

Highlights

Why We Did This Audit

On March 24, 2022, the City Council passed [Ordinance 220216](#) creating the Community Policing and Prevention Fund. The ordinance also directs the City Auditor to schedule and conduct quarterly audits of the Board of Police Commissioners efforts to meet the city’s expectations as outlined in the ordinance and report to the Council as soon as practical after the end of each fiscal quarter.

Objective

Did the Police Department spend the Community Policing and Prevention Fund as expected by the City Council during the fourth quarter?

Background

The ordinance establishes the city’s expectations regarding the Police Department’s expenditure of \$33.36 million in the 12 categories during fiscal year 2023. (See Exhibit 2.)

[Click here to view the full report.](#)

PERFORMANCE AUDIT – September 21, 2023

FY 2023 Fourth Quarter: Police Spending from the Community Policing and Prevention Fund

What We Found

The Police Department reported spending the final \$9.6 million of the funds appropriated to the Community Policing and Prevention Fund (CPPF). During fiscal year 2023, the department spent all \$33.36 million appropriated to the CPPF and allocated the expenditures to eligible spending categories throughout the fiscal year. However, approximately \$5 million not spent in seven CPPF categories was transferred to cover expenditures greater than originally appropriated in four other CPPF categories. (See Exhibit 1.) Total spending by categories is shown in Exhibit 2.

For the fourth quarter, we verified whether officers or staff were correctly reported for the number of new officers (a), Crisis Intervention Team (e), and publicly available data reporting enhancements (k). Additionally, we assessed the reported demographics for new and lateral recruits hired by the department from February 2022 through April 2023.

As part of our work for this audit, we reviewed department budget practices and found that department budgets adopted by the Police Board in fiscal years 2023 and 2024 did not plan for appropriations less than requested and included placeholders for the known revenue shortfalls. The department addresses these revenue shortfalls through budget transfers which can create some confusion and may not be clear or transparent to decision makers, the City Council, and the public.

Exhibit 1: Police Department Spending within the CPPF Differing from Council Ordinance

Categories Not Fully Expended	Amount	Categories Spent Beyond Allocation	Amount
(a) Hiring officers focus on diversity recruitment	\$1,470,127	(e) Full-time CIT Officers	\$17,040
(b) Salary increases	\$687,000	(g) Violent Crimes Division	\$4,683,884
(c) Dedicated patrol and community outreach	\$1,137,866	(i) Police Crime Laboratory	\$262,134
(d) Community Action Network (CAN)	\$137,368	(j) Dedicated SRO	\$120,715
(f) 9-1-1 Call Takers/ Communications Unit	\$1,516,962		
(k) Enhanced publicly available data reporting	\$85,775		
(l) Enhanced cell phone software and support	\$48,695		

\$5.08 million

What We Recommend

We make one recommendation for the Chief of Police to submit an amended budget to the Board of Police Commissioners that identifies planned line-item spending based on the funds appropriated to the Police Department from the City Council’s adopted budget. The Chief of Police agreed in part with the recommendation.



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Office of the City Auditor

Douglas Jones, CGAP, CIA, CRMA – City Auditor
21st Floor, City Hall, 414 E. 12th St.
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

816-513-3300

cityauditor@kcmo.org

[@KCMOCityAuditor](https://twitter.com/KCMOCityAuditor)

KCMO.GOV/CITYAUDITOR

Exhibit 2: CPPF FY 2022-23 Expenditures Compared to Appropriation, by Category

Spend Category	Council Appropriation	1st Qtr Expenses	2nd Qtr Expenses	3rd Qtr Expenses	4th Qtr Expenses	Total Spent	Percent Spent
(a) Hiring of officers with a focus on diversity recruitment	\$4,000,000	\$349,310	\$383,936	\$967,587	\$829,040	\$2,529,873	63%
(b) Salary increases	5,152,653	805,328	993,643	1,357,735	1,308,947	4,465,653	87%
(c) Dedicated patrol and community outreach staff	4,278,763	771,505	684,623	763,534	921,235	3,140,897	73%
(d) Establishment of Community Action Network (CAN) Centers in East Patrol & Metro Patrol	400,000	\$48,861	65,617	80,940	67,214	262,632	66%
(e) Full-time dedicated Crisis Intervention (CIT) officers	550,228	142,749	125,361	171,186	127,971	567,268	103%
(f) 9-1-1 Call Takers and Communications Unit operations	6,570,400	1,232,948	1,153,538	1,462,175	1,204,777	5,053,438	77%
(g) Violent Crimes Division victim and witness support services	7,000,000	3,099,494	2,647,237	1,253,269	4,683,884	11,683,884	167%
(h) Special Operations Division and Traffic	2,588,875	2,588,875	0	0	0	2,588,875	100%
(i) Police Crime Laboratory	2,000,000	1,113,598	886,402	0	262,134	2,262,134	113%
(j) Dedicated School Resource Officers (SRO) for Public Schools in Kansas City	320,000	124,122	89,733	104,408	122,452	440,715	138%
(k) Enhanced publicly available data reporting	200,000	14,526	30,968	36,600	32,132	114,225	57%
(l) Enhanced cell phone analytical software and support	300,000	205,430	18,210	16,670	10,995	251,305	84%
Total	\$33,360,919	\$10,496,748	\$7,079,268	\$6,214,104	\$9,570,780	\$33,360,900	100%

Sources: KCPD Fiscal Division and City Auditor's Office Analysis.



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