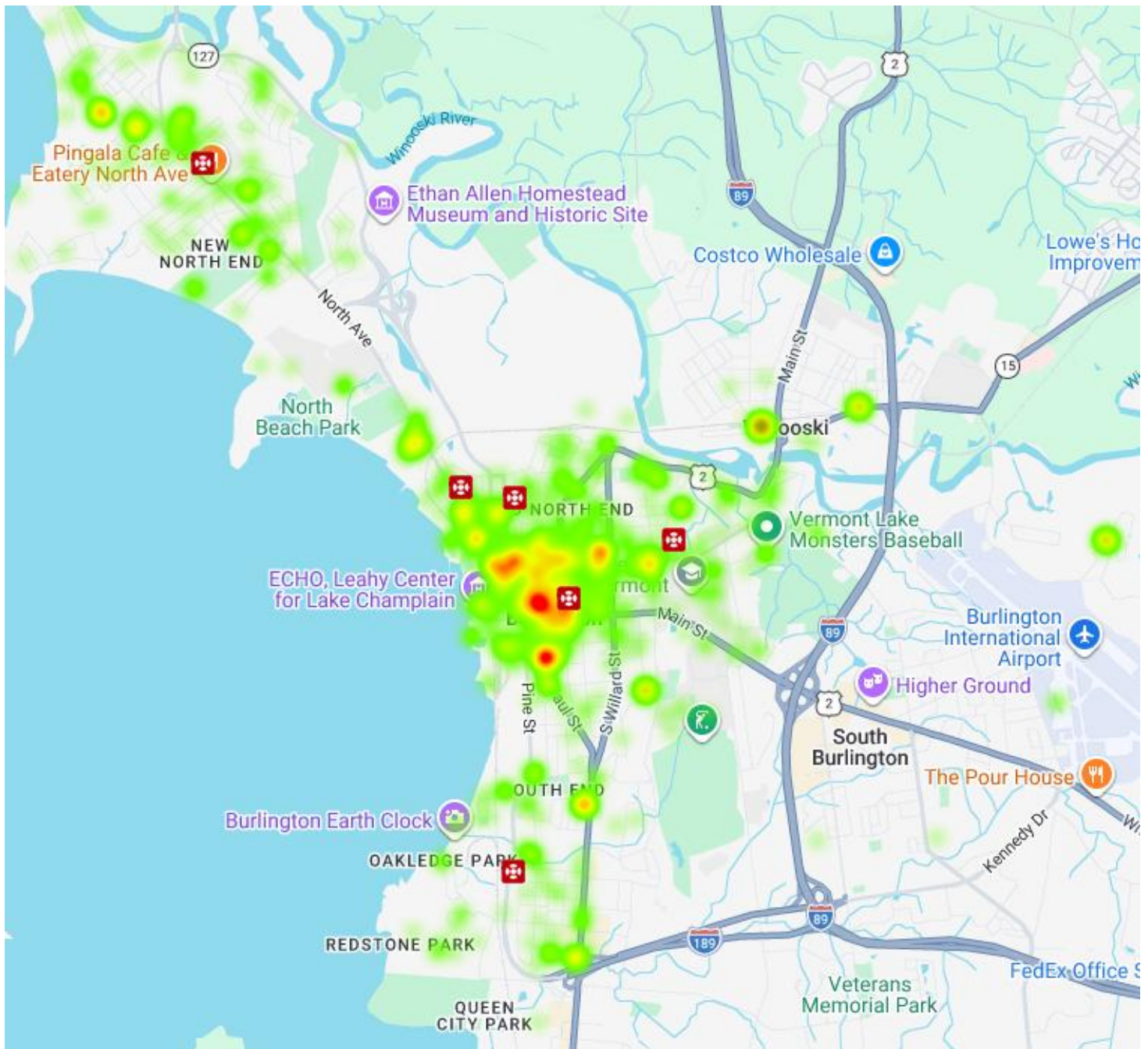
- 7/16 Egg Drop Baird School Camp and Touch-A-Truck event



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Deputy of Operations Report:

- Delivered instructional module for the current recruit class.
- Participated in the Vermont Fire Academy (VFA) course review program to evaluate and update state curriculum standards.
- Annual fire pump testing cycle concluded. One apparatus experienced a pump test failure and is currently undergoing mechanical repair.
- Completed final procurement specifications for the new Battalion Chief command vehicle.
- July 7th Took delivery of the new Zodiac rescue boat. Developing the operational readiness deployment model and crew training schedules.
- Maintained regular coordination meetings with Dispatch and DPW Fleet Management to address ongoing maintenance schedules and radio communications.
- Staffed the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) alongside BCEMS for the annual July 3rd fireworks event; operations ran smoothly with no major incidents.
- 7/28 Participated in a joint emergency response tabletop exercise with Champlain College staff and safety officials.
- Attended ongoing city interagency meetings targeting code compliance and life safety issues in problematic structures.
- Attend meeting with University of Vermont Medical Center (UVMHC) leadership regarding their expanding Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) initiative, and attended the American Red Cross regional shelter review.
- Worked with the City Grants Officer to finalize the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) application to fund non-PFAS turnout gear for all department members as well as the SAFER grant submission for staffing and worked on the Safe Streets and Balint grant request funding opportunities.
- Conducted operational briefings with the Fire Marshal's Office, EMS Division, and Training Division to align monthly priorities.

Admin Updates:

Stations

- Station 1 – waiting on additional quotes to repair front ramp.
- Station 1 – window renovation project will be starting soon. There will be temporary windows with plexi-glass while windows are being restored off site.
- Station 1 – recent plumbing repairs in basement.
- Station 1 – basement bay door recently replaced.
- Station 1 – in initial phase of kitchen renovation project. Unknown project timeline.
- Station 2 – replaced basement bay door.
- Station 2 – Upgrades and testing to be completed on sprinkler system. (8/7/26)
- Station 2 – recent work completed by vendor to address HVAC issues within bunk rooms. Appears to be better, but will continue to monitor.
- Station 2 – replaced dryer.
- Station 3 – entering next phase for bunkroom remodel. Unknown project timeline.
- Station 4 – new kitchen countertops, kitchen sink and stove (to be installed 8/7/26)
- All stations – working to establish a more comprehensive preventative maintenance contract for boilers and HVAC equipment.
- All stations – Collecting vendor estimates to establish annual sprinkler and fire alarm inspection contracts.



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- Stations 4 & 5 – Working with BED to potential locate radio infrastructure at these stations, which would benefit both BED & BFD.

Policies & Personnel

- City council approved an administrative fee to cover background checks for ride along candidates.
- Updated SOG for Ride Alongs will be issued shortly.
- Revised Battalion Chief – Shift Commander Job Description
- Revised all BFD job descriptions to follow a performance-based model. Waiting for feedback from the union.
- Working with fire department administrative team to prepare for upcoming promotional processes (Shift Commander, Lieutenant, Captain)
- UKG Employee Appraisal process has gone live, but needs a few minor adjustments. Working with HR on those corrections.
- Working with City IT to move toward a CAD shared services model.
- Will be posting open positions shortly to allow for movement of personnel in anticipation of members ending probationary period in October.

EMS Division Update

- **Monthly EMS Report:** The EMS Division has developed its first Monthly EMS Report, which will provide leadership with a data-driven overview of EMS operations, patient demographics, system utilization, community initiatives, and emerging trends. The report is intended to support strategic planning, operational decision-making, and performance monitoring while identifying opportunities to enhance service delivery.
- **Infection Control Program:** Following advanced infection control training, the EMS Division has initiated a comprehensive review of the department's Infection Control Program. This effort will strengthen policies, exposure management, regulatory compliance, and resources to better protect both our personnel and the patients we serve.
- **EMS Equipment Modernization:** Deployment of the department's new LIFEPAK 35 cardiac monitors is substantially complete, with installation on reserve ambulances expected shortly. This project enhances cardiac monitoring capabilities across the EMS fleet and ensures greater operational readiness.

Training Division Notes June / July

- Nine members attended a train the trainer course on Roof Rope Rescue Operations presented by members of FDNY.
- Two members attended Company Officer Academy through Columbia Southern University.
- Two members attended Mastering Fireground Command in Keene NH.
- The department completed our annual SCBA confidence course through the Fit 4 Fire committee
- Recruit class 26-01 is just past the half way point with all five Recruits still present and doing very well

FMO:

Working with First Due to get the fire investigation module up and running to stream line our fire investigation reporting. Participated in the Girls Scouts of the Green and White Mountains Career Day to teach them how to use fire extinguishers.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gene Bergman Chair, Ordinance Committee, Burlington City Council
FROM: Ranjit Singh, Chair, Public Safety Committee
DATE: August 25, 2026
RE: Proposed Amendment to B.C.O. Sec. 21-45A(f)(3) — Appeal Hearing Scheduling Timeline

Purpose

I am writing to request on behalf of the Public Safety Committee that the Ordinance Committee take up a proposed amendment to Sec. 21-45A(f)(3) of the Burlington Code of Ordinances (Trespass on City Property), which governs the timeline for scheduling a hearing on an appeal of a notice of trespass.

Background

Sec. 21-45A(f)(3) currently requires that, once an appeal is filed, the designated hearing panel “shall meet within ten (10) business days to consider the appeal.” This fixed ten-business-day deadline applies uniformly regardless of the factual or legal complexity of the underlying appeal. In practice, some appeals raise straightforward factual disputes that can be resolved quickly, while others involve more complex questions and requests for video evidence to be compiled and reviewed.

A rigid ten-business-day deadline does not allow the designated hearing panel, the appellant, the issuing city official or designee the flexibility to accommodate more complex matters, and risks either rushed proceedings or technical non-compliance with the ordinance.

Proposed Change

I am requesting that the Committee consider amending Sec. 21-45A(f)(3) to replace the fixed ten-business-day scheduling requirement with a standard that ties the scheduling timeline to the complexity of the matter, subject to an outer limit and a mechanism for extension. Specifically:

The designated hearing panel shall schedule a hearing within a reasonable period of time given the complexity of the matter at hand, provided that in no event shall the hearing be scheduled more than thirty (30) days after the appeal is filed, which time period may be extended upon a reasonable request by either party, to be granted by the Committee.

This language would replace the current “shall meet within ten (10) business days to consider the appeal” clause in subsection (f)(3).

Rationale

This change would preserve a firm outer deadline while giving the hearing panel discretion to schedule more complex matters appropriately rather than defaulting to a uniform ten-business-day turnaround that may not fit every case. The extension mechanism ensures that any delay beyond the standard timeline remains subject to Committee approval and requires a reasonable request from a party, rather than being open to indefinite postponement.

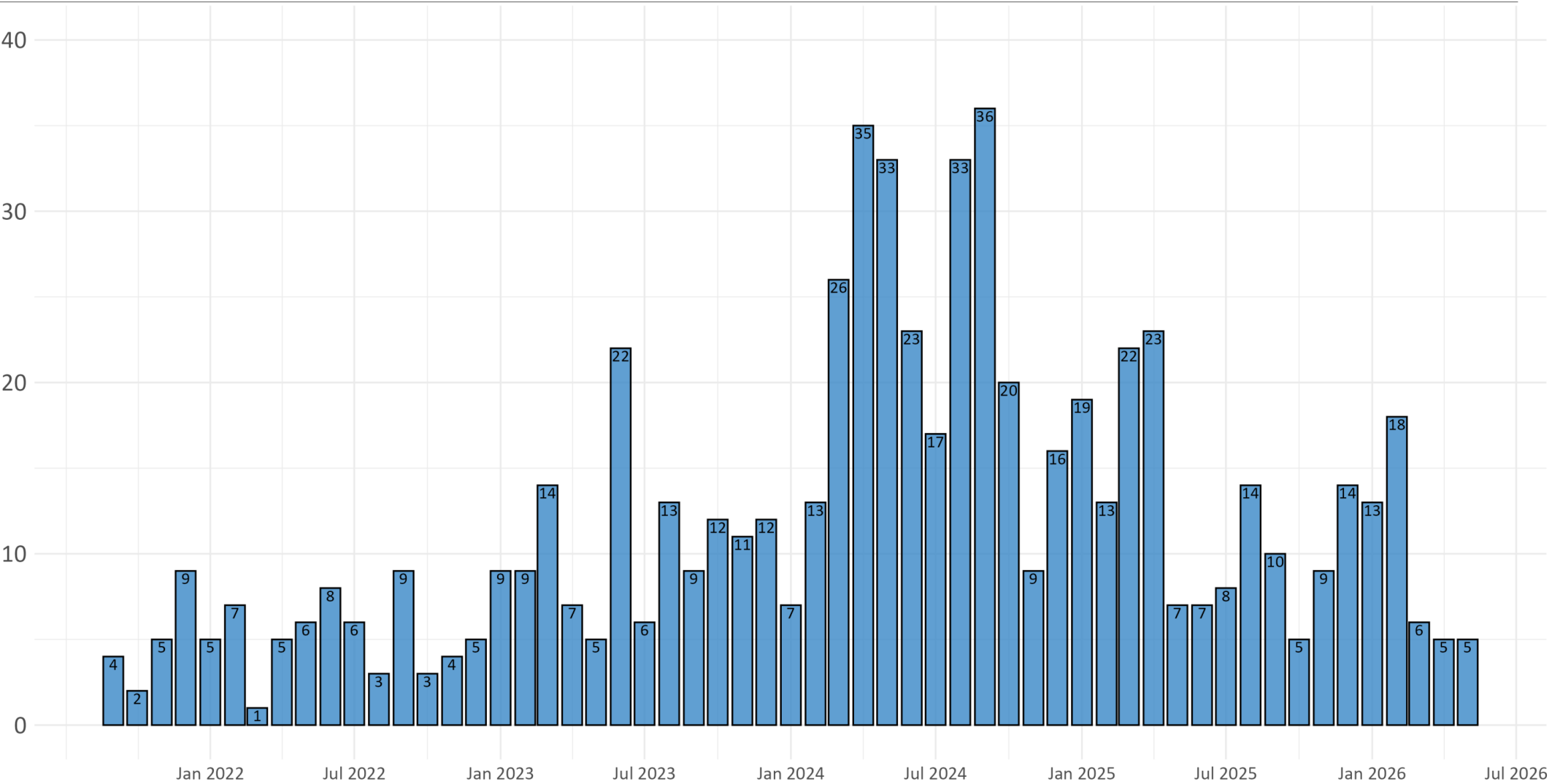
Requested Action

I respectfully request that the Committee place this proposed amendment on an upcoming agenda for discussion and consideration.

Fletcher Free Library

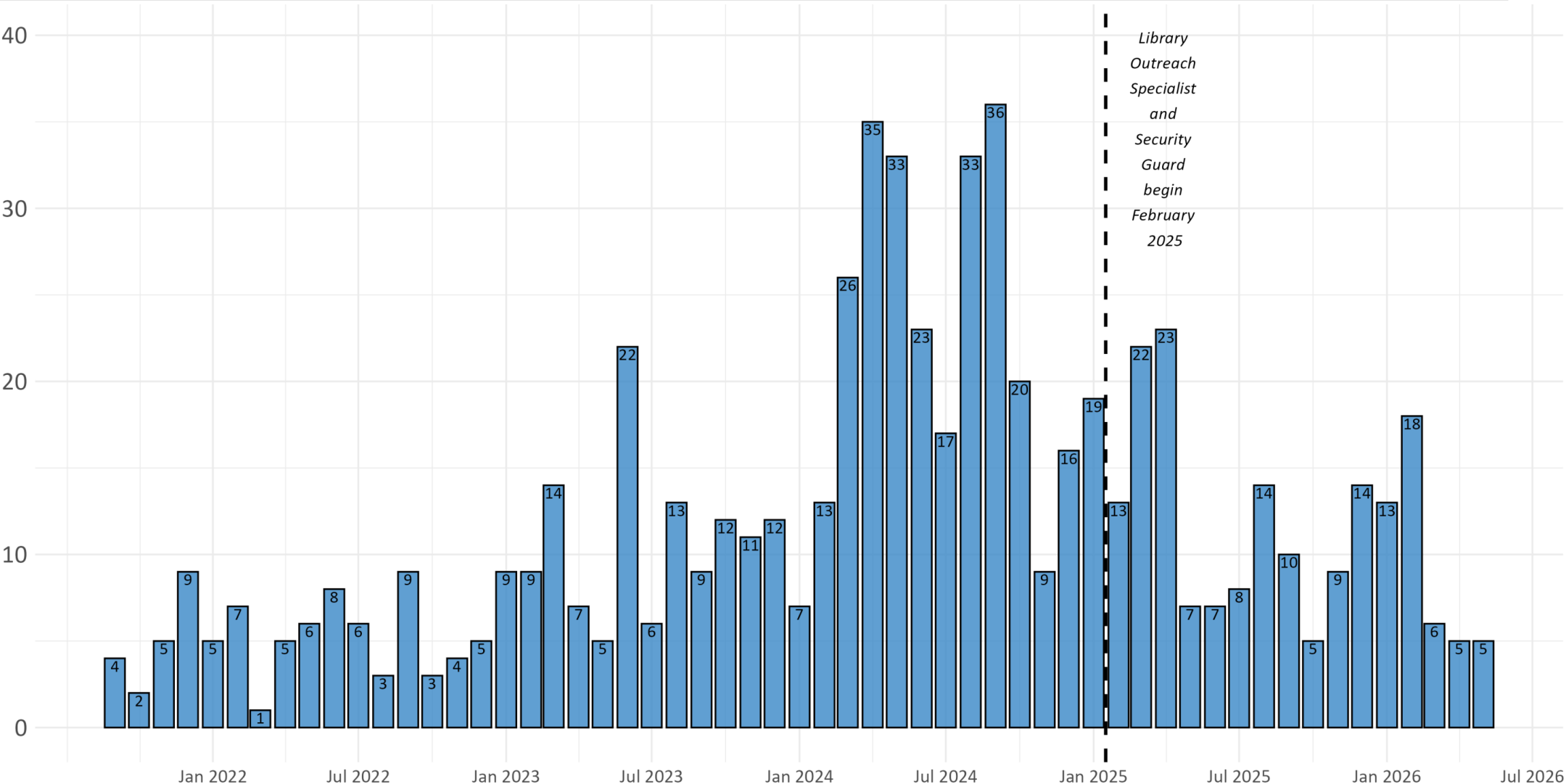
JUNE 29TH, 2026

Monthly Trespasses Issued by FFL Staff



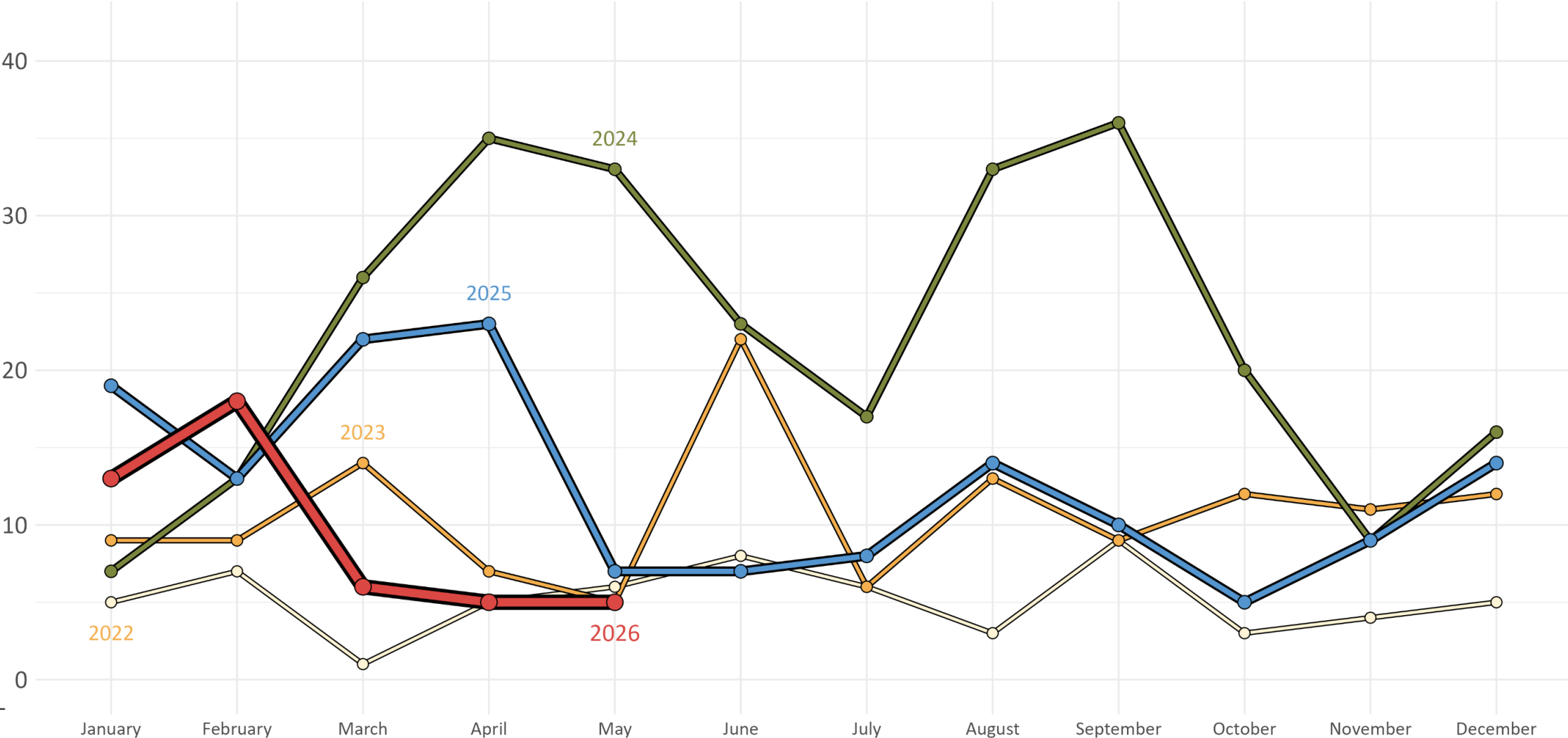
Data
9/1/2021 –
5/31/2026

Monthly Trespasses Issued by FFL Staff



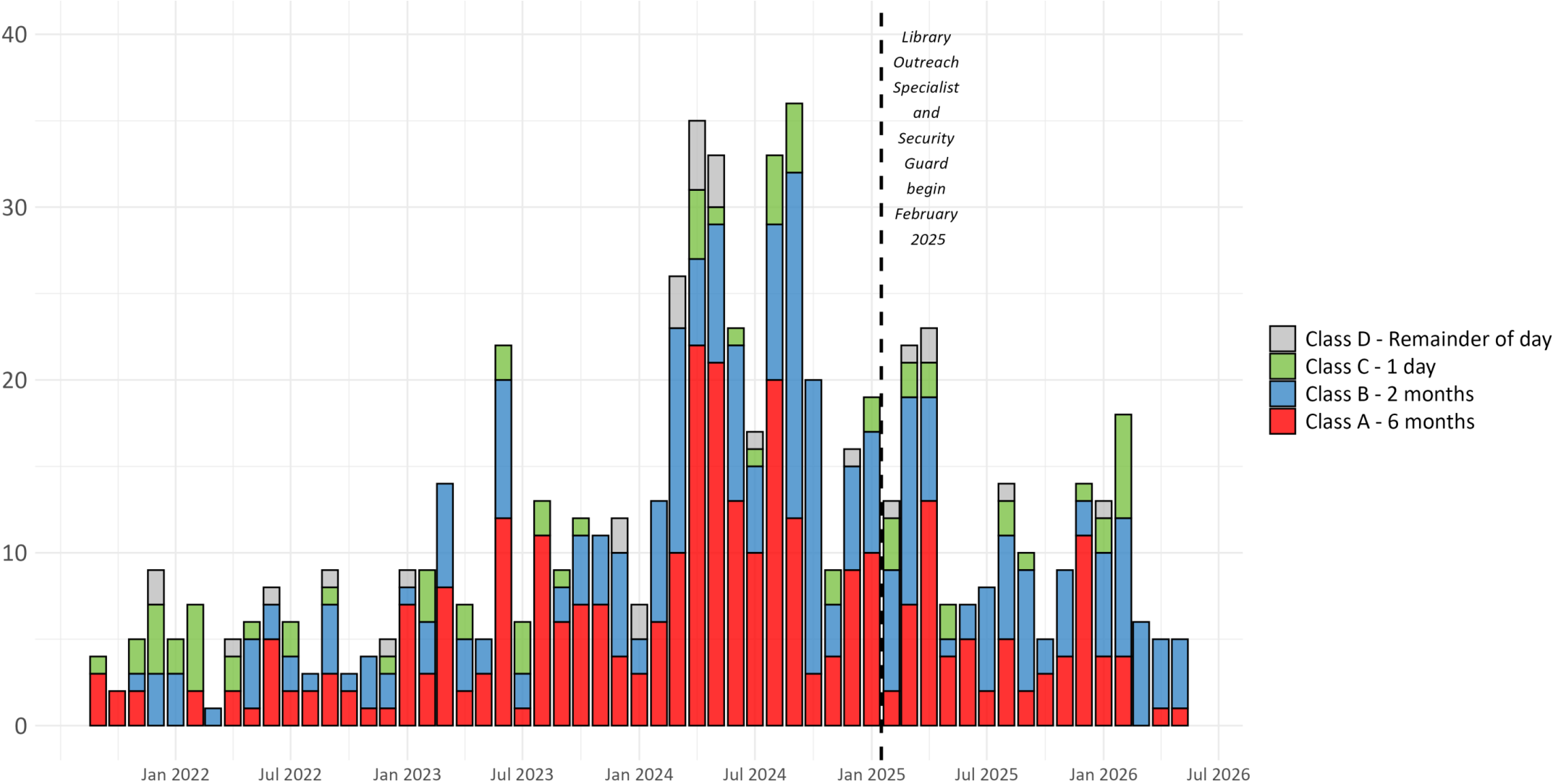
Data
9/1/2021 –
5/31/2026

Monthly Trespasses Issued by FFL Staff



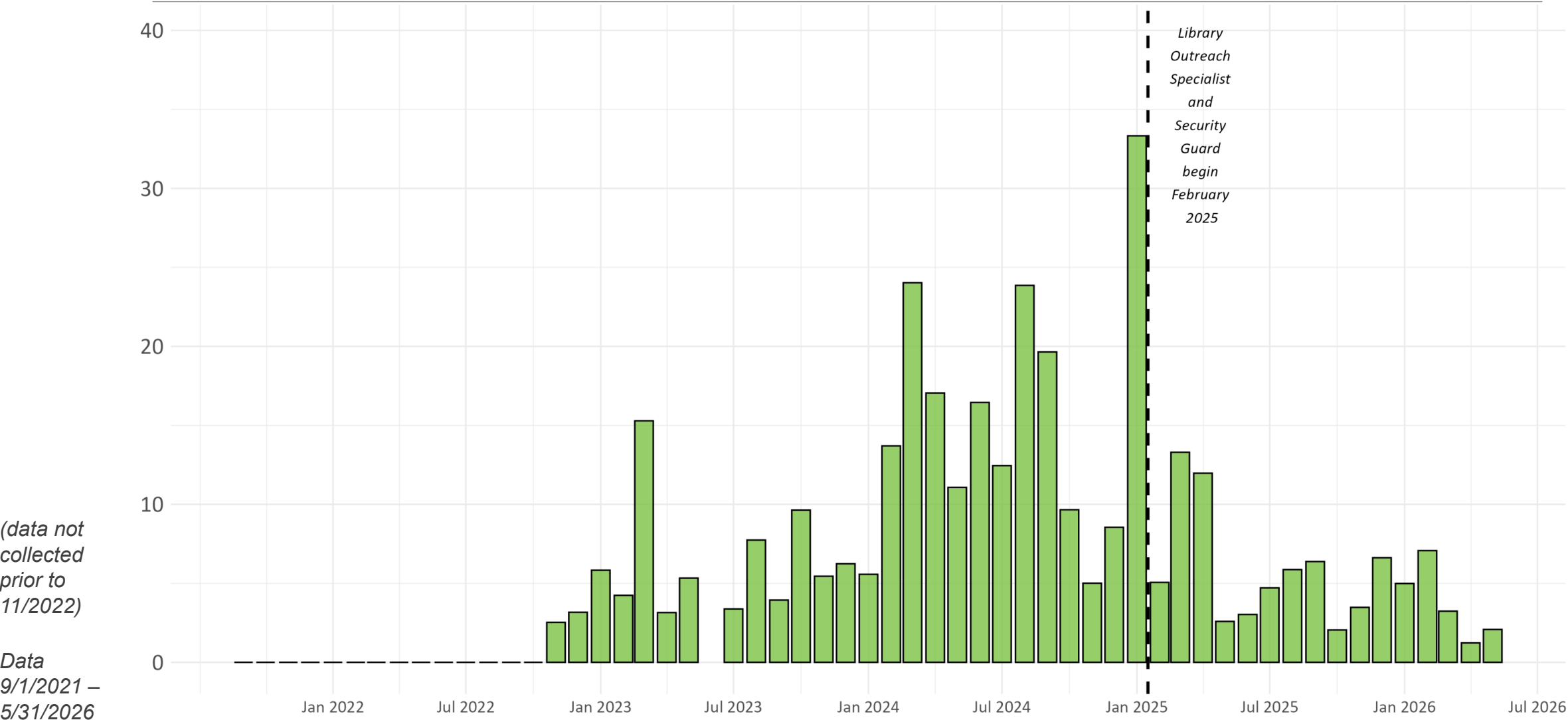
Data
1/1/2022 –
5/31/2026

Monthly Trespasses Issued by FFL Staff by Type



Data
9/1/2021 –
5/31/2026

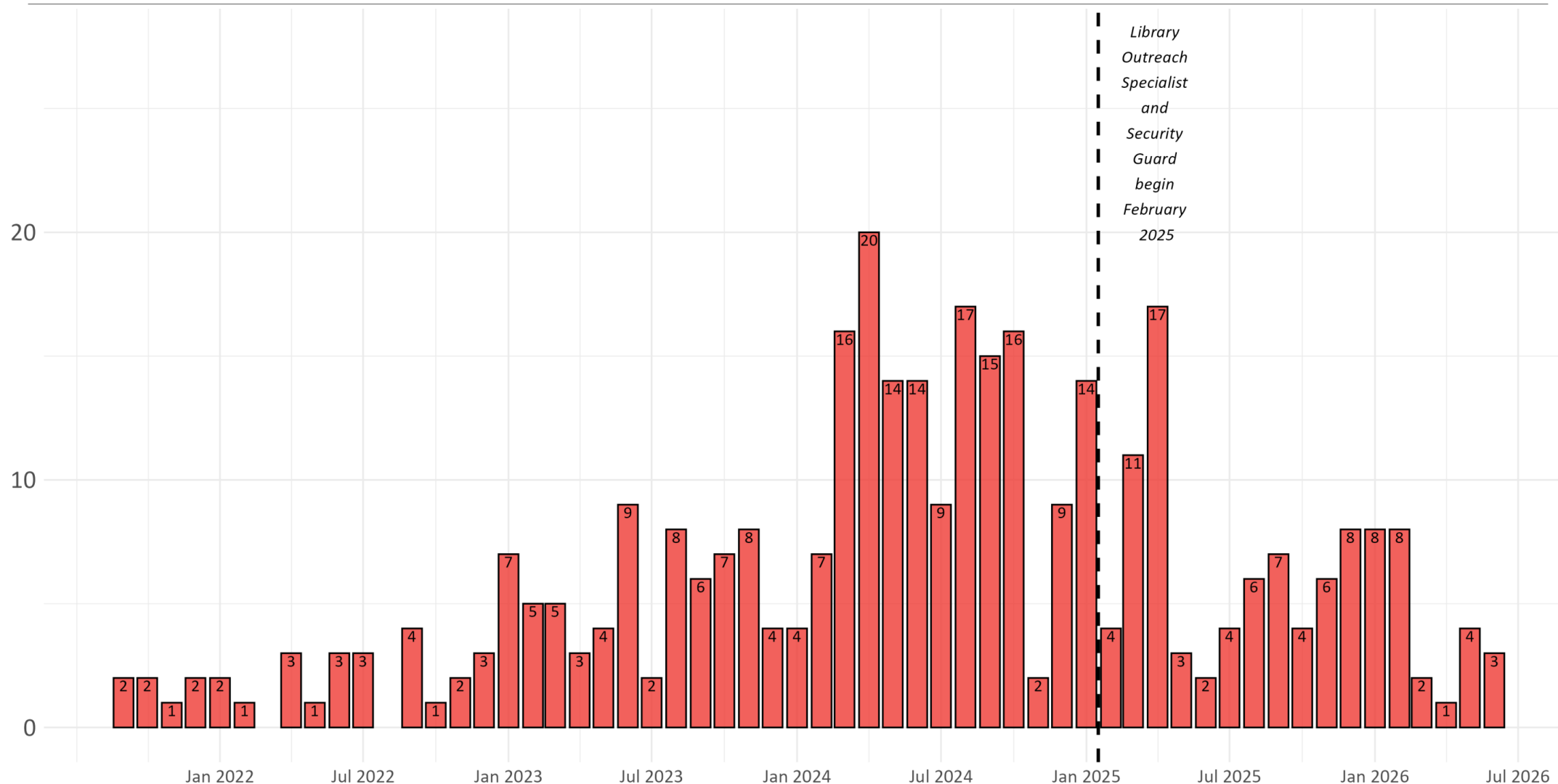
Monthly Hours Spent on Trespasses by FFL Staff



Monthly Trespasses involving Drug Use / Bathrooms

Trespass incidents where the narrative contains at least one of the following words:
Drug,
Drugs,
Substance,
Narcan,
Overdose,
Needle,
Bathroom,
Stall

Data
9/1/2021 –
5/31/2026



Trespass Details

Quotes from FFL Staff in reports from April & May 2026

Staff member called me to assist with this patron who was unconscious on floor in bathroom; patrons friend was also assisting him. Staff had gotten the Narcan and the friend had administered it. Staff called 911 while I assisted with first aid measures. After 3 or so minutes, Patron regained consciousness and was able to get up and exit on his own, was very apologetic. Staff and EMS cleaned the area. As patron was exiting, we informed him that he would have a 180 day trespass from the Library.

Offender was standing in stairwell outside the second floor bathroom. He was vaping in the stairwell and had full needle in his other hand. When confronted, he quickly exited the library. The trespass was verbally delivered as he was walking out.

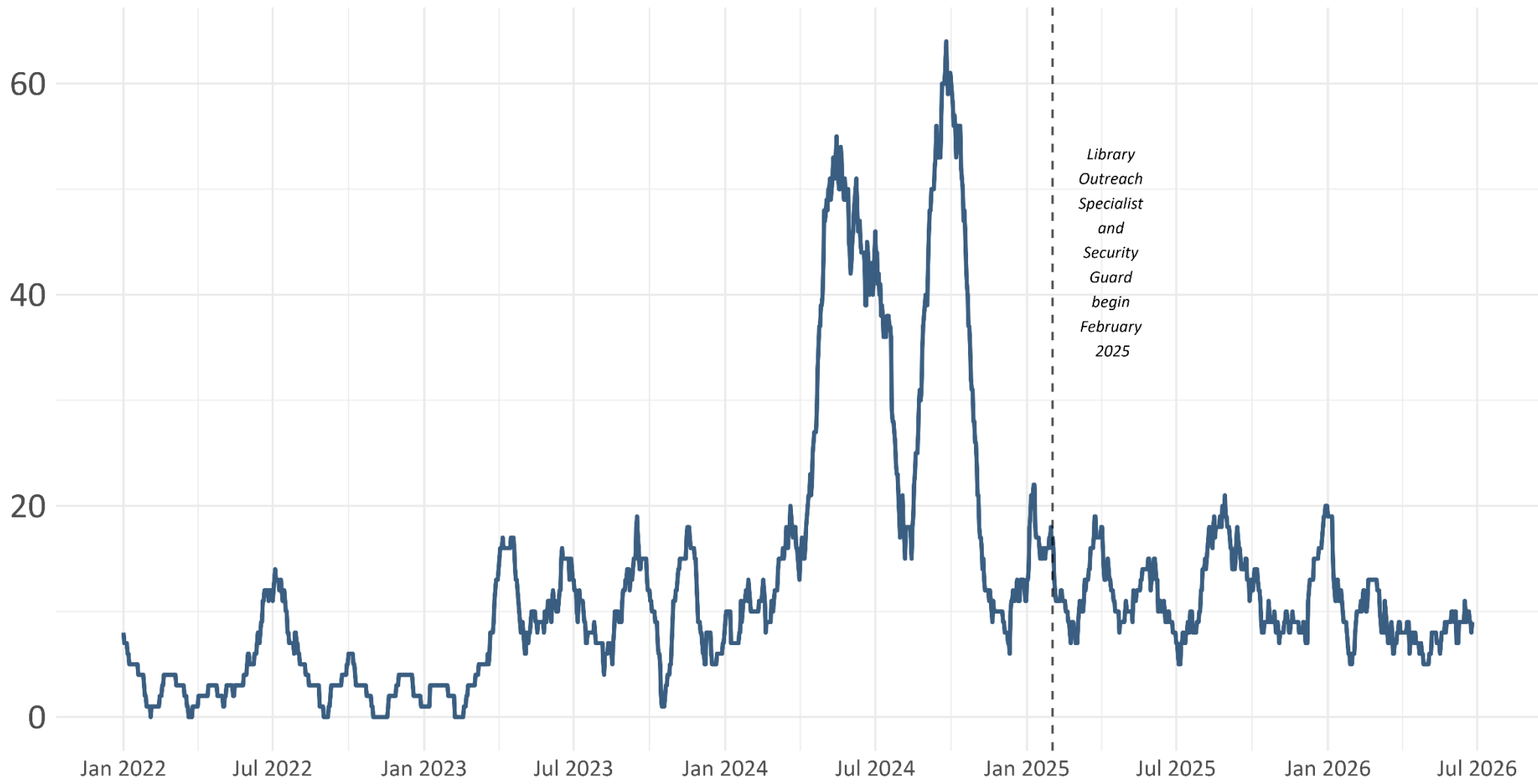
At 6:00 I heard yelling from up by the bathrooms. When I went up to investigate, this patron was yelling that a staff member "made him shit himself" because he refused to open the bathroom door after it closed. He then proceeded to take off his pants, further spreading feces around, and yelled that he needed to change and we needed to open the door for him. He proceeded to put on new clothes, and use them to wipe himself while yelling homophobic and racist. I called police to help escort him out but cancelled them as he eventually let before they arrived.

BPD Incidents at FFL

*Rolling 30
day counts*

*Patrols,
Traffic stops,
etc. removed*

*Data
12/1/2021 –
6/28/2026*

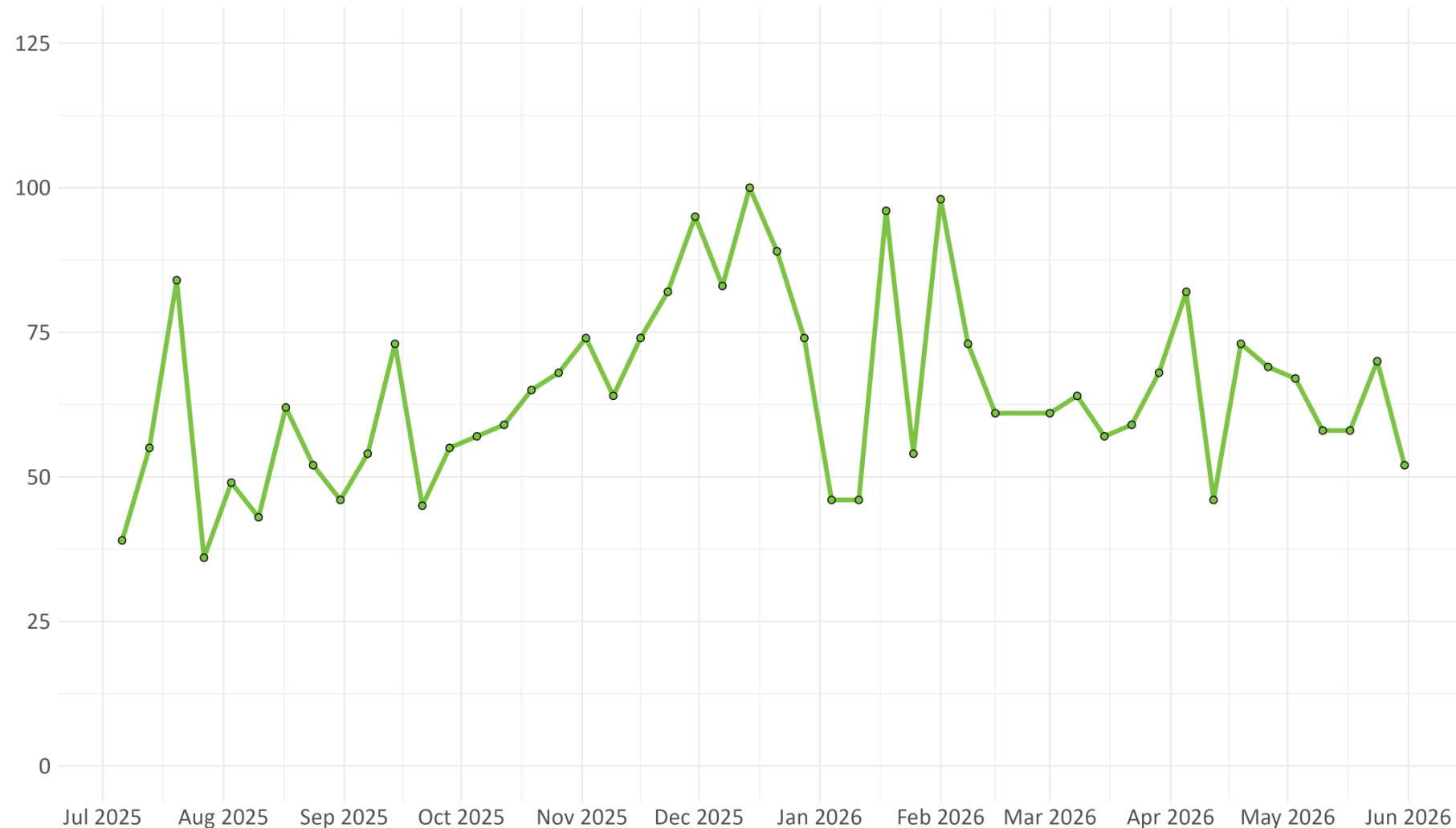


Weekly 'Casual Check Ins' Recorded by David

David has recorded **over 3,000 casual / non-scheduled check-ins** since he started tracking in July 2025.

On average, he records **65 per week.**

Data
7/8/2025 –
6/6/2026

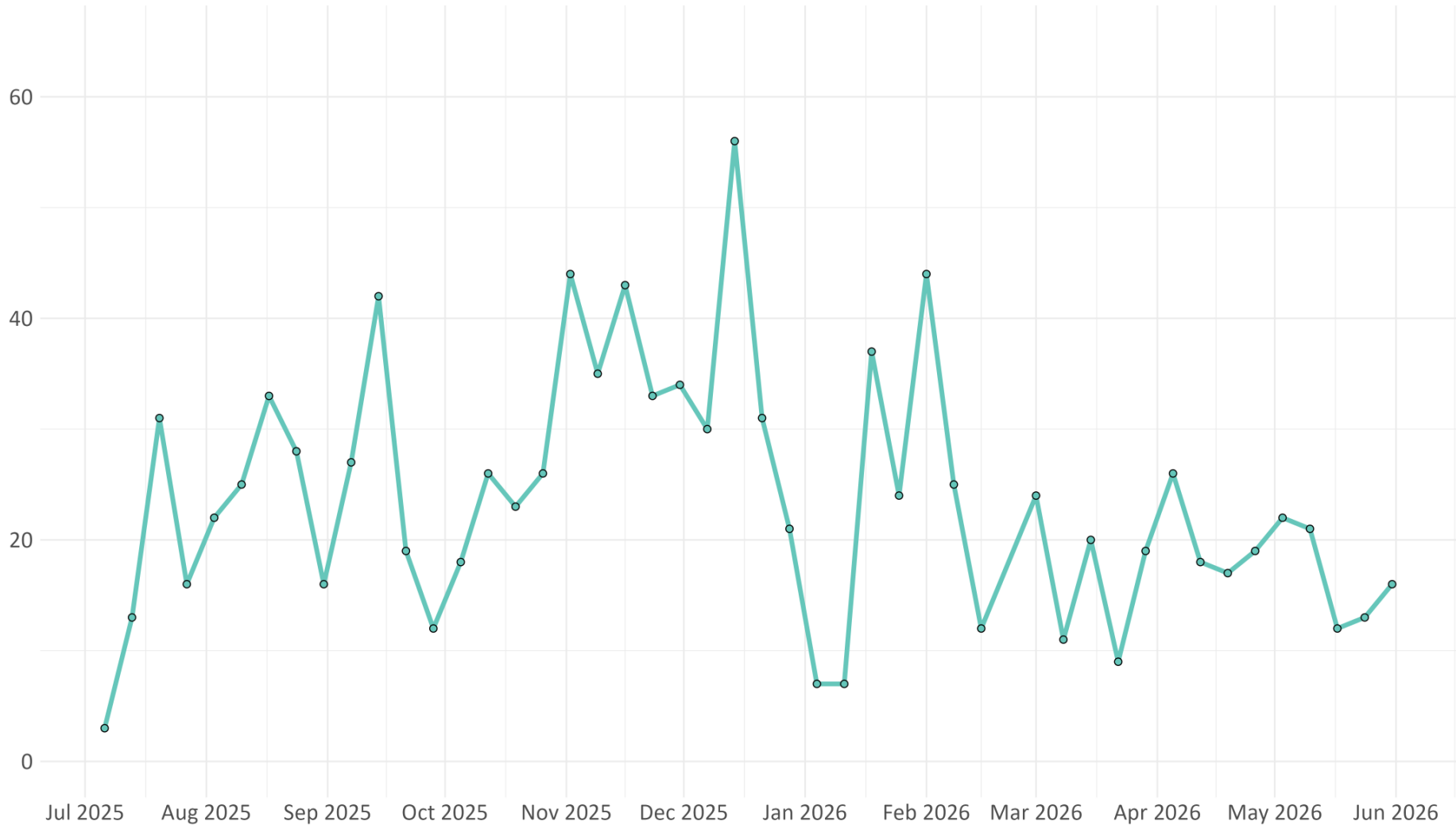


Weekly 'Preventative Trespass Conversations / Behavior Reminders' Recorded by David

David has recorded **over 1,100** preventative trespass conversations / behavior reminders since he started tracking in July 2025.

On average, he records **24 per week.**

Data
7/8/2025 –
6/6/2026



Daily Log

Excerpts from David's Daily Log, May – June 2026

Security asks to join for unresponsive woman in stall. Am able to rouse her and then discuss services while getting her name.

Help facilitate a clinical evaluation for struggling client and then have discussion about steps going forward.

Client comes by asking about a trespass, find its still in play until end of June. Facilitate charging their phone and ask about supports having just got out of rehab. Client is struggling and offer to get them signed up for the Bridge program CVOEO recently opened on Pearl St.

Staff come to ask to check in with individual appearing to be struggling in the back lot. Someone I had checked in on earlier in the bathroom. Offer water and ask if there's anything I can do or get for them and they decline and say they're ok.

Client comes by to vent - get them some coffee and bus pass, they express appreciation having the space here as an outlet for them. Client from yesterday comes back to reach out to care manager again about transport back to a residence. Am able to connect and relay information to them.

A client comes by to ask about Housing options and direct to Burlington Housing Authority and Champlain Housing Trust to apply for Case Management. Provide with a bunch of clothes and sign them up for the Champlain Inn. Client comes in to connect with Street Outreach colleague and I reach out. Colleague comes by a short time later with BPD who reminds client of their current legal obligations. BPD leaves and colleague and I press this individual about the options available and the legal peril they face by continuing current behaviors. We make a plan for tomorrow but then client no shows.

FFL Staff Survey

August 2025

To what extent has the Outreach Specialist's presence allowed you to focus more on your primary library responsibilities?

15 of 21 respondents answered 'substantial difference'

How has the Outreach Specialist's presence affected your stress levels at work?

15 of 21 respondents answered 'substantial difference'

Have you noticed any changes in patron behavior or needs since the Outreach Specialist was embedded?

8 of 21 respondents answered 'substantial difference'

13 of 21 respondents answered 'some difference'

FFL Staff Survey

August 2025

In your opinion, what has been the most valuable impact of having an embedded Outreach Specialist at the library?

It allows me to focus more on my library work and serving patrons in my capacity as a librarian rather than trying to be a librarian and a social worker and a therapist to everyone all at once.

My day to day has improved substantially knowing that there is trained, specialized support in place for some of our most vulnerable patrons. In the past, I experienced feeling ill-equipped and unprepared to support patrons with various social needs. This created a lot of stress that was difficult to process and made completion of other library work very challenging. I believe that having an outreach specialist has improved both staff and patron experiences immensely.

Before David started, patrons would regularly come to me and ask for help finding resources such as a place to sleep for the night, a jacket, and other imperative things that I was not able to provide for them. Having David here has made the library a safer place for patrons and has made it a place where people can come and be connected with vital community resources.

It is beneficial both to patrons and library staff to have a dedicated, experienced social worker onsite to offer support and resources. There are so many complex challenges affecting community members and, while the library cannot meet all needs, this position provides an entry for individualized, nonjudgmental support and meaningful community referrals.

FFL Staff Survey

August 2025

What improvements or changes would you suggest for the Patron Outreach Specialist position going forward?

Hiring a second social worker for Sundays and Mondays.

More hours. Here daily.

The outreach specialist position could be improved by having an outreach specialist available during all or more open hours.

Ideally, it would be great to have patron outreach specialists available on both weekend days and both late evenings the library is open-if future funding allows, having two or more social workers on staff to cover all shifts would be ideal.

CJC Update



Agenda



- Context of City Circle and messaging
- Data sharing
- Take Aways
- Questions

Context

City Circle Pilot began in January 2026 with two primary goals

1

Bring people together in facilitated community meetings to address harm, build accountability, and prevent future violations

2

Reduce reliance on formal court processes while increasing safety, repair, and connection for those affected



Priority Ordinances

- Public urination/defecation
- Noise disturbances
- **Littering**
- Graffiti
- Defacement of property
- **Disorderly conduct**
- **Public use of alcohol or cannabis**
- **Public illegal drug use**
- Disturbing monuments or markers
- Unleashed animals
- **Smoking in non-smoking areas**
- Skateboards, bicycles, e-bikes or motorized vehicles on sidewalks and on the Church Street Marketplace
- **City Hall Park / Church Street violations**
- **Unlawful trespass**
- Unlawful mischief

Bold = violations that have been referred



Total Tickets

Early January
through July 31, 2026

155

40

SUCCESSFUL CLOSURES

99

UNSUCCESSFUL CLOSURES

15

DECLINED OR RETURNED

Dog w/o rabies vaccine

Dog unregistered

Trespassing (9ft) x1

Open container

Noise

Disorderly conduct

Camping

Littering

Illegal dumping

Smoking

Public drug

Public urination / defecation

playing music without permit



Demographics Of Attendees

Race

67% white
12% Black
5% Asian
7% two or more
7% unknown
2% indigenous

Gender

79% men
21% women

Language

English - 90%, Dari 2%, Somali 2%,
Vietnamese 2%

Employment

36% part time; 7% full time
40% unemployed

Housing

45% stable
42% unstable

**We do not have access to
demographic info for people
who did not attend/get in
touch with us.**

Take Aways

- People who received the most tickets were some of the most vulnerable in our community (unemployed, with unstable housing, and lacking reliable contact information).
- Rapidity of the program's processes, while an asset for victims, is not accessible for this population and they were unable to show up for meetings.
- CJC plans to continue to accept civil tickets, which are part of our "Community Referrals" pathway
- City Circle team of volunteers are dedicated, skilled and will continue to work with incidents, across the continuum, that happen in downtown core
- Law Enforcement is encouraged to take advantage of Pre-Charge Diversion option

Questions?

Resolution Related to

BURLINGTON FORWARD: A COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK FOR SAFE PUBLIC SPACES AND A STRONGER COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, Burlington's downtown, parks, sidewalks, streets, libraries, waterfront, bike paths, and other public spaces are among the City's greatest civic assets. They are the places where neighbors gather, children play, businesses and tourism thrives, visitors form lasting impressions, and community life unfolds every day. Preserving these shared public spaces as safe, welcoming, orderly, accessible, and well-maintained for everyone is among the City's most fundamental responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that equitable access to public spaces requires attention to the differing experiences, needs, and barriers faced by community members and visitors, including people with disabilities, people experiencing homelessness, children and youth, older adults, New Americans, and historically marginalized racial and ethnic communities; and

WHEREAS, over the past several years, the Burlington City Council has adopted multiple resolutions and initiatives intended to strengthen public safety, improve community well-being, expand access to housing and behavioral health services, and respond compassionately to the challenges of homelessness, substance use, and mental illness; and

WHEREAS, the City of Burlington, together with healthcare providers, nonprofit organizations, businesses, faith communities, neighborhood organizations, educational institutions, and countless volunteers, has committed substantial public and private resources toward emergency shelter, affordable housing, outreach, behavioral health services, recovery programs, harm reduction initiatives, and other efforts intended to assist vulnerable members of our community; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding these efforts and the extraordinary commitment of those serving our community, persistent public safety concerns, including violence, drug and sex trafficking, property crime, retail theft, and other unlawful conduct, continue to affect many individuals, including those experiencing homelessness, addiction~~substance use disorder~~, and mental illness, ~~continue to be negatively affected by persistent public disorder, criminal activity, violence, repeated overdoses, open drug dealing and use, prohibited camping, vandalism, aggressive or threatening behavior, and other conduct that and unreasonably interfere~~ unreasonably interferes with the use and enjoyment of Burlington's shared public spaces; and

WHEREAS, Burlington is and will remain a compassionate community where residents consistently demonstrate kindness and generosity toward neighbors experiencing homelessness, addiction, mental illness, and other crises. This Resolution builds upon those values; and

WHEREAS, the City Council also finds that allowing individuals to remain in circumstances that jeopardize their health, safety, or dignity without meaningful intervention is neither compassionate nor humane. Lasting compassion requires connecting people to treatment, recovery, housing, supportive services, and, where appropriate, enforcement and accountability for unlawful conduct that harms others or unreasonably interferes with the public's use and enjoyment of shared public spaces; and

WHEREAS, the City Council rejects the false choice between compassion and public safety and affirms that accountability, treatment, housing, recovery, public health, public safety, and public order are complementary, interdependent responsibilities that must be pursued together to advance the public interest and the dignity of every person; and

WHEREAS, the City further recognizes that Burlington cannot reasonably or sustainably serve as the exclusive or primary provider of shelter, behavioral health services, and substance use treatment for individuals from throughout Vermont and outside our state, and that these challenges require sustained partnership among municipalities, the State of Vermont, healthcare institutions, nonprofit organizations, and regional service providers to ensure that responsibility is shared equitably throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that systemic inequities—including racism, poverty, ableism, discrimination, and unequal access to housing, healthcare, behavioral health services, and economic opportunity—have contributed to the conditions addressed in this Resolution, and that effective public policy should include a focus on reducing disparities while improving safety and well-being for all residents; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that children and vulnerable adults who regularly witness open-air drug use, drug transactions, and unmanaged mental health crises in public spaces may experience significant psychological, developmental, and safety harms, including normalization of substance use, exposure to trauma, disruption of a sense of safety and stability, and increased risk of accidental contact with drug paraphernalia or hazardous materials; and

WHEREAS, sustained exposure to visible drug dealing and open-air drug markets in areas frequented by families, including parks, schools, playgrounds, and public transit corridors, can contribute to children's fear, anxiety, and diminished use of public spaces intended for their recreation and education; and

WHEREAS, the presence of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness or acute mental health crisis in public spaces reflects broader gaps in the City's housing, behavioral health, and crisis response systems, and the City recognizes that effective, compassionate, and adequately resourced responses to these conditions are essential both to protecting the dignity and safety of the individuals experiencing them and to reducing the secondary impacts on public spaces used by children and families; and

WHEREAS, in implementing this Resolution, the City shall ensure its Office of Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging is involved in identifying and addressing disparate impacts on historically marginalized and underserved communities; protecting the dignity and civil rights of all people; and ensuring reasonable opportunities for affected communities to participate in decisions that impact them. The City shall seek to ensure that public safety, public health, housing, behavioral health, enforcement, and policies governing our public spaces are implemented consistently and in ways that do not disproportionately burden any racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, disability, or other historically marginalized community; and

WHEREAS, restoring and preserving Burlington's public spaces requires clearly articulated values, public policy, measurable implementation, meaningful accountability, prioritized enforcement of our existing laws and ordinances, sustained regional partnership, and a continuing commitment by every level of government and every community partner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Burlington City Council hereby adopts the following policy framework to restore and preserve safe, welcoming, ~~orderly,~~ and accessible public spaces; expand meaningful pathways to housing, treatment, and recovery; strengthen accountability for unlawful conduct ~~and conduct that unreasonably interferes with the use and enjoyment of our shared public spaces;~~ and promote shared regional responsibility for and investment in addressing the complex challenges of homelessness, substance use disorder, and behavioral health challenges.

ARTICLE I

General Policy

Section 1.01. Purpose.

The purpose of this Resolution is to establish a comprehensive policy framework for restoring and preserving Burlington's public spaces as safe, welcoming, ~~orderly,~~ accessible, and well-maintained places for all residents and visitors, while continuing Burlington's longstanding commitment to compassion, dignity, and meaningful support for individuals experiencing

homelessness, substance use disorder, behavioral health challenges, and other circumstances requiring public assistance. To achieve these objectives, Burlington must realign its ~~values and related efforts~~ using evidence, community input, and measurable outcomes to assess existing approaches and develop revised strategies that advance safety, dignity, inclusion, belonging, and equitable access to services. An honest assessment indicates that neither the current nor previous policy frameworks have achieved their intended results, making ~~a revised strategy~~ necessary moving forward.

Section 1.02. General Policy.

It shall be the policy of the City Council that:

A. Burlington's public spaces belong to everyone. Every resident and visitor should be able to use and enjoy the City's parks, streets, sidewalks, libraries, waterfront, bike paths, public buildings, downtown, neighborhood business districts, and other public spaces safely ~~and without unreasonable interference or exposure to unlawful activity and disruptive behavior~~.

B. ~~Compassion without accountability is not compassion.~~ The City Council rejects the notion that ~~public safety requires choosing between compassion and accountability~~ tolerance of unlawful conduct is itself an act of compassion. No individual has the right to engage in unlawful conduct or conduct that unreasonably interferes with the use and enjoyment of shared public spaces. Effective public policy requires both meaningful opportunities for prevention, outreach, treatment, recovery, housing, and supportive services ~~and while consistent enforcement of criminal laws and municipal ordinances~~ consistently, fairly, and in accordance with due process. Enforcement shall focus on unlawful conduct and actual harm, not on a person's housing status, disability, health condition, or other protected characteristic, that protect the public's health, safety, and welfare. The City shall pursue both ~~objectives~~ compassion and accountability simultaneously to ensure that Burlington's public spaces remain safe, welcoming, and accessible to all.

C. Individuals experiencing homelessness, substance use disorder, or behavioral health challenges deserve meaningful opportunities to obtain shelter, treatment, recovery services, and long-term stability. Burlington shall continue advocating for coordinated regional and statewide responses to homelessness, behavioral health challenges, and substance use disorder, recognizing that these challenges extend beyond Burlington's borders and require sustained partnership among municipalities, the State of Vermont, healthcare providers, nonprofit organizations, and other community partners.

D. Decisions affecting public spaces, public health services, municipal resources, and zoning policy shall be guided by objective evidence, public transparency, measurable outcomes, and

accountability to the public. Public accountability requires admitting when systems and policies have fallen short, and when existing ~~social~~ services lack the capacity to deliver the interventions needed for consistent improved outcomes.

ARTICLE II

Protecting Burlington's Public Spaces

Section 2.01. Statement of Intent.

The purpose of this Article is to restore and preserve Burlington and its public spaces as safe, welcoming, orderly, accessible, and well-maintained places that may be comfortably enjoyed by residents and visitors of all ages while respecting the dignity of every person and ensuring that public spaces remain available for their intended public use.

Section 2.02. Public Space Policy.

The City shall prioritize the restoration and preservation of Burlington's public spaces for the benefit of all residents and visitors. Public spaces shall be managed to encourage lawful activity, positive community use, economic vitality, recreation, civic engagement, and public enjoyment.

Public spaces should not merely be accessible; they should be places where residents and visitors choose to gather and should reasonably expect to feel safe doing so.

The City shall make it a top priority to ensure public spaces remain reasonably free from unlawful conduct and conduct that unreasonably interferes with the public's use and enjoyment of those spaces, and that such spaces are well maintained, clean, and reasonably free of graffiti, litter, unattended personal belongings, and other conditions that detract from their safety, accessibility, and public enjoyment. Implementation shall include reasonable procedures to protect and store unattended personal belongings.

Section 2.03. Activation of Public Spaces.

The City finds that well-programmed, well-maintained, and actively used public spaces are among the most effective long-term strategies for promoting public safety, strengthening community life, and discouraging unlawful and disruptive activity.

The City shall expand the activation of Burlington's public spaces through community programming, arts and cultural events, recreational opportunities, family-oriented activities, and partnerships that increase positive public use of parks, downtown, neighborhood business

districts, and other civic spaces. Consistent with the FY27 budget resolution, the City Council requests that the Administration continue coordinating with the City Council's Parks, Arts & Culture Committee to develop and implement these efforts.

Section 2.04. City Hall Park and Organized Activities.

The City Council reaffirms its prior policies regarding the restoration and stewardship of City Hall Park as outlined in the Council's August 2025 resolution concerning the management, activation, and preservation of the Park. The City Council declares again that City Hall Park shall remain one of Burlington's principal civic gathering spaces—welcoming, accessible, well-maintained, and available for the broad enjoyment of residents and visitors.

Within thirty (30) days following adoption of this Resolution, the City Council asks that the City Attorney's Office prepare and submit to the Council any ordinance amendments necessary to clarify where organized activities may occur within City-owned public spaces, establish when permits are required for such activities, and ensure that such activities do not materially interfere with the intended public use of City Hall Park or other public spaces.

The City Council requests that the Administration renew stalled efforts, in accordance with applicable law and constitutional protections, to assist with navigating how to better coordinate social service activities in City Hall Park with other events, programming, and public uses of the Park. ~~secure any available and necessary permits for, or if permits are unavailable, offer alternative locations to unpermitted social service activities where participants could be better served while preserving the Park's role as Burlington's principal civic gathering space.~~ If necessary to identify alternative locations, the City Council asks that the Administration evaluate appropriate indoor and outdoor municipal facilities, including Contois Auditorium where practicable and consistent with operational needs. Any relocation or alternative site for social service activities shall be developed in consultation with affected service users and providers, and reasonable efforts should be made to offer comparable or improved access, accessibility, safety, and continuity of services.

Within sixty (60) days following adoption of this Resolution, the City Council requests that the Department of Parks, Recreation & Waterfront issue a request for proposals seeking one or more vendors, nonprofit organizations, or other qualified operators to activate the patio area located in the northeast corner of City Hall Park through food and beverage concessions, retail kiosks, recreational uses, cultural programming, public amenities, or other uses that increase positive public activity and enhance the visitor experience. Any request for proposals shall encourage creative, seasonal, and year-round activation strategies that promote regular public use of the space and are consistent with City Hall Park's role as Burlington's principal civic

gathering space. Alternatively, the Administration may evaluate repurposing the patio area as a centralized operational hub for public safety personnel, in alignment with similar proven strategies like those implemented at the Fletcher Free Library and the intent of the City Council's September 2024 resolution on establishing a downtown public safety hub, to provide a visible, accessible, and continuous public safety presence within City Hall Park alongside connections to community resources and services.

Section 2.05. Expansion of Public Safety Personnel and Public Space Response Capacity.

The City's sworn police officers, Community Service Officers, Urban Park Rangers, and other civilian public safety personnel continue to perform their duties with exceptional dedication and professionalism in protecting and preserving our public spaces. A number of these roles, particularly sworn police officers, unfortunately continue to face significant challenges to staffing, with available police officers consistently remaining at or below current levels since 2023. As the City continues with long-term efforts to rebuild its public safety infrastructure, there is an immediate need to strengthen the City's visible presence within its public spaces. Accordingly, the City Council requests that the Administration act within sixty (60) days following enactment of the Resolution to present recommendations to the Council on which public safety roles can be most immediately and substantially increased, if even on a temporary basis, to ensure more personnel are assigned to visible public safety and public space response functions. Moreover, the City Council asks that the Chief of Police continue to regularly update the Council's Public Safety Committee on recruitment efforts at the Burlington Police Department.

Immediately following enactment of this Resolution and prior to delivering the above-requested recommendations, the City Council requests that the Mayor take the steps necessary to expand the visible presence of public safety personnel in areas experiencing persistent public safety and public order concerns, which the Mayor's Administration has previously attempted to address through its working group on "hot spots," where ongoing conditions threaten public safety, diminish the public's use and enjoyment of these spaces, and risk undermining the success of generational projects like that at Burlington Square. For this purpose, the Mayor may use, as necessary, the monies allocated by the City Council in the FY27 budget to contract with third-party public safety personnel, including certified police officers. Additionally, to the extent permitted by existing agreements with contracted public safety personnel, such as those currently assigned to patrol municipal garages, the Mayor is authorized to repurpose these personnel to higher priority areas.

Moreover, to the extent practicable and permitted by applicable collective bargaining agreements, the City Council requests that the Administration recruit and organize one or more Public Space Response Teams comprised of City employees and employees of other local organizations committed to the vitality of Burlington who voluntarily elect to participate and successfully complete appropriate training. Public Space Response Teams shall supplement, but not replace, traditional public safety resources by increasing the City's visible presence within public spaces, promoting lawful and welcoming public use, and assisting in the preservation of City property. If the City's unionized staff are interested in this volunteer opportunity, the Council acknowledges the potential need to submit proposals to municipal unions as necessary to accommodate this. While participation would be voluntary rather than mandated, it is the intent of this Resolution that City employees participate on paid time. All public safety personnel and Public Space Response Teams shall receive training in racial equity, implicit bias, de-escalation, disability awareness, trauma-informed practices, cultural responsiveness, and constitutional and civil rights protections.

To the fullest extent permitted by law and consistent with appropriate training and supervision, members of Public Space Response Teams may be authorized to:

- A. Address and intercede conduct that unreasonably interferes with the public's use and enjoyment of Burlington's public spaces, including, but not limited to, the open use of drugs and alcohol, public intoxication, smoking where prohibited, disorderly behavior, and the encumbrance of sidewalks and walking paths;
- B. Issue municipal ordinance citations within the scope of their legal authority;
- C. Issue notices against trespass and take other lawful actions necessary to protect City property and public spaces;
- D. Promote cleanliness and sanitation, identify maintenance concerns, and coordinate the prompt removal of graffiti and other public nuisances; and
- E. Connect individuals experiencing crisis, homelessness, substance use disorder, or other behavioral health needs with appropriate treatment, recovery, housing, and supportive services.

The City Attorney and Chief Administrative Officer shall prepare and submit for Council consideration any ordinance amendments, budget proposals, administrative policies, or other measures necessary to implement this Section.

Section 2.06. Public Safety Cameras and Public Notification.

The City Council finds that visible public safety cameras, when lawfully deployed and appropriately identified, deter unlawful conduct, assist in criminal investigations, and promote public confidence in the safety of Burlington's public spaces.

Within thirty (30) days following adoption of this Resolution, the City Council asks that the Chief Information Officer prepare and submit to the Council a report identifying all City-owned or City-operated public safety cameras currently operating within Burlington's downtown and other public spaces. The report shall identify each camera's general location, operational status, and any significant gaps in camera coverage requiring future consideration, provided that nothing in this Section shall require disclosure of information that would compromise public safety or law enforcement operations and the report will be provided confidentially to the extent permitted by Vermont's Open Meeting Law. Moreover, in carrying out this Section and any future expansion of public safety camera systems, the City shall remain mindful of the importance of protecting individual privacy and civil liberties and shall ensure that the deployment, operation, and management of such systems are conducted in accordance with applicable law and appropriate safeguards governing the collection, retention, access to, and use of recorded data, including but not limited to the City's Fair and Impartial Policing Policy.

The City Council requests that the Administration install and maintain clear, visible signage at appropriate locations notifying the public that public safety cameras are in operation. ~~Such signage shall be designed to deter unlawful conduct while promoting public awareness that public spaces are actively monitored for the protection of residents, visitors, businesses, and City property.~~

Section 2.07. Public Space Stewardship and Graffiti Removal.

Recognizing that clean, well-maintained public spaces contribute to public safety, civic pride, and neighborhood vitality, the City Council requests that the Mayor coordinate with the Council's Community Development & Neighbor Revitalization Committee to establish a public space stewardship program to encourage and support volunteer participation in the prompt removal of graffiti from public spaces and other beautification initiatives consistent with the purposes of this Resolution. In establishing this public space stewardship program, the Administration and CDNR Committee may collaborate with organizations and individuals already volunteering to perform the expanded work called for in this Section. The Council also encourages the Administration and CDNR Committee to work in partnership with Neighborhood Planning Assemblies (NPAs) and neighborhood residents in deciding beautification priorities, especially communities that have historically been underinvested in.

Any program shall provide participating residents with appropriate training, safety guidance, equipment, supplies, and other resources necessary to assist the City in removing graffiti from publicly owned property in a safe, lawful, and coordinated manner.

The City Council reaffirms that the prompt removal of graffiti from privately owned property remains the primary responsibility of the property owner. Any public space stewardship program should also provide a mechanism through which private property owners may authorize trained City employees or approved volunteers participating in the program to enter their property for the purpose of removing graffiti, subject to such reasonable conditions and limitations as the property owner may establish.

Section 2.08. Expanded Partnerships with Nonprofit Organizations and Private Property Owners.

The City Council recognizes that restoring Burlington's public spaces requires meaningful collaboration with businesses, nonprofit organizations, faith communities, and other private property owners whose properties directly influence the experience of surrounding neighborhoods.

Accordingly, the City Council asks the Mayor to develop and make publicly available for private property owners educational materials on:

- A.** Procedures for issuing notices against trespass as authorized by law;
- B.** Crime prevention and environmental design strategies;
- C.** Details on the extent to which private property owners can be held criminally or civilly liable for unlawful or other wrongful conduct permitted to continue on their premises;
- D.** Other available tools to assist property owners in responding to unlawful activity while promoting safe, welcoming, and well-maintained properties.

The City Council further asks the Mayor to engage with nonprofit organizations that provide services to individuals experiencing homelessness, substance use disorder, mental health challenges, or other vulnerabilities, and to relay the City's request that such organizations adopt reasonable expectations for respectful and lawful behavior on the organization's property and within adjacent public rights-of-way and public spaces immediately surrounding the organization's facilities, including expectations designed to discourage conduct that creates public safety risks, interferes with the use and enjoyment of neighboring properties and public spaces, or otherwise adversely affects the surrounding community. The City encourages nonprofit organizations to communicate these expectations in a manner that preserves the

dignity of those receiving services while reinforcing shared responsibility for maintaining safe, welcoming, and accessible neighborhoods.

Section 2.09. Public Space Performance Standards.

Within sixty (60) days following adoption of this Resolution, the City Council requests that the Mayor collaborate with the City Council's Public Safety and Parks, Arts & Culture Committees to adopt measurable performance standards for evaluating the condition of Burlington's public spaces, which shall be publicly posted on the City's Data Hub.

The standards shall include objective performance measures relating to, as appropriate:

- A.** Public safety conditions, including but not limited to the number of incidents, offenses, and arrests in public spaces. Where possible and legally permissible, performance data should be disaggregated by race, ethnicity, age, disability, gender, housing status, and other relevant demographic factors to identify and address disparate impacts;
- B.** Quality-of-life complaints, including but not limited to SeeClickFix reports on cleanliness and sanitation, and graffiti response;
- C.** Public space activation and programming;
- D.** Visitor and resident use of public spaces; and
- E.** Such additional performance measures as the Administration determines appropriate to enable the City Council and the public to evaluate progress over time.

ARTICLE III

Sustainable Intervention and Regional Responsibility

Section 3.01. Statement of Intent.

The purpose of this Article is to establish a sustainable framework for responding to homelessness, substance use disorder, and behavioral health challenges. The City Council reaffirms Burlington's longstanding commitment to ensuring that individuals experiencing crisis are afforded meaningful opportunities to obtain shelter, treatment, recovery services, and permanent housing while recognizing that emergency interventions must ultimately lead to greater long-term stability, independence autonomy, and well-being, and improved health outcomes.

The City Council further recognizes that compassion requires meaningful intervention, measurable results, and shared regional responsibility. Emergency measures are intended to stabilize individuals and connect them to long-term solutions and should not become permanent substitutes for housing, treatment, recovery, or personal stability. The Council acknowledges that meaningful long-term strategies require time and resources to be implemented, and that they should be trauma-informed, culturally responsive, accessible to people with disabilities, and implemented consistently and fairly.

Section 3.02. Establishing Service Capacity.

Within sixty (60) days following adoption of this Resolution, the City Council requests that the Mayor convene representatives of organizations providing emergency shelter, affordable housing, behavioral health services, substance use treatment, healthcare, emergency response, outreach, and other appropriate public and private partners to evaluate Burlington's sustainable capacity to responsibly provide emergency shelter, sanctioned camping, outreach, treatment, recovery services, and related supports. To the extent the City is already convening a group that includes the above-referenced stakeholders, the Administration may expand the scope of that group's work to include developing the assessment called for in this Section.

The assessment shall evaluate available staffing, financial resources, healthcare capacity, emergency response capability, housing availability, case management, sanitation, public safety impacts, fiscal sustainability, and such other operational considerations as may be appropriate.

Based upon that assessment, the City Council requests that the Mayor recommend the maximum number of individuals that Burlington can sustainably and humanely serve at any given time through the coordinated provision of emergency shelter, sanctioned camping, outreach, treatment, recovery services, and related supports. The term "humanely," for the purposes of this Section, shall include but not be limited to consideration of the lived experiences of people accessing services and whether services are accessible, culturally responsive, disability-inclusive, trauma-informed, and effective. The recommendation shall identify the methodology and assumptions used to establish that number and shall include objective indicators by which the City may determine when Burlington has reached or exceeded its sustainable service capacity.

The Mayor may periodically review the recommended sustainable service capacity and recommend revisions to the City Council as conditions, available resources, or regional participation materially change.

Section 3.03. Regional Responsibility.

The City Council affirms that homelessness, substance use disorder, and behavioral health challenges are regional and statewide challenges requiring regional and statewide solutions.

The City Council further finds that current conditions strongly indicate that Burlington is providing services beyond what can be sustainably supported by its existing housing, shelter, behavioral health, public safety, and municipal resources. While the assessment required by Section 3.02 will establish a recommended sustainable service capacity, the City Council finds that immediate action to promote greater regional responsibility should not await completion of that assessment.

Burlington will continue to lead with compassion. Leadership, however, does not require Burlington to serve as the exclusive or primary provider of services for individuals from throughout Vermont.

The City Council requests that the Administration implement equitable policies and procedures to ensure that, when Burlington has reached or exceeded its sustainable service capacity, individuals seeking services are connected with available housing, shelter, treatment, recovery, behavioral health, and other supportive services in other communities, including through transportation assistance where appropriate. The City shall actively work with the State of Vermont, neighboring municipalities, healthcare providers, housing organizations, and regional service providers to expand service capacity throughout the region so that responsibility for serving vulnerable individuals is shared more equitably. Regional responsibility shall be pursued through shared investment and expanded service capacity across municipalities, rather than through exclusion or displacement of individuals based on their place of origin or current residence.

Section 3.04. Expanded Temporary Emergency Shelter Space and Sanctioned Camping.

Within ninety (90) days following adoption of this Resolution, the City Council requests that the Administration designate one or more locations for expanded temporary emergency shelter space or sanctioned camping to be utilized only when necessary to supplement available capacity at established emergency shelters.

Any expanded temporary emergency shelter space or sanctioned camping location shall be subject to approval by the City Council ~~and generally situated outside Burlington's downtown core, waterfront, shared use path network, and heavily utilized public parks~~ and shall be selected with due consideration for surrounding neighborhoods, public infrastructure, environmental impacts, and the availability of supportive services. To best serve individuals able to utilize this location or locations, efforts will be made to designate locations with access to drinking water, toilets, shower facilities and handwashing stations, laundry, electricity, and

dumpsters. To that end, the City Council acknowledges that while temporary emergency shelter space is preferable to sanctioned camping, neither should be considered a permanent housing solution and should be utilized only for the duration necessary to transition individuals to more appropriate ~~placements~~housing options.

Prior to approving any designated locations under this Section, the City Council will expect that the location will adopt and enforce operational standards governing admission, sanitation, security, storage of belongings, code of conduct, outreach, behavioral health services, treatment referrals, housing navigation, transportation, case management, and ongoing program evaluation.

The City Council asks that the Administration establish measurable performance standards for any expanded temporary emergency shelter space or sanctioned camping and shall publish the resulting performance data in an anonymized, publicly accessible format on the City's website no less frequently than monthly. At a minimum, the publicly reported data shall include:

- A. The number of individuals served during the reporting period and cumulatively;
- B. The average daily occupancy and utilization rate;
- C. The number and percentage of participants successfully transitioned to emergency shelter, treatment, recovery programs, permanent supportive housing, permanent housing, or other stable housing placements;
- D. The average length of stay for participants;
- E. The number of emergency service responses to a location; and
- F. Such additional performance measures as the Administration determines are appropriate to evaluate whether a location is functioning as a temporary intervention that promotes health, safety, and successful transitions to more appropriate placements.

Section 3.05. Unauthorized Encampments.

The City Council finds that unauthorized encampments located in areas where camping is specifically prohibited are inconsistent with the policies established by this Resolution.

Consistent with applicable legal requirements and in accordance with the City's Sheltering on Public Lands Policy, the City Council requests that the Administration act more promptly upon discovery of a prohibited encampment, generally within twenty-four (24) hours, to provide notice of a specified date on which the encampment will face ticketing, no trespass orders,

~~other legal action,~~ and removal of any remaining items. This date should be as soon as reasonably practicable following the provision of notice, allowing sufficient time for affected individuals to make alternative arrangements while protecting public health, public safety, environmental resources, and the public's continued use and enjoyment of Burlington's public spaces.

Prior to removal, the City shall make reasonable efforts to identify and offer accessible alternatives, provide adequate notice consistent with applicable law, protect and store personal property, and connect individuals with housing and services. In accordance with the City's policy regarding Ssheltering on Ppublic Llands Policy, encampments noticed for removal will be provided contact information from local social service organizations serving unsheltered residents, the State of Vermont's Coordinated Entry Screening Form with instructions, information on other available community resources, information on the officials responsible for an encampment that is not removed, and details on where any collected personal property will be stored.

For the purposes of this Article, the City Council notes that Section 22-7 of the Burlington Code of Ordinances provides that "[i]t shall be unlawful for any person to camp in any public park in the city." Section 22-1 enumerates the City's parks and Section 22-23 further provides that "the land known as Urban Reserve ... shall be considered a city park subject to this chapter."

To the extent the City does not have sufficient staffing capacity to comply with this Section, the City Council asks that the Mayor's Administration act within sixty (60) days following enactment of this Resolution to present recommendations to the Council detailing how it will promptly increase the number of personnel authorized and trained to provide notices of removal and conduct associated outreach. The recommendations shall identify the staffing, organizational changes, funding, and implementation timeline necessary to ensure that notices of removal are issued consistently throughout the City.

~~The City Council requests that the Administration establish measurable performance standards governing the City's response to prohibited encampments and shall publish the resulting performance data in a publicly accessible format on the City's website no less frequently than monthly. At a minimum, the publicly reported data shall include:~~

~~A. The number of prohibited encampments identified during the reporting period;~~

~~B. The average time between identification of a prohibited encampment and issuance of a notice of removal;~~

~~C. The average time between issuance of notice and removal of the encampment;~~

~~D. The number and percentage of individuals contacted who accepted referrals or were successfully connected to shelter, a sanctioned camping location, coordinated entry, behavioral health services, treatment, recovery services, or other supportive services prior to or following removal of the encampment; and~~

~~E. Such additional performance measures as the Administration determines are appropriate to evaluate the effectiveness of the City's outreach and enforcement efforts.~~

Section 3.06. Accountability and Enforcement.

The City Council reaffirms that every individual is entitled to dignity, due process, and meaningful opportunities to obtain treatment, recovery services, shelter, and supportive services. The City further reaffirms its commitment to prevention, treatment, recovery, and other evidence-based public health interventions.

The City Council rejects the notion that enforcing our laws and ordinances in response to unlawful conduct is an uncaring or unempathetic act, or that tolerance of unlawful conduct is itself an act of compassion. Effective public policy requires meaningful opportunities for treatment and recovery together with consistent enforcement of criminal laws that protect the public and preserve Burlington's shared public spaces.

Accordingly, the City Council declares that Burlington will not tolerate drug trafficking, violent crime, or illegal activity that impacts ~~the unlawful open use of controlled substances, retail theft and other property crimes that frequently support substance use disorder, or other criminal conduct that threatens~~ public safety or ~~unreasonably interferes with~~ the public's use and enjoyment of shared public spaces.

The City Council further declares that enforcement of local and state~~these~~ laws shall remain a priority of the City. The Council supports proactive investigation, lawful detention where appropriate, arrest when supported by the facts and authorized by law, and referral for prosecution of individuals engaged in such criminal activity. Nothing in this Resolution shall be construed to discourage law enforcement officers from taking appropriate enforcement action authorized by law in response to these offenses.

The City shall continue pursuing treatment and recovery for those willing to accept assistance while supporting the investigation, arrest where authorized by law, prosecution, and appropriate proportionate and lawful consequences~~punishment for~~ individuals whose criminal conduct perpetuates addiction, victimizes residents and businesses, or undermines the safety and vitality of Burlington's public spaces, including treatment, diversion, restorative

justice, or other alternatives where appropriate. Refusal or failure to participate in options offered shall not result in the City ceasing efforts to address criminal conduct.

Furthermore, the City Council notes that both the Situation Table and City Circle initiatives were implemented to improve outcomes for individuals at elevated risk of involvement with the criminal justice system, behavioral health crises, substance use, and homelessness, including by reducing emergency department utilization, overdoses, and other preventable harms, while also providing a more immediate and consistent system of accountability for individuals who repeatedly violate municipal ordinances.

The City Council is particularly concerned that the City Circle initiative, which was previously identified by the Mayor's Administration as a key component of Burlington's strategy to improve public safety and accountability, appears to have been substantially curtailed or discontinued. The Council further understands that this change may have been attributable, in whole or in part, to reductions in available funding, and seeks clarification regarding the status of the initiative, the reasons for any changes in its implementation, and whether alternative funding sources or program models have been considered. The Council is also concerned that, to its knowledge, the accountability mechanisms contemplated by the City Circle model, including prosecution or other consequences for participants who failed to comply with restorative justice requirements, have not been meaningfully utilized, and requests information sufficient to evaluate whether the program has operated as originally intended.

Within thirty (30) days of the adoption of this Resolution, the City Council's Public Safety Committee shall prepare and deliver a list of questions to the Mayor's Administration, the City Attorney's Office, and the Community Justice Center, the responses to which shall provide the Council with a comprehensive update regarding the Situation Table and City Circle initiatives, including, at a minimum: (i) the current operational status of each initiative; (ii) participation levels and measurable outcomes for individuals served; (iii) data concerning compliance with restorative justice requirements and any enforcement or prosecutorial actions taken in response to noncompliance, to the extent permitted by law; (iv) the funding sources supporting each initiative, including any reductions or anticipated funding gaps; and (v) recommendations for the continuation, modification, expansion, or replacement of these initiatives based on their first year of implementation.

Section 3.07. Request for Ongoing Assistance From State Public Safety Personnel

Recognizing Burlington's ongoing public safety resource challenges, the City Council calls upon the Vermont State Police to continue partnering with the Burlington Police Department by providing supplemental law enforcement resources in and around the City's downtown and

other locations where additional law enforcement presence is necessary to protect public safety, address criminal activity, and restore public confidence in Burlington's public spaces.

Separately, the City Council calls upon the Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles Enforcement Division to expand traffic enforcement efforts within the City of Burlington's principal transportation corridors, including the new Champlain Parkway, where speeding, reckless driving, excessive engine noise, and other traffic violations have become persistent public safety and quality-of-life concerns.

The City Council affirms that, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, it welcomes and consents to the enforcement of both the laws of the State of Vermont and the ordinances of the City of Burlington by duly authorized State law enforcement officers operating within the City, consistent with their statutory authority and any applicable intergovernmental agreements governing such enforcement. In addition, state and local law enforcement agencies should coordinate to ensure consistent standards, accountability, community engagement, and compliance with racial equity and civil rights protections.

ARTICLE IV

Public Health Policy and Permitted Uses

Section 4.01. Statement of Intent.

The purpose of this Article is to establish the City's policy regarding the implementation of significant public health initiatives, to reaffirm the City Council's legislative role in establishing zoning policy, and to strengthen collaboration between the City of Burlington and the State of Vermont in addressing public safety, behavioral health, and substance use challenges.

Section 4.02. Public Health Policy and Zoning.

The City Council continues to support accessible, evidence-based public health initiatives that improve individual and community health while recognizing that the location, operation, and long-term impacts of significant public health services should be considered through transparent public processes consistent with the City's Comprehensive Development Ordinance and adopted zoning policy. Zoning decisions shall also consider potential disparate impacts on historically marginalized communities.

The City Council finds that significant public health services ~~with~~ that may have substantial neighborhood impacts should not be established through administrative interpretation where

doing so effectively creates a new principal use not expressly identified within the Comprehensive Development Ordinance.

Section 4.03. Overdose Prevention Centers.

The City Council finds that overdose prevention centers are not presently identified as expressly permitted principal uses within the Comprehensive Development Ordinance.

Accordingly, the City Council declares that any proposal to authorize overdose prevention centers within the City of Burlington should proceed only through amendment of the Comprehensive Development Ordinance following public notice, public hearing, and legislative action by the City Council.

The City Council further declares that, should such an amendment be proposed, overdose prevention centers should not be permitted within Burlington's Downtown Improvement District, as defined by the City's Charter.

The Council stands by its previous acknowledgments that overdose prevention centers may serve populations experiencing significant health disparities. They may also help reduce the amount of public drug use occurring in our shared public spaces. Any consideration of a potential overdose prevention center location shall include an evidence-based assessment of public health outcomes, anticipated community impacts, equity, accessibility, and the potential benefits and risks to people who use drugs and the broader community.

Section 4.04. Syringe Service Programs.

The City Council finds that syringe service programs are a valuable public health strategy but are not presently identified as expressly permitted principal uses within the Comprehensive Development Ordinance and should not be deemed to constitute any currently permitted principal use absent express legislative authorization.

Accordingly, the City Council declares that any proposal to authorize syringe service programs as a principal use should proceed only through amendment of the Comprehensive Development Ordinance through the City's legislative zoning amendment process.

The City Council further declares that while syringe service programs should continue to be supported in Burlington, they should not be permitted within Burlington's Downtown Improvement District. The City Council ~~opposes the continued operation or establishment of syringe service programs within Burlington's downtown core and~~ calls upon the Vermont Department of Health to work collaboratively with the City and local operating partners to

identify an accessible alternative location that better advances public health objectives while supporting the restoration and preservation of Burlington's public spaces.

The City Council further calls upon the Vermont Department of Health to consult and collaborate with the City before establishing, relocating, or materially expanding significant public health services within Burlington so that public health objectives, zoning policy, neighborhood compatibility, and impacts upon public spaces may all be appropriately considered. The Mayor's Administration shall promptly notify the City Council upon learning of State-sanctioned efforts to expand public health services within Burlington.

Additionally, within sixty (60) days following enactment of this Resolution, the City Council's Community Development & Neighbor Revitalization Committee shall begin meeting to develop a resolution that reaffirms, revises, or develops new recommendations from its previously developed report on syringe litter that will further the goals of this Section.

The City Council affirms that the positions taken in this Article regarding an Overdose Prevention Center or Syringe Service Programs are in alignment with Burlington's current comprehensive municipal plan, which acknowledges the difficulties associated with the proximity of drug trafficking and use to those in recovery, and provides in pertinent part that:

[H]igh concentration of social service providers can become easily unmanageable if all stakeholders are not working together, keeping an eye on some of the larger interactions and their implications. For example, the downtown is arguably not the best environment for people recovering from alcohol and drug addiction. The presence of active drug dealing and the highest concentration of drinking establishments in the state create serious challenges for those in recovery.

ARTICLE V

Implementation, Accountability, State Partnership, and Continuing Oversight

Section 5.01. Statement of Intent.

The purpose of this Article is to ensure that the policies established by this Resolution are translated into coordinated action through measurable implementation, public accountability, regular reporting, and continuing oversight by the City Council.

Section 5.02. Partnership with the State of Vermont.

The City Council appreciates the Governor's most recent efforts to support Burlington with additional public safety resources and calls upon the Governor to establish a sustained partnership with the City of Burlington to continue addressing the unique public safety, behavioral health, homelessness, and substance use challenges confronting Vermont's largest municipality.

The City Council requests that the Mayor invite representatives of the Governor's Office and appropriate State agencies to meet annually with the Administration, City Council, State legislators, and other regional leaders to evaluate regional progress, identify barriers to collaboration, and recommend additional actions to strengthen the partnership between the City of Burlington, surrounding communities, and the State of Vermont.

The City Council specifically refers back to the requests included in its August 2025 resolution on City Hall Park and its asks for the following specific actions by the State of Vermont and Governor to support Burlington in addressing chronic safety and health challenges: (1) Convene a county-wide committee of local, county and state law enforcement agencies to develop a coordinated response to drug trafficking and related crimes; (2) Convene youth service providers, schools, and staff from the Agency of Human Services to specifically examine trends among juveniles engaged in violence, drugs, and gun possession to identify strategies to interrupt these trends for at-risk juveniles; and (3) Convene a public health strategy discussion between members of the Department of Health and Department of Mental Health to examine how to remove barriers to treatment and address limited capacity to existing drug treatment centers to support people living with substance use disorder finding easier pathways to treatment and recovery.

The City Council further recognizes the substantial progress achieved through the Chittenden County Accountability Docket, which demonstrated that dedicated judicial resources could promote more timely case resolution, meaningful accountability, improved access to treatment and services, and greater confidence in the administration of justice for harm done to our communities. Accordingly, the City Council requests that the Governor, in coordination with the Chief Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court and other appropriate State officials, continue and, as appropriate, institutionalize this model in Chittenden County by supporting the continued assignment of a dedicated judge, prosecutor, public defender, and necessary court personnel and resources to ensure the prompt adjudication of cases involving repeat offenders and individuals with multiple pending criminal matters.

Section 5.03. Legislative Partnership with the Vermont General Assembly.

The City Council calls upon the members of the Chittenden County Senate and House delegations, together with members of the Vermont General Assembly representing communities throughout the State, to support the enactment and strengthening of laws that advance the purposes of this Resolution.

The City Council further calls upon the General Assembly to work collaboratively with municipalities, public safety agencies, healthcare providers, service organizations, and other stakeholders to enact legislation that:

- A. Strengthens public safety while protecting ~~individual civil~~ rights, advancing equity, and ensuring due process and equal protection under the law;
- B. Expands access to and investment in behavioral health, substance use treatment, recovery services, and permanent supportive housing throughout Vermont;
- C. Promotes equitable regional responsibility for addressing homelessness and behavioral health challenges while ensuring that individuals are not denied access to essential services based on race, ethnicity, disability, income, housing status, or place of origin;
- D. Provides municipalities with appropriate ~~legal authority and~~ resources to restore and preserve public spaces;
- E. ~~Encourages~~Supports timely access to appropriate support intervention for individuals experiencing behavioral health crises or substance use disorder;
- F. Improves coordination among State agencies and municipalities; and
- G. Otherwise advances the purposes of this Resolution.

The City Council further directs the Mayor and the City's legislative representatives to advocate for legislation consistent with these principles and to report to the City Council regarding significant legislative developments affecting implementation of this Resolution.

Section 5.04. Continuing Commitment.

The City Council adopts this Resolution not merely as a response to current conditions, but as a continuing statement of municipal policy intended to guide future legislative decisions, strengthen public confidence in local government, and ~~restore and~~ preserve Burlington's public spaces for future generations.

The City Council believes that the strength of a community is measured not only by how it responds to those in crisis, but also by how faithfully it preserves the public spaces that belong

to everyone. Through this Resolution, Burlington recommits itself to both responsibilities and affirms that they are inseparable from one another. A community is strongest when every person can participate in public life with dignity, safety, and a meaningful sense of belonging.