



News Release

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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Council Receives Police Department Update; City Recognized for Excellence in Financial Reporting

At the January 12 meeting, the City Council received a presentation on the Highland Village Police Department. Chief Doug Reim shared an overview of the department's budget, initiatives, staffing level, fleet, technology, equipment, and response times. The department has been recognized annually through the Texas Police Chiefs Association Best Practices Recognition Program since 2009. The Highland Village Police Department continues its community policing model with programs like the Emergency Care Attendant (ECA) program in partnership with the Highland Village Fire Department to certify patrol officers to provide immediate lifesaving interventions while awaiting the arrival of Emergency Medical Services. The department's initiatives include technology enhancements for citizen online crime reporting and Vacation Watch requests, 911 listening capability in patrol vehicles, and video Magistrate capability in patrol vehicles. HVPD contracts with The Shops at Highland Village to provide additional public safety services at the center. In 2018 the City funded a second School Resource Officer to supplement the LISD funded position to provide a SRO to Briarhill Middle School and Highland Village elementary schools. The department is made up of 33 full-time sworn employees, 12 full-time civilian employees, 14 part-time employees, and over 25 volunteers as part of the Police Auxiliary program.

Fire Chief Mike Thomson provided an update on COVID-19 in Denton County and Highland Village. Chief Thomson shared the department was able to host a small vaccine clinic last week when they received 100 vaccine doses from the Department of State Health Services. The clinic vaccinated City employees that met 1A and 1B criteria as well as local medical offices that met 1A criteria. The Fire Department does not have a vaccine wait list in place as they do not know if or when they will receive more vaccinations. Those wishing to receive the vaccine should regularly check the Department of State Health Services [website](#) for area vaccine providers. Updated information on the vaccine and the virus can be found at www.highlandvillage.org/COVID.

During the Mayor and Council reports, Mayor Wilcox conducted a swearing in ceremony for two Highland Village Fire Department employees. Dalton King and Hugo Alonzo were sworn in as Firefighter/EMT's. Also during the Council reports Mayor Wilcox recognized the Highland Village Finance Department. The department was awarded the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The City has received this recognition for the last 29 years.

During the City Manager's Report the [HVTV Update](#) informed residents of the Kids Kastle #OurKastle2021 photo contest and personalized fence picket giveaway, the New and Now Open video for Be Legend Gaming in The District of Highland Village, and how residents can sign up to receive information from the City.

The City Council early work session and regular session is available on HVTV (Spectrum 15; Frontier 43) and via website streaming live and on demand at www.highlandvillage.org/HVTV.