



# GOAL 02

## GOALS SUMMIT - PUBLIC SAFETY

The public is safe, secure, and shares responsibility for maintaining a safe environment.

### Why is this goal important?

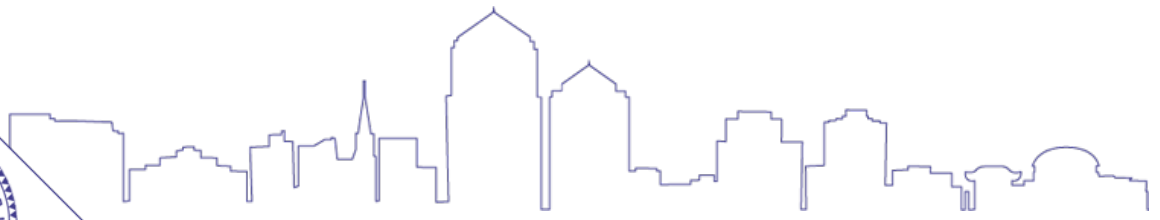
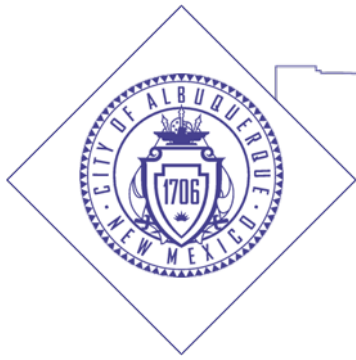
Coming together as a community is a critical piece of improving public safety. As the Albuquerque Police Department moves toward community policing and Albuquerque Fire Rescue launches preventive and public health programs, we will be building bridges to make community involvement in public safety easier and more rewarding.

# HOW IS ALBUQUERQUE DOING?



### What can we tell from the data?

Over the last few years, the Albuquerque Metro Area has been hit hard with rising criminal activity, though the trend has started to reverse in recent months. Overall crime rates in the Albuquerque metro



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area rose 26 percent between 2014 and 2016, according to the FBI UCR data. Preliminary data shows that this trend continued through most of 2017. Over the same period, crime rates in similar cities and in the U.S. as a whole declined. Violent crimes such as robbery, aggravated assault, and homicide increased in addition to property crimes, such as auto theft, burglary and larceny. Auto theft rose to a record high in 2016, before declining slightly in 2017. According to APD, a major factor leading to the high ranking in auto theft is Albuquerque's proximity to an international border. Typically, vehicles are stolen for one of three reasons, according to their website, they are used to joy ride, used to sell for parts, or driven across the border for resale.

### Recent Crime Fighting Initiatives

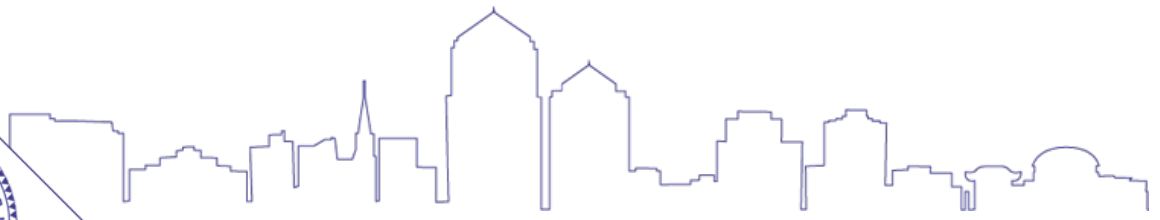
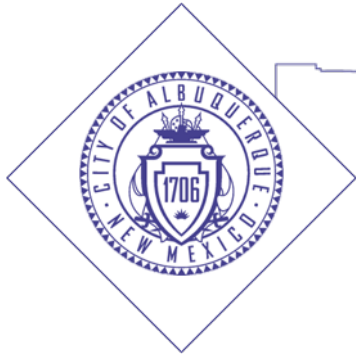
While the time period is too short to draw any definitive conclusions, crime statistics released by APD for the first quarter of 2018 show that community policing may be producing some encouraging trends. The data showed that robbery decreased by 46%, auto burglary decreased by 31% and auto theft decreased by 12%.

In a recent City press release, Mayor Keller stated, "People from all walks of life across Albuquerque have told us that public safety is their number one concern, that's why we have made fighting crime from all sides and implementing community policing our top priority." The Albuquerque Police Department has prioritized making police more visible and engaged in the community. On the enforcement side, during the first quarter of 2018, APD officers have increased traffic stops by 71%; increased DWI arrests by 14%; and increased arrests on felony warrants. In addition to enforcement activity, APD has trained its Crisis Intervention Teams, which are working with Bernalillo County deputies and highly-trained clinicians to more effectively help people in crisis and diffuse the crisis. Officers are attending community meetings, Community Policing Council meetings, and joining the community in prevention and clean-up efforts like needle pick-up. The city is also working closely with the County's Behavioral Health Initiative, the District Attorney's Office and the Second Judicial District Court on prevention and diversion programs.

### New Public Safety Budget Components

On May 23, 2018, the City of Albuquerque adopted the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget, which included a gross receipts tax increase, of which 80 percent is to be allocated on public safety. This funding will allow APD to greatly increase the number of police officers over the coming years and resources to support them. Some of the key areas funded include:

- \$3.2 million to develop the AFR Home Engagement and Alternative Response Team (HEART) program, a targeted care program for indigent and distressed populations
- \$18.2 million in behavioral health and homelessness programs
- \$15 million in affordable housing contracts



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- \$8.2 million in homeless service, transitional housing and emergency shelter contracts
- \$5.7 million in mental health and substance abuse contracts
- \$1 million in early intervention and prevention programs.

Addressing crime in the Albuquerque Metro Area is not just the job of one single entity, but is impacted by the entire criminal justice system, including preventive programming, policing, the court system, and the jail system. Additionally, we as residents of Albuquerque play a key role in keeping our community safe by becoming more aware of our surroundings and reporting suspicious activity. We can also become active in our neighborhood association, create a Neighborhood Watch group, and attend a National Night Out celebration. We must all do our part and work together to make Albuquerque safe.

### Desired Community Conditions for Public Safety (Goal 2)

The Desired Community Conditions (DCCs) for Public Safety are listed below. These are the DCCs that we will be asking you to help us review at the Goals Summit.

1. The public is safe.
2. The public feels safe.
3. Public safety agencies are trustworthy, effective, transparent, and accountable to the communities they serve.
4. The community works together for safety.
5. Domestic and wild animals are appropriately managed and cared for.
6. The community is prepared to respond to emergencies.

For more detail, see: <http://abqprogressreport.sks.com/files/2016-Albuquerque-Progress-Report.pdf>