



# Police, Animal Control & Code Enforcement Annual Report 2017



*Washougal will be a safe, healthy and economically vibrant community that balances growth and expanding opportunity while preserving the best qualities of small-town living*

# Police, Code Enforcement & Animal Control

Working together with city residents, Council, and administration, the Police, Code Enforcement, and Animal Control Departments preserve the quality of life that we have come to know and expect in Washougal.

**25 Total Employees**

**1 Code Enforcement**

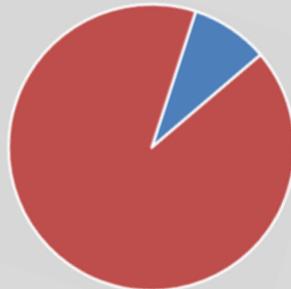
**2 Animal Control**

**2 Administrative Assistants**

**20 Law Enforcement Officers**



**8.8%** of the City's Budget is dedicated to Police, Animal Control & Code Enforcement



## Accomplishments for 2017

Drug Take Back Program

Conversion from rolled fingerprinting to digital fingerprint readers

Posted online crime mapping tool - Click [HERE](#) to view map

Launched new supervisory software

Purchased two new patrol vehicles

Reduced response times in 4 out of 5 areas



**Drug Take Back Program** In 2017 the Washougal Police Department became a member agency for the Drug Take Back Program. Subsequently, we have taken in hundreds of pounds of medicines that otherwise would have gone to the dump or been flushed down the drain, both of which impact ground water, the ecosystem, and wildlife.

**Conversion to Digital Fingerprint Readers** The new readers allow instant returns on fingerprints. Before the conversion to digital readers it could take up to four weeks to receive the results from the state. In the rolled system it was also not uncommon to have prints rejected because of a smudge, or other imperfection. If a print was rejected the department would have to repeat the entire process. The new system saves time, money, and is more accurate.

# Animal Control

The Animal Control Division serves both the City of Washougal and the City of Camas. They work each and every day to address issues of neglect, abuse, loose and vicious dogs, barking dog complaints, dog bites, and lost and found dogs. Federal and state laws do not allow animal control officers to address problems, handle, relocate or otherwise interfere with animals other than dogs.

The City partners with the West Columbia Gorge Humane Society for help in addressing the City's animal needs. The Humane Society is also your local resource for cat related needs. More information can be found [HERE](#).

## Washougal

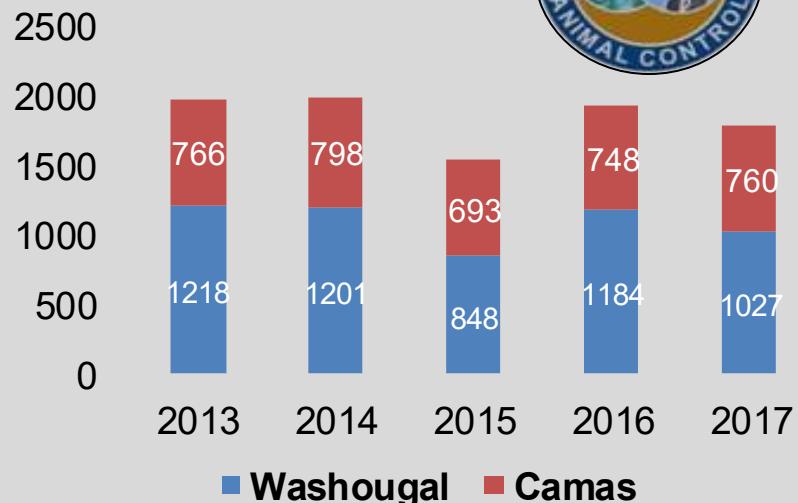


**92** Impounded

**76** Returned to Owner



## Calls for Service



# Code Enforcement

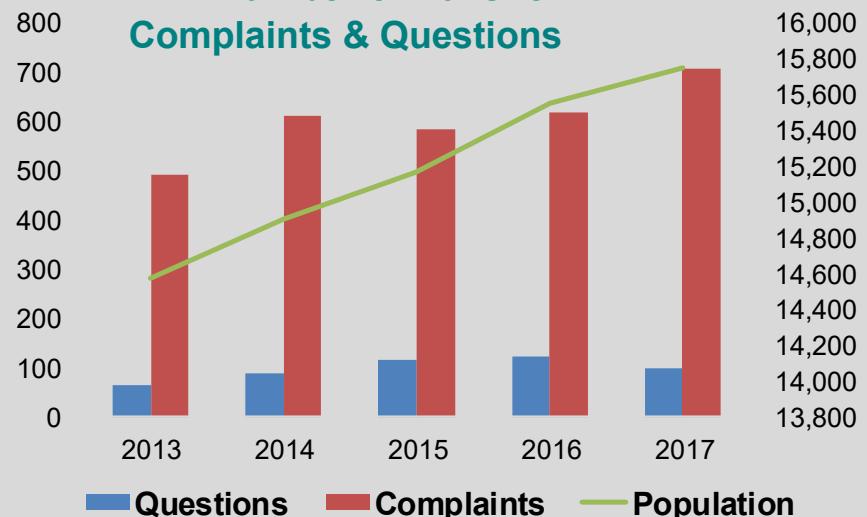
Washougal Code Enforcement receives and investigates citizen complaints on a variety of topics including property maintenance, zoning, environmental protection and public parking. Common violations include trash covered premises, junk vehicles, overgrown vegetation, zoning violations, protected area usage and encroachments, and parking complaints.

By working in concert with the community the Code Enforcement Division hopes to promote an overall sense of safety and livability, and improve the quality of life for all who call Washougal home.

**708** Calls for Complaints

**100** Calls for Questions

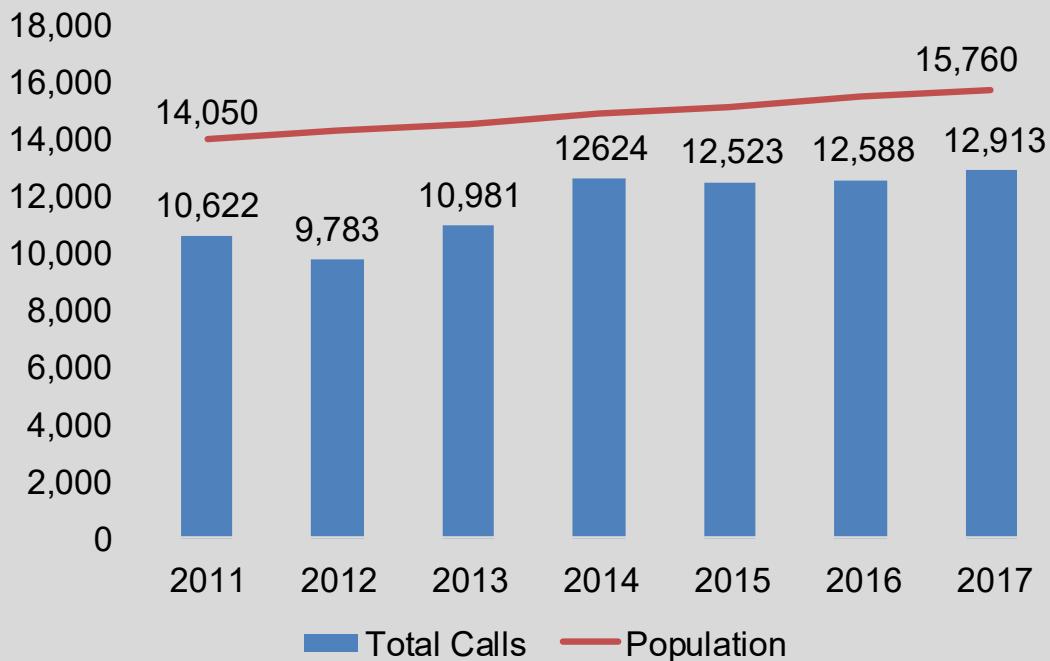
## Number of Calls for Complaints & Questions



**783** Calls Were Received in 2017 on Average Per Officer

**Police**

## Calls for Service & Population



## 14 Patrol Orientated Officers



*New Patrol vehicles.*



## Response Time

Call Priority Level	2015	2016	2017
1 e.g. Assault in Progress	5:12	2:55	3:03
2 e.g. Arson & Stolen Vehicle	4:16	4:33	2:18
3 e.g. Civil Problem & Disturbance	7:13	6:23	5:48
4 e.g. Narcotics & Liquor	8:08	12:34	4:56
5 e.g. Noise Complaint	9:44	7:38	4:15

# Police

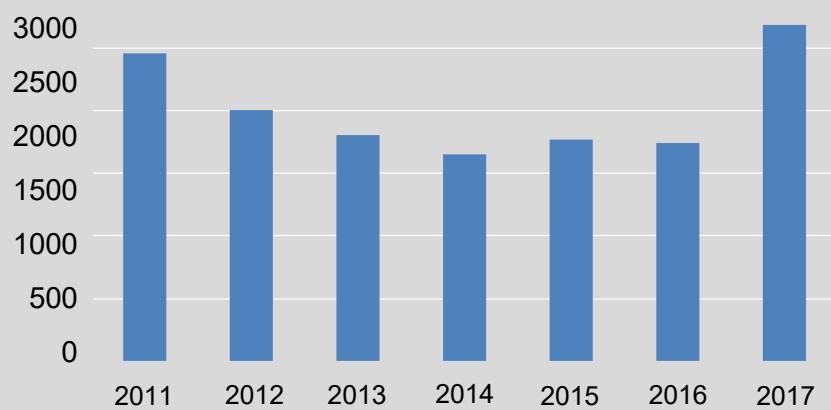
In response to vocalized complaints by many citizens, in 2017 the department prioritized traffic enforcement when department resources were available. This prioritization lead to an increase of 940 more traffic stops in 2017 than in 2016. The department is continuing its efforts into 2018 by emphasizing and raising awareness about driving under the influence.

**2,685 Traffic  
Stops**

**9.3% Increase  
in Traffic Stops  
from 2011**



## Traffic Stops



CRIME STATISTICS			
	2016	2017	% Change
<b>Assault</b>	180	102	-43%
<b>Burglary</b>	36	40	11%
<b>Drug</b>	45	98	118%
<b>Murder</b>	0	1	100%
<b>Rape</b>	7	20	186%
<b>Robbery</b>	1	3	200%
<b>Theft</b>	178	252	42%

## Community Strategic Pillars

### Communication

Provide open and accountable city government through effective communication to foster active citizen participation.

### Community engagement

Support and promote opportunities for community engagement to build a sense of community and preserve our small-town feel.

### Core services

Provide effective leadership to ensure that Washougal residents receive quality, cost-effective municipal services.

### Economic development

Build a solid economic foundation to ensure a strong, diverse and sustainable local economy.



## Goals for 2018

- Explore online police reporting for certain crimes
- Implement Safety Program
- Hire and onboard new officers



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**Molly Coston,  
Mayor**



*City of* Washougal