

Billings City Administrator Weekly Report

January 10, 2020

- 1) **Montana League of Cities & Towns (MLCT)** – Billings submitted letters of interest for Mayor Cole and Councilmember Ronning to represent District 11 on the MLCT Board. At last check, every city and town in Montana is a member of the League. Dick Clark stepped off the board when his term ended last month.
- 2) **Public Safety Forum** – Thursday afternoon from noon to 1:15 pm the City hosted a public safety forum in the library community room. Sixty two (62) citizens attended the forum. The purpose for the forums is to provide a brief summary of our public safety challenges, share our strategies for solutions and receive community feedback. Chiefs St. John & Rash, along with Wyeth Friday and Brent Brooks kept our presentation to under 30 minutes providing 45 minutes of dialogue. Our next session will take place Thursday evening in the library community room at 6:30 PM. Both forums are live broadcasted and will be replayed on Channel 7. The Public Safety Forum presentation is attached.
- 3) **Possibility of Montana Avenue Parking Changes** - Members of the Billings Parking Board have begun conversations with Montana Avenue business owners in regard to the possibility of installing parking meters along Montana Avenue. The Billings Parking Division and Parking Board believe that parking meters would better regulate the parking turnover for the businesses. Additionally, the Parking Division is not meeting current expenses and capital needs; requiring us to implement several areas including collection of unpaid fines, extension of parking garage hours and adding additional 10 hour parking locations.
- 4) **WC Commercial Negotiations** - The City Hall Facilities RFP Committee made a recommendation to City Council on entering into negotiations with WC Commercial on the Stillwater Building. The City Council approved proceeding with negotiations at the December 16, 2019 work session. An initial meeting on how to proceed was conducted on January 8, 2020, in which all Councilmembers were invited to participate. Moving forward with the negotiations it would be beneficial to city staff to have three (3) councilmembers, selected by the Council to be involved in the process. During the Council meeting on January 13, 2020, the council will be asked select those council members that would like to be involved in this process.
- 5) **Presentations:**
 - a. Parade Route for Monday's Council meeting.
 - b. Public Safety Presentation for the Public Safety Forum on Thursday
- 6) **Next Week's Meetings/Task Forces/Presentations etc.**
 - a. Public Safety Forum, 6:30 pm Thursday, January 16th at the Billings Public Library
 - b. Southside Task Force, 6:30 pm Thursday, January 16th at Northern Plains Resource Council, 220 S. 27th Street

- c. Terry Park Task Force, 7:00 pm Thursday, January 16th at Bethlehem Lutheran, 40 10th Street West

Have a good weekend!



PARADE ROUTES

BMCC 24-503

FIRST READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

JANUARY 13, 2020



EXISTING PARADE ROUTES

- CREATED IN 1988
- DOWNTOWN
 - MOST PARADES
- DOWNTOWN – DAYLIS
 - SENIOR HOMECOMING – NOT USED RECENTLY
- HEIGHTS
 - SKYVIEW HOMECOMING

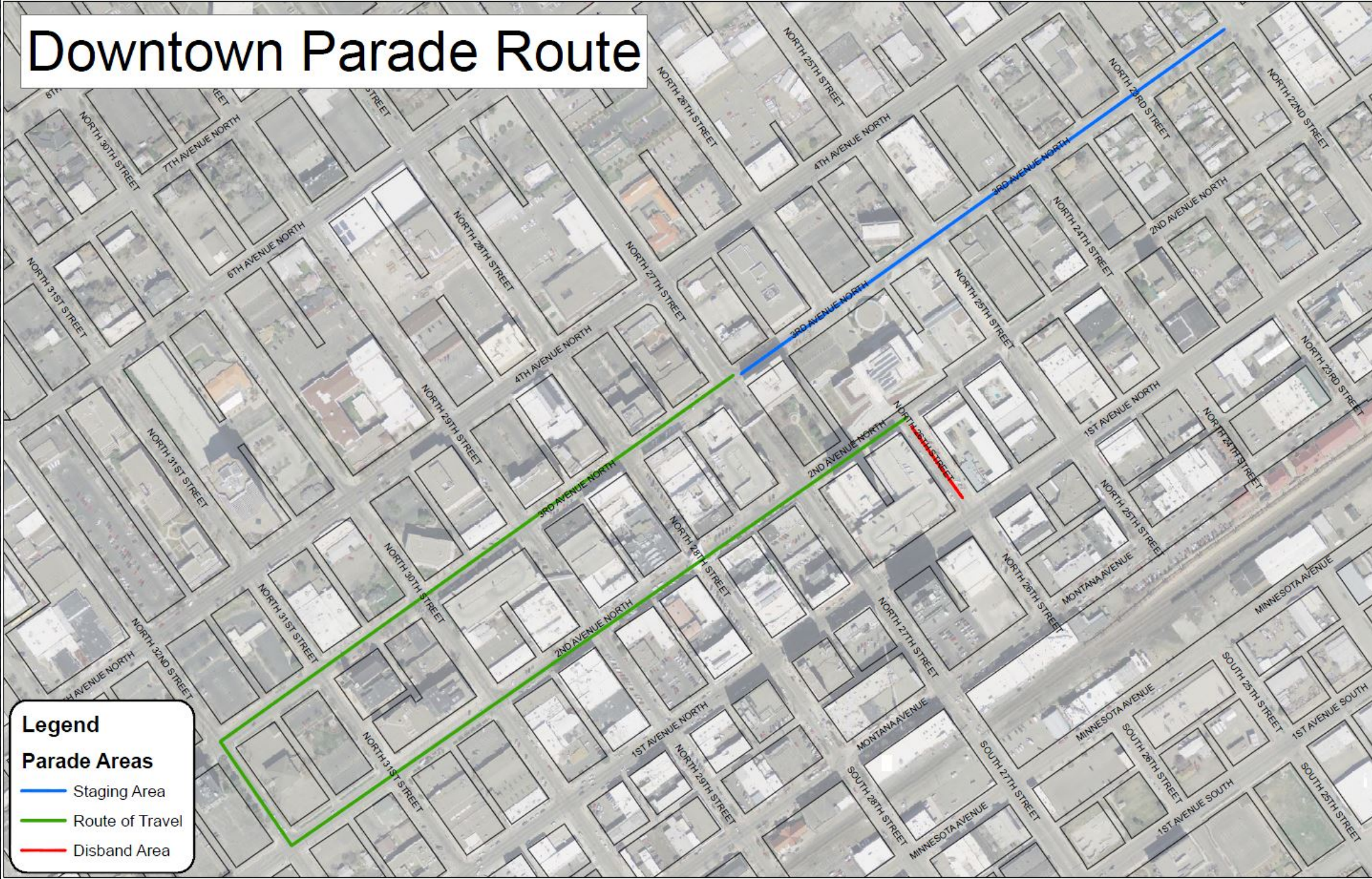
WHY CHANGE??

- MET DOWNTOWN TRANSFER CENTER
- NORTH 27TH STREET
- PARKING
- BENEFIT TO EVENTS
- OVERALL IMPACT

WHO WAS INVOLVED?

- PUBLIC WORKS
- FIRE DEPARTMENT
- POLICE DEPARTMENT
- PARKING
- MET
- DOWNTOWN BILLINGS
- MDT

Downtown Parade Route

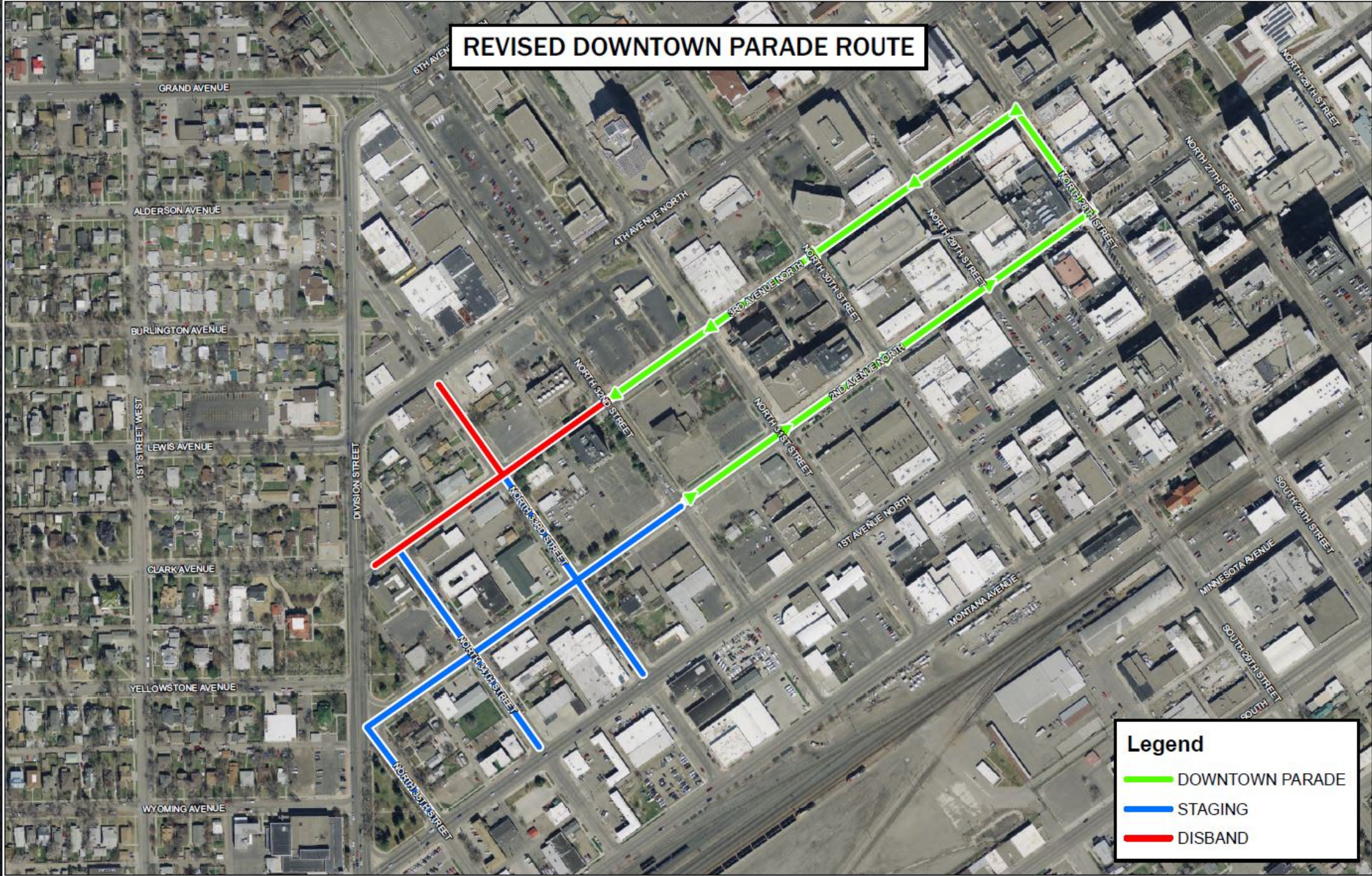


Legend

Parade Areas

- Staging Area
- Route of Travel
- Disband Area

REVISED DOWNTOWN PARADE ROUTE



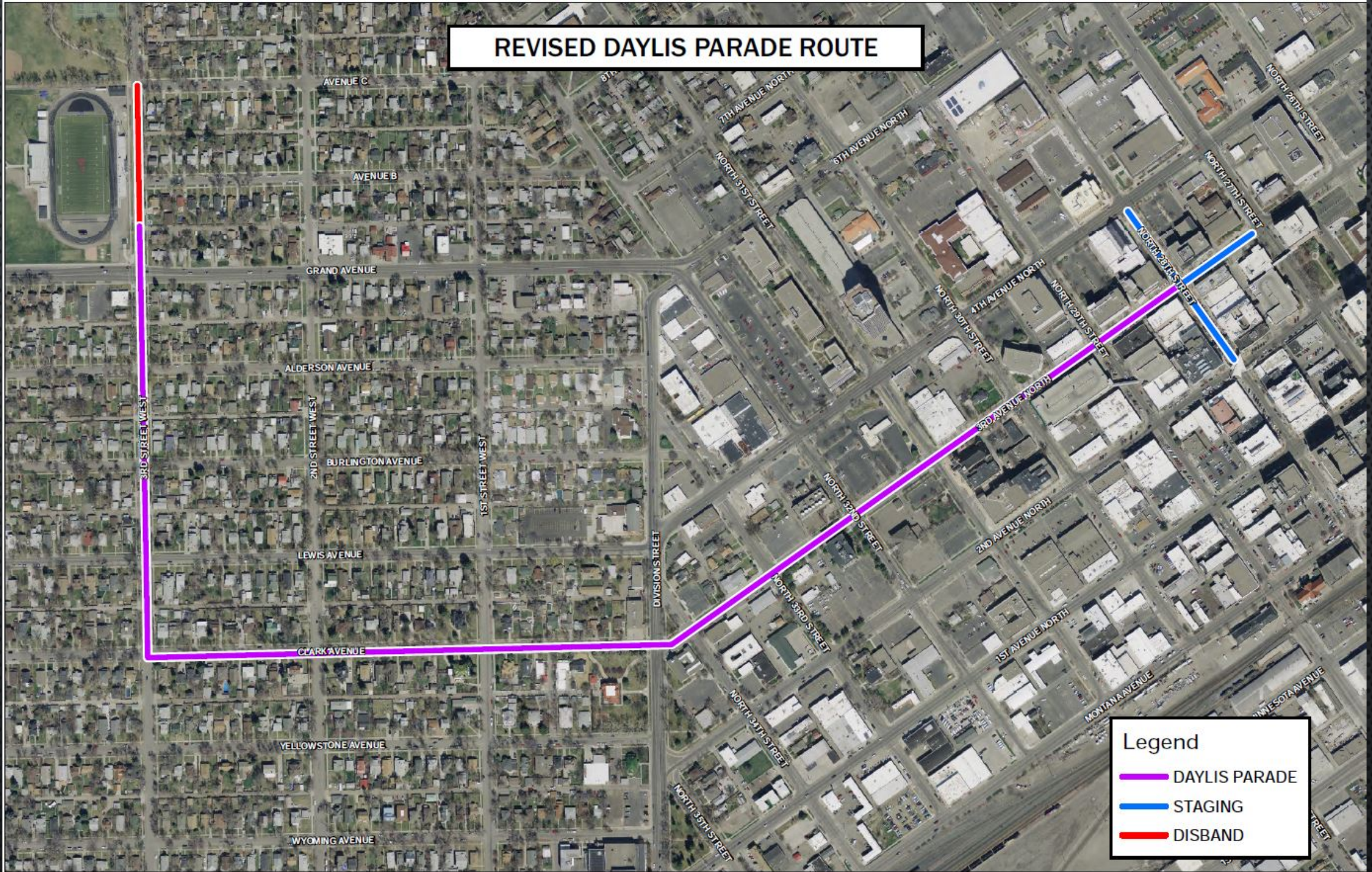
Legend

- DOWNTOWN PARADE
- STAGING
- DISBAND

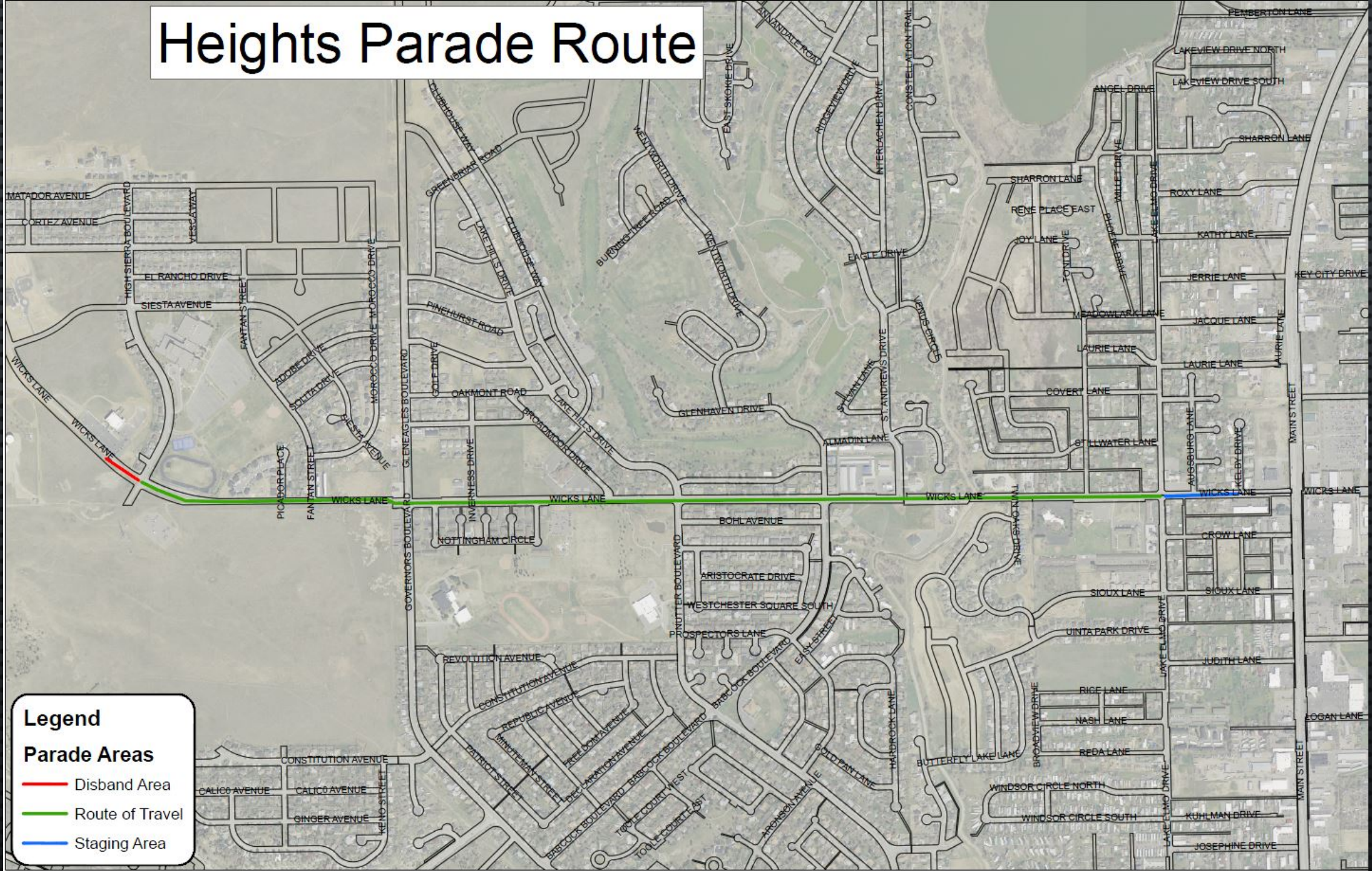
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REVISED DAYLIS PARADE ROUTE



Heights Parade Route

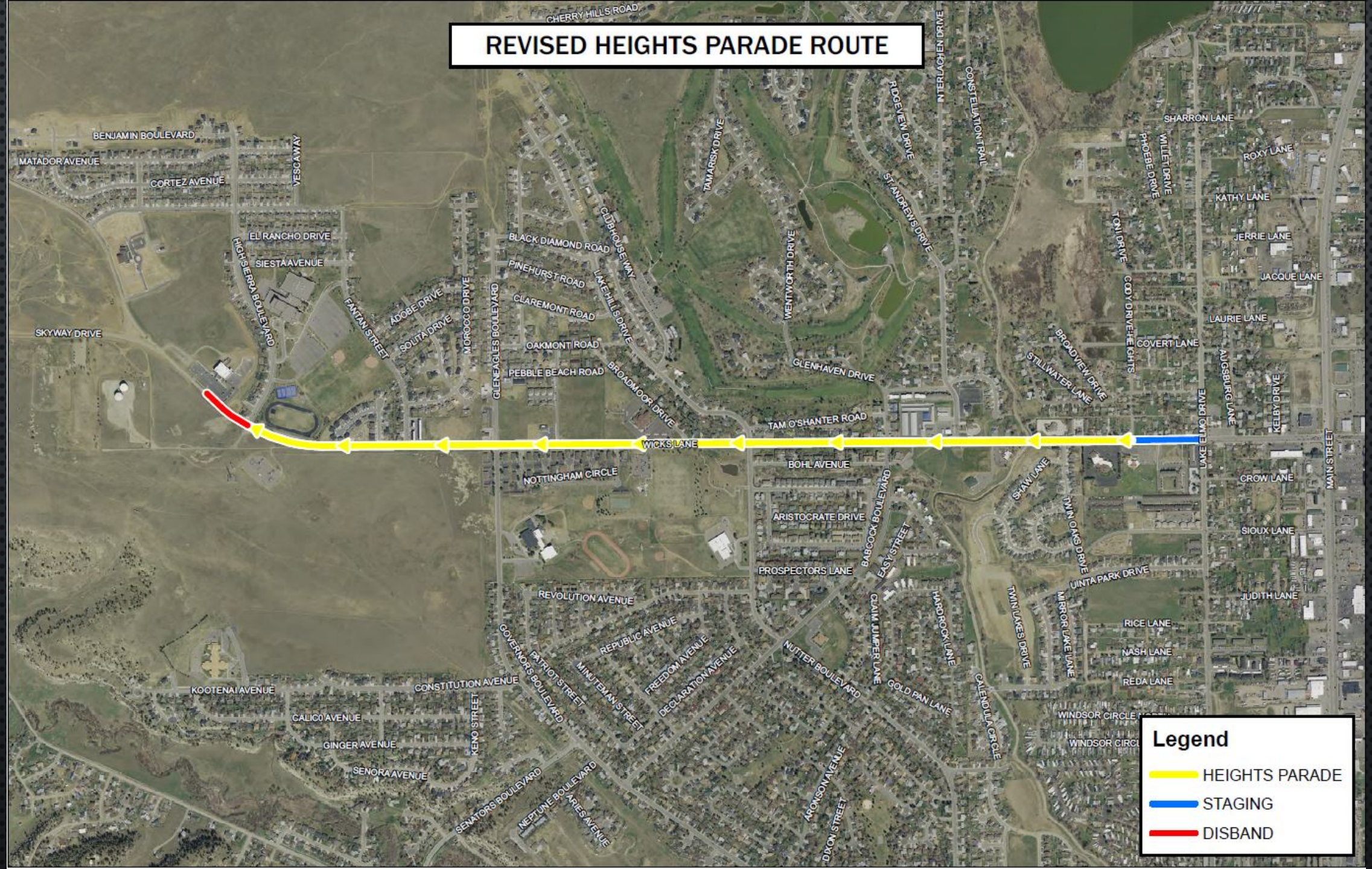


Legend

Parade Areas

- Disband Area
- Route of Travel
- Staging Area

REVISED HEIGHTS PARADE ROUTE



Legend

- HEIGHTS PARADE
- STAGING
- DISBAND

(a) *Downtown parade route.*

- (1) *Staging area.* Staging shall be conducted on ~~Third Avenue North between North 22nd Street and North 27th Street.~~ 2nd Avenue North between North 32nd Street and Division Street. Additional staging shall include North 33rd and North 34th between 3rd Avenue North and 1st Avenue North, and North 35th Street between 2nd Avenue North and 1st Avenue North.
- (2) *Route of travel.* Route of travel shall commence from the staging area and travel ~~west on Third Avenue North to North 32nd Street; then travel south on North 32nd Street to Second Avenue North; then travel east on Second Avenue North to North 26th Street.~~ east on 2nd Avenue North to North 28th Street; then travel north on North 28th Street to 3rd Avenue North; then travel west on 3rd Avenue North to North 32nd Street.
- (3) *Disband area.* Disbanding shall be conducted on 3rd Avenue North between North 32nd and Division Street and on North 33rd Street from 3rd Avenue North to 4th Avenue North. ~~North 26th Street between Third Avenue North and First Avenue North.~~

(b) *Downtown—Daylis parade route.*

- (1) *Staging area.* Staging shall be conducted on ~~Third~~ 3rd Avenue North between North 27th Street and North 28th Street, and North 28th Street between 2nd Avenue North and 4th Avenue North. ~~22nd Street and North 27th Street.~~
- (2) *Route of travel.* Route of travel shall commence from the staging area and travel west on ~~Third~~ 3rd Avenue North to ~~division~~ Division Street; cross ~~D~~ Division Street on to Clark ~~Street~~ Avenue; then travel west on Clark ~~Street~~ Avenue to ~~Third~~ 3rd Street West; then travel north on ~~Third~~ 3rd Street West to Daylis Stadium.
- (3) *Disbanding area.* Disbanding area shall be conducted at Daylis Stadium and ~~Third~~ 3rd Street West north of Grand Avenue.

(c) *Heights parade route.*

- (1) *Staging area.* Staging area shall be conducted on Wicks Lane between ~~Kelby-Cody~~ Drive and Lake Elmo Drive ~~Read~~.
- (2) *Route of travel.* Route of travel shall commence from the staging area and travel west on Wicks Lane to High Sierra Boulevard.
- (3) *Disbanding area.* Disbanding area shall be conducted at Wicks Lane and High Sierra Boulevard.

THE PROCESS

- FIRST READING AND PUBLIC HEARING: JANUARY 13, 2020
- SECOND READING: JANUARY 27, 2020
- IF APPROVED, BECOMES EFFECTIVE AFTER 30 DAYS: FEBRUARY 27, 2020



Billings Public Safety Analysis

Defining Challenges and Solutions

Meeting Purpose

Briefly Describe Challenges

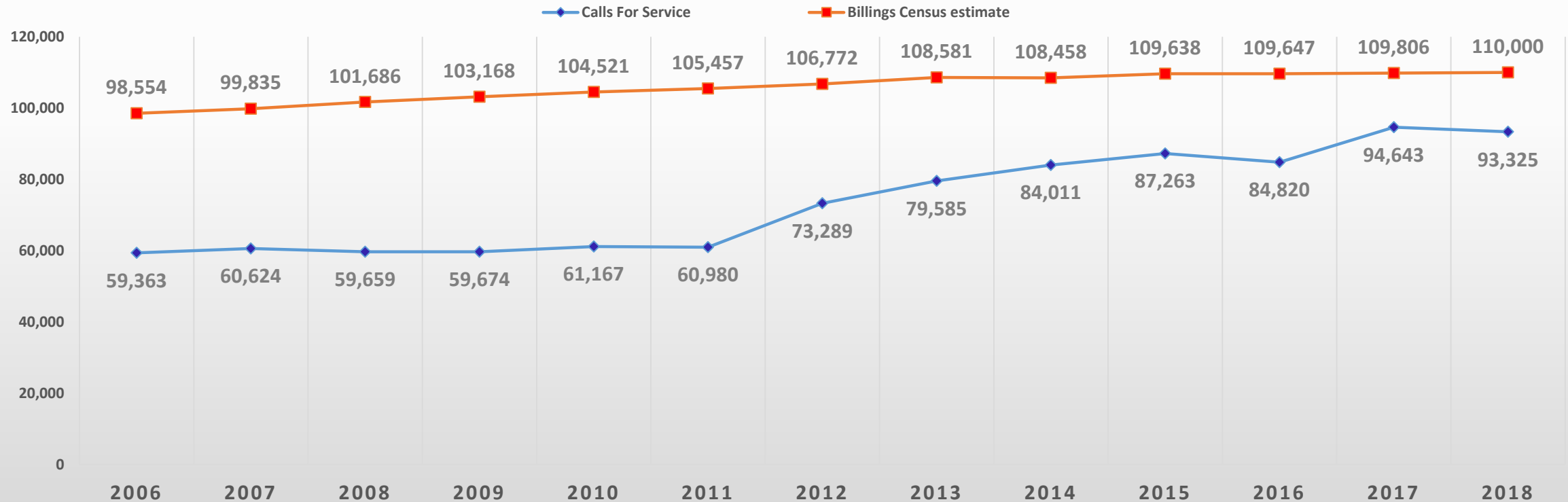
Share Strategies for Solutions

Receive Feedback

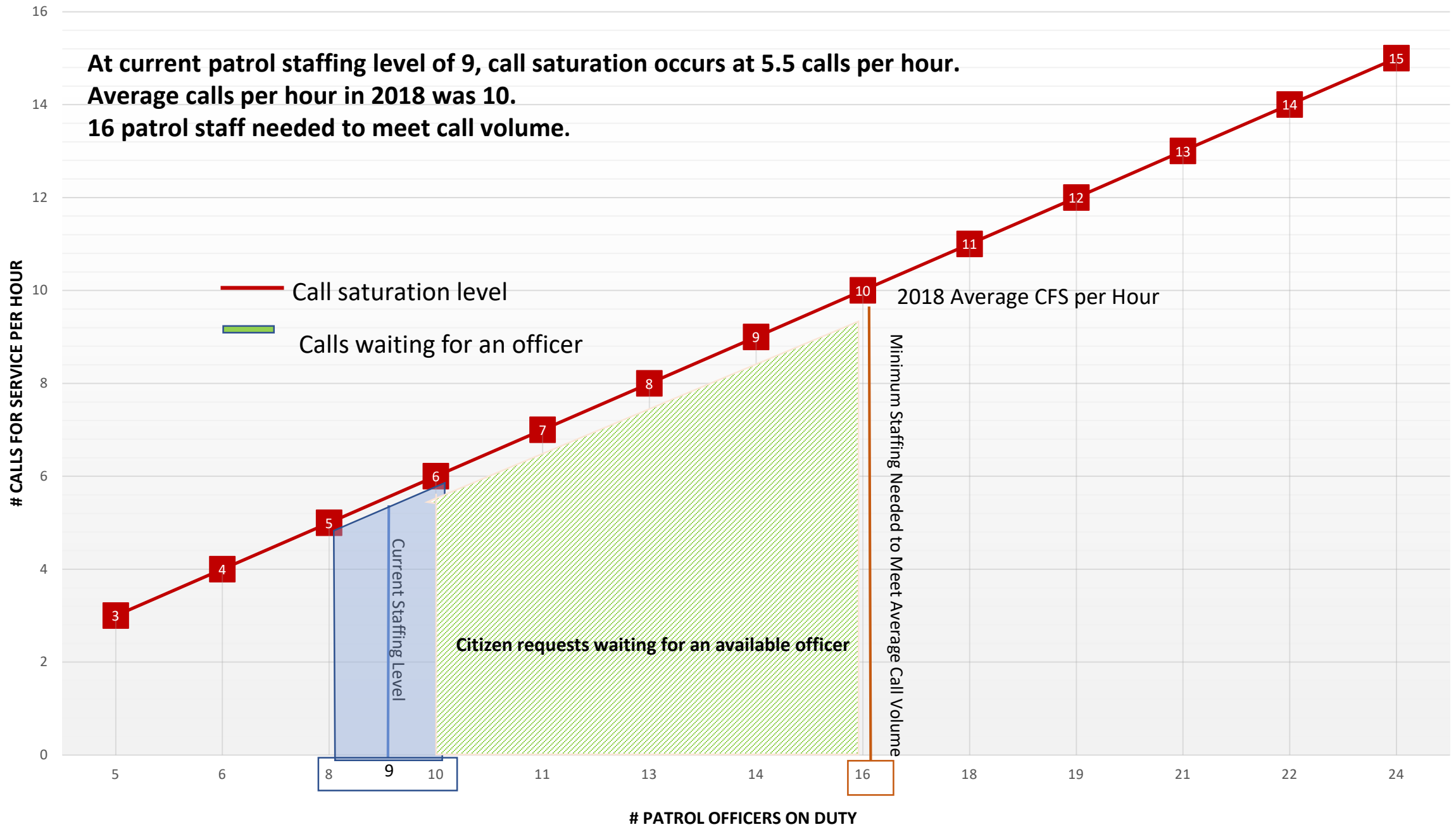
Law Enforcement Crime Data

BPD Calls For Service & Population Growth

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Calls For Service	59,363	60,624	59,659	59,674	61,167	60,980	73,289	79,585	84,011	87,263	84,820	94,643	93,325
Population	98,554	99,835	101,686	103,168	104,521	105,457	106,772	108,581	108,458	109,638	109,647	109,806	110,000



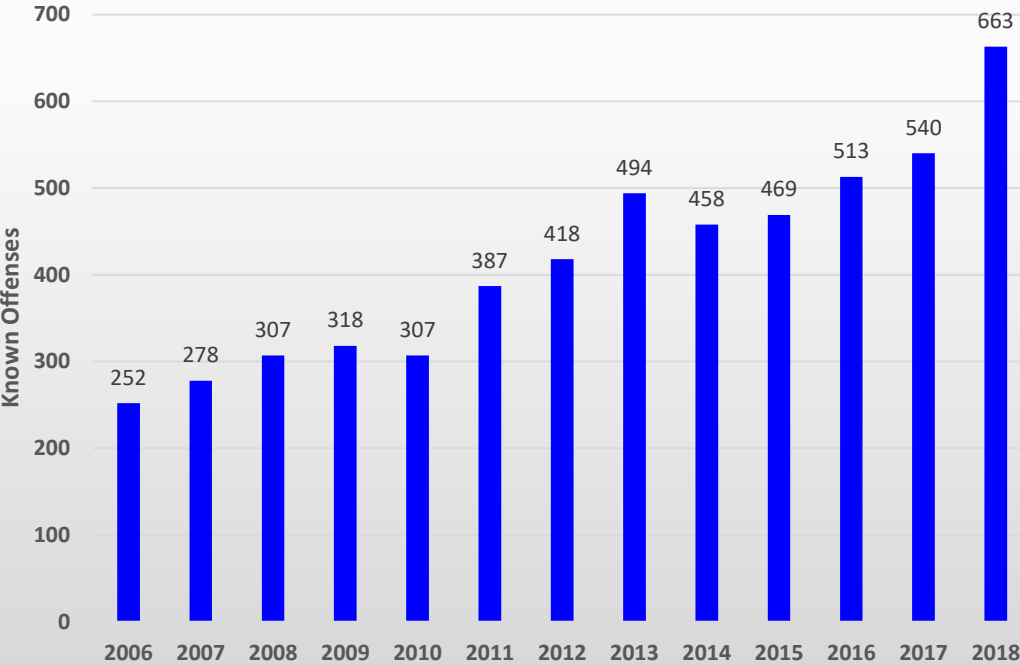
Source: Calls For Service from BPD annual reports; Census estimates from FactFinder.census.gov



BPD Historical Data Summarized

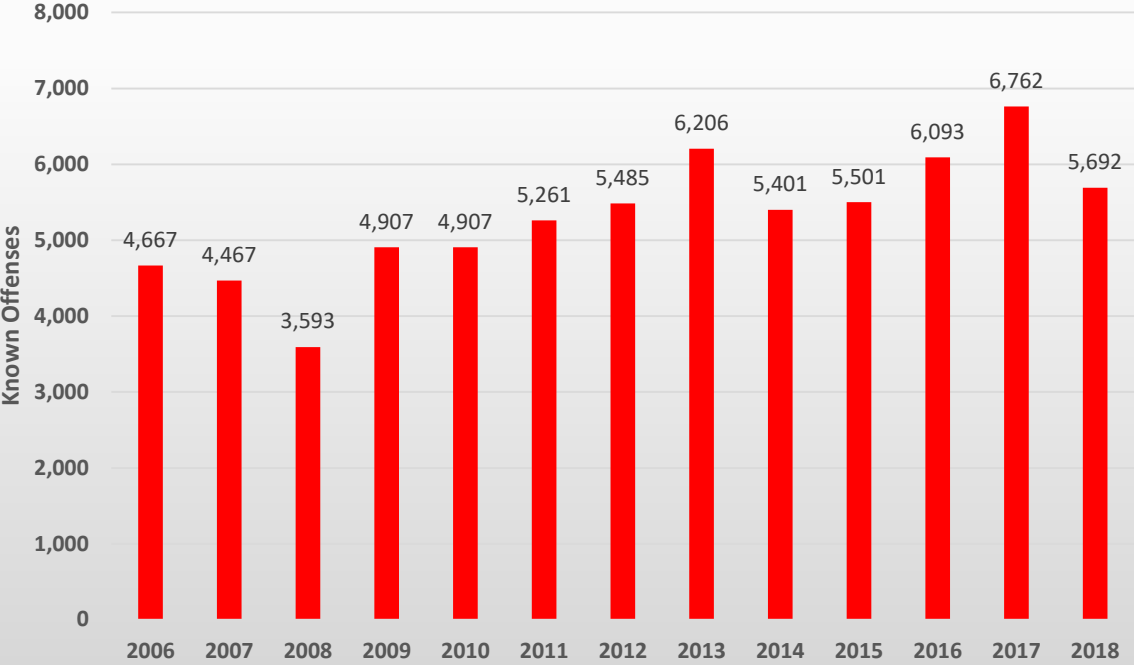
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Calls For Service	59,363	60,624	59,659	59,674	61,167	60,980	73,289	79,585	84,011	87,263	84,820	94,643	93,325
Property Crime	4,667	4,467	3,593	4,907	4,907	5,261	5,485	6,206	5,401	5,501	6,093	6,762	5,692
Violent Crime	252	278	307	318	307	387	418	494	458	469	513	540	663

Violent Crime



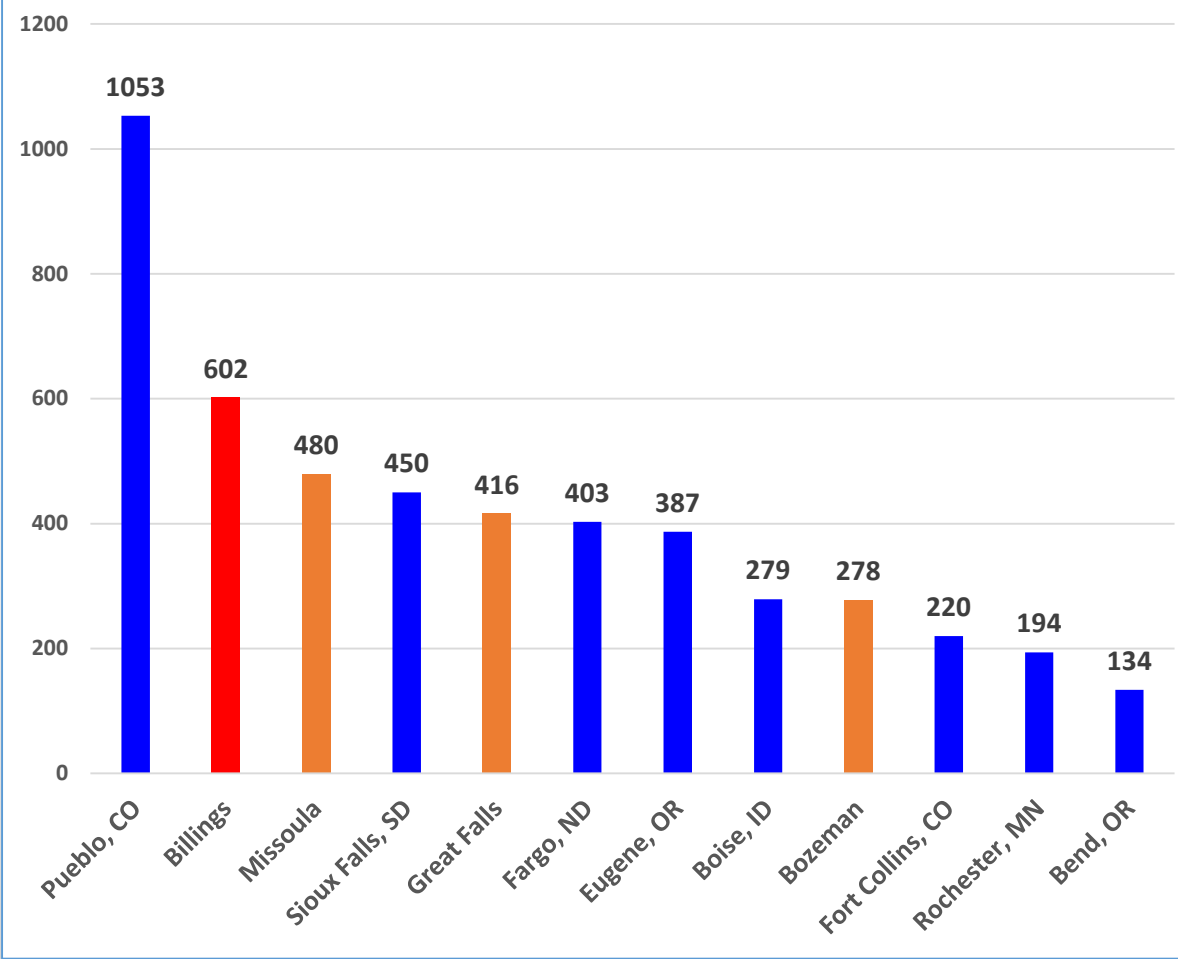
Source: BPD Annual Reports

Property Crime

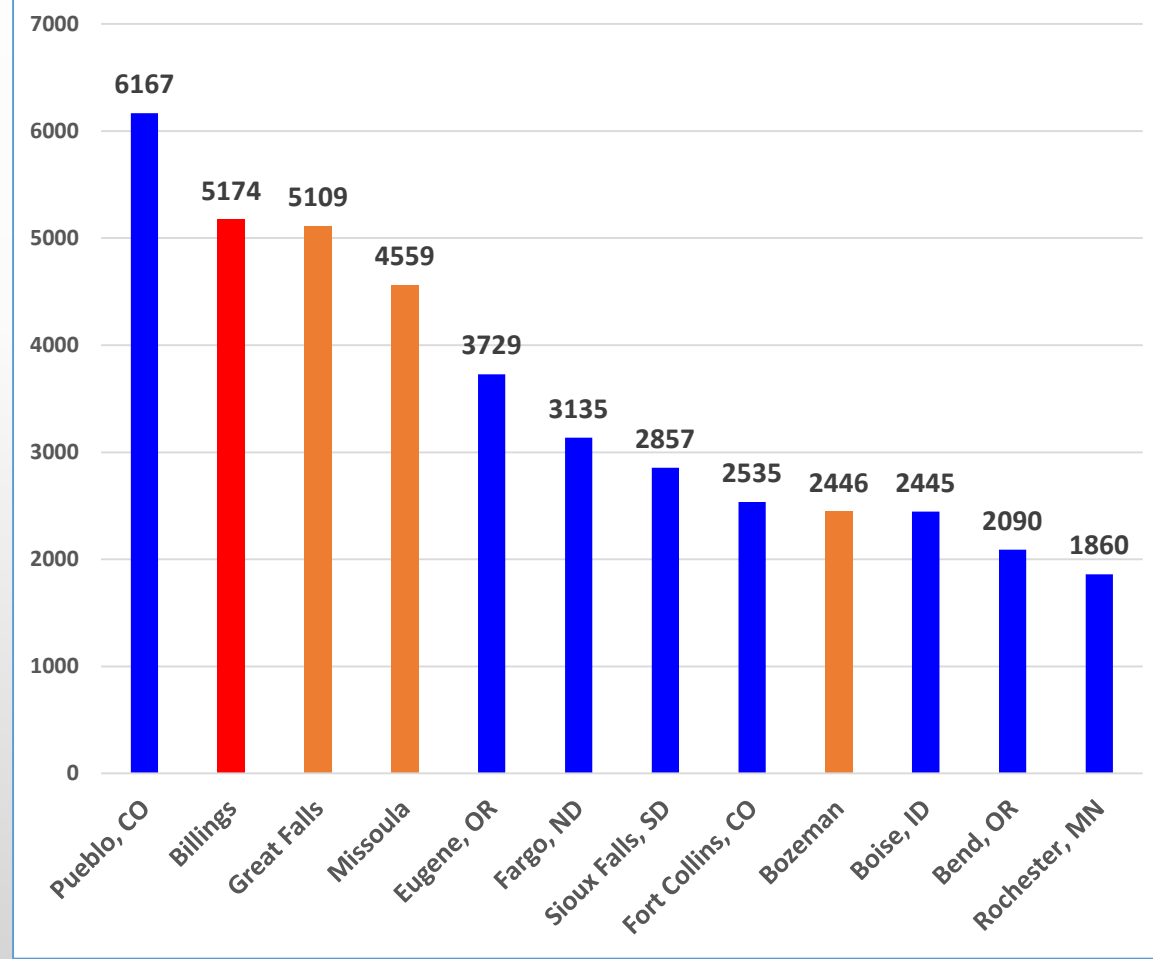


2018 Peer City Crime Rate Comparisons /100K

Violent Crime Rate



Property Crime Rate



Crime Reduction Strategy

Violent Crime Reduction

- **Increase capacity of specialized units targeting:**
 - Violent offenders
 - Felons in possession of firearms
 - Habitual offenders
 - Repeat victims
 - Illegal drug activity
 - Street Crimes
 - Hot spots – Geographic concentration of crime



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Improve Downtown Safety

- **Increase downtown uniform presence with:**
 - Foot patrol
 - Bike patrol
 - Patrol cars
- **Enhance hot spot enforcement by:**
 - Maximizing citizen and business interaction
 - Crime mapping analysis
 - Implementation of predictive policing strategies
- **Take full advantage of crime prevention through:**
 - Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED)
 - Business crime watch
 - Hotel grapevine
 - Community meetings



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Improve Traffic Safety

- Increase capacity of specialized traffic enforcement units for:
- **High Visibility Enforcement (HVE)**
 - DUI enforcement
 - Hot spots
 - School zones
 - Citizen concerns



Invest in Mental Health

- **Support community's capacity to resolve:**
 - Co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse
 - Homelessness
 - Clean and sober housing
 - Coordination of services

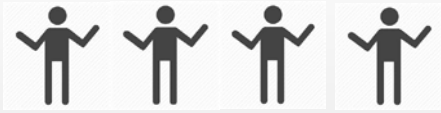


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Code Enforcement

Preserving, Protecting & Enhancing Billings' Neighborhoods

Today: CE is complaint driven and handles 5,000 to 6,000/year*



CE Officers



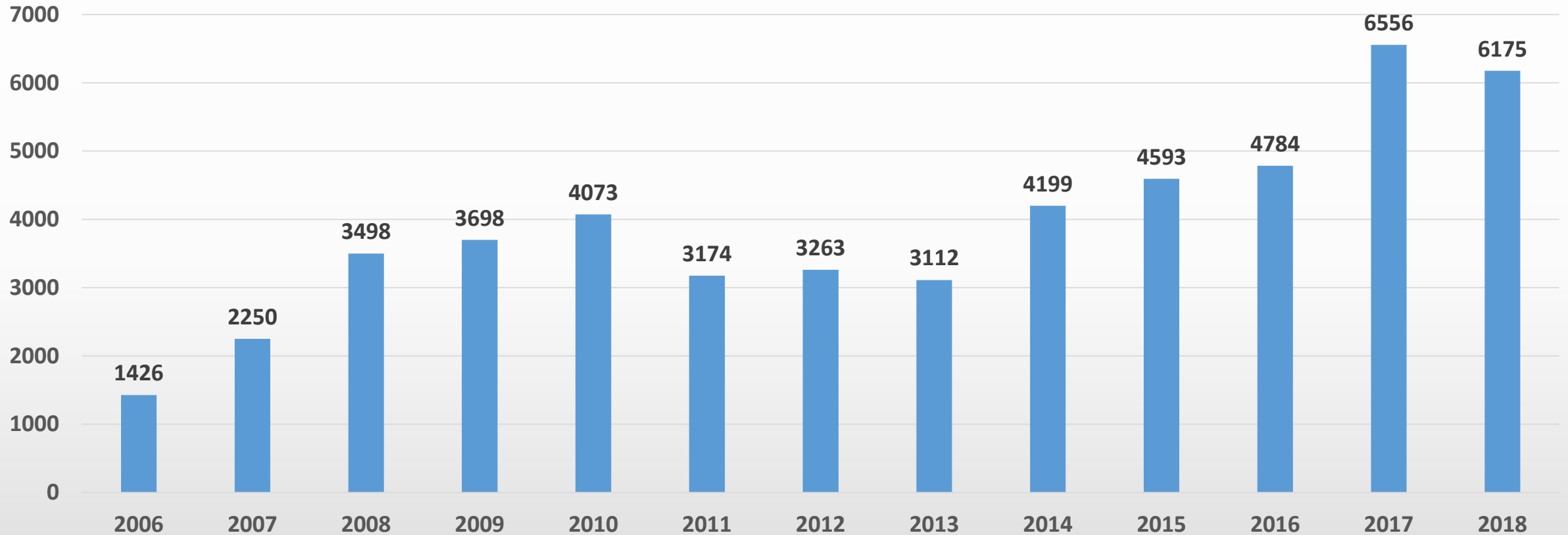
CE Clerk

PT CE Supervisor (position is paid by Planning Division and also serves as Zoning

Coordinator)

* - 10 year average = 4,600/year – recent 3 year average = 5,800/year

Code Enforcement Cases





Code Enforcement
works to make
this change to **this**



And
this look like **this**



But clean up can
**take months or
years to achieve**

Problems are
often **well
established** by
the time CE gets
a complaint



Strategies to Improve Neighborhoods



Move to active compliance effort

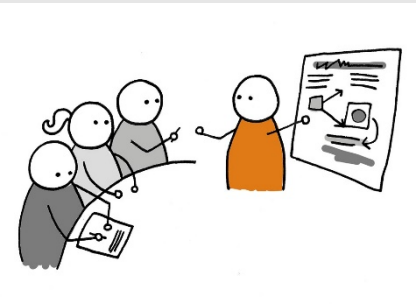
- Catch problem properties early
- Avoid neighborhood decline
- Reduce future crime
- Speed up compliance

Make compliance successful

- Legal Staff to assist CE Officers
- Improve success rate in and out of court
- Legal staff helps reduce time to compliance
- Improve neighborhood clean up programs
- Enhanced response through coordination
- Improve fund capacity for neighborhood stabilization efforts

Education and Outreach

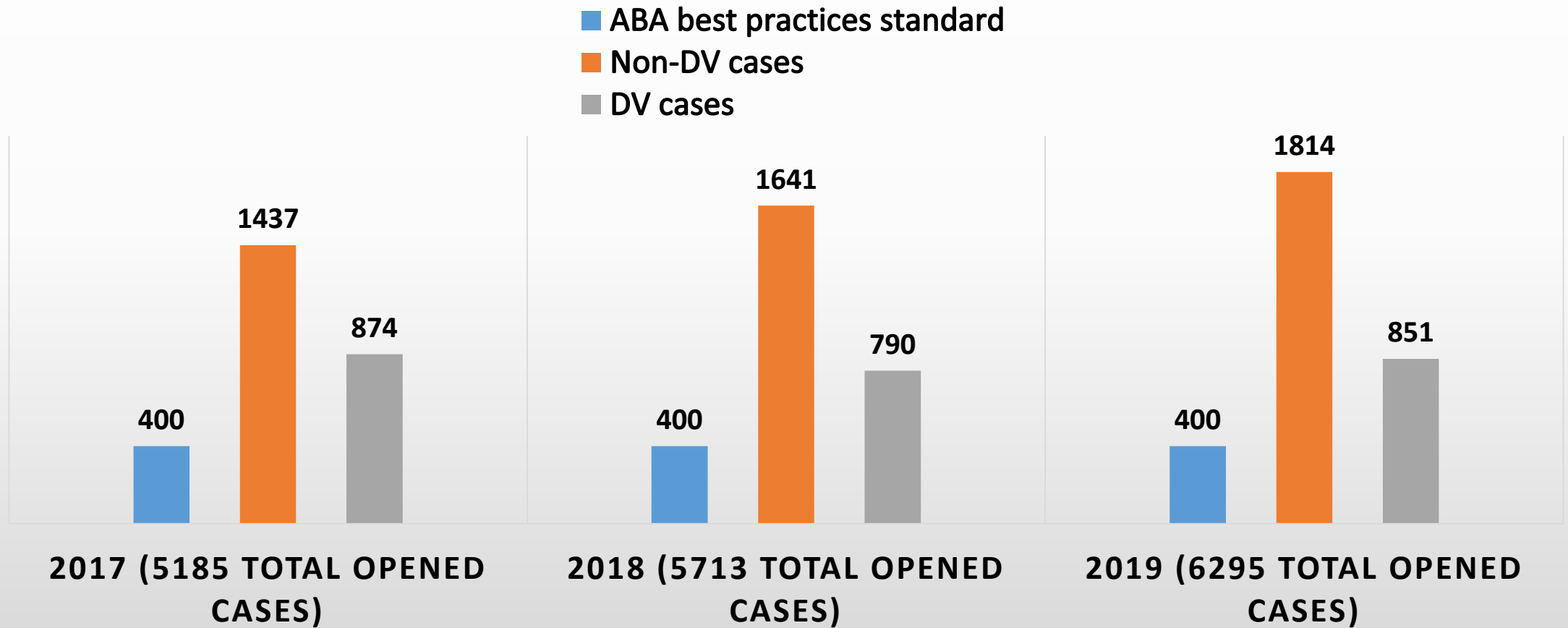
- Talk to service groups and neighborhood task forces
- Use of web and social media tools
- Build Neighborhood Assistance Programs



Prosecutor Public Safety Challenges

- Reduce Repeat Misdemeanor Offenders
- Safety in downtown business district
 - MAAP (Motivated Addiction Alternative Program)
- Prosecutor caseload is reactive to BPD: more officers = more cases:
 - Each new BPD officer produces approximately 60 new Misd. cases per year
- Warrant requests and response to crime victims/witnesses
- Need for dedicated legal staff to assist Code Enforcement
- Current Heavy Misdemeanor Caseload:

Caseload Per Prosecutor



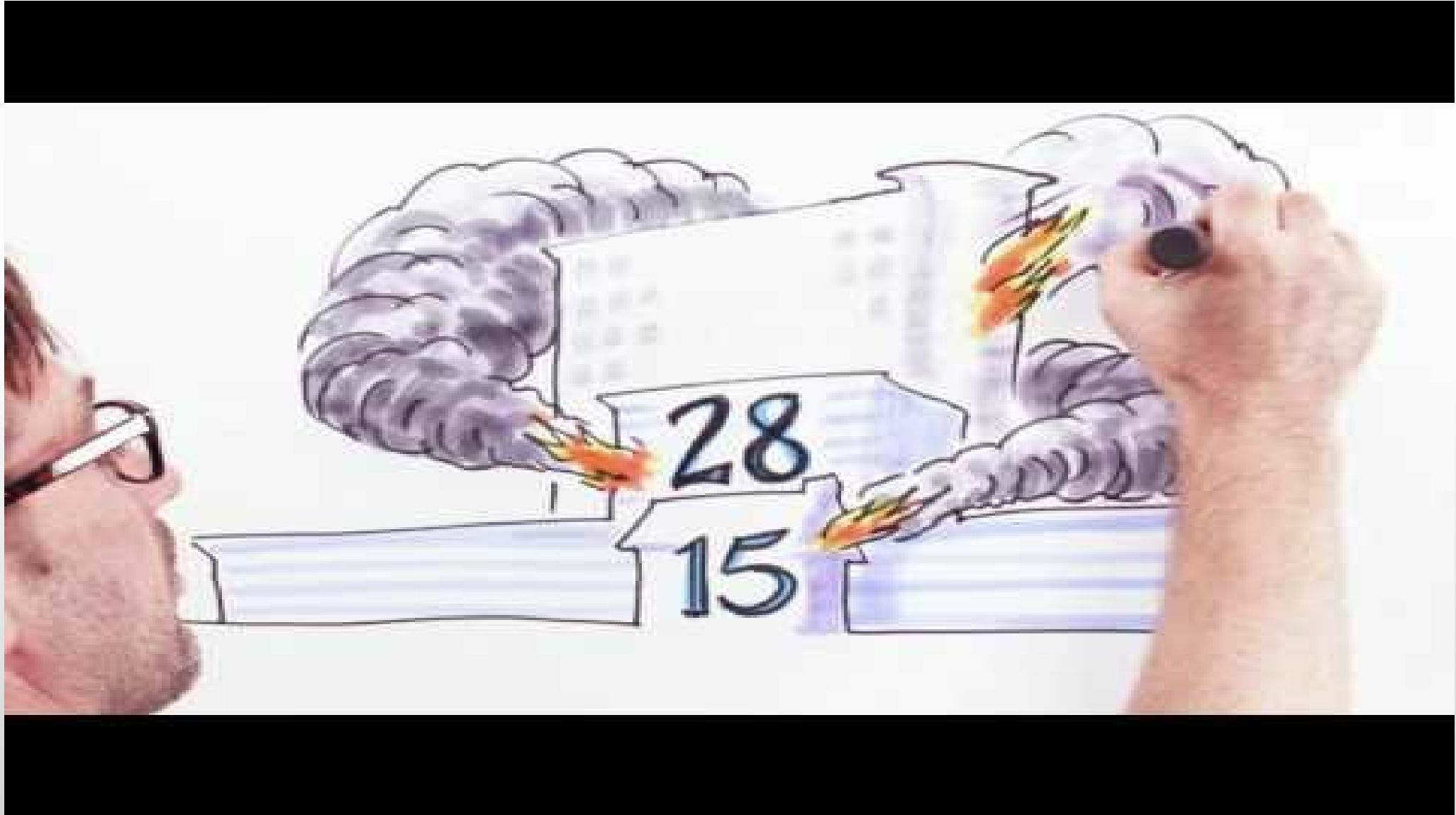
Strategies to Achieve Goals

- Identify acceptable levels of service to crime victims
- Increase staffing
 - 2 prosecutors and 2 legal assistants within three years
 - No prosecutors added since 2007 despite 53% increase in caseload since 2007
- Investigate physical space/office requirements for additional staff and to improve service to crime victims
- Expand collaboration with groups to enhance crime reduction
 - e.g. Organized Retail Crime Ass'n (ORCA), Downtown Business Improvement District (BID), Neighborhood task forces

Billings Fire Department Problem Statement

Billings Fire Department does not meet the national standard for fire stations & staffing, resulting in twice the national standard for travel time to emergencies.

Why Personnel and seconds count...

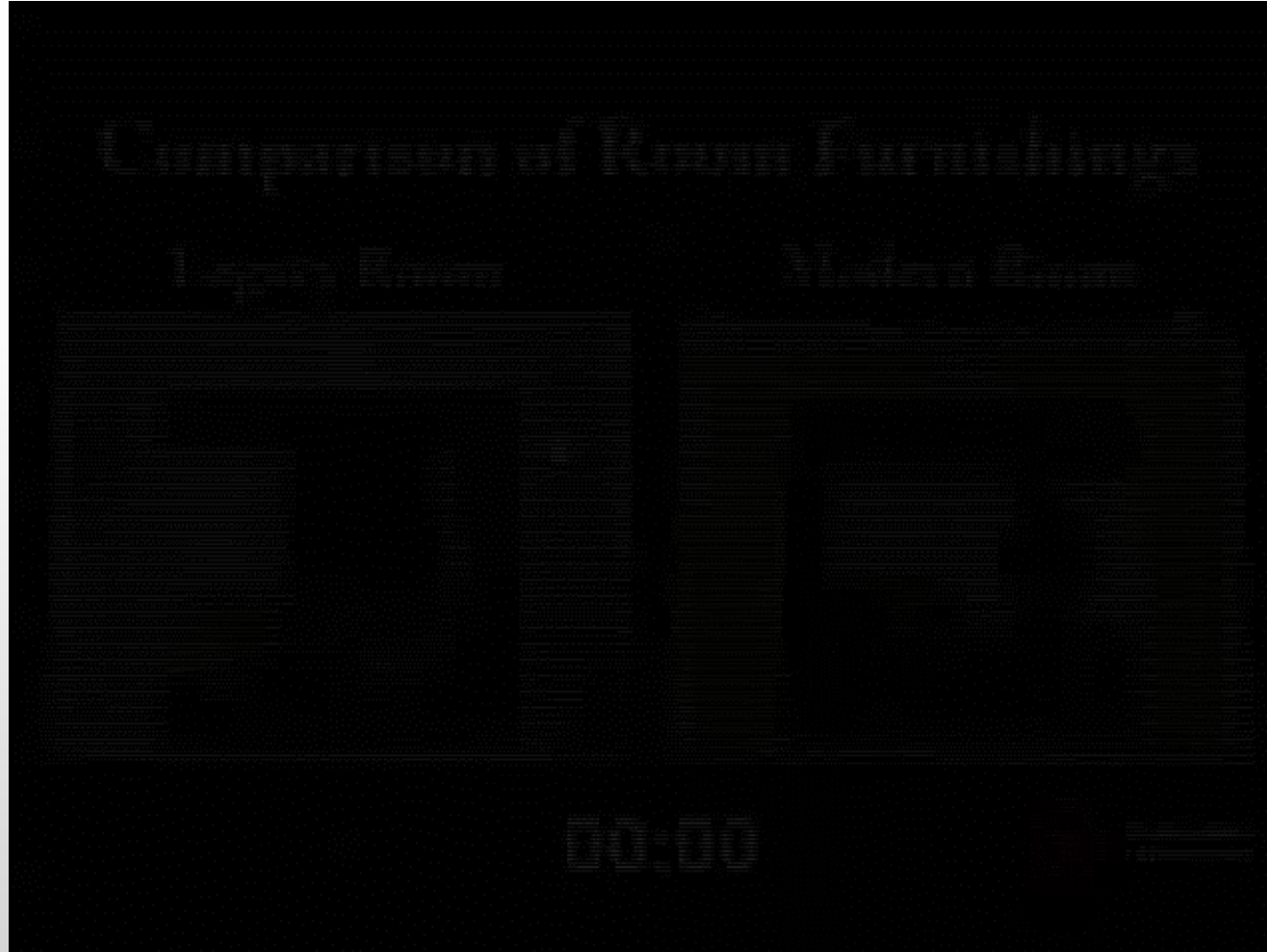


National Fire Protection Association 1710

- Document written by a committee comprised of:
 - Members of the general public
 - Members representing industry
 - Members of the fire service
- Document focuses on deployment of emergency services in a timely and efficient manner to save lives and property
- Response and travel times were compiled using results of scientific studies conducted by the National Institute of Standards and Technology and Underwriters Laboratory Fire Safety Research Institute

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

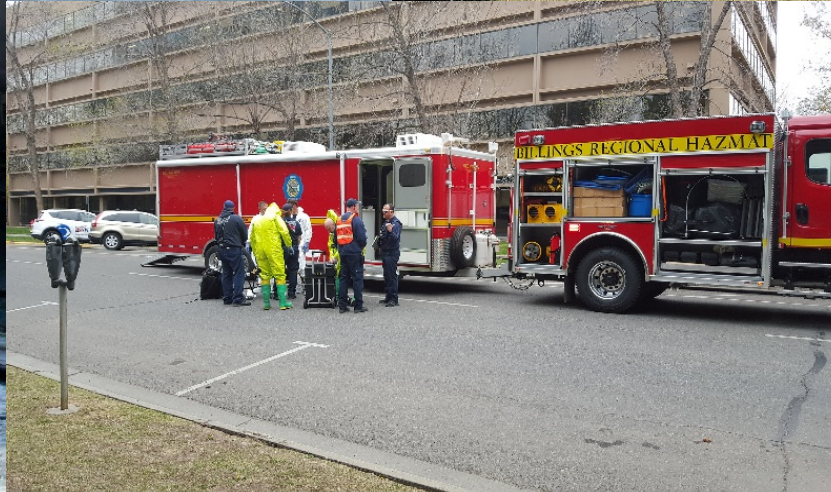
What are these studies referring to?



STRATEGY TO REDUCE LOSS OF LIFE & PROPERTY



- Reduce Dispatch Call Time Between 9-1-1 & Public Safety Resources
- Reduce Turn-Out Time for Firefighters to Leave Fire Stations



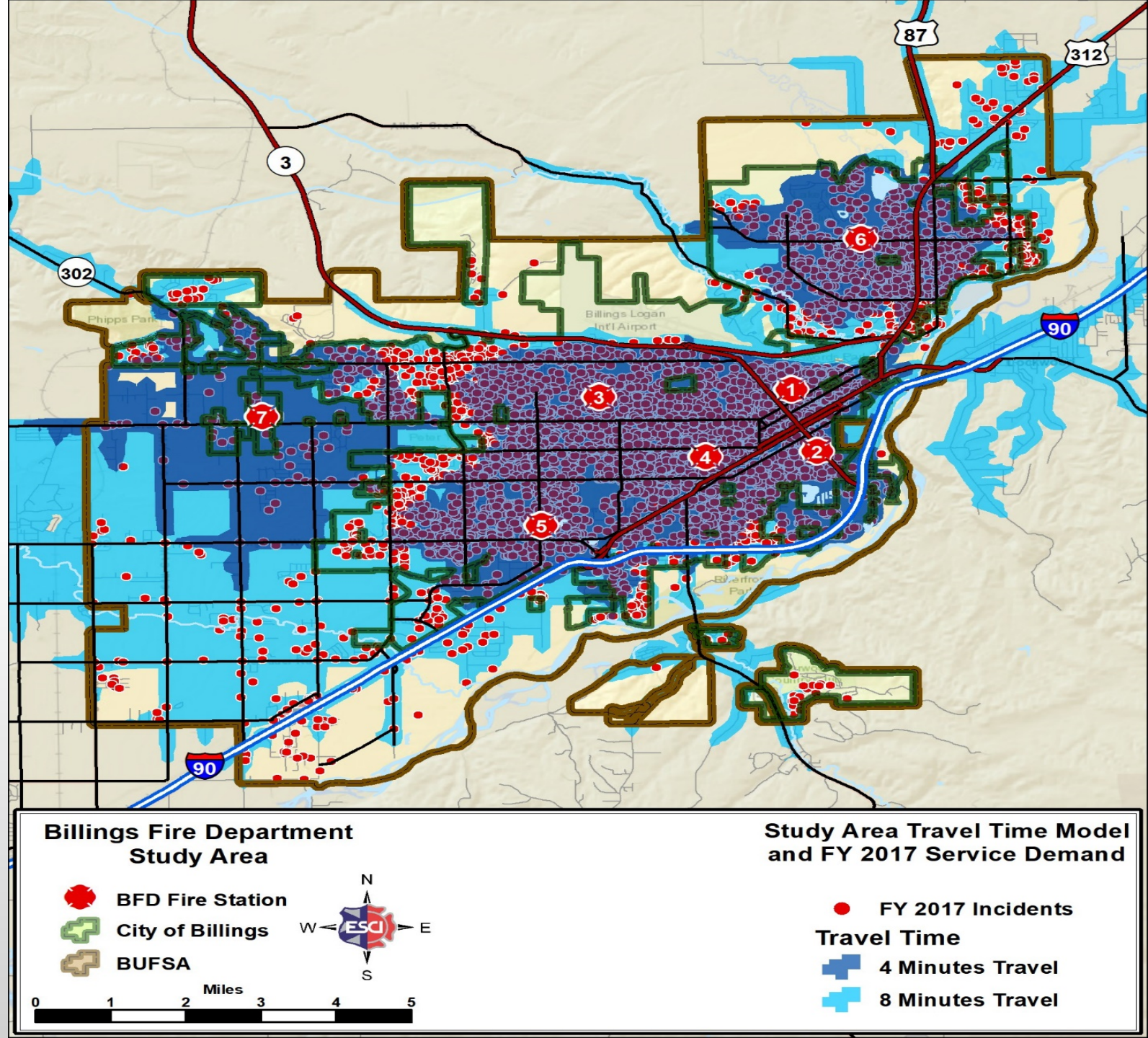
- Add Personnel to Increase efficiency for Fire-Rescue Operations
- Improve Facilities - Deferred Maintenance



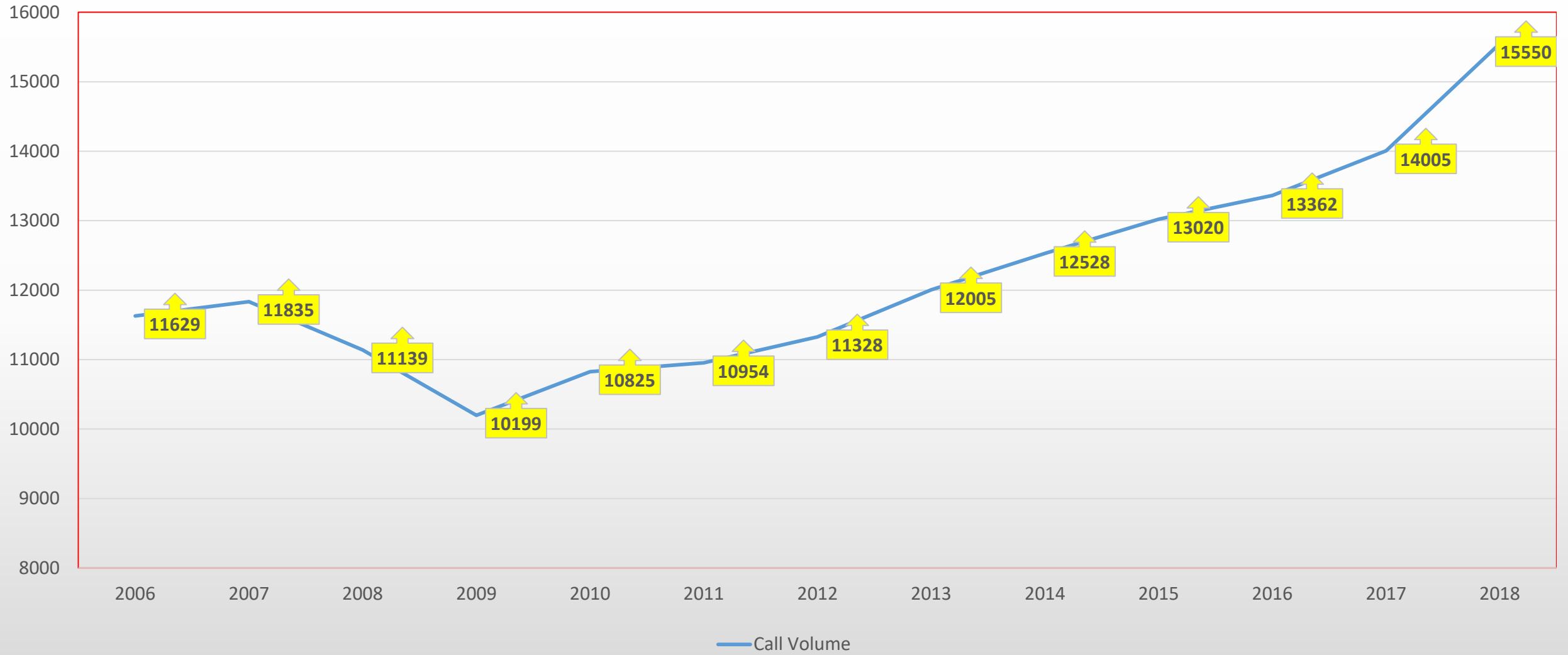
- **Add Fire Station 8 Equipment & Firefighters**
- **Reduce Response Times to Emergencies**

BFD 4 and 8 minute travel time for **SINGLE ENGINE FIRST** Alarm response.

**BFD FIRST ENGINE—1 ENGINE ARRIVING
FROM THE FIRST ALARM RESPONSE**

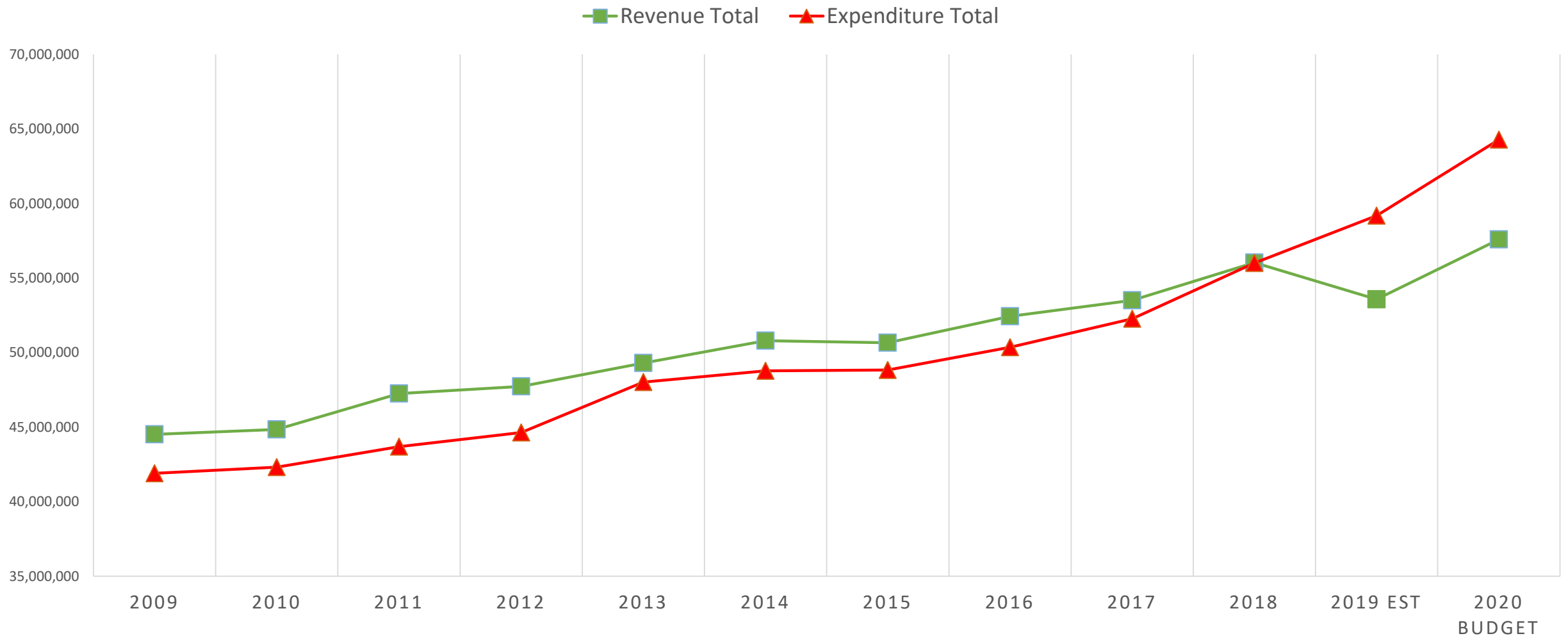


BFD Call Volume



General Fund/Public Safety Fund Structural Imbalance

General Fund & Public Safety Fund Combined



Ensure Maximum Operational Efficiency and Effectiveness – Continual Improvement Process



Revenue Increases

- Impact Fees
- Equity between City and BUFSA charges
- Increase municipal fines (current \$110)
- Create a Public Safety District
- Charges for some service
- Public Safety Mill Levy

Meeting Purpose

Briefly Describe Challenges

Share Strategies for Solutions

Receive Feedback