



**Budget Committee Public Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 2, 2024  
at 4:00PM**



## **BOARD'S BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, October 2, 2024, at 4:00PM**

**Livestreamed at: [https://www.youtube.com/live/oJXo-X\\_HlOM](https://www.youtube.com/live/oJXo-X_HlOM)**

---

The following *draft* Minutes of the hybrid public meeting of the Toronto Police Service Board's Budget Committee that was held on October 2, 2024 at City Hall, Committee Room 1.

### Attendance:

The following Members were present:

Committee Members:

Ann Morgan, Chair

Nick Migliore, Member

Shelley Carroll, Councillor and Member

Other Board Members present:

Lisa Kostakis, Vice-Chair

Chris Brillinger, Member (virtual)

The following individuals were also present:

Danielle Dowdy, Acting Executive Director, Toronto Police Service Board

Diana Achim, Board Administrator, Toronto Police Service Board

### Declarations:

There were no declarations of interest under the Code of Conduct for Members of a Police Service Board Regulation and the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

**This is an Extract from the Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Toronto Police Service Board's Budget Committee that was held on October 2, 2024**

**P2024-1002-1.0. Board Budget Committee Meeting**

The Board's Budget Committee Members were in receipt of a presentation provided by Chief Administrative Officer Svina Dhaliwal and Ian Williams, Director, Information Management. A copy of the [presentation](#) is attached to this Minute.

**Verbal Deputations:**

John Harley(virtual)  
Ingrid Buday (in person) ([presentation included](#))  
Sue DeGrandis (in person)  
Zhixi Li (Linda) ([written submission included](#)) (in person)  
Felipe Tellez (virtual)  
Miguel Avila (in person)  
Kris Langenfeld (virtual)

**Written submission only:**

Amanda Yates  
Gail Viggiani  
Bruce Mitchell  
Ekaterina Habbous  
BEV MCCARTHY  
Sinan Imamoglu  
Azam Kiyobekov  
Tamara Bernstein  
Laura Lamarche  
Juan Naranjo  
Filomena Venditti  
Robert Barnett  
Teresa Becker  
Sharon Thomson  
Linda  
Ingrid van der Zande  
Kameron Allan  
Grant  
Gregory Wilson  
Susan DeGrandis  
Alexander Christ Doulis  
Carol  
Keith Tobey  
Don Young  
Maria Ludosan  
Mandy Sala  
Anatol Monid  
Beverly Biderman

Deborah O'Brien  
Mike Scinocco  
Harold B. Smith  
TJ MACHADO  
Gail Bebee  
Gail & George Ganetakos  
Steven Jacobs  
Darlene Anne Varaleau  
Janet Griffiths-Maxymiw  
John Liss  
Daniel Bosc  
John Sewell  
Eric Shelton  
Melissa Prusky  
Leslie Solomon  
Mary Ambrose  
Michael Goldstein  
Leslie  
Deanna  
Barbara Cook  
Deanna Scriver  
Jane Unan  
Trish (Zijun) Ou  
Ronald Jones  
Janet Looker  
Alexei Marcilio  
Patricia Koutsaris  
Alexandrina Canto Thaler  
Rasha Coleman  
Christopher Richard Wilson  
Sandra Halbert  
Seta Elbekian  
Julia Robinson  
Sally Gustin  
Nicole Corrado  
Amanda Yates

Chair Morgan thanked all the deputants for their verbal and written deputations.

Board Members discussed this item. For a detailed account of the discussion, see the YouTube recording starting at Minute 1:38:37 here:

[https://www.youtube.com/live/oJXo-X\\_HIOM?si=ahOQc9xjGeEXy6Ec&t=5914](https://www.youtube.com/live/oJXo-X_HIOM?si=ahOQc9xjGeEXy6Ec&t=5914)

**The Board and received the deputations and the foregoing presentation.**

Moved by: S. Carroll  
Seconded by: N. Migliore

---

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Board Member and Councillor Shelley Carroll and seconded by Vice-Chair Lisa Kostakis.

### **Budget Information**

Details about the budget and the budget process are available on the Board's website: <https://tpsb.ca/budget>

### **Next Board's Budget Committee Meeting**

**Date: November 27, 2024 at 1:30PM**

**Location: North York Civic Centre, Council Chambers.**

Minutes Approved by:

*-original signed-*

---

Ann Morgan  
Chair

---

### **Members of the Toronto Police Service Board's Budget Committee**

Ann Morgan, Chair  
Nick Migliore, Member

Shelley Carroll, Member & Councillor



# **TORONTO POLICE SERVICE**

## **BOARD BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE**

### **MEETING #2**

**OCTOBER 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**

**Updated (Sep 30<sup>th</sup>)**



# AGENDA



**2025 Budget Timeline**



**Recap of September 12, 2024 Board Meeting**



**TPS Strategic and Operational Context**



**Budget History**

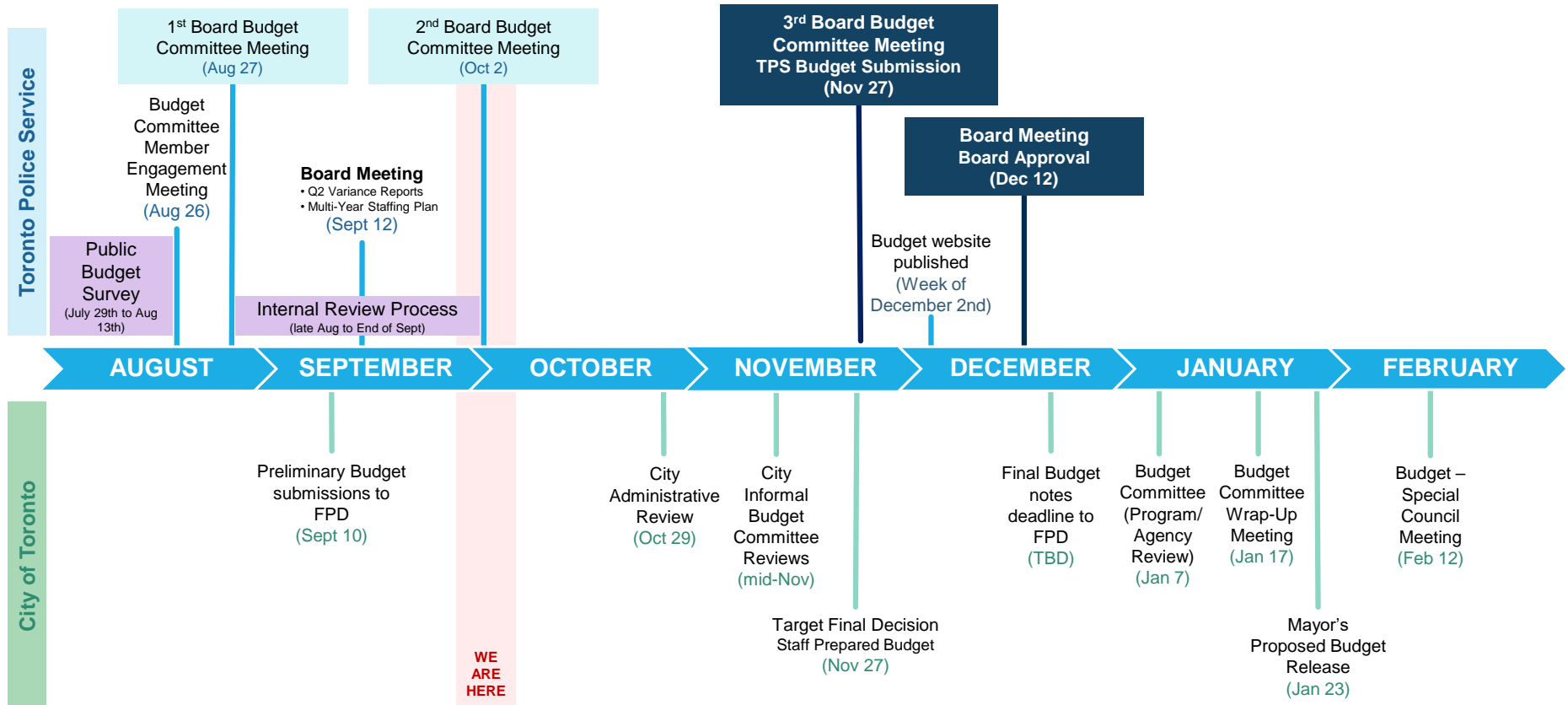


**2025 Budget Development Update**





# 2025 Budget Timeline







# RECAP OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2024 BOARD MEETING

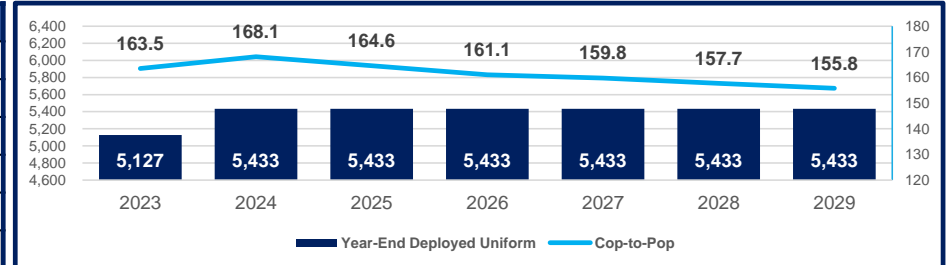
## MULTI YEAR HIRING PLAN



# Staffing Scenarios

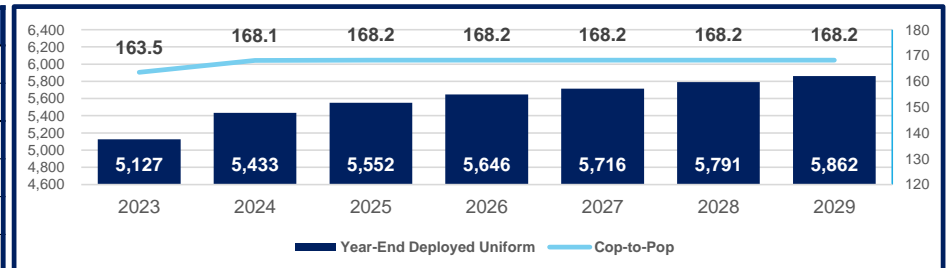
## OPTION 1: REPLACEMENT HIRES ONLY

DESCRIPTION	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Uniform New Positions	0	0	0	0	0
Civilian New Positions	0	0	0	0	0
Uniform Incremental Impact (M)	\$7.8	\$6.7	\$11.7	\$9.6	\$3.2
Civilian Incremental Impact (M)	\$7.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Non-Salary Incremental Impact (M)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<b>Budget Incremental Impact</b>	<b>\$15.6</b>	<b>\$6.7</b>	<b>\$11.7</b>	<b>\$9.6</b>	<b>\$3.2</b>



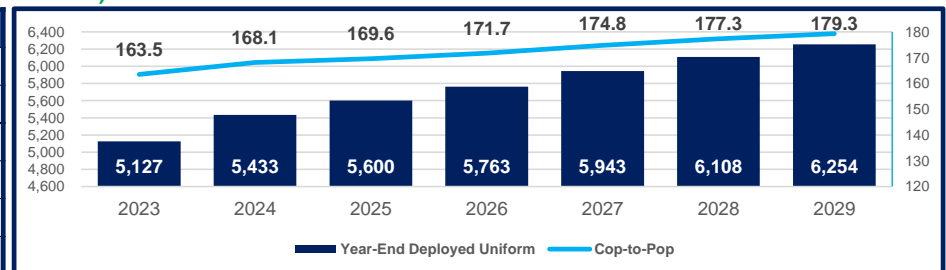
## OPTION 2: MAINTAIN COP TO POP

DESCRIPTION	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Uniform New Positions	119	94	70	75	71
Civilian New Positions	40	31	23	25	24
Uniform Incremental Impact (M)	\$16.0	\$16.5	\$22.1	\$21.0	\$15.0
Civilian Incremental Impact (M)	\$8.8	\$4.2	\$2.5	\$2.4	\$2.3
Non-Salary Incremental Impact (M)	\$0.6	\$2.8	\$1.7	\$1.6	\$1.6
<b>Budget Incremental Impact</b>	<b>\$25.4</b>	<b>\$23.5</b>	<b>\$26.3</b>	<b>\$25.0</b>	<b>\$18.9</b>



## OPTION 3: MEET PROVINCIAL TRAINING ALLOCATION (4x90 Preferred Achievable Scenario)

DESCRIPTION	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Uniform New Positions	167	163	180	165	146
Civilian New Positions	56	54	60	55	49
Uniform Incremental Impact (M)	\$19.0	\$23.6	\$34.0	\$33.0	\$25.9
Civilian Incremental Impact (M)	\$9.0	\$6.5	\$5.3	\$5.6	\$5.0
Non-Salary Incremental Impact (M)	\$0.8	\$4.4	\$3.5	\$3.8	\$3.3
<b>Budget Incremental Impact</b>	<b>\$28.8</b>	<b>\$34.5</b>	<b>\$42.8</b>	<b>\$42.4</b>	<b>\$34.2</b>

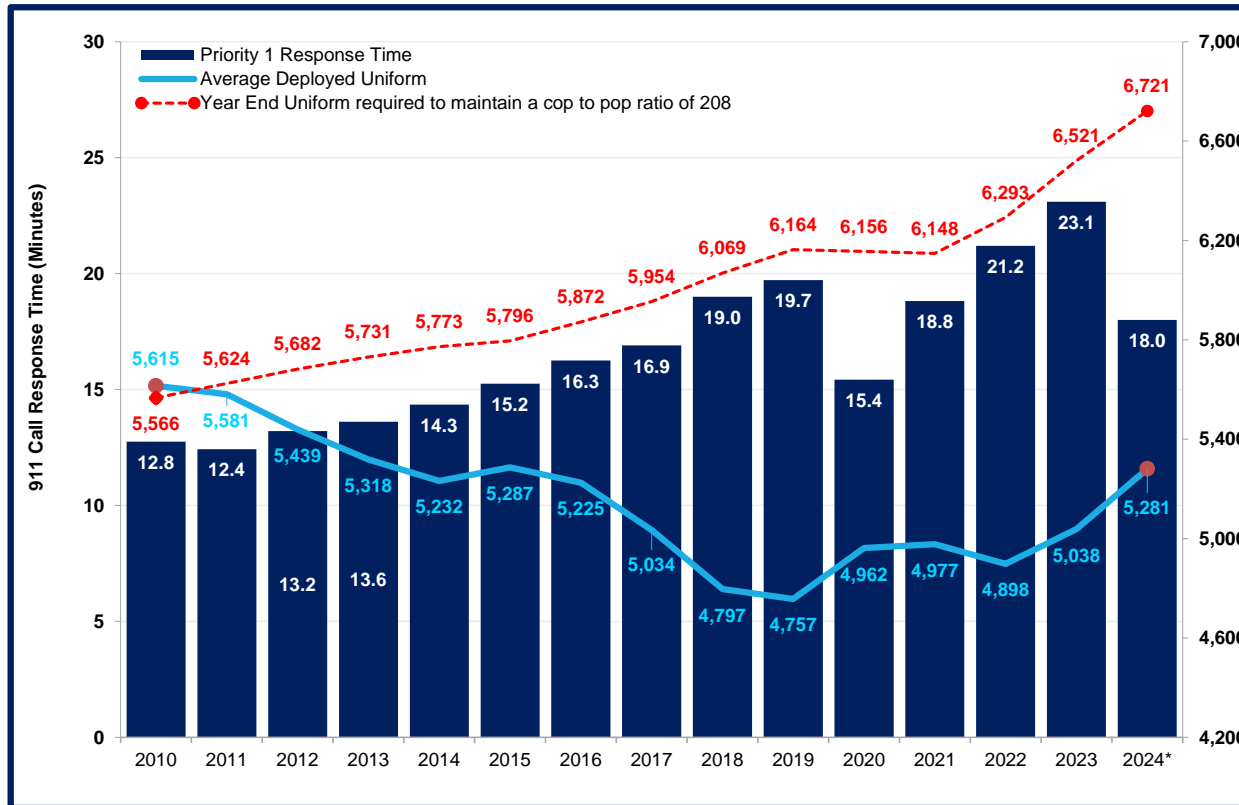


2023 and 2024 Year-End Deployed is based on budget.



# Response Times vs Staffing

Priority response service degradation is correlated with staffing reductions



In 2010, the Service had 5,556 officers and a response time of 12.8 Minutes.

If the Service had been maintained at the same cop-to-pop ratio as in 2010, there would be 6,721 deployed police officers in 2024. That is 1,288 more officers than the approved complement for 2024 (5,433).

The availability of resources, including the number of officers-on-duty, significantly impacts priority 1 response times. When there are fewer officers available, it can lead to delays in dispatching them to calls, which can affect the overall efficiency and effectiveness of emergency response.

\* As of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

\*\* Priority 1 responses are for calls to 911 in the most urgent situations such as person with a gun, shooting, child apprehension, break and enter in progress

\*\*\* 322 positions were civilianized between 2014 - 2019



# The Board Motion

(September 12, 2024 Meeting)

Direct the Chief of Police, in consultation with the City's Chief Financial Officer, to update the Budget Committee at its October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 Budget Committee meeting with a hybrid option that:

- a) is based on information provided by the City on its ability to pay,**
- b) improves on the current Cop-to-Pop ratio, and**
- c) takes into account anticipated collective bargaining impacts and the strategic goals of the Service.**





# STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL CONTEXT





# Adequate and Effective Service Delivery

- The Board has a statutory responsibility to ensure adequate and effective policing (s. 10(1) and 37(1)(a) of the C.S.P.A.).
- Every municipality is required to provide the Board with sufficient funding to comply with the Act and the regulations, including ensuring adequate and effective policing in the city (s. 5(1)(a) of the C.S.P.A.).
- These services must include, at a minimum, crime prevention, law enforcement, assistance to victims of crime, public order maintenance and emergency response (s. 11(1) of C.S.P.A.).
- Board cannot reduce the size of the service, including by way of attrition, without the approval of the Inspector General (s. 53(2) of C.S.P.A.).

## Evaluation of adequate and effective as per the Generally Applicable Standard (s. 2(1) of O. Reg. 392/23 C.S.P.A.):

- Policing needs of the community.
- Geographic and socio-demographic characteristics of the police service's area of responsibility.
- Extent and manner in which policing function is effectively provided in similar Ontario communities.
- Extent to which past provision of policing function has been effective in addressing the needs of the community.
- Best practices respecting the policing function.

TPS is committed to **delivering adequate and effective** which are sensitive to the **needs of the community**, involving **collaborative partnerships** and teamwork to overcome challenges.



# Strategic Direction - Community Safety and Wellbeing

## Process Reform

Improve consistency, measurability and control

- Invest in tech for process automation
- Develop new metrics – measure for outcome
- Provide more feedback to members, leaders
- Align Strategy, Change, IM, IT, and Equity

## System Change

Addressing structural and systemic barriers to CSWB

- Identify true systemic breakdowns
- Build coalitions of partners around solutions
- Advocate for funding and legislative change

## Service Design

Rethinking policing service delivery for stakeholders

- Align Org Structure to Service Lines
- Strike Service Line Advisory Groups
- Develop education materials for each Service
- Consolidate Reforms into Product Roadmaps

## Partnership

Delivering service with community & by agencies

- Reform Consultation Framework
- Build Partner Management Capability
- Develop Community Immersion Program
- Develop partner management dashboards

Public safety professionals  
Stop crime and disorder  
Act with compassion  
Break cycles of harm  
Design safety into the city  
Co-Design, Co-Develop and Co-Deliver  
Develop trust and partnerships





# Importance of a Multi-Year Approach to Budgeting

Toronto Police Service is a **24/7, emergency service**, first responder organization. Current service levels do not represent **adequate and effective policing**. **Long-term funding** commitments are needed.

## **PEOPLE RISKS** (90% of budget)

- Retirements and separations are increasing.
- Backfills for WSIB and LTD leaves have not historically been budgeted for.
- Constrained resources have reduced supervision.
- Competitive labour conditions on attracting and retaining members.
- Long uniform hiring and training process requires 9 to 12 months of lead time.

## **WORKLOAD RISKS**

- Call volume and caseload are increasing faster than resourcing.
- Service levels are currently degraded, and this could worsen if demand outpaces population growth and staffing levels.
- Evidence collection and legislatively required disclosure requirements are placing pressure on the backlog of investigative work and there is a growing risk of not meeting judicial timelines.

## **PROCESS AND TECHNOLOGY RISKS**

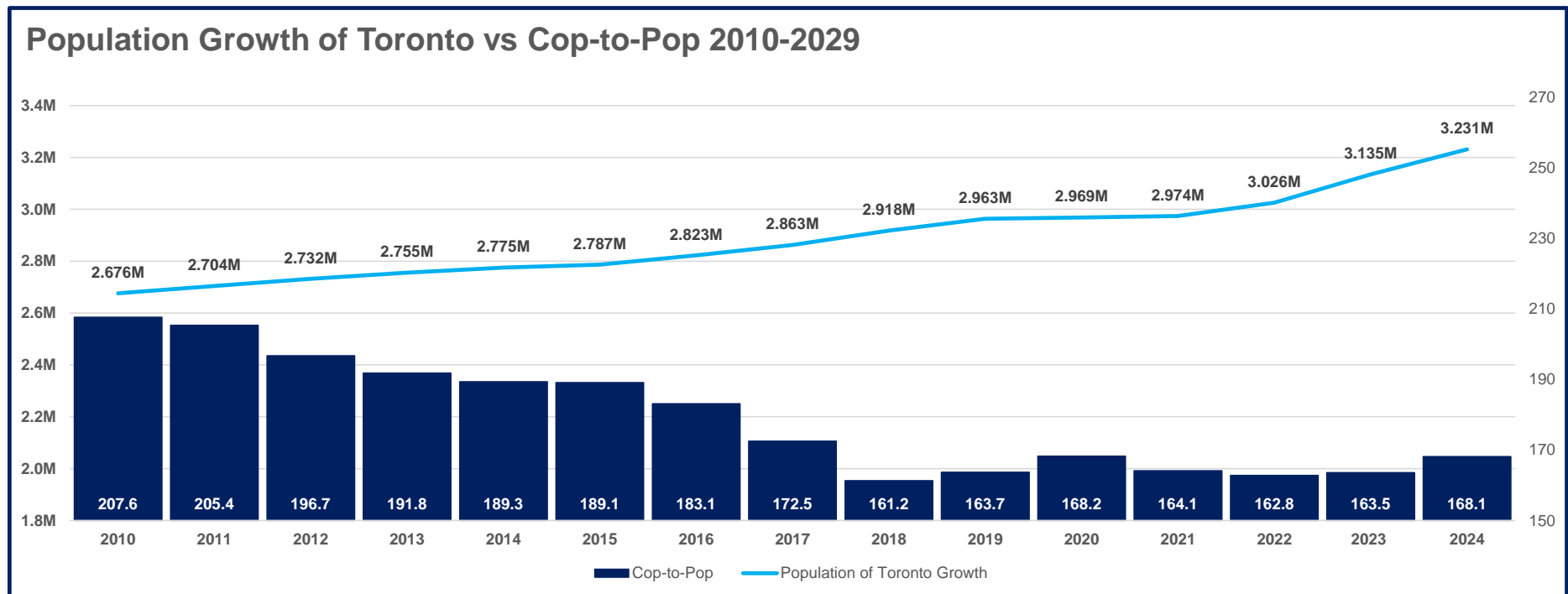
- TPS continues to be reliant on people rather than process and technology. Adequate staffing must at minimum serve as a stop gap until some technology capacity creating benefits can be achieved.

## **REPUTATIONAL RISKS AND AN INTENSE INTERNATIONAL MEDIA ENVIRONMENT**

- Staffing constraints, increasing workload, and high people reliance increase the risks of service delivery failures and erosion of trust.
- The public safety dynamics of our city radiate nationally.



# Population Growth



 **20.7%**

Increase of Toronto population from 2010 to 2024.

 **2.2%**

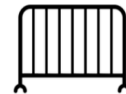
Decrease in number of police officers deployed.

Sources:

1. 2000-2021 population sourced from Statistics Canada. Table 35100077. Police personnel and selected crime statistics, municipal police services. Updated March 26, 2024
2. 2020 population data is not available in Statistics Canada - average 2019 and 2021 used for 2020 data
3. 2022-2029 population sourced from: Ontario Ministry of Finance projections (July 19 2023) for Toronto Census Area (Population Projections for Ontario's 49 Census Divisions by Age and Sex, 2022- 2046)



# Modernizing Core Service Delivery



9-1-1 Response and Patrol	Investigations and Victim Support	Crime Prevention	Events and Protest	Traffic and Parking Enforcement	Courts and Prisoner Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transfer of Lifeguard and Crossing Guard programs</li> <li>Disbanded Priority Response Group (surge capacity)</li> <li>Call Diversion (TCCS + Gerstein)</li> <li>911 to 211</li> <li>New Shift Schedules</li> <li>Digital Officer</li> <li>AG Recommendations</li> <li>NG911</li> <li>Workload analysis &amp; modelling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Centralized Teams (e.g. fraud, shootings, auto theft)</li> <li>Pre-Charge Youth Diversion Program</li> <li>Military Veterans Program</li> <li>Victim Services divisional co-location</li> <li>DNA and Genealogy</li> <li>Bail Enforcement</li> <li>Auto License Plate Reader</li> <li>Missing and Missed Recs.</li> <li>Investigative Standardization (future effort)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mobile Crisis Intervention Teams</li> <li>FOCUS tables</li> <li>Community consultative and advisory committees</li> <li>Neighbourhood Community Officers (56 neighbourhoods)</li> <li>Gang Exit Referrals</li> <li>Disbanded community response units and school resource officers</li> <li>SafeTO</li> <li>Digital engagement</li> <li>Mental Health response review (CORE, Transfer of care etc.) (future effort)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Province-wide PoU Partnership</li> <li>Use of an Assessment Matrix to inform resourcing</li> <li>Police Liaison Team Program for events</li> <li>Participation in City of Toronto Special Events Working Group</li> <li>Use of Mobile Command Centres</li> <li>Expanded callback resource options (eg special constables) for certain events</li> <li>Mandatory incident command training for all supervisors *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vision Zero Enforcement Team</li> <li>Drug Recognition Enforcement</li> <li>Traffic Warden Support</li> <li>Connected PEO</li> <li>MLEO/TPS connect</li> <li>Online parking complaints portal</li> <li>Automation-Technology *</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Civilianization of Charge Processing</li> <li>Video Bail</li> <li>Special Constable Generalist program</li> <li>Central lock-up model</li> <li>Electronic disclosure</li> <li>Evidence.com</li> </ul>

# Modernizing the Service...



## PEOPLE

- Overhauled promotional processes
- New employee orientation program
- 30% increase in cadet racial diversity
- 50% increase in female leadership
- Training that exceeds the provincial standard
- Active Bystander Training
- Coach Officer and community integration programs
- Leadership training with Rotman & Schulich
- improvements in absenteeism and claims management
- Early career wellness check



## TECHNOLOGY

- Deployed digital platforms of CRM and CMS
- Rationalization of IT Infrastructure and Applications
- Rebuild of the Richmond Data Centre
- Establishment of IM Pillar, Data Management Team
- Initiation of Records Management Build Deployment of Online Reporting for Traffic and Parking



## ORGANIZATION

- Governance equity review committee
- Robust communication capability and social media presence
- Shared services and joint procurements
- 0% budgets x 4 years
- Resource optimization through civilianization
- Flatlined/freeze non-salary costs



# Modernizing Core Service Delivery

**\$400M+ in cumulative cost avoidance since 2015**

- **Redeployment of existing resources**
- **Civilianization and introduction of General Special Constables:** estimated \$8M annually
- **Call Diversion Initiatives:** redirecting calls to 211, the Toronto Community Crisis Services and Gerstein Crisis Centre
- **Disbanding selected units:** estimated at \$25M annually
- **Hiring freeze:** resulting in cumulative annual savings. Between 2015 and 2019, the Service reduced approximately 400 to 500 members. Comparing the cop-to-pop ratio from 2010 to 2024, there is an estimated gap of 1,500 officers
- **Enhanced Investigative efficiency:** achieved through centralization of resources
- **Increased civilian gapping:** by intentionally slowing hiring processes - \$8M
- **Digital enablement**
- **IT Rationalization:** Including decommissioning certain systems
- **Joint procurement efforts**
- **Optimization of Shift Schedules**
- **Non-salary reduction:** \$5M annually
- **Sustainability initiatives:** Including the adoption of VOIP systems, converting to LED lighting and reduction of vehicles - \$2M annually



# What Makes Toronto Unique?



## FASTEST GROWING CITY

Fastest growing and fourth largest in North America. Ranked 23 out of 270 on the 2024 World's Best Cities. Toronto has 200 more cranes than 14 other major North American cities.\*\*



## EVENTS/TOURIST HUB

Over 2K+ events/protests a year. Home of the only Canadian MLB & NBA teams. 27.5M visitors with 9.5M overnight and 18M day visitors annually.\*



## CONSULATES

87 out of 108 consular offices in Ontario are located in Toronto.



## LAND & SEA

In addition to the 630 sq. km of land, TPS is also responsible for 1,190 sq. km of open water on Lake Ontario.



## HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Between 2011 and 2021, Toronto Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) accounted for 22% of all reported human trafficking incidents in Canada.



## GUN & GANG CRIME

Being a large urban city and a major hub on the 401 corridor, gang activity continues to be an issue in the City of Toronto.



## POLICE REFORM

Implementing and accelerating reform by addressing recommendations from independent reviews, assessments, police reform directions and government mandates.



## DISECONOMIES OF SCALE

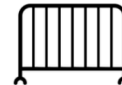
Dense cities face longer emergency response times and more difficulty in locating and capturing criminals

\*2019 data

\*\* [Toronto Has Nearly 200 More Cranes Than Other Major North American Cities \(storeys.com\)](https://www.storeys.com)



# 2024 Operational Context



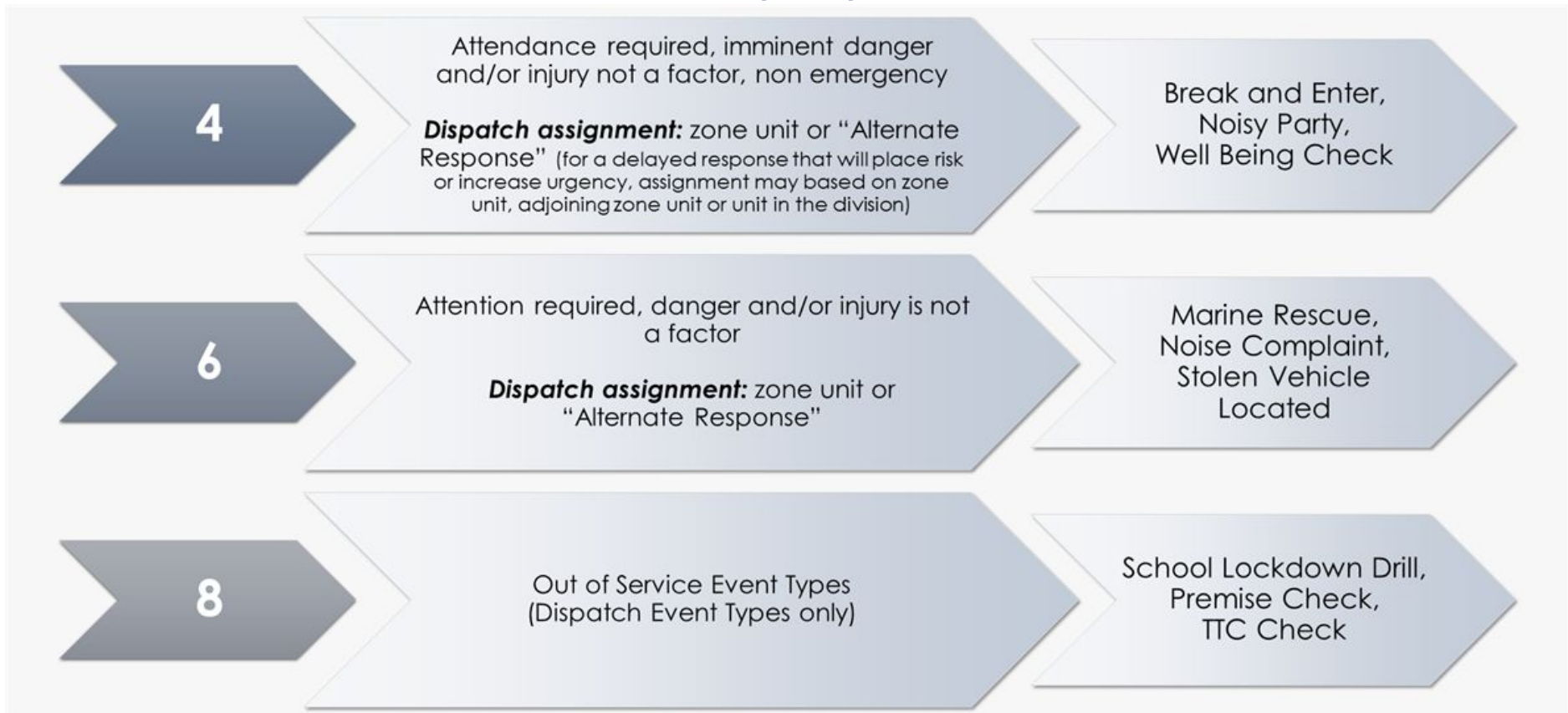
9-1-1 Response and Patrol	Investigations and Victim Support	Crime Prevention	Events and Protest	Traffic and Parking Enforcement	Courts and Prisoner Management
<b>CALLS FOR SERVICE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2023 - 2.1M 9-1-1 calls</li> <li>YTD: P1/2 5 - 6%; P3 21% ↑</li> <li>Since 2019 P1 14% ↑</li> <li>65,000 9-1-1 calls for every 100,000 pop. (may not be linear &amp; impact of NG-911 unknown)</li> </ul> <b>CALLS ATTENDED</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2023 - 407K attended ↑</li> <li>YTD: P1/2 5 - 8%; P3 21%</li> </ul> <b>P1 RESPONSE TIME</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2023 – 23 min average ↓</li> <li>YTD - 17.5 min; 21%</li> </ul>	<b>Y/Y IN MAJOR CRIMES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shootings 48% ↑</li> <li>Hate Crimes 41% ↑</li> <li>Homicide 20% ↑</li> <li>Auto Theft -20% ↓</li> <li>YTD Firearm Arrests: 660, 15% ↑</li> </ul> <p>YTD case closure rate 40% - case closure rates are decreasing, and backlog is increasing</p> <p>Every hour of the day TPS creates and collects 100 hours of video evidence.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>~70% FOCUS referrals (800+) originated from TPS (2023)</li> <li>715 Gang Exit Referrals (2023)</li> <li>Neighbourhood Community Officer</li> <li>Crime severity index is at highest level since 2010</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Geo-political events such as Middle East Conflict - 1000+ protests/demos</li> <li>Balancing event staffing with operational needs and use of premium pay</li> <li>Over 2000 events and protests managed in 2023</li> <li>Expanded Special Events Requirements</li> <li>FIFA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>684 tickets daily (2023)</li> <li>870 tickets daily (2024)</li> <li>67K motor vehicle collisions (2023)</li> <li>38K traffic related calls for service attended annually (2023)</li> <li>258K Highway Traffic Act tickets and warnings issued (2023)</li> <li>Traffic fatalities 12% ↑</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17K Video Bail Appearances</li> <li>Amalgamation to the Ontario Court of Justice – Toronto and Toronto Regional Bail Centre</li> <li>Increase Court sittings (post-pandemic)</li> <li>Provincially downloaded &amp; underfunded</li> <li>Priority court disclosure backlog</li> </ul>



# Calls for Service – Priority Types

Priority	Description	Call Type Examples
1	<p>Hot Shot invoked, danger to life</p> <p><b>Dispatch assignment:</b> any unit from anywhere in the city</p>	<p>Holdup, Person With A Gun</p>
2	<p>Immediate attendance, danger and/or injury is present or imminent</p> <p><b>Dispatch assignment:</b> any unit in the zone, adjoining zone, division or if the situation warrants anywhere in the city</p>	<p>Emergency Run, Missing Vulnerable, Robbery</p>

# Calls for Service – Priority Types



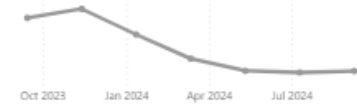
# Calls Attended (P1)

TPS

**17.5**

Last Year: 22.4 (-21.98%)

TEMPORAL TREND OF PAST YEAR



Calls for Service  
Attended

**36,683**

**3.7%**

Units Dispatched

**112,108**

**6.9%**

Avg Pending Time  
(Minutes)

**8.4**

**-28.2%**

Avg Response Time  
(Minutes)

**17.5**

**-22.0%**

Avg Total Time on  
Call (Minutes)

**88.8**

**-1.2%**

Previous Year % Change

**1,293**

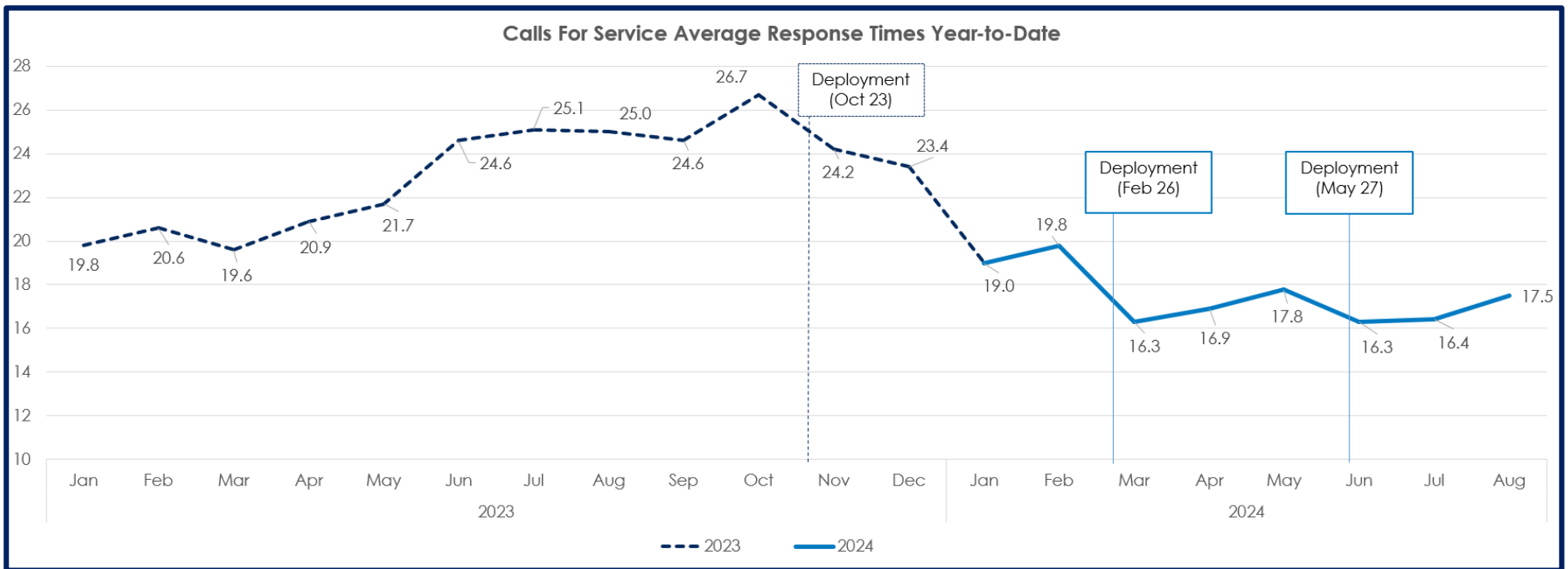
**7,220**

**-3.3**

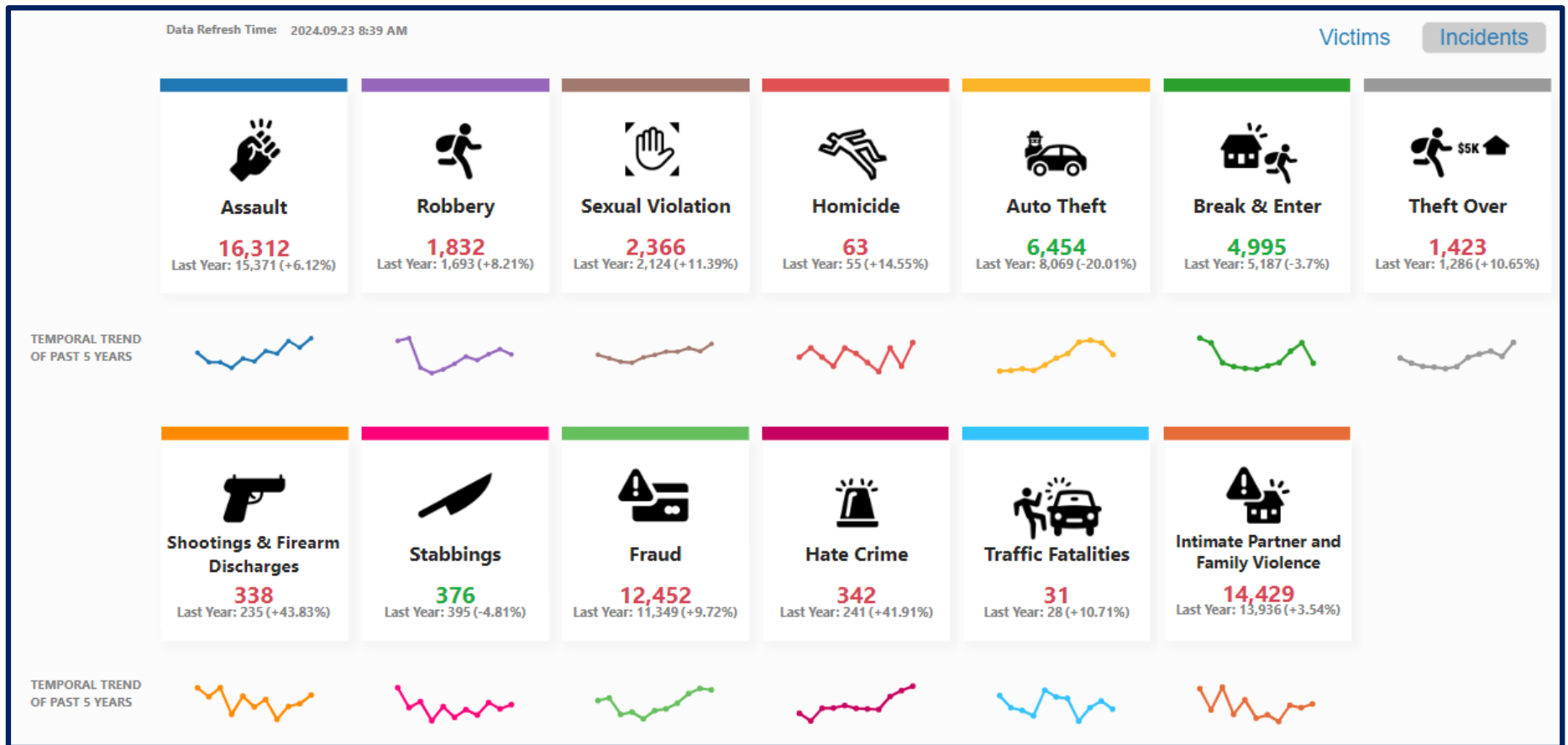
**-4.9**

**-1.1**

# Calls Attended Response Times (P1) Trend



# Community Safety Indicators (Year-to-Date)

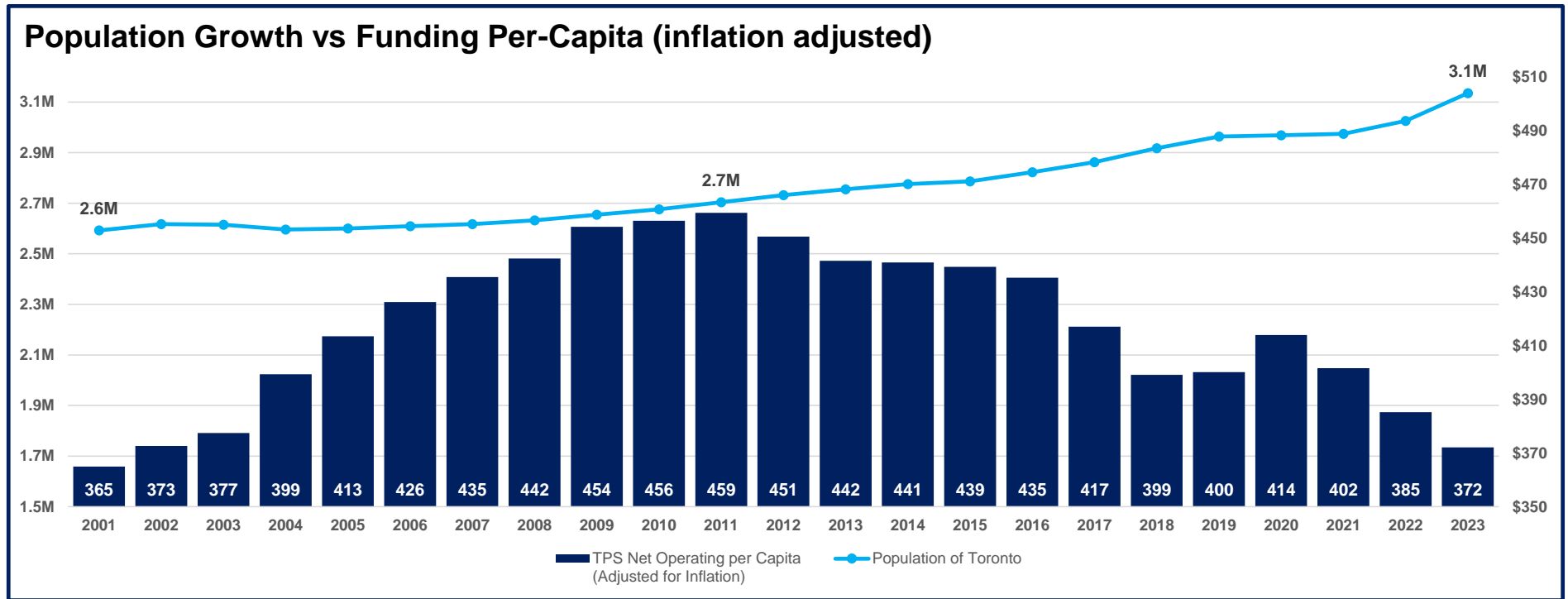




# BUDGET HISTORY



# Population Growth vs Funding



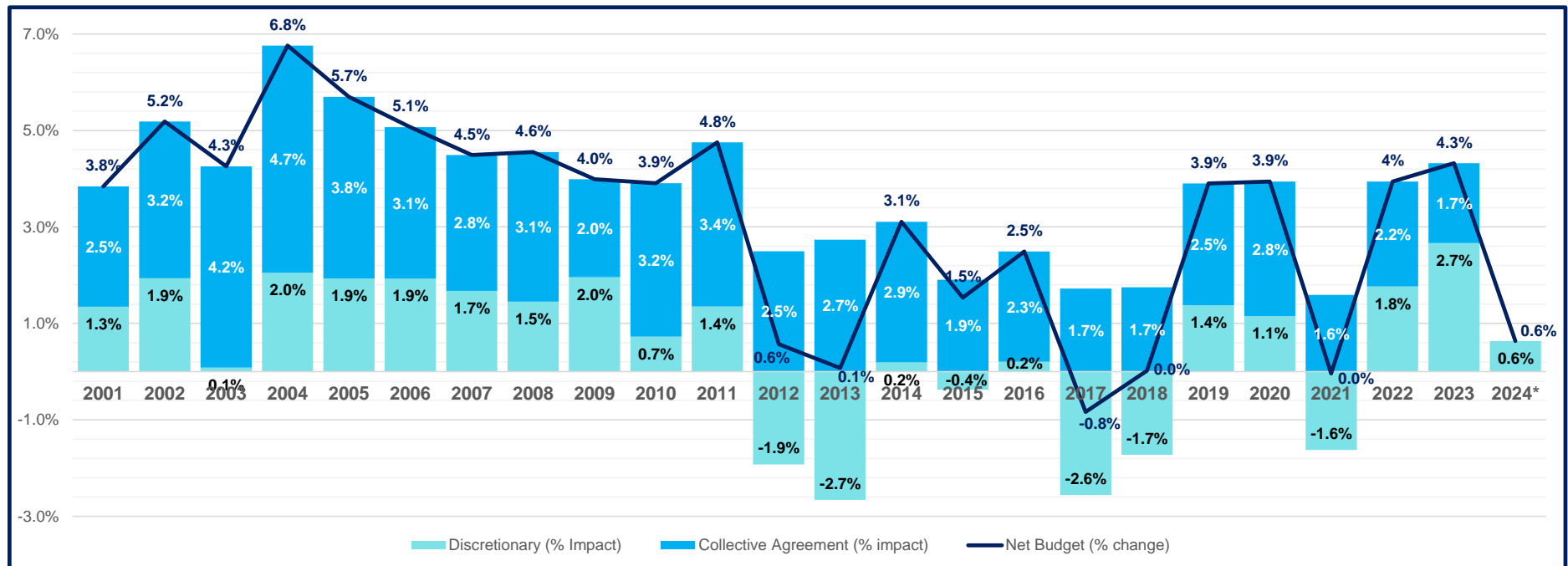
When adjusted for inflation, funding and officer levels are currently at **2000-2002** levels.

From 2001-2024 the population of Toronto has grown by over **540K** new residents.





# Breakdown of Budget Increases



## COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT IMPACTS

From 2001 to 2024, the TPS net budget has increased by a total of **\$616.6M** or an average of **\$25.7M** in each year since 2001 (~**3.2%** per year).

Collective Agreement impacts have accounted for a total of **\$520.4M** or an average of **\$22.6M** of the total net budget increase (~**2.6%** per year).

## ANALYSIS OF INCREASE

The average increase from year 2001 to 2011 was **4.8%**. The average increase from 2012 to 2024 dropped to **1.8%**. The average CPI for this time period was **2.4%**.

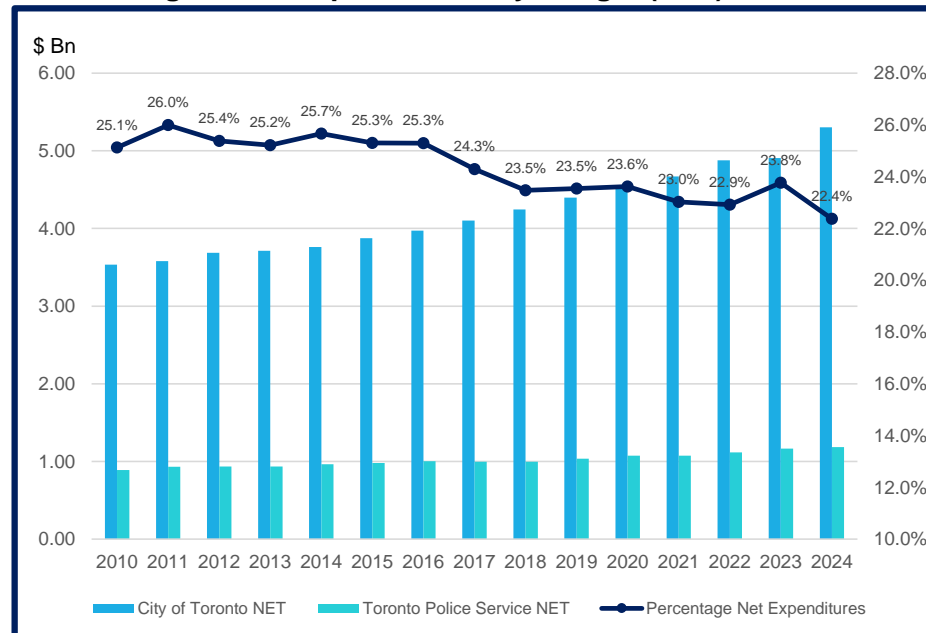
From 2012 to 2024 the budget increase was **\$243.5M** and the collective agreement portion of it was **\$264.7M**. This means TPS budget in fact has gone down by **\$21.2M** over this time period for all other non-salary items.

\* 2024 data excludes Collective Agreement impact.



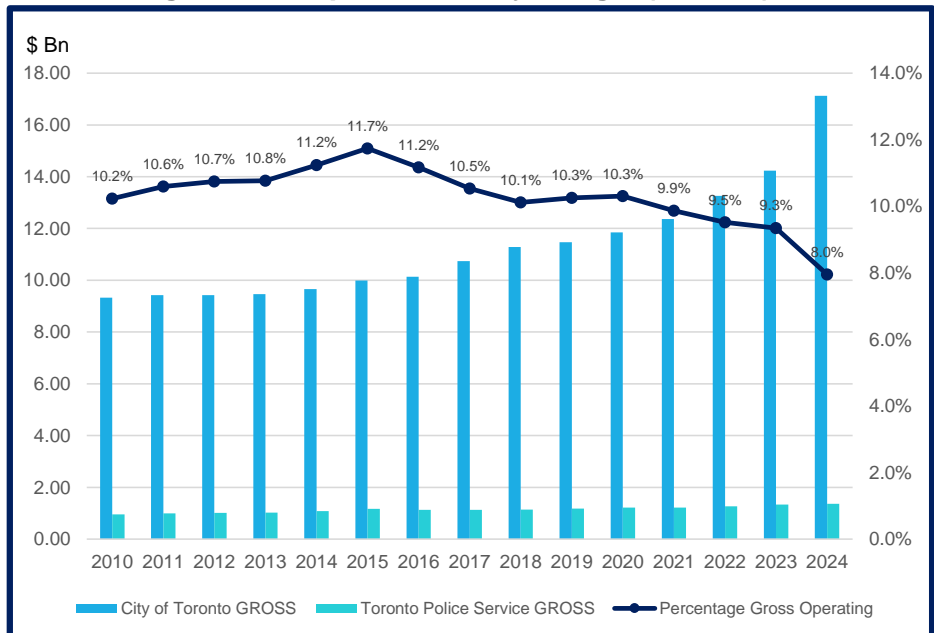
# Our Budget as a Proportion of City Budget

## Police Budget as a Proportion of City Budget (NET)



The Toronto Police Service Budget decreased by **2.8%** points compared to the City of Toronto on a **net** basis from 2010 to 2024.

## Police Budget as a Proportion of City Budget (GROSS)

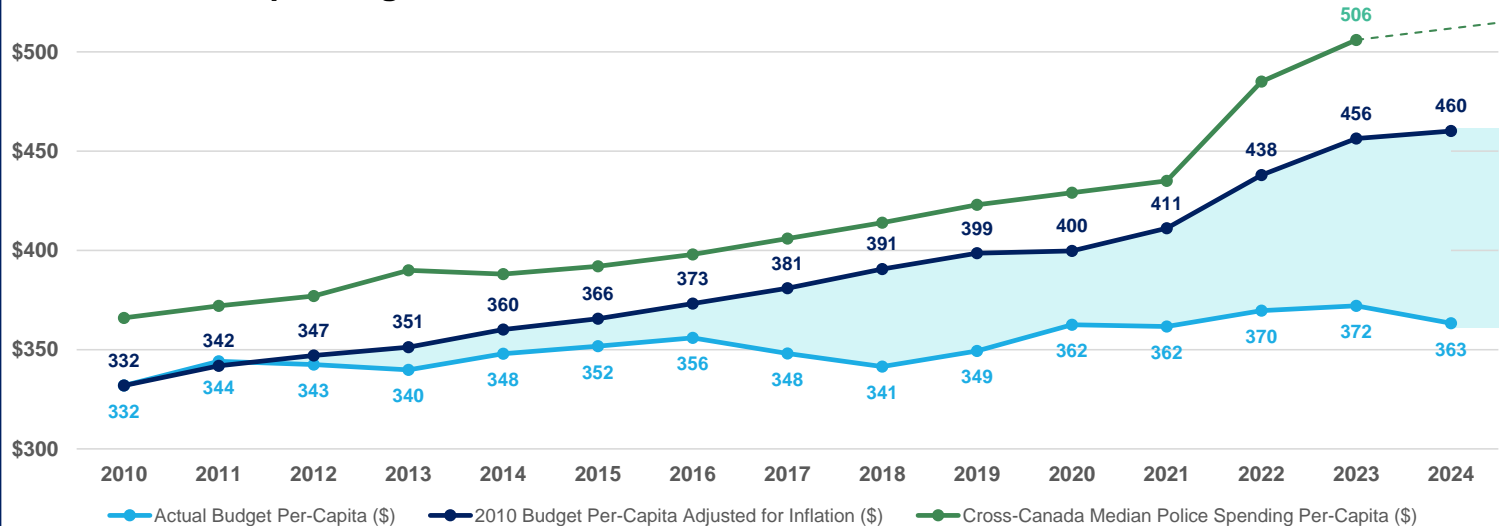


The Toronto Police Service Budget decreased by **2.3%** points compared to the City of Toronto on a **gross** basis from 2010 to 2024.



# Net Budget Per Capita

**TPS Operating Budget vs 2010 Inflation Adjusted Budget vs Canada Median Police Spending**



**\$420M**

The gap between the 2023 approved budget and the median spending for policing in Canada.

**\$274M**

The gap between the 2024 approved budget and inflation adjusted budget.

Based on the 2024 approved budget, policing services cost \$363 per person per year.

Policing services that cost \$332 in 2010 would cost \$460 in 2024 due to inflation. Today's cost is \$97 less per capita.

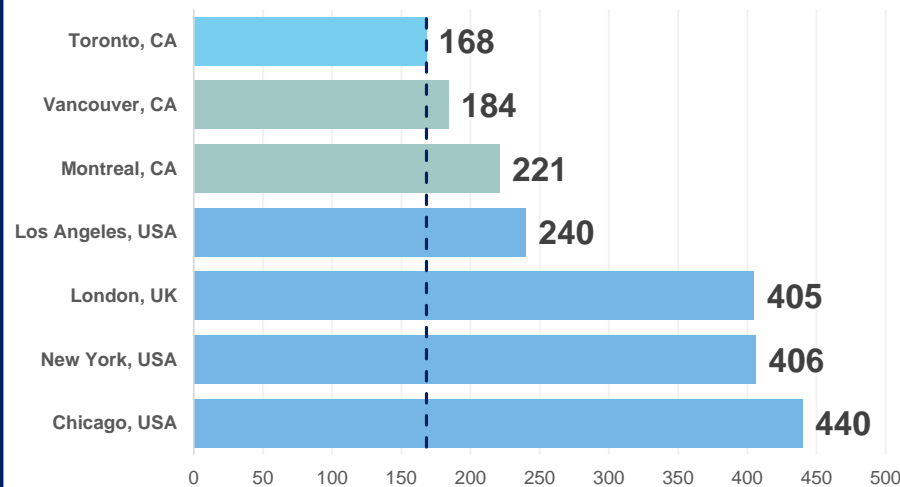
1. 2010-2021 population from: Statistics Canada. Table 35-10-0077-01 Police personnel and selected crime statistics, municipal police services. Updated 2024
2. 2020 population data is not available in Statistics Canada - average 2019 and 2021 used for 2020 data.
3. 2022-2024 population sourced from: Ontario Ministry of Finance projections (July 19 2023) for Toronto Census Area (Population Projections for Ontario's 49 Census Divisions by Age and Sex, 2022- 2046).
4. 2010-2023 CPI from: Statistics Canada. Table 18-10-0005-01 Consumer Price Index, annual average, not seasonally adjusted (year end).
5. 2024 CPI data is from: Statistics Canada. Table 18-10-0004-01 Consumer Price Index, monthly, not seasonally adjusted (May 2024 figure).



# Policing in Other Communities

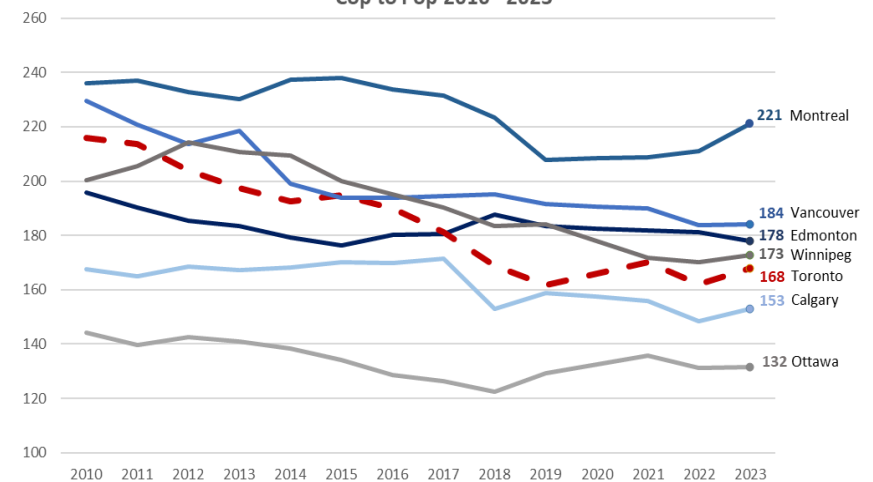
Toronto has a significantly higher rate of population served per uniform officer, as compared to other large, urban police services in North America.

**2023 Officers per 100,000 People**



Source: Statistics Canada: Table 35100077. Police personnel and selected crime statistics, municipal police services. Actual strength as of May 15th. Updated March 26, 2024  
Non-Canadian data sources for 2023 include the use of non-government statistics taken from annual reports, new articles, and projections that may be estimates.

**Canadian Police Services  
Cop to Pop 2010 - 2023**

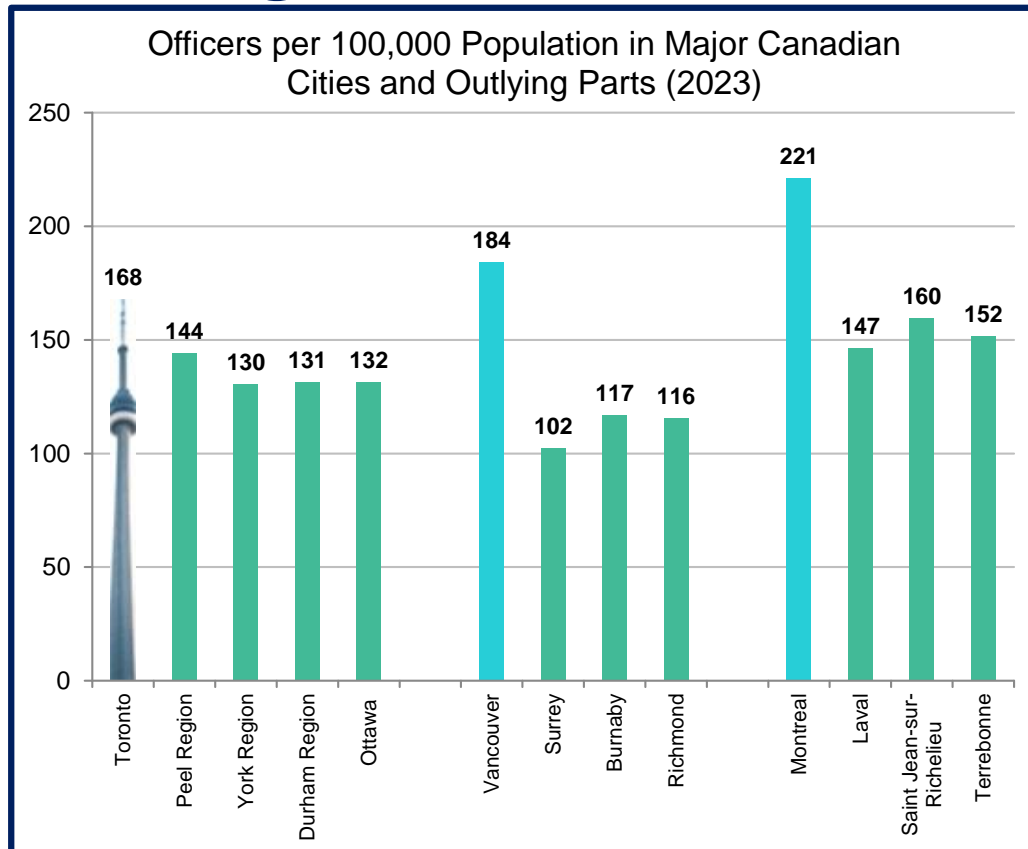


Source:

1. Statistics Canada: Table 35100077. Police personnel and selected crime statistics, municipal police services. Actual strength as of May 15th. Updated March 26, 2024
2. 2020 not available. Average of 2019 and 2021 used



# Policing in Other Communities



Surrounding suburban areas typically have lower ratios of officers per capita due to 'diseconomies of scale' and different policing requirements unique to urban areas.

Of the 3 major urban cities in Canada, Toronto had the fewest officers per 100,000 population in 2023 (168), while Vancouver had 10% (16) and Montreal had 32% (53) more officers per 100,000.

Source: Statistics Canada: Table 35100077. Police personnel and selected crime statistics, municipal police services. Actual strength as of May 15th. Updated March 26, 2024



- ①
- ②
- ③

# 2025 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT UPDATE



# Operational Priorities

## Core Service Delivery, Trust, & Modernization



**Frontline support** to prevent further degradation of response times



Create more **investigative capacity** for timely case closure



**Keep Toronto traffic moving**



Improved **evidence management** and court disclosure compliance



Augment **supervision** for **increased accountability**, **minimize operational risk**



Supporting safer communities through alternative service delivery, call diversion and partnerships



**Continue police reform**



Workforce resilience in the face of high **retirement eligibility** and **25% with less than 5 years experience**



Create capacity and strengthen community trust through **technology and digital enablement**



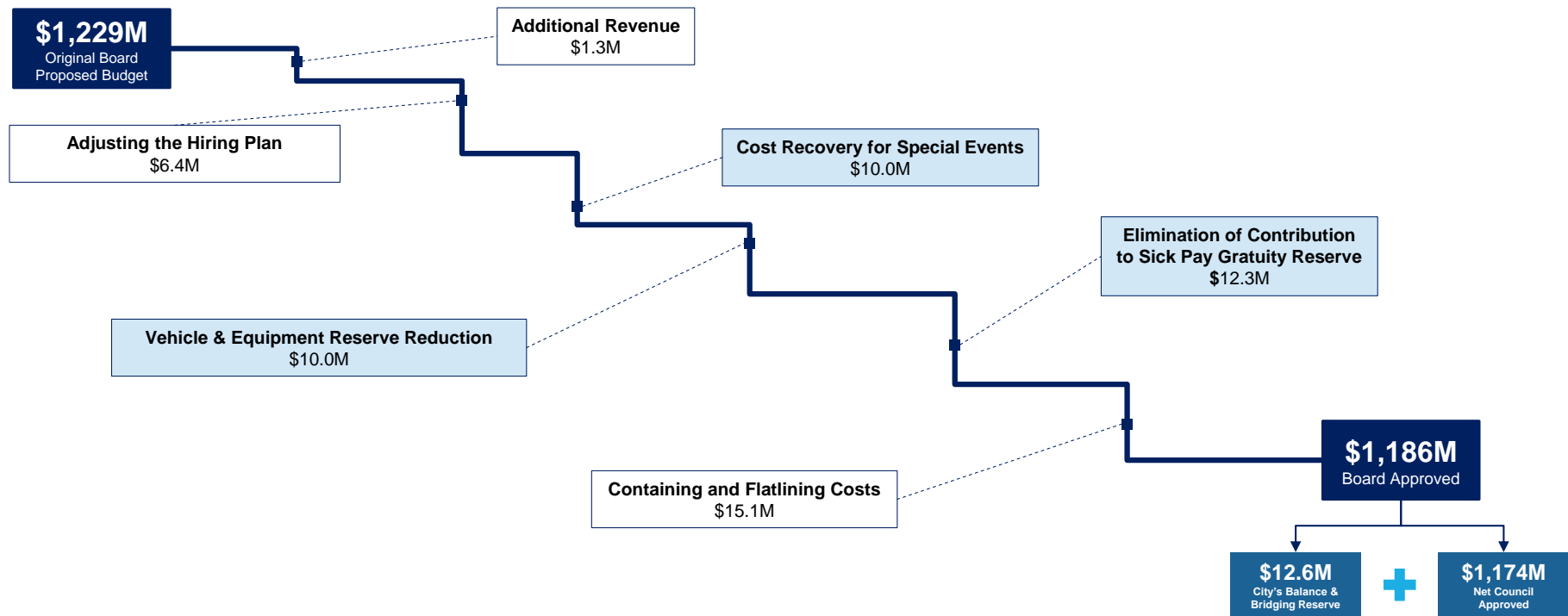
Long-term sustainable funding that supports **growth, improves service levels, supports community safety**



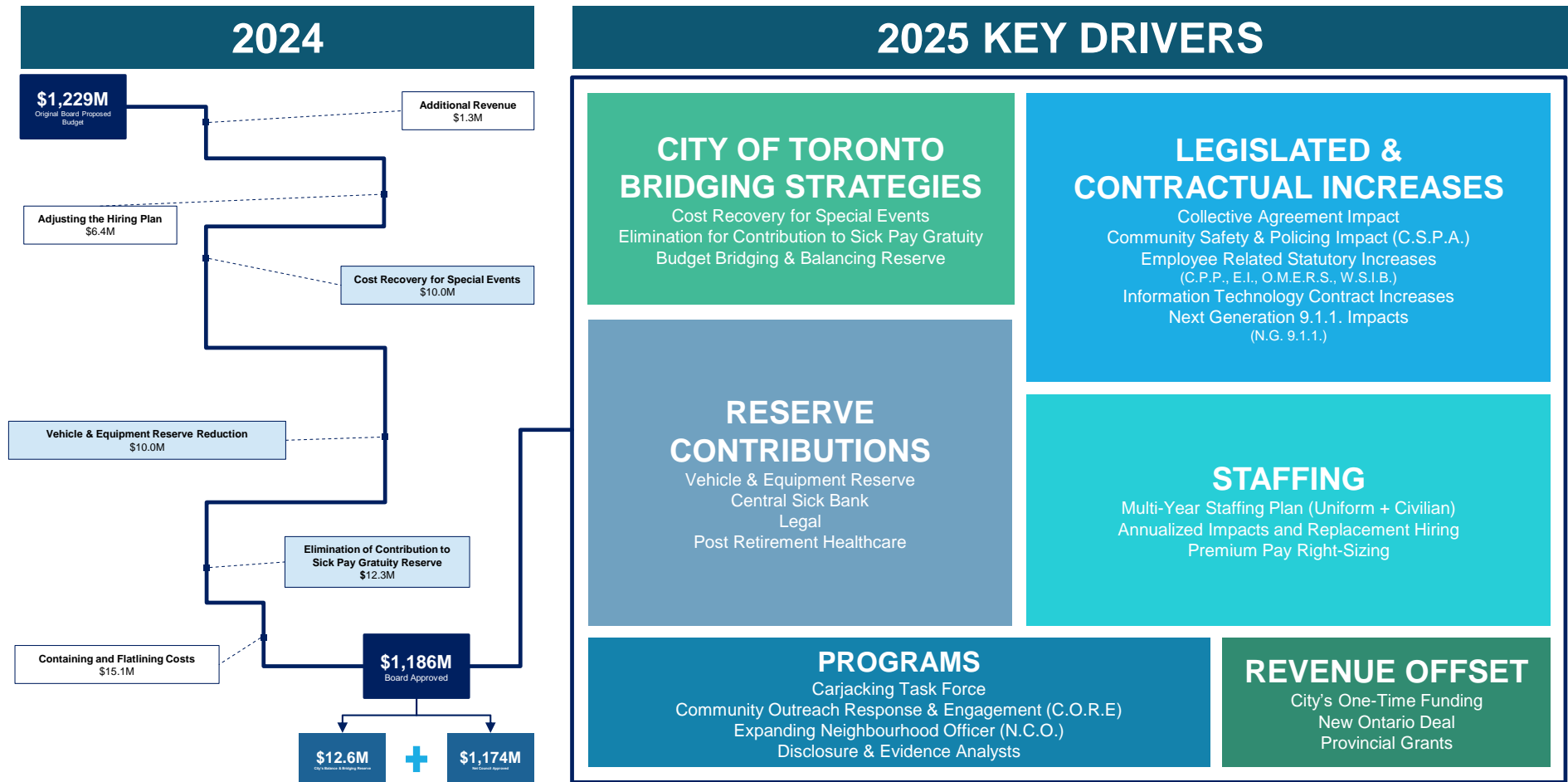


# How We Got Here...

2024



# Key Drivers & Considerations



# Preliminary 2025 - 2034 Capital Program



**40%**  
FACILITIES



**30%**  
EQUIPMENT



**13%**  
TECHNOLOGY

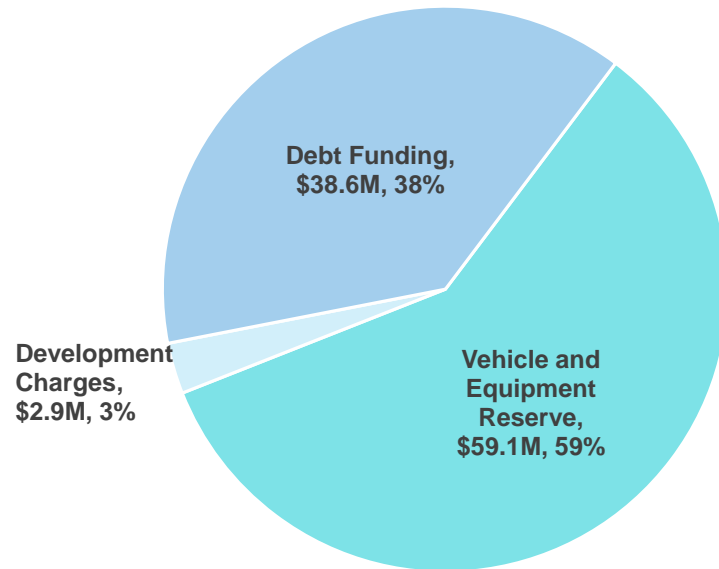


**13%**  
VEHICLES

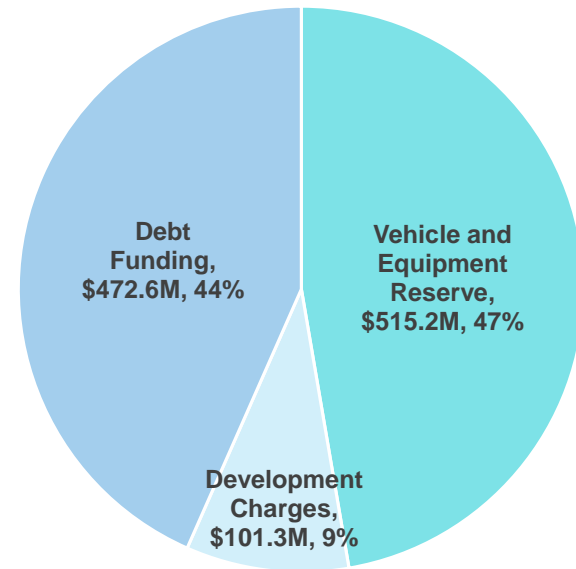


**4%**  
COMMUNICATION

**2025 Capital Program: \$100.6M**



**2025-2034 Capital Program: \$1,089M**



# Preliminary 2025 - 2034 Capital Program Summary

PROJECTS IN PROGRESS	UPCOMING PROJECTS	PRIORITY NEEDS FUNDING SOURCES T.B.D.
State-of-Good-Repair - Police	Long Term Facility Plan - 13,53 Division	9.1.1. Communications Centre; New Build
Long Term Facility Plan - 54 Division; New Station		
Long Term Facility Plan - 41 Division; New Build	Long Term Facility Plan - 55 Division; New Station	Police Dog Services Building Expansion
Radio Replacement		
Automated Fingerprint Identification System (A.F.I.S.) Replacement	Communication Center Furniture Replacement - Design	Mounted Unit Renovations
Next Generation (N.G.) 9-1-1	Platform & Transformation	70 Birmingham - Gun Range Remediation Upgrades
Uninterrupted Power Supply (U.P.S.) Lifecycle Replacement		
Information Technology Storage Growth	Real Time Operating Centre	2050 Jane FIS building Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning lifecycle
New Records Management System (RMS)		
Transforming Corporate Support (HRMS, TRMS)	Communication Center 9th Floor Renovation	Vehicle Storage Requirement due to Automatic License Plate Recognition Technology
Property & Evidence Warehouse Racking		
Vehicle and Equipment for Additional Capacity	Forensic Identification Services (FIS) Facility Replacement - Feasibility Study	Emergency Task Force - New Facility
Body Worn Camera - Phase II		
Long Term Facility Plan - Consulting		Long Term Facility Plan - 22 Division; New Build



# Potential Accomplishments & Outcomes of the 2025 Budget



## 9-1-1 Response and Patrol

- Focus on response time reductions
- Continue call diversion efforts – 911 to 211, TCCS, online etc.
- Continued efforts to optimize shift schedules
- Continue implementation of Digital Officer project, AG Recommendations, NG911
- Continue building 41 Division and finalizing direction for 54/55



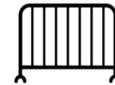
## Investigations and Victim Support

- Focus on case closure rates
- Retain capacity to investigate hate crime and carjackings/thefts
- Pursue investigative standardization for greater effectiveness and efficiency
- Retain Bail Enforcement capacity
- Continue implementing Missing and Missed Recs.



## Crime Prevention

- Explore Neighbourhood Community Officer expansion
- Continue evolving TPS mental health response
- Retain capacity to actively participate in proactive and community programs:
  - FOCUS tables
  - community consultative and advisory committee
  - Gang Exit Referrals
  - SafeTO
- Pursue further online/digital engagement



## Events and Protest

- Prepare for FIFA – planning, training, logistics
- Continue evolving TPS special event response
- Retain capacity for public order needs for hundreds of unplanned events



## Traffic and Parking Enforcement

- Retain Vision Zero Enforcement Team
- Retain Drug Recognition Enforcement
- Continue Traffic Warden Support
- Pursue further online diversion and automation of parking and traffic issues



## Courts and Prisoner Management

- Focus on timely disclosure of evidence
- Explore expanded mandates for Special Constable program

# Potential Accomplishments & Outcomes of the 2025 Budget



## PEOPLE

- Continue maturing HR practices and implementing Respectful Workplace Action Plan
- Pursue complaint/investigation reform
- Augment early intervention capabilities
- Continue providing training that exceeds provincial standards including Active Bystander, coach officer program, community integration programs
- Continue developing leaders through programming and training
- Continue pursuing workforce diversity and succession planning
- Retain current wellness prevention, intervention and promotion programming and pursue augmented peer support programs
- Continue to meet occupational health and safety obligations through workspace, facilities and equipment maintenance



## TECHNOLOGY

- Augment internal and community facing digital capabilities
  - Complete Call Diversion Faster
  - Video Response to Address Response Times
  - Digital Community Engagement
  - Intranet for Member Support
  - Forms and Automation
  - Increase front-line tools
- Implement the new RMS to achieve greater effectiveness in core service delivery
- Enhance capacity to make data-informed and evidence-led decisions
- Address disclosure and redaction volume and evidence backlog
- Streamline and automation of administrative processes
- Improve cybersecurity positioning and collaboration with partners

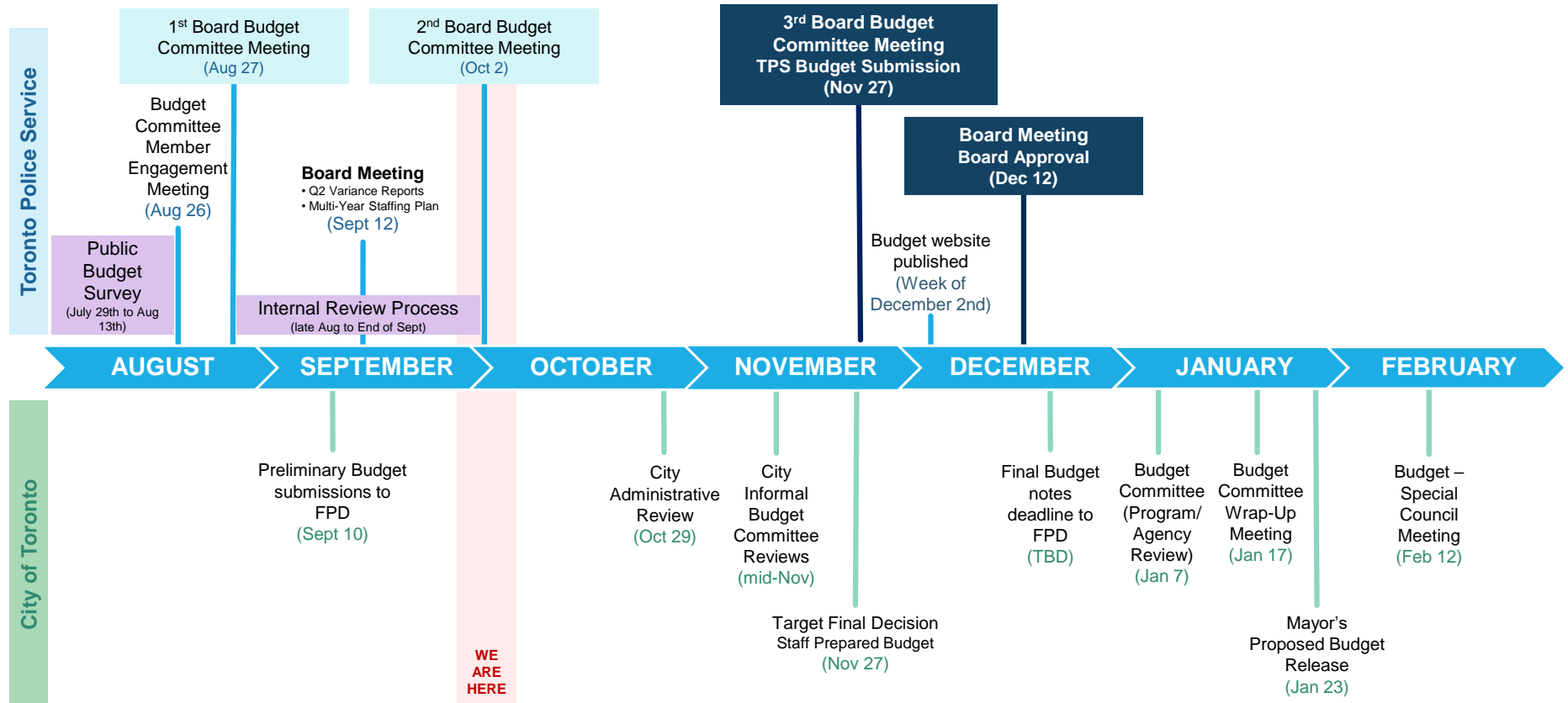


## ORGANIZATION

- Continue pursuing police reform including OHRC recommendations and the equity strategy commitments
- Continue current levels of transparency and engagement with the public, media, City Council, Board, OHRC
- Pursue implementation of the CSPA
- Participate in discussions with other levels of government re: long-term financial sustainability
- Continue risk mitigation and prevent/minimize service delivery failures



# Next Steps





**Toronto Police Service Board  
Budget Meeting  
October 2, 2024**

---

**\*\* Speakers' List \*\***

**1. Board Budget Committee Meeting**

Deputations: John Harley

Ingrid Buday (in person) (presentation included)

Sue DeGrandis (in person)

Tim Ellis (virtual)

Zhixi Li (Linda) (written submission included) (in person)

Felipe Tellez (virtual)

Miguel Avila (in person)

Alberto Barreiro (virtual)

Kris Langenfeld (virtual)

Written submission only:

Amanda Yates

Gail Viggiani

Bruce Mitchell

Ekaterina Habbous

BEV MCCARTHY

Sinan Imamoglu Azam

Kiyobekov Tamara

Bernstein Laura

Lamarche Juan

Naranjo Filomena

Venditti Robert Barnett

Teresa Becker

Sharon Thomson

Linda

Ingrid van der Zande

Kameron Allan

Grant

Gregory Wilson

Susan DeGrandis

Alexander Christ Doulis

Carol

Keith Tobey  
Don Young  
Maria Ludosan

Mandy Sala  
Anatol Monid  
Beverly Biderman  
Deborah O'Brien  
Mike Scinocco  
Harold B. Smith  
TJ MACHADO  
Gail Bebee  
Gail & George Ganetakos  
Steven Jacobs  
Darlene Anne Varaleau  
Janet Griffiths-Maxymiw  
John Liss  
Daniel Bosc  
John Sewell  
Eric Shelton  
Melissa Prusky  
Leslie Solomon  
Mary Ambrose  
Michael Goldstein  
Leslie  
Deanna  
Barbara Cook  
Deanna Sriver  
Jane Unan  
Trish (Zijun) Ou  
Ronald Jones  
Janet Looker  
Alexei Marcilio  
Patricia Koutsaris  
Alexandrina Canto Thaler  
Rasha Coleman  
Christopher Richard Wilson  
Sandra Halbert  
Seta Elbekian  
Julia Robinson  
Sally Gustin  
Nicole Corrado



**NO MORE NOISE**  
Toronto

# **Toronto Police Services Board – Budget Committee**

October 2, 2024

# No More Noise Toronto

---

- Data and process-oriented grassroots organization
- Collaborative approach to reducing the noises that wake us up, keep us up and disturb us day and night.
- With over 1,350 subscribers to Noise News and support of FoNTRA and FoSTRA, we represent 100,000's of residents.



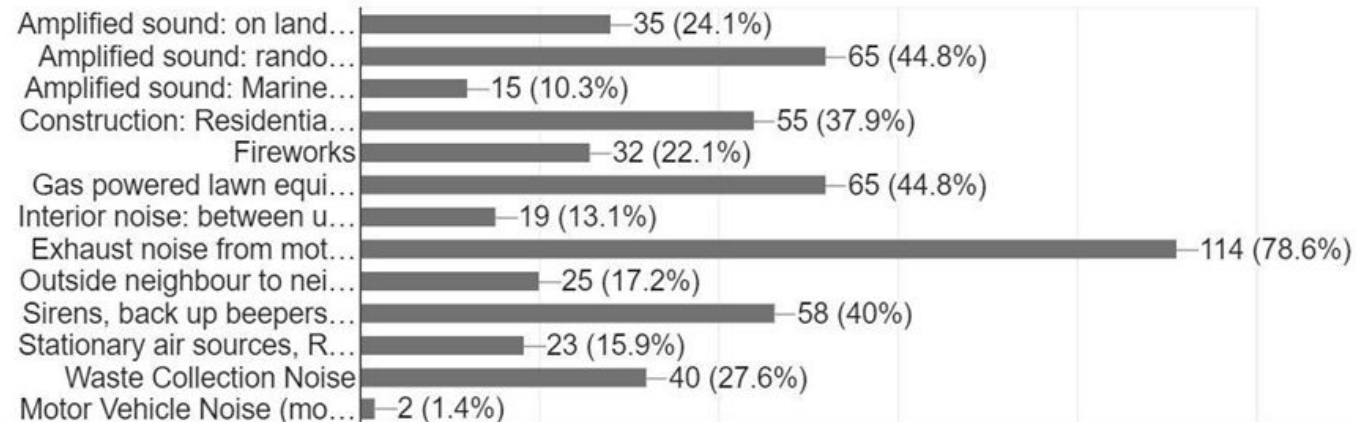
# Member Feedback

While each person has their own relationship to sound, of most of the different sources of noise, exhaust noise from (moving) motorcycles and vehicles is the most common.

## What noise sources disturb you?

Select all that apply.

145 responses



# Broken Process

## 311 Service Request Workflow for Moving Vehicles



# Peak Noise Events

## Buffer Analysis:

- 665,000 people live within 750 meters of a highway
- 1.2 million people live within 100 meters of an arterial road.
- 2021 Census data



## Noise Spikes = 10 dbA above Leq /average

- 66% of Toronto's population subjected to constant noise and thousands of noise spikes annually

Location	# spikes / 24 hours	# spikes / week	# spikes / year
Highway	43	301	15,652
Arterial Road	142	994	51,688





# Traffic Noise

- Nearly 60 % of noise in Toronto can be attributed to traffic noise. (pg. 4)
- It is estimated that dissemination areas in the lowest income quintile are almost 11 times more likely to have 50 percent of their residents exposed to night noise levels over 55 dBA, than residents in the highest income quintile. (pg. 4)
- A higher arousal of the autonomous nervous and endocrine systems, which is **adversely influenced by road traffic noise** exposure, is associated with an increased risk of mortality from ischaemic heart disease (World Health Organization, 2011). (pg. 10)
- There is some evidence of an association between **road traffic noise** and increased risk of a higher abnormal total difficulties score, hyperactivity, conduct problems and difficulties with peer relationship **in children** as based on a standardised Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (Hjortebjerg et al., 2016). Another study found an association between increased road traffic noise exposure at school sites and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder symptoms (Forns et al., 2016). (pg. 13)

Source: <https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2017/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-104525.pdf>



# Physical Health Outcomes

From TPH Healthy Aging Summary

## Of Noise:

- Obesity
- Coronary Artery Disease
- Hypertension
- Arrhythmia
- Diabetes
- Heart Failure
- COPD

From [How Loud is Too Loud](#): Sørensen and colleagues (2011a) reported that in people over 64.5 years of age, exposure to every 10 dBA (Lden) increase in residential road traffic noise was associated with a 27 percent higher risk for stroke.

Percentage of People Living with Chronic Conditions by Age Groups

Chronic Conditions	Ages 65-74 years	Ages 75+ years
Hypertension <sup>26</sup>	57%	83%
Diabetes <sup>27</sup>	30%	38%
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease <sup>28</sup>	15%	23%

Leading Causes of Hospitalization Among Toronto Adults 65 Years and Older in 2022<sup>30</sup>

Adults 65 to 74 years		Adults 75 years and older	
Cause of Hospitalization	Percentage	Cause of Hospitalization	Percentage
Circulatory	18%	Circulatory	19%
Digestive	11%	Injury and Poisonings	10%

Leading Causes of Death Among Toronto Adults Aged 65 Years and Older in 2021<sup>2</sup>

Adults 65 to 74 years		Adults 75 years and older	
Cause of Death	Percentage	Cause of Death	Percentage
Ischemic heart disease	13%	Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease	16%
COVID-19	11%	Ischemic heart disease	12%



# Mental Health Outcomes

---

- Mental Health
  - Annoyance
  - Depression
  - [Sleep Disturbance](#)
  - [Alzheimer's Disease](#)
  - [Dementia](#)
  - [Loneliness](#)
- Social isolation
  - Loud public spaces
  - Loud restaurants
  - Hearing loss

Light and noise pollution 'are neglected health hazards', say peers

WHO declares loneliness a 'global public health concern'

The World Health Organization has launched an international commission on loneliness, which can be as bad for people's health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day

## Neighborhood Noise May Increase Dementia Risk

Just 10 decibels more daytime neighborhood noise is associated with 36 percent higher odds of mild cognitive impairment and 30 percent higher odds of having Alzheimer's disease.



# Do something!

---

## Moving Vehicle Noise Task Force

Toronto Police Services	City / Province
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fix reporting process</li><li>• Invest in training &amp; tools to enforce HTA</li><li>• Engage the public</li><li>• Help us advocate to improve &amp; strengthen HTA</li></ul>	<p>Municipal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fix reporting process</li><li>• Invest in automated enforcement</li><li>• Neighbourhood Action</li></ul> <p>Provincial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase Fines</li><li>• Permit automated enforcement</li></ul>

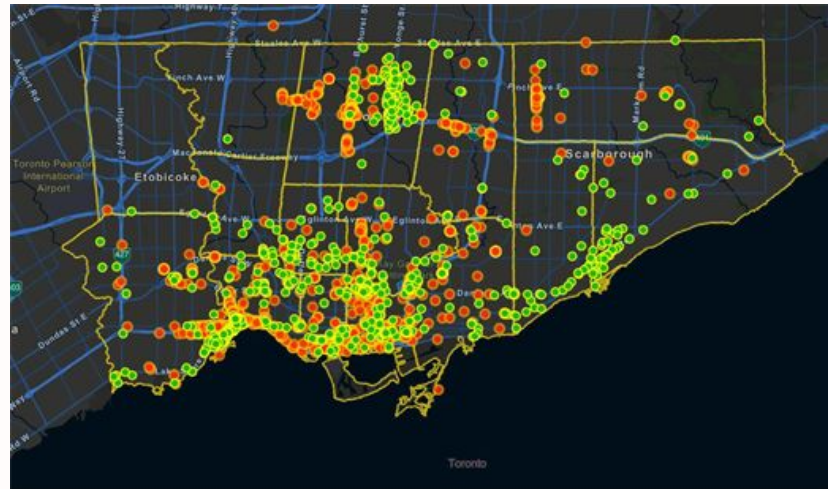


# Please help us

---

- We are suffering
- This won't go away on its own
- NMNT is ready to partner with you and engage with the public to get this right

This is a map of the over 800 responses we received regarding where people thought illegal muffler inspection events should occur.



# Let's Create a Better Toronto by Reducing Noise

---



[www.nomorenoisetoronto.com](http://www.nomorenoisetoronto.com)



Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee,

My name is Zhixi Li(Linda) and I'm the chair of Governance Committee of St. James Town Residence Council. I had to move out of town this summer because the noise there is unbearable-illegally installed speaker/horns inside apartments sending out high decibel sound from faulty fire alarm system and vehicle noises, etc.

In the backyard of 200 Wellesley Street, the noise from vehicle has gotten so loud this spring, the generator sound from food truck overnight caused my head spinning and headaches. Though I called 311 multiple times but in vain, the operator asked me to identify noise source which I was afraid to do so midnight, when I asked to send police patrol on scene to check, the operator answered" Sorry, we don't have police patrol". Obviously the 311 system is broken because they don't have police patrol and follow up investigation on noise cases reported.

You need to do more to eliminate illegal exhaust modifications on our streets and in our neighborhood. The loud audio assaults from vehicles endanger health of the residents of Toronto and this is part of your duty to "serve and protect".

You could upgrade police body camera to noise camera and implement a pilot solution quickly. This is a year round problem that deserves year round attention, fast action and funding to make Toronto a more safe, pleasant and healthy place to live.

Thank you.

Linda Li



Hi Ann, my name is Amanda Yates, and I am a Toronto resident.

I am emailing today because I oppose increasing the size and budget of the Toronto Police Service. These funds should be reallocated to vital yet underfunded community services in order to directly address Toronto's most pressing issues.

Countless studies show that increasing police numbers doesn't reduce crime or make communities safer. Instead, we should be redirecting funds from the bloated \$1.2 billion+ TPS budget to housing, to mental health supports, to harm reduction services, to youth outreach, and to other services that will support people in crisis, not criminalise them.

The safety and needs of Torontonians can be better fulfilled by shifting police resources to communities, municipal services, and specialized civilian response teams. I demand you take urgent action on this so that services in Toronto are performed by people best positioned to do them, not by police.

I am also deeply concerned about the safety and well-being of my neighbours & community members who are being targeted by systemic racism, ongoing surveillance, criminalization, and violence by policing in Toronto. The violence toward Black, Indigenous, racialized, impoverished and other targeted communities has to stop.

As a member of the Budget Committee on the Toronto Police Services Board, you have great power to make a real difference for those in the city that need it. With your Budget Committee meeting happening on October 2, you have the chance to voice these concerns about the possible increase to the TPS budget. This is your chance to use the position you've been granted on this board to do something that would actually benefit the people in this city. I urge you to act with these concerns in mind during this meeting and the remaining TPSB meetings regarding this matter.

**Name:** Gail Viggiani

**Organization:** No More Noise Toronto

**Format:** Written only

There have been numerous studies done worldwide on the effects of excessive noise on the physical and mental health and issues it causes.

I live in Humber Bay Shores on a small 2 block street with a parkette at one end and Lakeshore Blvd at the other

I got involved with No More Noise Toronto after numerous reports to 311 calls to the police to report revving engines. I spoke about being woken up at all hours of the night by modified mufflers sounding like jet engines on my tiny street on our neighborhood FB page. Many of my neighbours had the same issues. One had a far more pro active response Ingrid Buday started no more noise and I have been a member since day one because I want to make a difference. Just ranting on FB isn't going to do it and clearly reporting to 311 wasn't cutting it.

On any given day I experience 10 to 15, 85db to 110db sudden loud unexpected blasts from car or motorcycle engines. And many more that don't scare me but draw my attention away from what I am doing because the sound is obnoxious and frankly nasty and mean sounding.

It can have a disastrous effects on a both business and people . I was in a dental office that is situated on a corner where cars Rev Engines at the 2 stop signs and on the either side when exiting the underground parking . Imaging hearing loud explosive backfiring and roaring while already being nervous in the dentist chair. Or having the dentist startled while wheeling a drill.

the clinician told me its a frequent disruption and makes work very difficult.

I know this is happening all over the city both for businesses and personal issues

What happens to the human body when this unexpected sudden noise hits is called the alarm response or fight or flight response. It's a primal response held over from when we lived in the jungle and had to flee danger to survive.

Our body is flooded with chemicals like adrenalin, blood moves to the muscles away from our internal organs to our muscles. Our blood circulation is faster we prepare to run to escape.

Clearly if we were in danger its good and occasionally it's ok. Sadly if this happens many many times a day and at night. I never get a break. it takes a horrible toll. It can eventually lead to heart problems depression anxiety loss of sleep

In children it can be traced back to learning issues and concentration problems. This has been well documented and researched.

Many people have become so accustomed to this they can't or don't understand the connection.

Having spent years working with people with mental health issues it's clear to me how much noise in the environment makes to a person's feeling of safety and puts the ability to cope with daily pressures at risk. Noise is an equity issue, those that I was helping were already suffering and they are often forced to live in loud places. Unhoused???

The personal results are my anxiety levels have increased and I find it difficult to go out I suffer with depression and anxiety. Effecting my ability to engage fully in life. I rarely have a full night's sleep. I rarely sit on my balcony the soul reason for purchasing my condo the lake view the beautiful calm it brings has been removed from me it's not a pleasant restful place any more.

The condo I worked so hard for the dream of a retirement by the lake has been smashed by a few people with some weird vanity cars that are disrupting hundreds of lives.

My request is to lower the db level to Max 84db or 92 to 85 idle and from 96 to 93 at 2,000 RPMs AND less raise the fines to both the car owners and the garages that install them.

Lobby the car manufacturers to stop glorifying the loud obnoxious cars.

Like other cities world wide install sound cameras and enable and equip police and by law with sound meters.

I understand this has some financial cost in a city that is suffering with a large deficit. The reality is how much are we willing to lose over the years in the health of our kids and citizens which eventually translates into loss of revenue and extra health care and social services funding for want of looking into fixing a problem now!

These loud enhanced mufflers and engines do nothing to help or move our community forward they don't provide anything to benefit anyone. They are just loud and disruptive and draw attention to a minority of people.

Its time end this catering to a few vanity projects and start respecting the majority.

It's clear that the path to enforcement is the use of sound cameras. It's not feasible to

have the manpower to manage this.

We need to take care of the health of our kids and the majority of the residents of the community.

Thank you.

**Name:** Bruce Mitchell

**Agenda item:** 4. Multi Year Hiring Plan

**Format:** Written only

I urge the Board to consider instituting noise cameras and any other technology supports to help enforce noise bylaws. At my home in the Junction, I am frequently bombarded late at night by motorcycles that are clearly designed to be loud and threatening. Some of these, I believe, are ridden by members of bike gangs (as my understanding is that they have a history of locating on Dundas Street West or hereabouts). Noise cameras would then also serve perhaps as an additional tool to fight organized crime, as well as significantly improving the lives of law-abiding citizens.

I would also add that even from my home at night on High Park Avenue near Dundas--a considerable distance from the lake--I can hear the screaming engines from cars with illegal mufflers and loud motorcycles on the Gardiner/Lakeshore/Queensway. I can't imagine how disturbing that must be for the thousands of my fellow citizens who live in condominiums along those routes. On their behalf also, I urge you to please adopt these cameras as a way to fight back against these unlawful drivers and the growing burden they impose on all of us.

The city is getting busier and denser and we need to take basic measures to ensure downtown Toronto remains livable for all its citizens. There are increasing numbers of drivers who are unfortunately too immature or anti-social to care about the harm they unleash through their deliberately deafening vehicles. We need your help to curb this trend now as it is getting worse. Thank you for accepting my deputation.

**Name:** Ekaterina Habbous

**Agenda item:** 4. Multi Year Hiring Plan

**Format:** Written only

Dear TPS board,

My deputation below is regarding the installation of noise cameras in Scarborough to more effectively combat illegal vanity noise from modified vehicles. The vehicles that are purposefully modified to emit extremely loud noise have been disturbing my residential neighborhood in Northeast Scarborough for years now. This year it has reached new heights. These vehicles race down the road in the middle of the night regularly, waking children, elderly, and people needing a good night's rest to perform at work the next morning. Not only they ruin our quality of life, they are also extremely dangerous to other road users. Last week I was turning left from Sheppard Ave E to Neilson Road on Thursday, at 8:30 am, a very busy time on the road. An unexpectedly extremely loud car in front of me caused me to almost swerve into upcoming traffic. Moreover, it caused me physical ear pain and my 9 month old son got so startled and most likely hurt as well he screamed unconsolably for 10 min. Inflicting deliberate harm on others like this should be recognized for what it is - abuse. It should be dealt with accordingly, and noise cameras will help you identify these offenders. Neilson road between Finch Ave and McLevin Ave is a straightaway piece of road where these individuals like to race. Not only is it surrounded by people's homes, there is also an elementary school facing Neilson road. Kindergarten age children playing at recess are exposed to ear-damaging noise several times an hour, every few minutes at peak times. These cars are public health hazard, safety hazard and a scourge on residential communities. You can make a real difference by installing noise cameras and automating enforcement on this issue.

Thank you,

Ekaterina

**Name:** BEV MCCARTHY

**Agenda item:** 4. Multi Year Hiring Plan

**Format:** Written only

Dear TPS board,

My name is Beverly McCarthy and I am concerned about the increase in noise around the city. Noise that is often the result of illegal modifications to a vehicle's muffler. Noise that can be addressed by funding noise cameras.

I live near Kingston Rd, and at night, we can often hear the sounds of modified vehicles speeding along the road. Often these drivers are in groups which increases the noise level.

Excess noise is not just unpleasant, but research has shown a direct connection between noise and cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, heart attack and strokes. The noise from modified mufflers is such an unnecessary enhancement.

Toronto over the last few years seems to be failing. Our roads are currently not safe for cyclist and pedestrians. Modifying a muffler to make a car louder is disturbing to pedestrians, cyclists, other drivers, and animals.

I reached out to my city councillor recently regarding a noise complaint. I was instructed to call 311, where this information will be logged. How does calling 311 address the issue? It does not. This city is losing this battle on noise. We need to invest in Noise Cameras like London, Paris and New York have done.

We need automated noise enforcement. An investment in noise cameras will not impact the vast majority of drivers. It will impact the small but loud group who feel entitled to harm others. The citizens of Toronto deserve a livable city, one that does not include vehicles with modified mufflers.

The police cannot be everywhere, all the time. There are competing priorities. For example two nights ago, a car, reaching a speed of almost 90 kph, drove across our neighbours yard, narrowly missing a pedestrian. I live on a 40 kph street. The driver destroyed a 25 year old maple tree and continued, hitting a car and finally resting under a second tree. It took the police over three hours to respond. The police are too busy to address the noise issue. We need funds allocated to Noise Cameras. Funding cameras is a better use of funds to address this issue.



**Name:** Sinan Imamoglu

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** You must install vehicle noise cameras and severely punish those who make excessive pointless noises.

**Name:** Azam Kiyobekov

**Agenda item:** 4. Multi Year Hiring Plan

**Format:** Written only

Hello,

I made several complains to the Police and to my ward Councilor regarding the modified muffler noise that I find extremely disturbing and which has affected my health and well-being. I have recorded many videos showing how loud, unnecessary and often just ridiculous it is when cars with (illegally) modified mufflers just circle in residential area and deliberately make noise.

My understanding of why this is continuing is that the law enforcement personnel are busy with more important issues or there is simply not enough human resources to devote to enforcing the noise by-law. I and several of my fellow members of the No More Noise Toronto believe that this problem can be solved by installing noise cameras, like they are being used in some cities. I respectfully ask the authorities to consider this suggestion as it could at least help mitigating the illegal behaviour of ignorant drivers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Azam Kiyobekov

**Name:** Tamara Bernstein

**Format:** Written only

I am writing with regards to Agenda item #4 – the Multi Year Hiring Plan.

My submission addresses the manner in which the Toronto Police Services enforces – or rather, fails to enforce – laws protecting Torontonians against loud moving vehicles. I urge the TPS to replace its current ineffectual, costly, and labour-intensive traditional method of chasing down offenders with modern technology, in the form of Noise and Speed cameras, which have proven effective in other jurisdictions around the world.

I live in Ward 4, and ever since the arrival of COVID, I have suffered, as so many Torontonians across the city have, from the aural assault of speeding cars and motorcycles, every single night when the roads are not wet or snow-covered. Most of these cars have modified exhaust systems that are not legal. The vanity noise, as it is called, is toxic from both a mental and physical health standpoint. It interrupts sleep, raises blood pressure and cortisol levels, and causes distress and helplessness, all of which lead to a reduced quality of life and cascading physical disorders. It is a disgrace that this form of road terror has been allowed to persist for over four years.

The current reporting system, which requires residents to report loud (and often speeding) vehicles to 311 is a bad joke: the noise carries so far, and speeding cars pass so quickly, often while victims are in bed, that it is ridiculous to require victims of this noise give a precise address of the event, and identify the car by colour, make, license plate, etc. Nor is there any link between 311 and the Police! This dysfunctional reporting system victimizes Torontonians a second time, by conveying utter indifference and impotence on the part of the Police and City.

Fortunately, technological solutions are at hand! Noise cameras detect offenders, capturing their license plate numbers, and enabling the City to ticket them and pursue other penalties provided under the law. These cameras are safer and less costly than hiring more police to chase down offenders – an approach that manifestly is not working. SoundVue cameras are successfully used in New York City, California, Berlin and numerous cities in France, for example. They pay for themselves in no time!

It is time for Toronto to get on board with this technology. It will free Police personnel for work they can do effectively to keep our city safe, and help remove a noise plague that has been blighting people's lives across the city for years.

Respectfully,

Tamara Bernstein

**Name:** Laura Lamarche

**Organization:** HOGGS HOLLOW TREE WATCH

**Format:** Written only

Hello, my name is Laura Lamarche, and I am CO Founder of HOGGS HOLLOW TREE WATCH . We are a grassroots organization advocating for SAVING OUR TREE CANOPY. We are taking a proactive education and activist, collaborative approach and are building significant relationships with Councillors and the City, including Urban Forestry and TRCA. I am here to talk about Item #4: The Multi Year Hiring Plan.

Vehicle noise from one illegally modified muffler impacts every person within earshot for the life of that exhaust. The noise that is so easily delivered wakes us up, keeps us up and disturbs us during the day. It impacts our health and sleep. I am asking you to advocate for and invest in automated noise enforcement. To become a more efficient and effective police force by investing in technology to have better outcomes.

We have been living in a ravine for over 30 years and we depend on the tree canopy to mitigate noise, pollution, and flooding in our neighbourhood. We are surrounded by Yonge, Bayview and the 401 and are subject to a significant level of noise and pollution. But even with the trees helping us, (and we're sad to say the the Ontario Building code is allowing many builders to destroy trees these days but that's a whole other battle) that we all hear the crazy mufflers and loud backfiring of souped up engines racing down Bayview, 401 and even as far as Leslie. Many % say that loud exhaust noise disturbs them. Toronto Public Health in their 2017 report How loud is too Loud state that most noise variability comes from traffic. This intermittent noise, especially at night, is extremely harmful to our health. We never really get to rest.

Toronto residents suffer from millions of noise impacts while simply being at home, without a defense.

The whole reporting and enforcement process is broken. We are to call 311 for all noise reports yet there is no formal mechanism to transfer their data to you on a timely basis. When you get reports directly, I understand that there are only 2 or so Traffic Officers per division and that this is one of their many tasks. People can report a loud vehicle, but the enforcement is lacking. Our streets are unwelcoming, unsafe and unhealthy places to be with snarling, backfiring, and farting vehicles. It seems like Project Noisemaker is on mute in Toronto

Toronto Police Services needs to modernize. The noise camera technology is reliable. In NYC they have x cameras that are identifying loud vehicles accurately, and issuing tickets that are holding up in court. Investing in automated noise enforcement, would help many, many people have a better quality of life, a better sleep and a more liveable and safer city.

We want you to be bold and lead this fight by advocating for and investing in automated noise enforcement to better use the resources you have and become a more efficient police force.

Cut: Vehicle noise is a municipal, regional, national, and in fact, global issue impacting the health of millions

**Name:** Juan Naranjo

**Format:** Written only

Hello. I'd like to talk about how automated noise enforcement will help to de-task the police force from activities that do not reduce crime and violence, to those that do (item 4 on the agenda, multi-year hiring plan).

My name is Juan Naranjo, I live in the St. Paul's ward, have been living in my current address for 8 years, and in the ward for 13.

When I moved into my current house in 2016, something I loved about the neighbourhood was how quiet it was, barely any traffic on my street. Today, I have eight close-by neighbours with cars with modified engines that disrupt my days and nights. It is difficult to have conversations inside the house without often been interrupted by a noisy car. s

Some nights and almost every morning one of those cars wake me up. It's difficult to go back to sleep once you are up. The situation is also causing me anxiety. Cars are so noisy, that sometimes we can hear them coming down Dufferin St., which is three blocks away. Our area isn't quiet anymore, it is stressful. The city in general is getting worse and worse, the quality of life is diminishing fast due to modified exhausts, backfiring engines, and revving drivers.

Effective enforcement isn't possible without technology.

I'd like to respectfully request that you replace the current flawed and manual enforcement of this issue with an one using technology, which is already used all over the world. For example, SoundVue cameras are deployed in NYC, and are ticketing drivers; the tickets are holding up in court. Cameras have paid for themselves quickly according to my sources.

We need to do something soon. 93% of Toronto's population is already above the nighttime noise guidelines (45 dba). The city is noticeably louder than other big urban centres like London, Berlin, Amsterdam, or Copenhagen. Please, adopt a cost-effective, technology-based system to enforce the noise by-law and make Toronto a quiet, friendly, liveable city.

Best,

Juan Naranjo

**Name:** Filomena Venditti

**Agenda item:** 4. Multi Year Hiring Plan

**Format:** Written only

**Subject:** Request for Trial Installation of Noise Cameras on Gardiner Expressway

Dear Toronto Police Service Board,

I am writing to you regarding an issue that has increasingly impacted the quality of life. I have been living in the Humber Bay area in Mimico for nine years and over time have been experiencing significant disturbances due to excessive noise from vehicles, particularly motorcycles and cars with modified mufflers, on the Gardiner Expressway.

This noise, especially prevalent during the summer months, has negatively affected my sleep and overall mental well-being where I am now on medication for anxiety and sleep. You may ask, then why not move? I love this area and moving is not the answer to a problem that has been increasing over time.

Given the challenges faced by the Toronto Police Service Board (TPSB) in allocating resources for the enforcement of noise regulations, I would like to propose a potential solution: the installation of noise cameras. I understand that some major cities in the US have either installed or will be installing these cameras; NYC, Miami Beach, Washington, Knoxville and Albuquerque. The UK have successfully implemented such technology, which has proven effective in deterring drivers from engaging in noisy behavior.

With the world moving towards automated technology, so should the TPSB. Similar to the speed cameras which deters drivers from speeding, this innovative approach will deter drivers from excessive noise. These noise cameras will also alleviate the strain on patrol resources that can be reallocated to reducing violence and crime as well as contribute to maintaining a peaceful living environment.

I kindly request that the TPSB consider the feasibility of a trial installation of noise cameras on the Gardiner Expressway in the Humber Bay area. This initiative could serve as a valuable step towards addressing the noise issue and improving the quality of life for many residents in my area.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am hopeful that with your support, we can explore this solution and work together to enhance our community's well-being.

Sincerely,

Filomena Venditti





**Name:** Robert Barnett

**Format:** Written only

I am concerned about vehicle noise from "souped up" mufflers on cars and motorcycles. This is not just a nuisance and disturbance but a public health problem. Technology exists with cameras/sound meters which have been used successfully in, for example, New York City. It may just be a coincidence, but these vehicles appear to drive at higher speeds than allowed. This is just vanity behaviour and should be a priority for enforcement.

**Name:** Teresa Becker

**Format:** Written only

I live in Humber Bay Shores and I and my neighbours are bombarded on daily basis by unnecessary motorcycle and sports car noise that is done on purpose by backfiring - revving up their engines - loud exhaust blowback just to attract attention to these losers driving around in rented sports cars and motorcycles - this goes on mainly late at night and on Sat and Sun. We even had street raising after midnight - had to call 911 because I could not get thru to police directly. I spoke with Ingrid Buday and she suggested installation of NOISE CAMERAS - myself and my neighbours are all for it - it will work just like speed cameras work now and it will help with us calling the police all the time. It is such a simple solution but it will work just like having a police cruiser sitting on Marine Parade Dr. that day was very quiet and cheaper.

Thank you

**Name:** Sharon Thomson

**Organization:** Toronto Noise Coalition

**Format:** Written only

The police need more technology available to them so that hiring can be kept to the minimum. The noise from traffic in this city is overwhelming. I've lived at King + Spadina for 18 yrs and it has become worse every year due to motorcycles and high performance cars revving engines and backfiring. This goes on until 3 or 4 in the morning. We need noise detection tech.. New York City has these devices installed and has been successful in reducing this kind of noise.

We should not be subjected to this excessive noise and 311 does not help anyone in this regard.

I would respectfully request that this technology is implemented.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Thomson

**Name:** Linda

**Organization:** Lee

**Format:** Written only

Hi, I'm Linda Lee , Chair of St. James Town Governance Committee. We are residents led organization advocating for eliminating noise pollution in the neighborhood. I had to move out of town because of noise issue there is unbearable. Although tried calling 311 multiple times but in vain, I was told to give details of the noise source during night time which I could not because afraid of going outside midnight. When asking the 311operator why there is no police to be onsite or patrol night time, she said "sorry we don't have police patrol". The residents need police patrol night time to give tickets to noise makers, if there is not enough police manpower you'll have to use automate evidence collecting and reporting device such as body noise camera on police. So please upgrade police body camera into noise camera! Every resident deserves quiet night sleeps!!!

**Name:** Ingrid van der Zande

**Format:** Written only

I live near Lake Shore Blvd and Bathurst and have been confronted with extremely loud motorcycle and car noise from modified mufflers for years now. It's bad enough when they come roaring down Lake Shore in daytime hours, but the worst are the ones that are out on the road around midnight and 1 a.m. in the morning. Can hear them coming and going for miles. And if they happen to hit a red light, they sit there and rev their engines and create even more disturbance. These inconsiderate humans, besides driving way too fast, must disturb thousands along the whole waterfront at all hours. There seems to be next to no enforcement of this issue and no way to even report it so that anything can be done about it. The Toronto Police Services needs to modernize and invest in technology. The noise camera technology is working, in NYC they have 7 cameras that are identifying loud vehicles accurately, and issuing tickets that are holding up in court. By investing in automated noise enforcement, this would help many, many people have a better quality of life, a better sleep and a more liveable and safer city. thanks

**Name:** Kameron Allan

**Format:** Written only

Hello, my name is Kameron Allan and I am a supporter of No More Noise Toronto. It is a grassroots organization advocating for reducing unnecessary noise from our streets that invades our homes day and night. Vehicle noise from one illegally modified mufflers impacts every person within earshot for the life of that exhaust. The noise that is delivered with the flick of the wrist or press of the pedal wakes us up, keeps us up and disturbs us during the day. It impacts our health and sleep. I am asking you to advocate for and invest in automated noise enforcement. To endeavor to become a more efficient and effective police force by investing in technology to streamline processes and have better outcomes..

I have been living in the east end of the city in Leslieville, in the same location for 10 years and since day one, the vanity noise and heavy truck noise coming from vehicles has increased, exponentially. Based on a current survey of the 1,400 No More Noise members, 80% say that loud exhaust noise disturbs them and Toronto Public Health in their 2017 report. How loud is too loud state that close to 92% of residents try to sleep above the WHO decibel guidelines for a restorative and restful sleep.

Add: Noise sampling buffer analysis.

The whole reporting and enforcement process is broken, with residents being told to call 311 for all noise issues, yet the City can't do anything about the moving vehicle noise. If we try to report it to the police, often we don't have all of the information required to complete the report (we are in bed or can't get our phone out in time). One only does this a couple times before permanently giving up.

I understand that there are only 2 Traffic Officers per division and that this is one of their many tasks. People can report a vehicle, but the enforcement is lacking, Project Noisemaker is on mute in Toronto. This is not working, and our streets are a snarling, backfiring, unfriendly, unsafe and unhealthy place to be.

Toronto Police Services needs to modernize and invest in technology. The noise camera technology is working, in NYC they have 7 cameras that are identifying loud vehicles accurately, and issuing tickets that are holding up in court. By investing in automated noise enforcement, this would help many, many people have a better quality of life, a better sleep and a more liveable and safer city.

Vehicle noise is a municipal, regional, national, and in fact, global issue impacting the health of millions. I want you to be bold and lead this fight by advocating for and investing in automated noise enforcement to better use the resources have and become a more efficient police force.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kameron Allan

**Name:** Grant

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Please do more to crack down on the out-of-control excessive noise (e.g. drumming, muffler vanity noise, loud late night dance parties) that regularly goes on at the southwest corner of Yonge & Dundas. Drummers are often out there past 11pm. That is too late to be drumming on a public street corner. It's simply not reasonable. Thanks



**Name:** Gregory Wilson

**Organization:** Wilson

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** As part of its long term plans I would like to see the TPS consider automated noise enforcement. I am constantly awakened by the sound of modified mufflers and amplified sound systems. Anything that can be done to reduce these noises would improve my quality of life and those of others in my neighbourhood.

**Name:** Sue DeGrandis

**Format:** Written only

My name is Sue DeGrandis. My hubby and i live near Bloor and Christie Park. Getting a good night sleep is crucial at our age so we can function Optimally the next day. As a senior one has to be constantly aware and alert not to be scammed, to make good judgement and avoid accudents and falls. Living in the city of Toronto, I we are subjected to constant unnecessary and unwanted noise that comes from deliberately altered vehicles to create exceptional noise to attention to the driver . This is vanity noise snd serves no GOOD purpose. Its EGO noise and strokes the vanity of the driver only. Deliberately altered vehicles contravene the environmental protection laws built into the vehicles at the factory. While there are laws to enforce this vanity noise, it takes resources that is time-consuming, costly, and dangerous. The solution is noise cameras. The only disadvantage here is a high cost, but if you look towards New York City or many European cities where Noise cameras have been installed, they pay for themselves very quickly when the fines are high enough to be a deterrent. Noise cameras stand up in court, and take up very little of any resources of the Police time. Thank you for taking this into consideration and helping me and my husband age safely by being able to sleep at night. I sincerely hope the police department will allocate a big budget towards this. Otherwise we're going to have to leave the City Of Toronto and find a quieter Community.

Thank you for your time for considering my request .

**Name:** Alexander Christ Doulis

**Organization:** Minotaur Capital

**Agenda item:** 5. 2025-2028 Strategic Plan Update

**Format:** Written only

Section 75A of the highway Traffic Act of Ontario forbids the use of a vehicle on which the muffler/silencer has been modified to increase the noise output of the vehicle. I live at the corner of Front and Frederick Street and I am obliged to listen to a continual parade of motor vehicles producing excessive amounts of noise as a result of the violation of this section of the Act. This area is now a residential area and as such thousands of other people in the neighborhood are obliged to endure this nuisance. The Toronto Police Services chooses to ignore this violation of the Highway Traffic Act and the City's by laws although every officer is completely capable of acting to penalize the perpetrator. These scofflaws are often on their way to illegal car rallies. As well to maximize the noise output from their vehicles they have to drive at high speeds. Both of these activities affect my safety. When will the Toronto Police Act to protect me from noise making scofflaws?

Name: Carol

Format: Written only

I live very close to 2 houses that have cars with the enhanced mufflers.

What is annoying is the unnecessary "revving" of the cars, several times before leaving the driveways. In addition to the actual muffler noise itself. This happens at anytime of the day or night.

**Name:** Keith Tobey

**Format:** Written only

I do not live in Toronto but I am well aware that what happens there effects the rest of Ontario. These outrageously loud vehicles are a problem everywhere.

**Name:** Don Young

**Organization:** Federation of South Toronto Residents Associations (FoSTRA)

**Agenda item:** 5. 2025-2028 Strategic Plan Update

**Format:** Written only

Vehicle noise from illegally modified mufflers impacts everyone within earshot for the life of that exhaust. The noise that is so easily delivered wakes us up, keeps us up and disturbs us during the day. It impacts our health and sleep. I am asking you to advocate for and invest in automated noise enforcement. To become a more efficient and effective police force by investing in technology to have better outcomes.

**Name:** Maria Ludosan

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Please consider using more noise cameras in Toronto. Noise levels are often times unbearable, and I am a person with mild to moderate hearing loss. Vehicle noise from one illegally modified muffler impacts every person within earshot for the life of that exhaust. The noise that is so easily delivered wakes us up, keeps us up and disturbs us during the day. It impacts our health and sleep. I am asking you to advocate for and invest in automated noise enforcement. To become a more efficient and effective police force by investing in technology to have better outcomes. Thank you, Maria Ludosan

**Name:** Mandy Sala

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee, My name is Mandy and I live in Regent Park. I have been living here for four years and the noise coming from the streets around my home wakes me up, keeps me up and disturbs me during the day. The Toronto Police Services is not doing enough to reduce the number of illegally modified and loud vehicles on our streets. In my area, the noise from vehicles has gotten so loud that I once initially thought a passing motorcycle was an air-raid siren. It has impacted my quiet enjoyment of my home and neighbourhood, including my sleep, which has caused demoralization, frustration and sleep deprivation. It has also impacted my stress levels which has caused me to regret having to live in Toronto. On an ongoing basis I am subjected to roaring, screeching, howling mufflers being revved and screeched through the intersection of Dundas and Parliament Streets, typically with deafening music being blasted into the air as well. I work from home most days so this also affects my work and my ability to participate in meetings with my colleagues. You need to do more to eliminate illegal exhaust modifications on our streets. The sudden loud audio assaults from vehicles impacts the quality of life and health of the residents of Toronto and this is part of your duty to “serve and protect”. I really do not understand why it is so difficult to simply implement noise cameras at major intersections like Dundas and Parliament Streets. Noise cameras are cost-effective and the amount of money the City would reap from the tickets would more than pay for them over time. People choose to criminalize their vehicles by modifying the muffler and blast music into the air they are consciously choosing to be deliberately obnoxious and offensive toward everyone else as they travel through the city. There is absolutely no need for anyone to modify their muffler or subject other people to their music they can drive safely with their muffler as is and enjoy their music in the private space of their own vehicle. I feel so victimized by these rude, self-centred people and the fact the City and police do next to nothing to address this ubiquitous problem even though the solution is so easy. Even if people continued to break the law, I wouldn't feel as helpless because I would know the noise camera was catching them and they would be subject to a big fine and hopefully deprived of their license if they continue to offend. You could create a Sound Task force with the City to find solutions to this problem and implement a pilot solution quickly. This is a year round problem that deserves year round attention, fast action and funding to make Toronto a more safe, pleasant and liveable city. Thank you. Mandy Sala



**Name:** A Monid

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee, My name is Anatol Monid and I live in downtown Toronto. I have been living here for 20 plus years and the noise coming from the streets around my home wakes me up, keeps me up and disturbs me during the day. The Toronto Police Services is not doing enough to reduce the number of illegally modified and loud vehicles on our streets. In my area, on Front Street West between Bathurst and Spadina, the noise from vehicles has gotten so loud that wakes me from my sleep. It has impacted my health which has caused me increased stress. On a regular basis my family and I are subjected to extremely loud motorcycles, cars and truck traffic as well as unnecessarily loud music blarring from cars at all hours. You need to do more to eliminate illegal exhaust modifications on our streets. The sudden loud audio assaults from vehicles impacts the quality of life and health of the residents of Toronto and this is part of your duty to “serve and protect”. Changes to traffic flow have moved more vehicles off King Street West and into the residential areas, which exacerbates vehicular noises. You could create a Sound Task force with the City to find solutions to this problem and implement a pilot solution quickly. I suggest you follow the lead of Vancouver and support excessive noise detection and enforcement with the increased policing budget you receive every year. This is a year round problem that deserves year round attention, fast action and funding to make Toronto a more safe, pleasant and liveable city. Thank you.

**Name:** Beverly Biderman

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** I live on Bloor Street East overlooking Rosedale Valley Road. The noise of motorcycles is especially disturbing. It disturbs my sleep, my quality of life and my health (I can feel my anxiety and blood pressure go up when I hear these very loud motorcycles zooming past). This is a residential neighborhood. There are signs on Rosedale Valley Road advising that but those signs do absolutely nothing as we do not monitor noise and we still allow motorcycles there. Please ban motorcycles from Rosedale Valley Road and monitor noise in this residential neighborhood. Thank you.

**Name:** Deborah O'Brien

**Organization:** The Pears Condominium

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Please do something about the screaming motorcycles...and the cars with noise making additions? I live on Avenue Road just north of Davenport. The motorcycles screaming down Avenue Road at 2 pm is extremely disturbing and stressful. I am a senior citizen. Being awakened at this hour is debilitating to my rest and health. Why are these motorcycles allowed? Surely, there are options? Pressure on the companies who sell them to create quieter motorcycles? An additional tax on people who buy them?

**Name:** Mike Scinocco

**Organization:** No More Noise Toronto

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee, My name is Mike Scinocco and I am a resident of Ward: Etobicoke-Lakeshore. I am a member of No More Noise Toronto - a grassroots organization advocating for reducing unnecessary noise from our streets that invades our homes day and night. I have been a resident of this Ward in Southern Etobicoke for over 40 years. Over the years, the family demographic of my neighbourhood has increased from single to multiple motor vehicle households. High school aged children have gone from walking to school to being driven to school to driving themselves to school. My neighbourhood has a main artery that flows into the local high school. Modified muffler noise from cars, motorcycles and even scooters has been piercing throughout the peaceful solace of the neighbourhood during school times. The frequency of this problem has increased over the years and has grown from occurring surrounding school hours to all hours of the day and night. I understand that posting a Toronto Police Officer or assigning a Noise By-Law Officer is difficult considering cost and resources available however we need to find a solution to solve this issue. More needs to be done to control and enforce means to remove this nuisance from all Toronto neighbourhoods. Aside from automated noise controls, it is my suggestion that fines and enforcement be increased to achieve their intended goal - to be a deterrent of this noisy behaviour. Thank you for your consideration.

September 29, 2024

Toronto Police Service Board  
40 College Street  
Toronto, ON Canada M5G 2J3

**RE: TPSB Budget Committee is meeting**

Attention: TPS Budget Committee Members,

Reducing noise pollution should be of pertinent interest police forces everywhere. Timo Hener's research paper [Noise pollution and violent crime](#), shows the relationship between noise pollution and violent crime. In Toronto, illegally modified muffler and motorcycle noise pollution 24/7 is a severe health threat impacting all within earshot. Long-term exposure to traffic noise has been linked to a greater risk of heart disease. New research reveals additional clues about this connection. Muffler noise, in particular, disturbs peoples' sleep patterns leaving them too tired to work productivity and or function in their daily lives.

Decades of research links noise pollution with not only sleep disruption, but also a host of chronic conditions such as heart disease, cognitive impairment, depression, and anxiety.

311 reporting is dysfunctional leaving residents are frustrated, angry and cynical about government. Toronto appears unable or even unwilling to tackle motor vehicle noise and protect residents from unsafe and unhealthy from harmful and illegal muffler noise.

Toronto Police Services must adopt the latest technology used by progressive jurisdictions. According to the Forbes article, [What To Know About Noise Cameras — As NYC Lawmakers Consider Cracking Down On Illegal Mufflers And Exhaust Systems](#), New York City, Knoxville, TN, Miami, FL, Paris, Toulouse and Nice already use noise cameras that automatically generate tickets for exceeding a certain decibel level. Chicago is also considering a pilot program, according to the Chicago Sun Times.

Vehicle noise is a municipal, regional, national, and global issue impacting the health of millions. I urge TPS to join other progressive jurisdictions and advocate for and invest in automated noise enforcement to efficiently use Toronto's resources have and become a more efficient. Thank you.

**Harold B. Smith** B. Arch, MBA, LEED AP

cc Mayor Olivia Chow, Deputy Mayor Mike Colle, Toronto Board of Health Chair Chris Moise, Dr. Elaine De Villa, MOH, Robin Martin PC, MPP, Eglinton Lawrence

**Name:** TJ MACHADO

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Please work with the province to make the necessary changes to the law so we can get these menaces to society off our streets. The health consequences of the constant noise at all hours of the day is serious. They are also heavily polluting vehicles and bad for the environment.

**Name:** Gail Bebee

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee, Re: You need to act to reduce the Dangerous Urban Noise Levels in Toronto I have been living in Bayview Village area of the former North York for almost 40 years. Over the years, the urban noise levels in my area have been steadily increasing. Now, urban noise is noticeable and aggravating at all hours, especially at night. Then, with our house windows closed, I can hear the noise from souped up vehicles gunning along Highway 401 - which is 2 kilometers away! This noise disturbs my sleep. During the day, urban noise be it from leaf blowers or traffic, lessens the enjoyment of my garden when I am outside. The increasing number of illegally modified and loud vehicles on our roads is a major contributor to the dangerous noise levels in our city. Enforcement to eliminate vehicles with illegal exhaust modifications from our streets. is difficult. There are never enough Traffic Officers to catch all the noisy offenders. The use of noise cameras to identify illegal noisy vehicles can help, but we need additional innovative solutions. I ask Toronto Police Services Board to create a task force of stakeholders, including the City and residents, to find and quickly implement solutions to this year round problem. For the sake of the health of everyone who lives in Toronto, thank you for acting to help address this public health hazard. Sincerely, Gail Bebee

To Whom It May Concern

My wife and I are privileged to live downtown in a great city with great neighbours and a great police force.

In the last few years, the noise levels in our neighbourhood – specifically at the intersection of Avenue Road and Davenport Road -- have soared off the charts, especially between 8pm and 3am.

Let me be clear. We are not talking about the ambulance and/or police sirens which are a part of our soundscape. Avenue Road is a major thoroughfare for ambulances en route to our major hospitals. Most drivers of these vehicles use their sirens only when they need to, and we appreciate their genuinely vital and important service.

No, what we are talking about are the muffler-free “racing” cars and motorcycles that have adopted Avenue Road and Davenport Road as their personal show-off staging area, endlessly revving up their engines (frequently in the middle of the night) to truly staggering levels of volume.

We believe that this invasion of sound in our neighbourhood needs to stop.

We understand that Toronto Police -- the gallant men and women who serve as our public guardians – may have more important matters to attend to. But we respectfully request that they renew their efforts to identify the perpetrators, so they may be held properly and reasonably accountable for these nightly disturbances.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,  
Gail & George Ganetakos



**Name:** Steven Jacobs

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** I reside at 88 Harbour Street in Toronto. The tall condo building rises above the Gardiner Expy. as well as Lakeshore Blvd. West. EVERY night my sleep is significantly disturbed due to outrageously loud automobiles and motorcycles travelling east or west along Gardiner Expy. or Lakeshore Blvd. OR along Yonge Street or York Street. The majority of the extremely loud noise caused by motorized vehicles occurs between 12:00 midnight and 7:00am. This excessive noise issue NEEDS to be effectively dealt with as soon as possible.

**Name:** Darlene Anne Varaleau

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** STOP renting our parks for entertainment events. And DO NOT PROVIDE NOISE EXEMPTIONS for PARK events. Parks are intended to be sanctuaries. Quiet. Birds. Grass. And conversation with friends and neighbours.

**Name:** Janet Griffiths-Maxymiw

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee, My name is Janet Griffiths-Maxymiw and I live at 1 Ripley Ave. M6S 4Z6. Our condo of 131 units is located at the foot of the South Kingsway where the S. Kingsway merges with the Gardiner Expressway with eastbound and westbound ramps to the Queensway. I have been living here for 5 years and in the past two years, the noise of speeding cars, mufflers and accelerating motorcycles has increased and often wakes residents on the west side of the building during the early hours of the morning. Racers like to take the merge onto and off the Gardiner at high speeds and some will repeat this manoeuvre several times, apparently for the fun of it. It is not fun for residents who are awoken during the night at 2, 3 am (repeatedly). This interruption of sleep is disruptive to my health, my workday productivity and is totally unnecessary. The Toronto Police Services is not doing enough to reduce the number of illegally modified and loud vehicles on our streets and I am writing today to state that you need to do more to eliminate illegal exhaust modifications on our streets. I have lived in Toronto for 50 years and the daily noise assault of the past two years across the city is intolerable. The sudden loud audio assaults from vehicles impacts the quality of life and health of the residents of Toronto and this is part of your duty to "serve and protect". Please position a police car in the municipal parking lot on the west of the South Kingsway and immediately south of the Petro Canada Station to enforce both speeding and sound violations. Please create a Sound Task force with the City to find solutions to this problem and implement a pilot solution quickly. This is a year-round problem that deserves year-round attention, fast action and funding to make Toronto a more safe, pleasant and liveable city. Thank you. Janet Griffiths-Maxymiw

**Name:** John Liss

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** We need better protection from excessive noise.

**Name:** Daniel Bosc

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee, My name is Daniel and I live on The Esplanade. I have been living here for over 5 years and the noise coming from the streets around my home wakes me up, keeps me up and disturbs me during the day. The City and Toronto Police Services are not doing enough to reduce the number of illegally modified and loud vehicles on our streets. In my area, the noise from vehicles has gotten so loud that I cannot keep my windows open. It has impacted my sleep which has caused me to miss work. It has also impacted my ability babysit my nephew. On a daily basis I am subjected to extremely loud mufflers and exhaust from motor bikes and cars racing up Yonge street and around Dundas Square. If people want to race or show off their cars they should do it in places where people don't live. Downtown Toronto is home to many people and this disturbance is unnecessary. More needs to be done to eliminate illegal exhaust modifications on our streets. The sudden loud audio assaults from vehicles impacts the quality of life and health of the residents of Toronto. I have to deal with noise from the Gardiner construction at all hours, but that is for the betterment of the city. Exhaust modifications are selfish and unnecessary. I can live with sirens and construction and even heavy traffic - after all that is part of living in a city, but when someone modifies their vehicle to purposely MAKE noise - that should be stopped. Please look into creating a Sound Task force with the City to find solutions to this problem and implement a pilot solution quickly. This is a year round problem that deserves year round attention, fast action and funding to make Toronto a more safe, pleasant and liveable city. Thank you. Daniel Bosc

Toronto Police Accountability Coalition  
[info@tpac.ca](mailto:info@tpac.ca) [www.tpac.ca](http://www.tpac.ca)

September 29, 2024.

Police Board Budget Committee:

Please list this letter as a deputation for the October 2 Budget Committee meeting.

It is unclear what proposals will be made by the police service for the 2025 Operating Budget, which makes this the appropriate occasion for the Budget Committee to propose matters it wishes to see reflected in that budget.

We urge the Committee to make the following recommendations:

a) The service should ensure the budget reflects a change in deployment during the nighttime. Currently virtually all vehicles are staffed with two officers, a result of a 1977 arbitration ruling. Five years ago the collective agreement with the Toronto Police Association authorized the service to change that arrangement so that two officers were not required, but the service has rarely made the change in practice.

There is no good reason for two officers to respond to every call during the nighttime hours. One officer will suffice for most calls.

The Committee should indicate it wishes to see a change in deployment so that only one half of the calls or patrols in the nighttime in 2025 are staffed with two officers. The number of staff will be reduced for this period considerably, so fewer new staff need be hired with considerable financial savings.

2) The service should use more civilians and fewer officers in a number of different areas to save money while provide comparable levels of service.

For instance, according to police budget documents, in 2023 the service assigned 103 uniformed staff and 40 civilians to parades and demonstrations. It is a significant waste of resources to require armed police officers in great numbers to attend all these events: much better consider employing 103 civilians and 40 officers, or some such ratio, and save a great deal of public money.

Again, according to police budget document, the service assigned 320 officers and 86 civilians to parking and traffic activities. There is no good reason why armed officers should be issuing parking tickets. Similarly, traffic management should be largely civilianized. A better ratio is 86 officers and 320 civilians.

3) The mounted unit has a budget of about \$6 million a year. With the availability of drones, horses are no longer required to search for suspects or missing people. Horses should never be used to police demonstrations. Mostly the mounted unit is used for public relations purposes. The committee should urge the service to begin winding back the mounted unit.

4) Consideration should be given to referring more calls to social agencies dealing with homelessness, drug overdoses, youth, and some non-violent domestic situations to community agencies, as has been done regarding mental health calls and the Gerstein Centre. As has been seen with the mental health calls, service is improved considerably and as more calls are referred, police resources can shrink.

We urge the Committee to consider these changes and request the service to incorporate them into the 2025 Operating budget.

Yours very truly,

John Sewell for  
Toronto Police Accountability Coalition

**Name:** Eric Shelton

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee, My name is Eric Shelton and I live in Stonegate-Queensway. I have been living here for 5 years and the noise coming from the streets around my home wakes my family up, keeps us up and disturbs us during the day. The Toronto Police Services is not doing enough to reduce the number of illegally modified and loud vehicles on our streets. You need to do more to eliminate illegal exhaust modifications on our streets. The sudden loud audio assaults from vehicles impacts the quality of life and health of the residents of Toronto and this is part of your duty to “serve and protect”. You could create a Sound Task force with the City to find solutions to this problem and implement a pilot solution quickly. This is a year round problem that deserves year round attention, fast action and funding to make Toronto a more safe, pleasant and liveable city. Thank you. Eric Shelton



**Name:** Melissa Prusky

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** The noise has always been an issue but it seems it is ear piercing louder than ever!! How can there be any by-law if cars or motorcycles are allowed to have these noise machines installed in the first place. We have emissions testing, why not noise testing?? This is crazy and by-laws mean noting if they aren't enforced but again how do you enforce it when you can't report because the vehicle is gone in seconds / minutes??

**Name:** Leslie Solomon

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Noise pollution in the Yorkville area is intolerable. Now with the advent of outdoor dining, more and more people are exposed. The number of perpetrators is small, but the enforcement is totally lacking. We should not have to end up with damaged hearing before action is taken.

**Name:** Mary Ambrose

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Noise is one of the most prevalent and well documented health hazards in Toronto and much of it is preventable. If the police would enforce the noise bylaws it would help reduce that. As residents we can do nothing without enforcement and we should not be held hostage by people who want to drag race around the city in the middle of the night, or blow a leaf blower until every leaf is gone.

**Name:** Michael Goldstein

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** The police are called upon to do many things. It appears that the police decide what they will take on and many things they take on don't need a police officer - like watching a construction site with their back to the traffic. Hired traffic directors could do a 95% job and it would cost a fraction of what a police constable costs. Noisy motorcycles and leaf blowers don't rate on the police radar and many citizens would prefer some intervention in this area

**Name:** Leslie

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** The high and oftentimes jarring noise levels, coming from outside 18 Yorkville/the street/vehicles, has been a source of annoyance, discomfort and intrusion, disturbing the peace. Noise restrictions/monitors would be greatly appreciated.

**Name:** Deanna

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Hello, The loud vehicle situation is out of control. We haven't been able to enjoy the outdoors at all this year. On the weekend we tried to have a get together on a patio in The Junction. It was awful. Loud vehicles going by all evening. Sputtering and banging. Sounds like loud gun shots. Many of the drivers are unsafe. Speeding and racing by. I am confused that they are allowed to be. Most people are frustrated with them. I hear it from everyone. I see it on social media. People are fed up with their noise and inevitable danger. Send the message out now that we won't take it anymore. It's not cool.

**Name:** Barbara Cook

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Good Day: I am very concerned with traffic noise in our city. Motor noise, thumping, loud music from these cars all times of the day and night. This noise is heard from drivers speeding down our streets and while idling on the street and driveway... often just to check their iphone messages. With the new condos being built in my and many areas throughout the city, the motor noise levels are only going to get worse. Please make curbing this noise a priority and include sound meters in your budget. Thank you for your time Barbara

To whom it may concern.

I would like to represent anyone who, like me, hasn't slept or enjoyed a single day due to the excessive noise that seems to be accumulating in this city.

I'd like to say for all of us that we are not just a bunch of random whiny complainers. We're not asking for silence. we're not asking for people to stop going about their days or enjoying themselves. We are only asking for a reasonable level of sound so that we can sleep, sit outside, and stop feeling like we are being bombarded with noise that we can neither escape or control. I haven't slept well in years.

This doesn't mean that I don't like to have fun, I like to go out. I like to go dancing. I like to sit on patios. I like to go for drives. I like to enjoy my life. The problem is like many of us here. I don't get any sleep. This is due to garbage trucks in the middle of the night, loud vehicles speeding up and down the roads. Parties continue the party in the parking lot, the parks, the streets.

During the day and into the night, the construction is at an all-time high. We are not asking for silence. We are not asking for people to stop doing things that are fun. We're not asking for people to keep their children indoors. What we are asking for is a reasonable level of sound so that we can sleep , work, concentrate, and feel that we live in a safe and inclusive city. We are tired. We shouldn't be here today. This shouldn't be a thing. It's common sense. People need to sleep. And it's not just about sleep. It's about loud vehicles racing up and down the streets. They are not only noisy and disruptive. They are dangerous. It's out of control. we should all know by now that excessive noise like this is literally killing us. It affects our health which in turn affects our mental health which in turn affects our health infinitely. And when a few people in the neighbourhood are physically and mentally unwell it affects the entire neighbourhood . And eventually the entire city.

I can feel it when I go out how angry people are not only about noise but about the economy. This all feeds itself as well. We are frustrated. We are tired. We are angry. We should be able to come to some form or level of agreement so that everyone can function in this city. Thank you .



**Name:** Jane Unan

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee, My name is Jane Unan and I live in Leslieville. I have been living here for over 30 years and the noise coming from the streets around keeps getting louder and louder. I wish that Toronto Police Services would do more to reduce the number of illegally modified and loud vehicles on our streets. In my area, the noise from vehicles in the laneway behind my home is very bad and disturbs me late at night and early in the morning . It has impacted my sleep which has caused insomnia and also causes me to be sleep-deprived during the day. The lack of sleep also impacts my ability to concentrate at work which negatively impacts the quality and safety of my work (I often work with power tools and sharp tools such as planes, scrapers and chisels). Please do more to eliminate illegal exhaust modifications on our streets. The sudden loud audio assaults from vehicles impacts the quality of life and health of the residents of Toronto and this is part of your duty to “serve and protect”. One of my neighbours has a car with the muffler disabled, and another has a very loud motorcycle. When they arrive home late at night, or leave early in the morning, the sound from their vehicles is so loud that it wakes me up on a regular basis. I know from talking to other residents on my street that they are also negatively affected. We wish that the vehicle noise was regulated and enforced by Toronto Polices Services because it is not reasonable to expect neighbours to confront neighbours, in case it makes the situation worse. Besides, people who drive loud vehicles are not concerned with harming or disturbing others, or they wouldn't do it in the first place! We need your help and support to solve this health-related problem. Please create a Sound Task force with the City to find solutions to this problem and implement a pilot solution quickly. This is a year round problem that deserves year round attention, fast action and funding to make Toronto a more safe, pleasant and liveable city. I look forward to your response. Thank you. Jane.

**Name:** Trish (Zijun) Ou

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee, My name is Trish Zijun Ou, and I live at 85 Queens Wharf Road, M5V 0J9, at the intersection of Fort York Blvd and Dan Leckie Way. I've been a resident in this neighborhood for 4 years, and I am writing to address a pressing issue regarding loud modified vehicles that impact the health and well-being of my family and the community. 1) Impact on My Health and Family: Throughout the day, loud modified vehicles with no mufflers disturb the peace, but the main issue arises in the evenings. One specific vehicle has been revving and speeding along Fort York Blvd every night since the start of summer. The noise typically occurs around 10-11 pm, but then again with exceptionally loud revving from 2-3 am. This deliberate acceleration among the condo buildings is highly disruptive. I did not measure the noise level since I do not have a professional machine. But I would say the noise is louder than the siren of fire trucks that goes along the same route. As a new mother with a newborn son, this noise significantly impacts our lives. It wakes up my son multiple times, disrupting his sleep cycle and affecting his health. Babies need consistent sleep, and the continuous noise is affecting his well-being. I, too, am deprived of adequate sleep as I have to soothe my baby back to sleep, leading to chronic health issues for myself. 2) Current Enforcement Issues: Despite the city's existing noise bylaws, the enforcement seems inadequate. I understand that there are a limited number of Traffic Officers in each unit, which makes curbing this problem difficult. However, the noise levels from these vehicles are becoming a year-round issue, particularly during clear nights. 3) Suggestions for Action: I kindly request that the Toronto Police Service consider allocating more resources to address this issue. A simple step could be to station an officer on Fort York Blvd for one night with no rain. The vehicle in question can be heard without difficulty. Additionally, encouraging building management companies to report loud vehicles in their areas and promoting resident reports of such sightings can help identify the culprits. This collaborative approach could enhance existing enforcement and address this problem more effectively. I am hopeful that TPS can devote some additional resources to prioritize the well-being of CityPlace residents. This is not just a noise complaint—it is a matter affecting health and quality of life. Thank you for your time, and I look forward to seeing steps taken to improve the situation for all residents. Best regards, Trish

**Name:** Ronald Jones

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** As a long-time resident of downtown Toronto the existence of traffic noise is not a new issue. We recently moved into an apartment adjacent to Avenue Road, just south of St Clair. Nothing prepared us for the disruption and aggravation of deliberately engineered , excessively loud exhaust noise that we put up with daily. The noise peaks on weekend, usually late on Friday and Saturday evenings when modified motorcycles and sports cars with augmented exhaust systems blast through the neighborhood. They wake us up in the middle of the night. They disturb our meals and quiet reading times. The racket causes us to elevate the volume controls on our television and music systems. What is most disturbing is that this is all intentional. There is no purpose to. extraordinarily loud vehicles other to serve the vanity of the owners. As an aside, a friend recently showed me his son's Volkswagen Model R which unbelievably has a driver's control on the dashboard to make the exhaust as loud as possible. The only people who are impacted by this are innocent bystanders, trying to quietly live their lives in spite of this unwanted and unwarranted disruption. Sound violations are an issue that should be dealt with immediately.

**Name:** Janet Looker

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee, I have lived in South Rosedale for sixteen years. Despite the relatively green location and the distance from major highways, I find the noise levels from vehicles has increased greatly over the last few years. I am disturbed both day and night, and find it difficult to sleep and to work. We are unable to sleep with any windows open, no matter the temperature. In fact, the noise is considerably worse in warmer weather. While I understand that life in a big city comes with some necessary noise, it is quite clear to me that the noise most disturbing me is coming from vehicles that have been modified to break all the sound codes and laws we currently have in place, or comes from drivers intent on using the roads dangerously and irresponsibly. This criminal behaviour needs to be addressed. It is difficult to express how distressing the noise pollution is. It has made me angry and emotional, and I've have had to seek professional help to help deal with anxiety, something I never expected I'd have to do. I feel that my physical health is deteriorating. Part of the distress comes from understanding that what I'm hearing is a rising criminal element taking control of my city and my home. I implore you to do more, quickly, to address illegal exhaust modifications, racing and stunt driving in the city. I believe that Toronto Police Services can and must invest in this issue now, and come up with innovative solutions to stop these criminals. Sincerely, Janet Looker

**Name:** Alexei Marcilio

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** My name is Alexei Marcilio and I live in Toronto at 18 Yorkville. I have been living here for 14 years and the noise coming from the streets around my home wakes me up, keeps me up and disturbs me during the night. The Toronto Police Services is not doing enough to reduce the number of illegally modified and loud vehicles on our streets. In my area, the noise from vehicles has gotten so loud that my wife and I are awoken several times each night. It has impacted my quality of life. It has also impacted my health. On an almost daily basis I am subjected to loud and sometimes almost deafening noise from modified vehicles and motorcycles. You need to do more to eliminate illegal exhaust modifications on our streets and also sound systems that emit high decibel music. The sudden loud audio assaults from vehicles impacts the quality of life and health of the residents of Toronto and this is part of your duty to “serve and protect”. You could create a Sound Task force with the City to find solutions to this problem and implement a pilot solution quickly. This is a year round problem that deserves year round attention, fast action and funding to make Toronto a more safe, pleasant and liveable city. Thank you. Alexei Marcilio

**Name:** Patricia Koutsaris

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** I have a 2 year old Rescue dog. He has become so fearful even on the sidewalk also whilst fast asleep. I am hyper vigilant after being in NYC on 9/11. Just so unfair to heat these cars and no tickets. My friend got a ticket near Lowther at a red light years now but please put up the same here?

**Name:** Alexandrina Canto Thaler

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee, Re: Loud vehicle noise  
Toronto Police Services should do more to eliminate illegal vehicle-exhaust modifications from our streets. Sudden loud audio assaults from vehicles degrades the quality of life and health of Toronto residents. The Police Services' duty to serve and protect should include protecting Torontonians from vehicle noise that interrupts residents' sleep at night and disturbs our work and leisure during the day. I urge Toronto Police Services to consider collaborating with the City to create a Sound Task Force mandated to find solutions to the loud vehicles problem, and to quickly implement a pilot solution. Illegally-modified and loud vehicles are a problem year-round: the matter merits year-round attention, timely action and adequate funding to make life in Toronto safer and more enjoyable. Thank you for your kind attention. Yours truly, Alexandrina Canto Thaler

**Name:** Rasha Coleman

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** The corner of bay and davenport. The lanes and different lights- have people not turning south on Bay St when they supposed to. So honking happens every 5 to 7 pm. Major honking. I live in front .



**Name:** Christopher Richard Wilson

**Organization:** Guildhall Antiques Ltd

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** As I understand it the police do not involve themselves with muffler noise unless it is a moving violation and the bylaw officers cannot deal with static violations unless the engine is actually running? Since the number incidents where the motor vehicle is static and the engine is running several hours after a 311 call is made must be about zero, there is no effective enforcement. The problem appears to be a lack of mandatory vehicle inspections cancelled by the provincial government, rather than any failure by the police. The broader question of what, if anything, the citizens of Toronto need in terms of noise abatement remains unanswered. What is clear is the following: The main noise makers downtown are Metrolinx's Construction and garbage trucks. Since both have been given carte blanche to make as much noise as they like through the night by city council again I cannot see the police can do much and the bylaw officers can do nothing as they have been specifically instructed to do nothing. Indeed the treatment of Metrolinx the major offender is bizarre. Unlike every other perp, except perhaps international car thieves with whom the city police have advised us to cooperate by leaving keys on the front hall table, the decision as to whether an offence is committed is entirely in their hands and judgment. Any complaint about noise is referred back to them. It's analogous someone breaks into my house, and I file a report, if the only police action is to refer the matter back to the house breaker for action. If any of the inclusion in this brief submission are incorrect I would appreciate an update, otherwise I will continue my current policy of presuming the police are there to enforce those laws which our city fathers in their infinite wisdom continue to allow them to enforce and for the rest, including noisy mufflers, I will continue to put up with until I get to the ballot box in the next municipal council election, given that I haven't been driven out by the combo of noise and tax increases to pay inter alia for the lack of enforcement.

**Name:** SANDRA HALBERT

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** IT HAS BEEN VERY DISTURBING TO HEAR THE LOUD NOISE OF THE MOTOR CYCLES AND THE MUFFLERS OF SOME SPORTS CARS.THEY SEEM TO ENJOY SHOWING OFF THEIR "POWER" TO THE PEOPLE WALKING THIS AREA AND THE LOUD NOISE FOR THE RESIDENCE PERSONS. I AM SURE TYHAT THERE CAN BE SOME LAW THAT CAN ARRANGE THEIR USE IN OTHER AREAS THAT DO NOT HAVE SUCH A DENSE POPULATION. PLEASE TRY TO MAKE SOME SORT OF LAW THAT WILL INHIBIT THE USE OF THESE MOTORS IN THIS AREA. THANK YOU,  
SANSRA HALBERT

**Name:** Seta Elbekian

**Organization:** No More Noise Toronto

**Format:** Written only

**Plain text:** Dear Toronto Police Services Board Budget Committee, My name is Seta Elbekian and I live in Etobicoke. I have been living here for 33 years and the noise coming from the streets around my home wakes me up, keeps me up and disturbs me during the day. The Toronto Police Services is not doing enough to reduce the number of illegally modified and loud vehicles on our streets. In my area, the noise from vehicles has gotten so loud that I have no choice but to close my windows every single night and use ear plugs and even then it still wakes me up. It has impacted my quality of life and my health which has caused me to feel fatigued regularly and struggle to live my daily life including staying focused on my job. On a nightly basis, I am subjected to motorcycles and cars with revved up engines racing in my neighbourhood. These racing episodes can go on for hours. This is a problem which started during the lockdowns in 2020 and has continued for over four years now! I feel my health is deteriorating as a result of this, as I am awakened, I feel my heart race and I feel helpless. Every night I wonder where the police is and why nothing is being done. We have given them full access to our roads and allowed them to abuse us, the hard working tax paying residents. You need to do more to eliminate illegal exhaust modifications on our streets. The sudden loud audio assaults from vehicles impacts the quality of life and health of the residents of Toronto and this is part of your duty to "serve and protect". You could create a Sound Task force with the City to find solutions to this problem and implement a pilot solution quickly. This is a year round problem that deserves year round attention, fast action and funding to make Toronto a more safe, pleasant and liveable city. Thank you. Seta Elbekian

#### **Regarding Item #4 – Multi Year Hiring Plan**

Hello, my name is Julia Robinson. I live in Ward 11 – University-Rosedale, at the corner of Avenue Rd and Yorkville Avenue and I am writing to express my concern about the increasing issue of loud and vanity vehicle noise in our communities throughout Toronto. Many residents, including myself, have observed a significant rise in disturbances caused by excessively loud vehicles, particularly during weekends and late hours, over the last 5 years.

Vehicle noise impacts my life in so many ways. Sleepless nights or being woken up in the middle of the night by an extremely loud vehicle or motor bike revving its engine or backfiring all the way up Avenue Road are common occurrences. It is impossible to avoid this noise by turning the TV or music up. Guests cannot believe we have to put up with this. It is an assault on our nervous system. We can't close our ears! Surely, we are entitled to some peace and quiet in our own homes.

These vehicles with their modified mufflers and backfiring devices are ILLEGAL. Why can't we stop them on residential streets? Where are the police enforcing the bylaws and handing out tickets, whether it is for speeding (as many of these cars and motorbikes are causing major safety hazards by speeding) or making unnecessary loud vanity noise. I understood there were supposed to be blitzes carried out by TPS at crucial intersections to ticket noise and speed offenders but I have yet to see this. Other jurisdictions' police services have carried out blitzes very successfully (i.e. Peel, Halton), why can't Toronto do the same?

One way to address this problem, without involving the police, is to install noise cameras throughout the city. These cameras can help identify and penalize vehicles that exceed acceptable noise levels, thereby encouraging compliance with noise regulations and enhancing the quality of life for residents. Noise cameras have been successfully implemented in various cities around the world and have proven to be effective in reducing noise pollution. By using technology to monitor and enforce noise regulations, we can take a proactive approach to maintaining peace and quiet in our neighborhoods.

I kindly request that the Toronto Police Service in collaboration with Toronto city hall consider this proposal and explore the feasibility of introducing noise cameras in our city. We need to advocate for and invest in automated noise enforcement which will help to reduce the burden on limited police resources and allow police officers to concentrate on reducing crime and violence and other serious illegal activities. Other jurisdictions like New York City and elsewhere have already piloted noise monitoring programs and they have been very successful.

Illegal mufflers and excessively loud vehicle noise are apparently not a top priority for police. Residents are increasingly frustrated with no action in reducing this problem and its negative impact on their quality of life. Automated noise enforcement is a way to free up officers for other activities. This would help reduce their budget requirements and create a more efficient and effective police force. Noise or acoustic cameras could be installed alongside speed cameras of which Toronto already has quite a few. As we know, speed cameras in Toronto not only report the vehicle speed but also permit the reading of the license plate thereby allowing for an offence ticket to be issued to the driver.

In the meantime, I request that TPS treat unnecessary vanity noise and speeding as a serious health and safety issue and do something about it

Thank you, Julia Robinson

Deputation given to the Toronto Police Services Budget Meeting – October 2, 2024

*By Sally Gustin, Yonge Corridor Condominium Association (YCCA)*

- Yonge Corridor Condominium Association (YCCA) comprises of condominium corporation boards of directors in the corridor around Yonge Street between Highway 401, Steeles Avenue, along Doris Avenue/Beecroft Rd. and Kenneth Avenue and has been in existence for over 20 years. There are 100+ condominiums north of the 401 along Yonge and we believe YCCA is the largest local condominium association in Canada.
- The Association raises the concerns of the thousands of condominium owners and residents to the appropriate associations and level of government in a non-partisan way to improve the safety and quality of life for condominium vertical communities in the Yonge corridor area
- The area surrounding the Yonge Street corridor north of the 401 is a vibrant, dynamic, and convenient area to live with accessible public transit and a variety of conveniences such as shopping, restaurants, and recreational activities. That's why those thousands of people have chosen to live along the Yonge corridor. **We expect a vibrant area like this to have a certain amount of ambient noise.**
- Revving and racing of vehicles, including motorcycles, has become an issue in the area, particularly as they speed along Yonge, Doris, Beecroft and Sheppard. **More and more, we are hearing increasing evidence about the negative health effects of being exposed to high levels of noise. In addition, these vehicles present a pedestrian safety concern for our residents as they live, work and shop in the Yonge Corridor.** More prevalent in the summer months, this revving and racing of high end or modified vehicles and motorcycles also takes place in the wee hours of the morning, particularly on weekends, when residents are trying to sleep. We all know that sound bounces off and travels up between tall buildings. Cities are noisy so why increase the noise level? A simple Google search will yield a large number of articles on the harmful effects of excess environmental noise on human health.
- Here are a few testimonials from residents living along the Yonge Corridor:
  - "My chronic pain management issue makes sleeping important. Yonge, Doris and Beecroft become speedways of souped-up cars with noise enhanced mufflers and make it difficult to sleep even with the windows closed." Greg – 256 Doris Avenue
  - "The extremely loud noise associated with vehicles driving on Yonge Street and Beecroft Road are impacting my mental health in a negative way making me nervous and jumpy." Cindy - 131 Beecroft

- “Our right to a peaceful living is in jeopardy with high levels of transportation noise which is causing major health implications.” Adolphus – 5460 Yonge
- “It wakes me up several times a night so I cannot get a good night's sleep.” Craig – 31 Bales Avenue
- “If I open the windows on hot summer evenings, to cool my non-airconditioned apartment (rental), I am woken up several times by cars revving on Yonge.” Claude – 55 Ellerslie
- “As a senior with limited mobility; on Yonge Street in North York motorists make it difficult to cross streets safely.” Pam - 131 Beecroft Road
- “...cars racing on Doris after 1 am making a great deal of noise.” Norm – 65 Spring Garden
- “Constant thrum of traffic, broken intermittently by the sounds of revving engines, fire trucks, ambulances, underlaid during the week with the noise of construction, road work and the blaring of car radios outside my condo cannot be healthy and detracts from our community" Jane – 33 Greenfield
- “Protestors at Mel Lastman Square also add to the issue of noise in our area.” Nina – 8 Hillcrest
- “Living not even 10 metres away on Hillcrest, I’m very much affected by loud cars and protestors. ... great disturbance to our peace and quiet.” Dusan- 8 Hillcrest
- “...on the east side facing Doris at night...loud mufflers should be banned...sounds like they are racing.” Pat – 8 Hillcrest
- “...sleep deprivation causes (me) chronic fatigue and impaired memory.” Shasi – 8 Hillcrest
- “...noise from protestor’s loudspeakers...almost weekly and loud cars... at night disrupt naps and sleep” Gautam – 8 Hillcrest

- **We are not alone in this! Big cities all over the world are facing the same challenge.**

We encourage the Toronto Police Services to

- enforce current speeding/ dangerous driving/ noise violation laws as best you can
- Investigate what other policing jurisdictions do about excessive vehicular noise
- Work with the provincial government to enhance enforceable laws around noise violators and the manufacture and modification of vehicles for the purpose of making enhanced noise (both commercial car mechanics establishments and mechanics)



# Justice for Bingo and all Police Animals

Started  
Petition to

August 31, 2023


[Justin Trudeau \(Prime Minister of Canada/Premier ministre du Canada\)](#) and [8 others](#)

12,940

Signatures

15,000

Next Goal

 Support now

[Share this petition](#)

## Why this petition matters



Started by [Nicole Corrado](#)

[https://www.thestar.com/opinion/contributors/is-police-work-too-dangerous-for-dogs/article\\_0bb0d6fd-cbf4-5672-be51-9ab78f11ad62.html](https://www.thestar.com/opinion/contributors/is-police-work-too-dangerous-for-dogs/article_0bb0d6fd-cbf4-5672-be51-9ab78f11ad62.html)

<https://www.tps.ca/media-centre/stories/tragic-loss-of-police-dog/>

On July 25, Bingo Toronto Police Dog was allegedly murdered by a man who had previously allegedly murdered a woman. This man should be charged with cruelty under [Quanto's Law](#) and the Provincial Animal Welfare Act, and be banned from having animals. The relationship between intimate partner violence and animal cruelty is strong, as seen in this tragic case.



[https://www.siu.on.ca/en/directors\\_report\\_details.php?drid=2707](https://www.siu.on.ca/en/directors_report_details.php?drid=2707)

Police animals do not choose their dangerous work. Dogs and horses are not adequately protected. They should be given bullet proof vests, just like their human companions. Police services should have a civilian third party Animal Welfare Team on its board to oversee animal care, housing, veterinary care, training, and transport, to retire animals to sanctuaries, to phase out the use of animals in dangerous work, and investigate any time any animal is injured or killed in relation to police, or a person is injured or killed by a police animal. All training must be done only using positive methods. Police should stop buying animals from breeders, this promotes animal agriculture, and there are many homeless animals.

Police must refine, reduce, and ultimately replace the use of animals with non animal alternatives for such a dangerous task as police work. Dogs and horses do not choose to put their lives at risk. The use of police dogs and horses as weapons or to pursue dangerous persons must stop, and be replaced with modern technology. A recent study demonstrates that 57.1% of uses of force cases against persons of colour involve a police dog. Horses are also used as weapons. <https://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/impact-action-final-report-anti-black-racism-toronto-police-service/chapter-7-use-force-gaps-policies-and-procedures> These animals are born as family members loving all humans; it is unnatural to teach them to bite and maul people. Recently, a man in Midland Ontario died after being bitten by an OPP dog during a pursuit. <https://www.cp24.com/news/siu-investigating-death-of-45-year-old-man-bitten-by-police-dog-in-midland-1.6635100>

(Warning, this link contains graphic photos of dog bites).

[https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/pivotlegal/pages/648/attachments/original/1403740129/Moving\\_to\\_Minimum\\_Force.pdf?1403740129](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/pivotlegal/pages/648/attachments/original/1403740129/Moving_to_Minimum_Force.pdf?1403740129)

There needs to be a campaign to phase out police animals in dangerous work, and only employ dogs and horses in safe, peaceful activities like finding missing persons and to act as therapists to calm down traumatized persons. All use of police animals, (with lots of crime, hard pavement, and little to no veterinary care for horses,) is outdated and should be abolished, unless the animals are used only as search and rescue, and/or therapy animals (with horses living at a farm). All the horses and dogs currently being used should be retired as companions to their handlers or retired to sanctuaries.



Share this petition in person or use the QR code for your own material.

[Download QR Code](#)

[Report a policy violation](#)

 Support now

[Share this petition](#)



Mounted Unit Renovations and Police Dog Services Building Expansions are not "Priority". It is astonishing that police continue to exploit horses in 2024, especially when there are animal free alternatives like drones, electric buses, bicycles, etc. The pavement is really hard on the horses feet, and the noisy crowds are bad for their mental health. The horses are also in danger from cars and angry people, and the elements. There is not a lot of emergency veterinary care for horses in a city either. TPS should retire their horses to a vegan farm sanctuary right away.

Police dog use is a mixed bag. Dogs probably enjoy looking for missing people, and missing people may enjoy the dogs. Dogs and horses provide mental health support for the human officers. But dogs are also trained to bite suspects. A dog may have trouble discerning a neurodivergent missing person running from a suspect fleeing. And an actual suspect may injure or even kill a dog. Just last year, Bingo was killed by a suspect he was pursuing.

Human officers choose their dangerous career. Non human officers don't. Please immediately retire the non human officers from any dangerous positions and do not let them interact with suspects or crowds. Please also work with the Canadian Centre for Alternatives to Animal Methods to develop non animal technologies to replace animals in policing.

<https://www.change.org/p/justice-for-bingo-police-dog>

Nicole Corrado