

August 14, 2025 — 6:30 PM
Council Conference Room
Hybrid Meeting

PEACE COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

Police Employment, Accountability, & Community Engagement (PEACE) Commission meetings are being conducted in a hybrid format with in-person and remote options for attending.

Remote Attendance: Members of the public may attend this meeting in person or via [MS Teams](#).

1. Call to Order

2. Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge and honor the Dakota nation, on whose ancestral land the City of Golden Valley is built, and whose land resources we use. We commit to counteracting the erasure of the cultural practices and presence of the Dakota people and through education and by amplifying a wide range of indigenous voices.

3. Roll Call

4. Approval of Agenda

5. Approval of Minutes

5.A. PEACE Commission Minutes 05.08.25

5.B. PEACE Commission Minutes 07.10.2025

6. Discussion/Action Items

6.A. [Prosecution 2025 Budget Check In](#)

6.B. Expanded Response Update

6.C. Bylaws Review

7. Subcommittee Updates

8. Staff Updates

8.A. Restorative Practices at Golden Valley Updates

8.B. Budget Reminder

8.C. City Updates

9. Adjournment

I know my next task is to...



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Police, Employment, Accountability, & Community Engagement (PEACE) Commission

May 8, 2025 – 6:30 pm
Council Conference Room
Golden Valley City Hall
7800 Golden Valley Road

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair Gladney called meeting to order 6:35 pm.

Land Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge and honor the Dakota nation, on whose ancestral land the City of Golden Valley is built, and whose land resources we use. We commit to counteracting the erasure of the cultural practices and presence of the Dakota people and through education and by amplifying a wide range of indigenous voices.

2. Attendance/Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Trey Gladney, Katrina Cisneros, Karen Boehne, Stephanie Eckhardt, Amy Keyser, Bridget Glass (6:38 pm), and Trevor Parkes (6:41 pm)

Commissioners Absent: Henry Crosby and Janet Frisch

Staff Present: Kirsten Santelices, Deputy City Manager and Virgil Green, Police Chief

3. Welcome New Members

All commissioners, including two new commissioners introduced themselves and shared their reasons for joining the commission and their hopes for the community. Chief Virgil Green introduced himself and shared the date of the upcoming June 18 Public Safety Open House. Commissioners mentioned the desire to have police membership at the meetings. Chief Green shared that he is working to have a member of the department join the committee. Chief Green also provided the new members an overview of the duties and roles in the PD. Deputy City Manager, Kirsten Santelices discussed the department and staff liaison role, which is the community connections specialist position. Chair Gladney stated he was grateful for the diverse background of commission and commitment and passion to community.

4. Approval of Agenda

MOTION to approve agenda as submitted by Commissioner Glass; seconded by Commissioner Boehne. Motion carried 7-0.

5. Approval of Minutes

MOTION to approve April Meeting Minutes as submitted by Commissioner Cisneros; seconded by Commissioner Boehne. Motion carried 7-0.



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6. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

The Commission discussed the role of Chair and Vice Chair. Chair Gladney nominated Vice Chair Cisneros for the role of Chair, complimenting Cisneros on her passion, leadership, knowledge, and skills. Cisneros accepted the nomination, and the Commission voted unanimously to appoint Katrina Cisneros as Chair. Commissioner Gladney stated his desire to serve as Vice Chair. Commissioner Boehne nominated Gladney for the role of Vice Chair. Motion carried unanimously. Chair Cisneros thanked Vice Chair Gladney for cultivating an environment of mentorship and collaboration.

7. Bylaws Review

Staff shared that Commissions traditionally review their bylaws once every three years to ensure everything is accurate and they don't often get changed. The changes require City Council approval and typically ordinance changes. Commissioner Boehne suggested that the Commissioners all read the current bylaws, focusing on the mission and duties and meet next meeting to discuss potential changes. Commissioners agreed. Commissioner Glass asked if the Commission was working under a specific set of values. Chair Cisneros reminded the Commission that they are an arm of the City and represent the values of the City Council, while serving as community representatives. The Commissioners acknowledged the need for diversity of ideas and that doing value-based work may be beneficial at the future bylaw discussion. The homework for all commissioners is to review Article I of the bylaws and come prepared to discuss at the next meeting.

Commissioner Boehne recommended reaching out to past commissioners to find out what ideas they have of the bylaws and review process.

8. Subcommittee Review

Chair and Vice Chair provided an overview of the initial subcommittees, including data and analytics, recruitment, and community engagement. Commissioners discussed the importance of ensuring the voices and perspectives from community members, especially those impacted by public safety, are centered. Commissioners agreed that the current subcommittee structure is not meeting the needs of the Commission and is challenging based on terms, rotations, etc. Commissioner Boehne stated that the Commission should focus less on recruitment and more on retention, as well as hiring diverse candidates.

Commissioner Parkes stated that it is important for Commissioners to know the time commitment before joining a committee and as volunteers, they need more structure. Commissioners generally agreed. Deputy Manager Santelices provided a historical perspective of the structure of subcommittees from DEIC/HRC and Rising Tides Task Force. Chair Cisneros asked staff about the status of workplan development. Staff shared that employees continue to work hard to lay more groundwork, including a Business Operations Analysis, and the creation of a 3-year strategic plan founded in the City Council's 2030 Strategic Directives. Staff also shared that this information is critical to ensure that staff can best support the Commissions with current capacity.

Commissions appreciated the idea of structuring subcommittees based on workplan items, rather than having standing committees. Commission will discuss again in the future. Chair and Vice Chair

reminded the Commission that their work is subject to the City Council approval and that the Commission is accountable to the council and community. Commissioners agreed to reference the 2030 Strategic Priorities while doing their bylaw homework.

The Commission and Chief Green had a brief discussion about the crime analysis and weekly reporting and shared an update on the types of calls being considered for expanded response. Chief also shared that a new data dashboard is coming, similar to the Golden Valley Fire department dashboard. Chief also shared that the 2024 Annual PD Report is getting ready to report, which will include crime data.

9. Collaborative Solutions Update

Deputy Manager Santelices gave a brief update on the three initiatives of the Collaborative Solutions grant. Staff thanked the PEACE Commission for being a participant in this work. The Commission asked about the contract with Just Love, which staff shared had unfortunately concluded. Staff apologized for not sharing more in advance. Chair Cisneros and Vice Chair Gladney planned to reach out to Project Director Andrea Larson to report back. Santelices stated that Director Larson may be able to attend a future Commission meeting.

Commissioner Boehne provided the dates and times of the final police policy community engagement sessions, May 19 and May 22.

10. Staffing Update

Deputy Manager Santelices provided an update sharing that the Commission would have a new liaison by the next meeting by the name of Arantxa Chaire-Kobb. Chair Cisneros commended the work of previous liaisons, Airrion Williams and Scarlett Gonzalez and acknowledged the importance of the staff liaison to ensure the work can get done.

11. Adjournment

Adjourned at 7:56 pm

July 10, 2025 — 6:30 PM
Council Conference Room
Hybrid Meeting

PEACE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

1.A. Staff Liaison Introduction and Team Building: Seth shared Liaison role and purpose.

2. Land Acknowledgment

3. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Katrina Cisneros, Trey Gladney, Stephanie Eckardt, Janet Frisch, Trevor Parkes, and Amy Keyser

Absent: Karen Boehne, Henry Crosby, and Bridget Glass

City Staff Present: Seth Kaempfer, Equity Manager, and Arantxa Chaire-Kobb, Community Connections Specialist

Council Member Present: Roselyn Harmon, Mayor

Speaker Present: Erica Lee, Consultant from Restorative Justice Practice

4. Approval of Agenda—Motioned by Commissioner Frisch, seconded Commissioner Parkes; All approved 5-0.

5. Approval of Minutes

5.A. PEACE Commission Minutes 05.08.25: Motioned to table approval for next meeting by Commissioner Cisneros, seconded by Commissioner Frisch ; All approved 5-0

6. Discussion/Action

6.A Bylaws Review

Commissioners discussed potential to their bylaws to update them from the establishment of the commission in 2021, which primarily focused on the operations of the Police Department. Below are the main topics of discussion:

- Public Safety Focus: The bylaws, initially focused on police, are shifting to include broader public safety. There's a push to create a more community-focused response model.
- PEACE's Role: Discussions centered on clarifying PEACE's role in decision-making, embedding it strategically, and ensuring the community has a voice in policing.
- Accountability & Engagement: Emphasis on creating measurable goals, using dashboards for accountability, and continuing community engagement efforts. There was support for PEACE participating in police interviews and fundraising.
- Clarity & Process: The need to clarify PEACE's purpose for both police and the community, including a more defined process for its involvement.

- **Public Safety Focus:** The bylaws, initially focused on police, are shifting to include broader public safety. There's a push to create a more community-focused response model.

6.B. Racial Equity Handbook Review - Pohlad Grant

Staff Kaempfer provided an update on the handbook review and the next steps of the process, which included:

- **Pohlad Grant & Training:** Andrea should attend a future meeting. Restorative justice training will include staff training and a community engagement session, with PEACE invited to participate.
- **Conflict Resolution & Continuity:** The group discussed using restorative practices for conflict resolution. Dr. Ra, who assisted during the grant, will remain involved in some capacity.

6.C. Restorative Practices Training Introduction

Erica Lee, Consultant from Restorative Justice Practice, presented about the restorative practices work related to the Pohlad Grant. Below are the main topic of discussion and presentation:

- **Restorative Practices Overview:** The group reviewed restorative practices training with Erica and Seth leading discussion (We are 1 of 4 cities--Us, Brooklyn Center, Minneapolis and St Paul-- 250K spent over 3 activities (moved from 6), and how it addresses grant objectives. The aim was documented to reimagine public safety with a focus on trauma healing and de-escalation tools. The work is holistic, aiming to create a system that helps communities heal and resolve conflict.
- **Collaboration with PEACE:** The group discussed integrating PEACE's efforts with city initiatives, particularly in resolving conflicts and amplifying community engagement. The importance of shared meaning and language for long-term sustainability was emphasized.
- **Upcoming Training & Engagement:** A restorative practices event is scheduled for late July, where police, public safety, and the commission will gather to engage in community healing. PEACE members are encouraged to help facilitate conflict resolution and hold safe spaces for community feedback and healing.

6. Subcommittee Updates

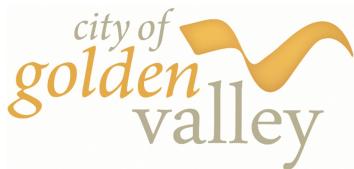
7.A. Subcommittee Discussion: No discussion was had.

7. Staff Updates

8.A. Budget Update: Staff Kaempfer shared an update about the Commissions budget and noted that any spend must be in alignment with their bylaws.

8.B. City Updates: Staff Chaire-Kobb shared a message from City Attorney Maria Cisneros and Deputy City Manager about needing the Commissions input about the prosecutor and use of a prosecutor for the City. The Commission discusses that the prosecutorial process should have better outcomes and improve the prosecutorial process, with a focus on informed recommendations. The Commission further discussed utilizing remaining budget funds for continued efforts and generating recommendations to City Council related to PEACE's goals with DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) lens in prosecutorial processes.

8. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Legal

763-512-2345 / 763-512-2344 (fax)

Golden Valley PEACE Commission Work Session

August 14, 2025

Agenda Item

6.A. Prosecution 2025 Budget Check In

Prepared By

Maria Cisneros, City Attorney

Kurt Glaser, Prosecuting Attorney

Summary

Prosecutor Kurt Glaser recently provided the City Council with an overview of the current status of the prosecution budget, which included a discussion regarding increased demands on prosecution services, emerging legal requirements, and related budgetary pressures. The Council directed staff to engage in discussion with the PEACE Commission to better understand the scope of the issue and provide guidance on potential resource adjustments or prioritization strategies.

The City hired Prosecutor Glaser via an RFP in 2023. The RFP sought a prosecutor who had demonstrated success in building relationships of trust with all people and incorporating equity, diversion, and restorative practice into their practices and procedures. The RFP also stated the prosecutor would be expected to collaborate with the Police Department, City Administration, and PEACE Commission to develop a community-based diversion program based on restorative justice principles for certain offenses.

Over the past year, the City's policing activity has significantly increased, resulting in a corresponding rise in prosecution caseloads. Specifically, the Police Department has doubled the number of cases referred for prosecution compared to the previous year. This surge in activity has placed considerable strain on the prosecution budget, which was not originally structured to accommodate such a dramatic increase.

In addition to volume, recent changes in state law now require prosecutors to appear in court more frequently and take on additional responsibilities. These include prosecuting cases involving Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs), as well as a broader scope of mental health-related cases under Rule 20. These changes have significantly increased both the complexity and time commitment of prosecutorial duties.

Further compounding the budgetary shortfall is the increased funding allocated to public defense services at the state level. While important for equity in the legal system, this expansion has increased the workload on prosecutors, who must now meet more rigorous standards of preparation and responsiveness in contested cases.

Additional indirect pressure on the prosecution function has arisen from the need for increased training and coordination related to newly hired police officers. These efforts, while critical for professional development and effective prosecution, have consumed substantial time and resources.

As a result of these combined challenges, the City Prosecutor's Office has been unable to implement planned restorative justice initiatives or address an existing backlog of cases. These programs were identified as key priorities in previous policy discussions but have stalled due to insufficient staffing and operational capacity.

At the July Council Work Session, the Prosecutor met with the City Council for direction on how to proceed. Council directed staff to seek input from the PEACE Commission.

Financial or Budget Considerations

As of the end of May, approximately 85% of the annual prosecution budget has been expended. This rate of spending strongly indicates that the current budget is insufficient to meet the department's needs through the end of the year without additional support. Staff is seeking City Council input on how to address the prosecution budget shortfall for the remainder of the current fiscal year and the Council asked staff to gather input from the PEACE Commission. Options include a mid-year budget amendment and policy prioritization of prosecutorial functions. The discussion may also inform longer-term budgeting for the next fiscal cycle.

Recommended Action

The Council directed staff to engage in discussion with the PEACE Commission to better understand the scope of the issue and provide guidance on potential resource adjustments or prioritization strategies.

Staff and the PEACE Chairs identified the following specific questions for PEACE Commissioners to weigh in on:

1. How should we balance funding for equity, diversion, and restorative justice programs versus traditional prosecution?
2. Should resources focus more on cost savings or on expanding services like training, outreach, and new safety initiatives?
3. What prosecution outcomes should we prioritize to best support community safety and trust?

Examples of prosecution outcomes include:

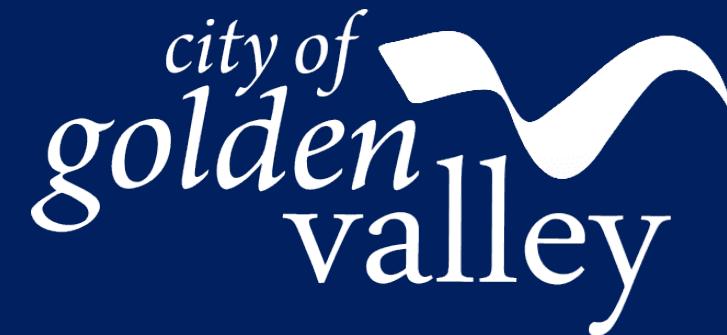
- Conviction rates for targeted offenses (e.g., DWIs, theft, repeat offenders)
- Case resolution times (speed from charge to disposition)
- Reduction in repeat offenses through diversion or restorative justice
- Successful diversion program completions without re-offense
- Restitution collected for victims
- Community satisfaction with fairness and transparency of prosecutions
- Increased use of alternative resolutions (e.g., restorative circles, mediation)
- Improved compliance with probation or court orders

Supporting Documents

- [GV Prosecution Budget Review 07.08.2025-1.pdf](#)



BERGLUND,
BAUMGARTNER,
& GLASER, LLC



Prosecution Statistics

Who are We?

Questions Worth Answering?

- Who Are We As A City?
- What Do We Want From Our Prosecution Work?
- How Do We Deliver Prosecution Services?

Internal Challenges

- Achieving & Maintaining Comprehensive Services
- Increased Volume
- Restorative Practices
- Young Department

External Challenges (Legislative Mandates)

New

- Extreme Risk Protection Orders

Expanded

- Mental Health - Rule 20

Massive Increase

- Public Defender Budget
 - 2023 extra \$95 million
 - 105% budget increase

Per Capita: Ranked #2 Traffic Cases (Over 10,000)

Rank	City (over 10,000)	Traffic	Population	Per 1,000
1	Edina	1122	54785	20.48
2	Golden Valley	369	22214	16.611
3	Brooklyn Center	551	34409	16.013
4	Robbinsdale	213	14924	14.272
5	Champlin	307	24773	12.393
6	Crystal	264	23092	11.433
7	Rogers	181	16190	11.18
8	Eden Prairie	603	64793	9.307
9	New Hope	198	21545	9.19
10	Hopkins	152	18532	8.202
11	St. Louis Park	352	49321	7.137
12	Maple Grove	477	71988	6.626
13	Minnetonka	344	56162	6.125
14	Brooklyn Park	451	84753	5.321
15	Plymouth	401	80038	5.01
16	Dayton	34	10784	3.153

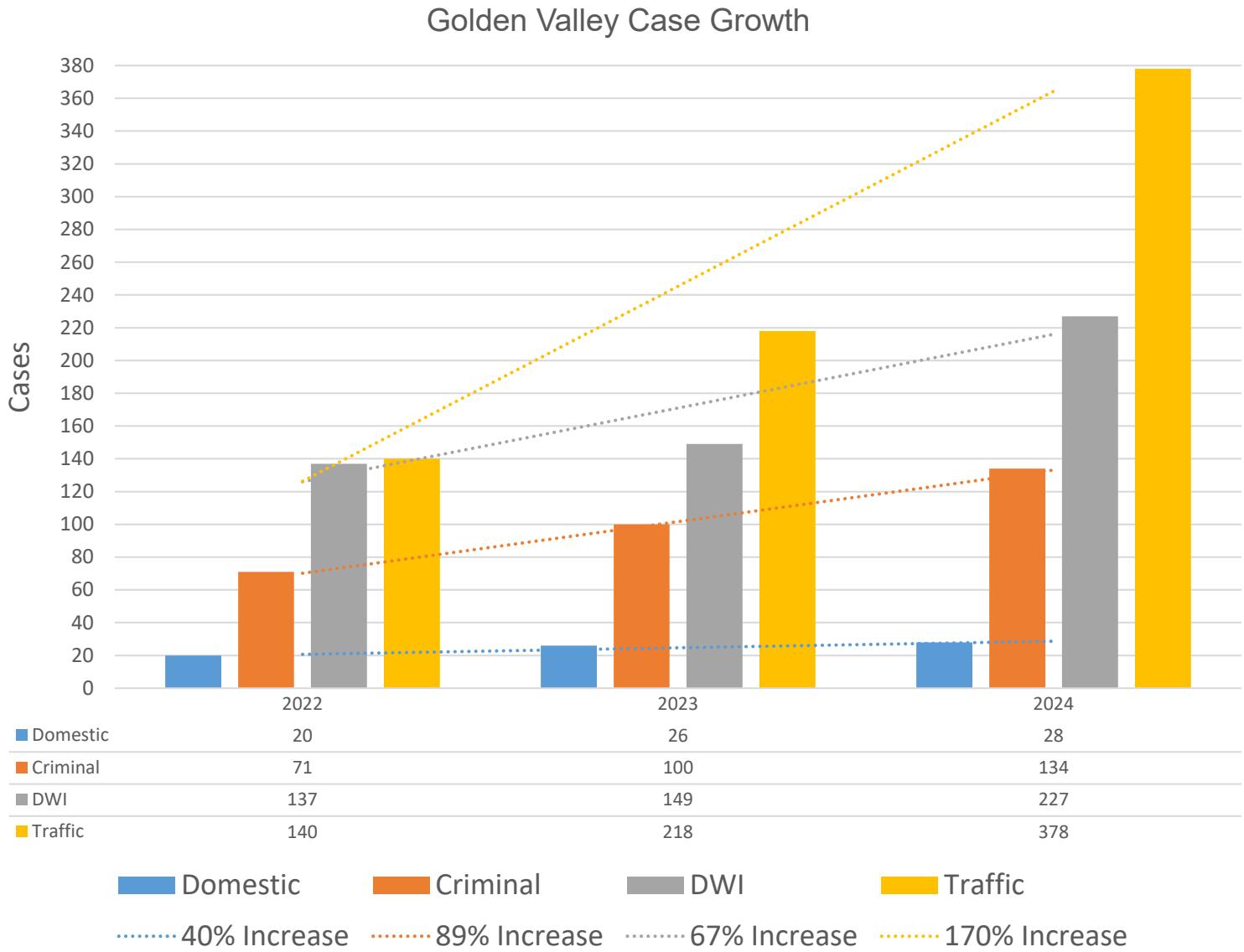
Per Capita: Ranked #1 DWI Cases (Over 10,000)

Rank	City (over 10,000)	DWI Filings	Population	Per 1,000
1	Golden Valley	227	22214	10.219
2	Brooklyn Center	265	34409	7.701
3	Robbinsdale	109	14924	7.304
4	Rogers	89	16190	5.497
5	Crystal	109	23092	4.72
6	St. Louis Park	230	49321	4.663
7	Edina	236	54785	4.308
8	Hopkins	72	18532	3.885
9	Eden Prairie	221	64793	3.411
10	Plymouth	238	80038	2.974
11	New Hope	61	21545	2.831
12	Champlin	67	24773	2.705
13	Minnetonka	142	56162	2.528
14	Brooklyn Park	183	84753	2.159
15	Maple Grove	117	71988	1.625
16	Dayton	16	10784	1.484

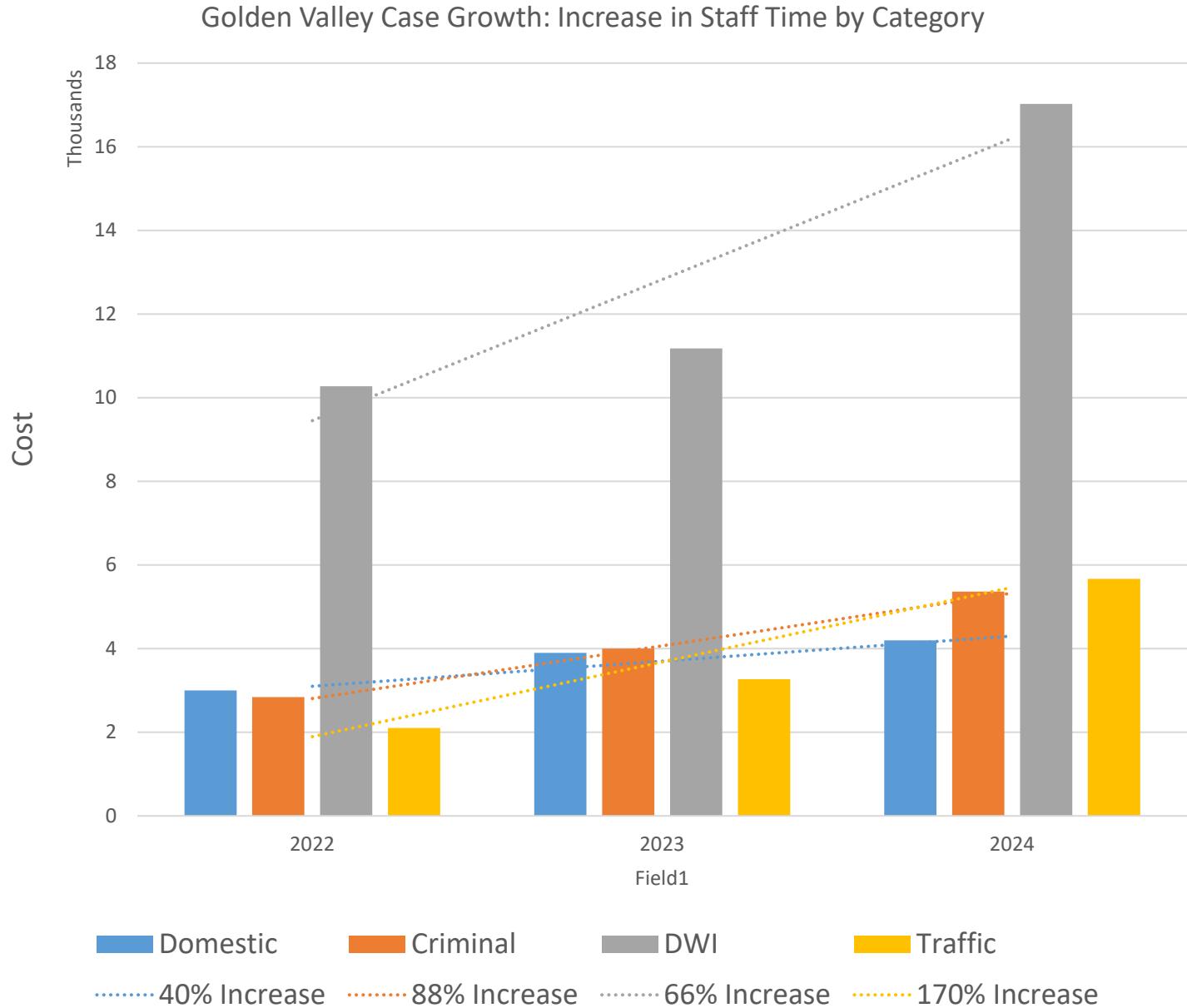
DWI Cases

Rank	City (10,000)	DWI Cases	Population	Per 1,000
1	Brooklyn Center	265	33982	7.798
2	Plymouth	238	80546	2.955
3	Edina	236	54480	4.332
4	St. Louis Park	230	49345	4.661
5	Golden Valley	227	22305	10.177
6	Eden Prairie	221	64600	3.421
7	Brooklyn Park	183	83874	2.182
8	Minnetonka	142	54850	2.589
9	Maple Grove	117	71676	1.632
10	Crystal	109	23263	4.686
11	Robbinsdale	109	14945	7.293
12	Rogers	89	14934	5.96
13	Hopkins	72	18441	3.904
14	Champlin	67	24975	2.683
15	New Hope	61	21733	2.807
16	Dayton	16	10037	1.594

Case Growth



Staff Time Growth



Similar Example

MAPLE GROVE

- Budget
 - \$319,000 (2022)
 - \$479,500 (2023)
 - \$499,504 (2024)
 - \$748,000 (2025)
 - \$928,500 (2026)
- Personnel
 - 2 Prosecutors (+1 for 2026)
 - 1 Paralegal
 - 1 Victim Corrdinator
- Includes Salary, PERA, etc.

Prosecution Budget

Month	Invoice (\$)	Cumulative YTD (\$)
January	\$ 31,575.25	\$ 31,575.25
February	\$ 28,704.25	\$ 60,279.50
March	\$ 37,891.50	\$ 98,171.00
April	\$ 38,098.25	\$ 136,269.25
May	\$ 35,875.70	\$ 172,144.95
June	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 207,144.95
Projected 2025 Total		\$ 414,290.00



**Thank you for letting us serve
the community.**