

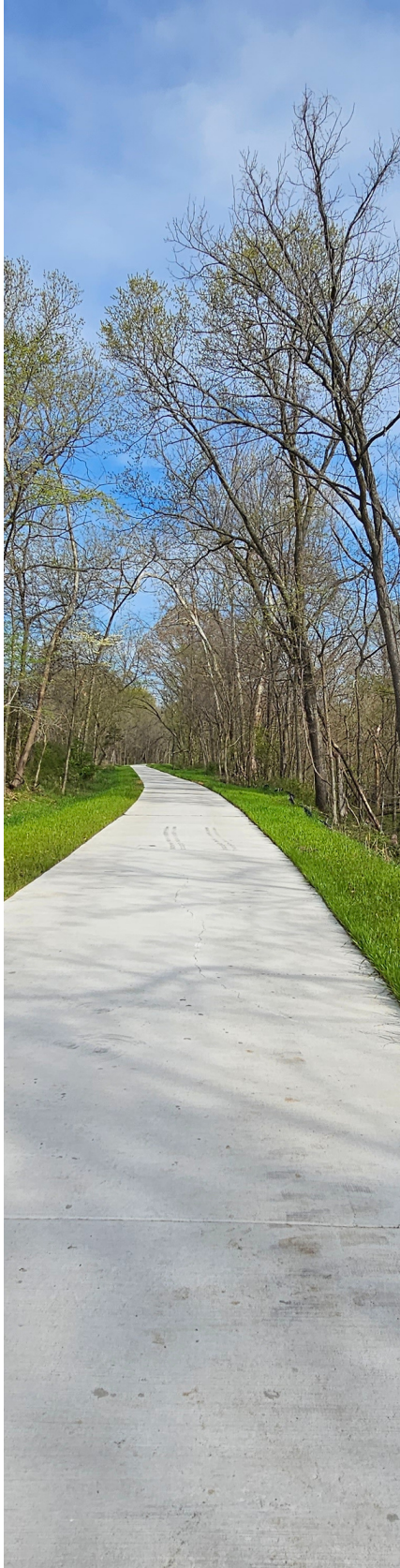
2023 ANNUAL REPORT

City of Ozark



205 N. 1ST ST. | Ozarkmissouri.com | 417-581-2407

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MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN

The City of Ozark is divided into three (3) wards, each of which is represented by two (2) aldermen. The Mayor presides over the aldermen and is elected city-wide. The Mayor and Aldermen are elected by the residents of a district every two (2) years. The Board of Aldermen meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at 7 p.m. The public is welcome to attend these meetings both in person and virtually.

WARD ONE (1)



**RJ
FLORES**



**DAVID
SNIDER**



MAYOR OF OZARK DON CURRENCE

Don Currence was elected Mayor of the City of Ozark in April 2023.

WARD TWO (2)



**BRUCE
GALLOWAY**



**JEAN ANN
HUTCHINSON**

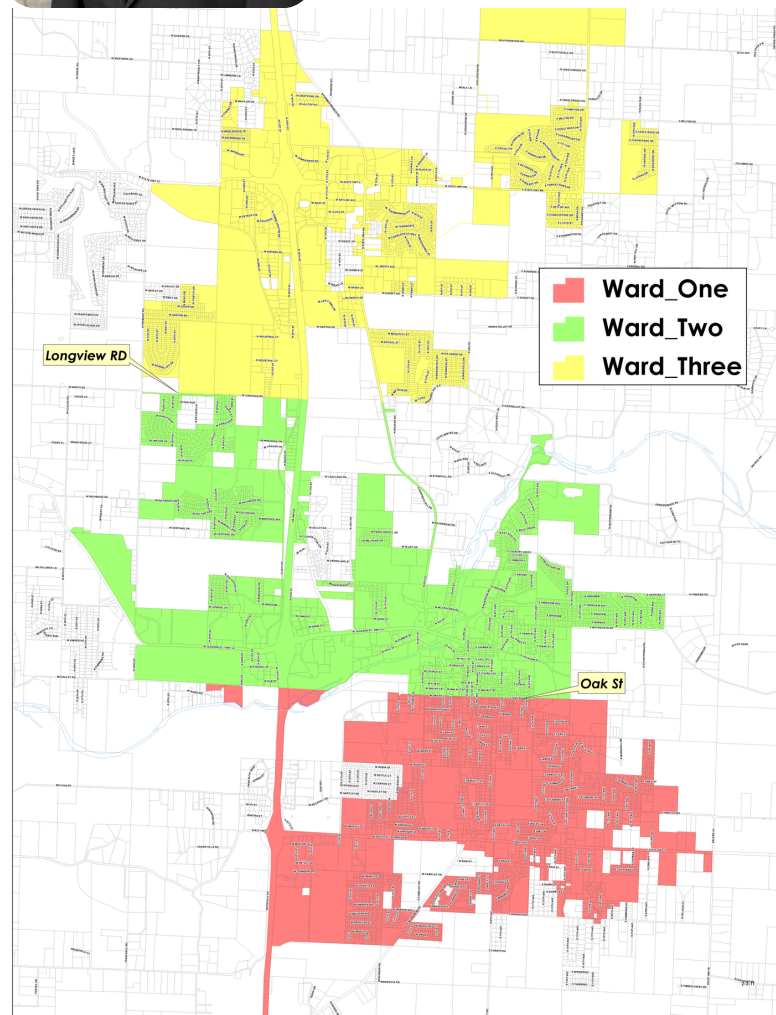
WARD THREE (3)



**HEATHER
ALDER**

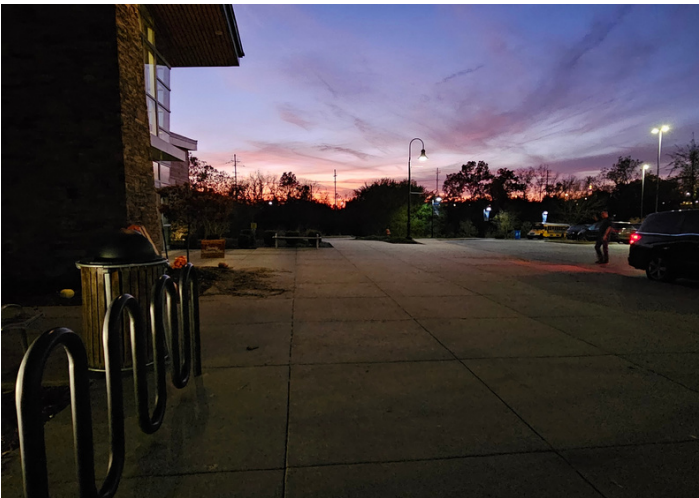


**DREW
OWEN**



CITY ADMINISTRATION

The City of Ozark's day to day operations are managed by a City Administrator, who oversees operations of all city departments and reports to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen. Ozark's Administration is committed to providing high-quality services and programs that meet the needs of its residents, businesses, and visitors. Focusing on innovation, transparency, and collaboration, the city administration works tirelessly to enhance the quality of life for all who call Ozark home.



MISSION STATEMENT

The City of Ozark shall facilitate community pride by implementing strategies that improve the lives of our citizens and those doing business in Ozark while providing well-planned, safe, and sustainable neighborhoods and recognizing the value of protecting our cultural, historical, and natural resources.

“AT CITY HALL, WE ARE VERY PROUD OF OUR COMMUNITY AND STRIVE TO PROVIDE SUPERIOR CUSTOMER SERVICE. QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES SHAPE OUR GOALS AND POLICY INITIATIVES AS WE LOOK TO CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVE OUR CITY AND COMMUNITY.”

VISION STATEMENT

The City of Ozark shall progress toward a sustainable future for ourselves and generations yet to come. We shall proactively cultivate our strong educational, economic, and natural resource opportunities. City government cannot provide all the solutions and is only one of many partners; including the business community, educational providers, neighborhood groups, civic/non-profit organizations, and other governmental entities, that must work together to realize our vision.



FINANCE DEPARTMENT

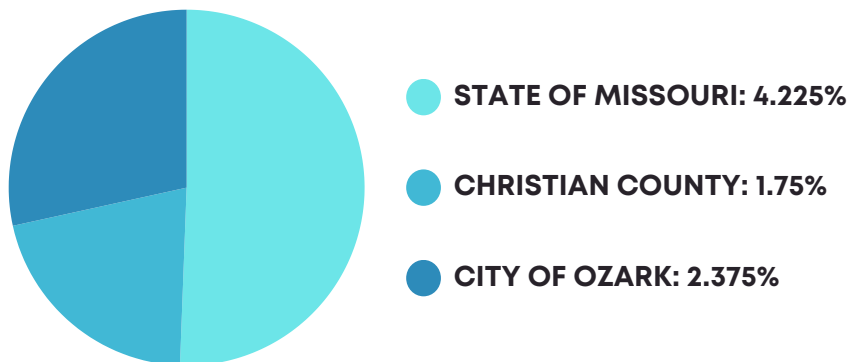
The city budget is prepared by the Finance Department in consultations with the City Administrator and approved by the Board of Aldermen. The city budget aims to evaluate and direct city departments, helping them make successful decisions in resource allocation, program evaluations, financial management, and long-range planning.

YOUR PROPERTY TAX BREAK DOWN:

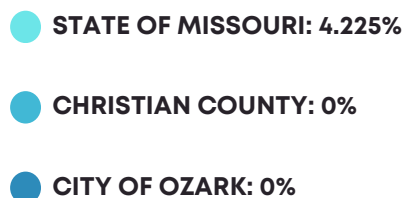


YOUR SALES TAX PERCENT IN OZARK IS: 8.35%

WHAT PERCENTAGE OF YOUR IN-PERSON SALES TAX GOES TO THE CITY OF OZARK?



WHAT PERCENTAGE OF YOUR ONLINE SALES TAX GOES TO THE CITY OF OZARK?



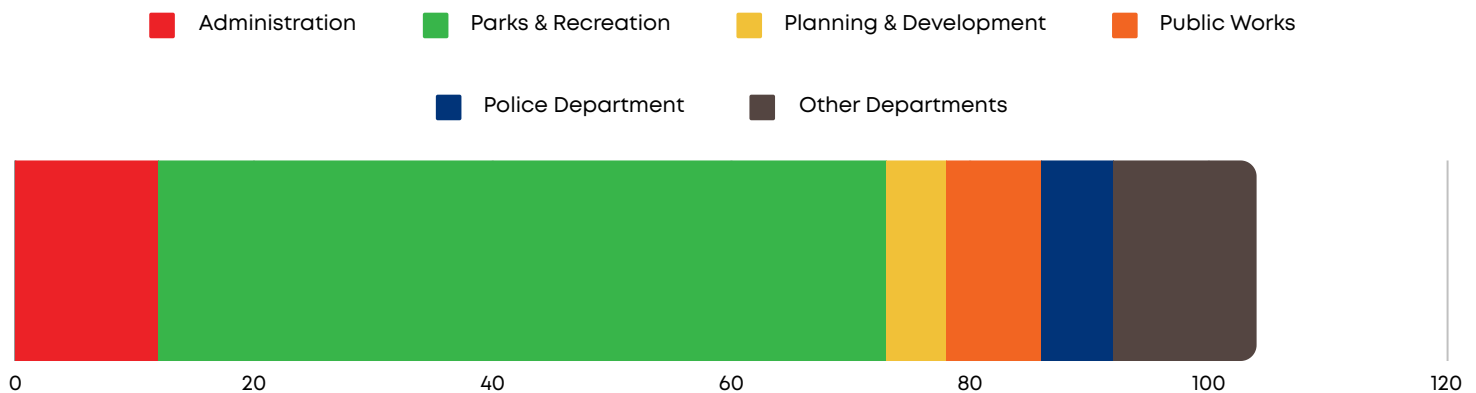
COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

The Communications Department for the city of Ozark serves as the primary liaison between the municipal government and the community, ensuring effective and transparent communication. Their duties include managing public relations, disseminating crucial information through multiple channels such as social media, press releases, and newsletters, and coordinating outreach efforts to engage residents in civic activities and initiatives. Additionally, they oversee the city's website and digital platforms to provide up-to-date information on services, events, and policies. Through their efforts, the Communications Department plays a vital role in fostering community engagement, promoting transparency, and enhancing the overall quality of life for residents in Ozark.

IN 2023 THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT COMPLETED 104 COMMUNICATIONS REQUESTS.

In mid-2023, the Communications Department implemented a new scheduling and organization application for streamlined request submissions. This innovative tool will allow city departments to submit their communication requests efficiently and effectively.

BREAKDOWN OF REQUESTS:



135 FACEBOOK POSTS FOR THE PD

226 FACEBOOK POSTS & EVENTS FOR PARKS AND RECREATION

187 FACEBOOK POSTS FOR THE CITY OF OZARK

**APPROXIMATELY 600 DIFFERENT DOCUMENTS AND GRAPHICS
WERE CREATED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.**

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

The Law Department assists the Mayor, Board of Aldermen, City Administrator, and all City Departments with municipal law matters. The City Attorney works on a daily basis as the attorney for the City.

WHAT DOES THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE DO FOR THE CITY OF OZARK?

- Provides legal services and advice pertaining to city business and issues
- Negotiates and drafts contracts
- Prepares legal documents such as ordinances, resolutions, and deeds
- Represents the city in all legal matters
- Performs legal research and legal analysis and provides legal advice to City officials and staff



The municipal legal practice covers a wide selection of legal issues, including constitutional law, land use law, contract law, human resources/personnel law, and more.

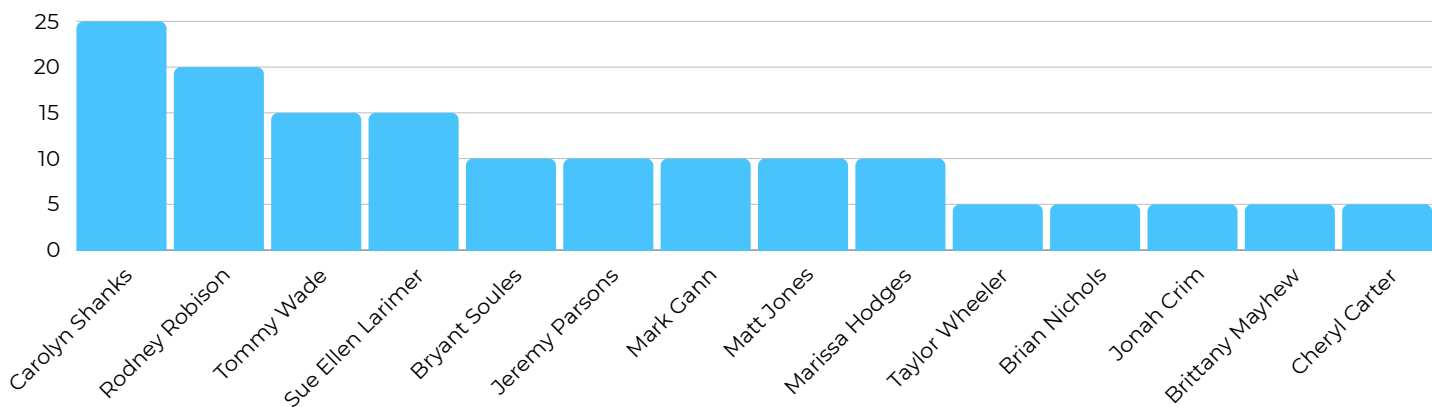
The Law Department also represents the City in prosecuting violations of City ordinances. The City Attorney and Assistant City Attorney serve as Prosecutors for the city. The Ozark Municipal Court is held in Christian County Associate Circuit Court.

The Law Department serves in a supportive capacity to all departments and elected officials and strives to use that role to make Ozark better every day!

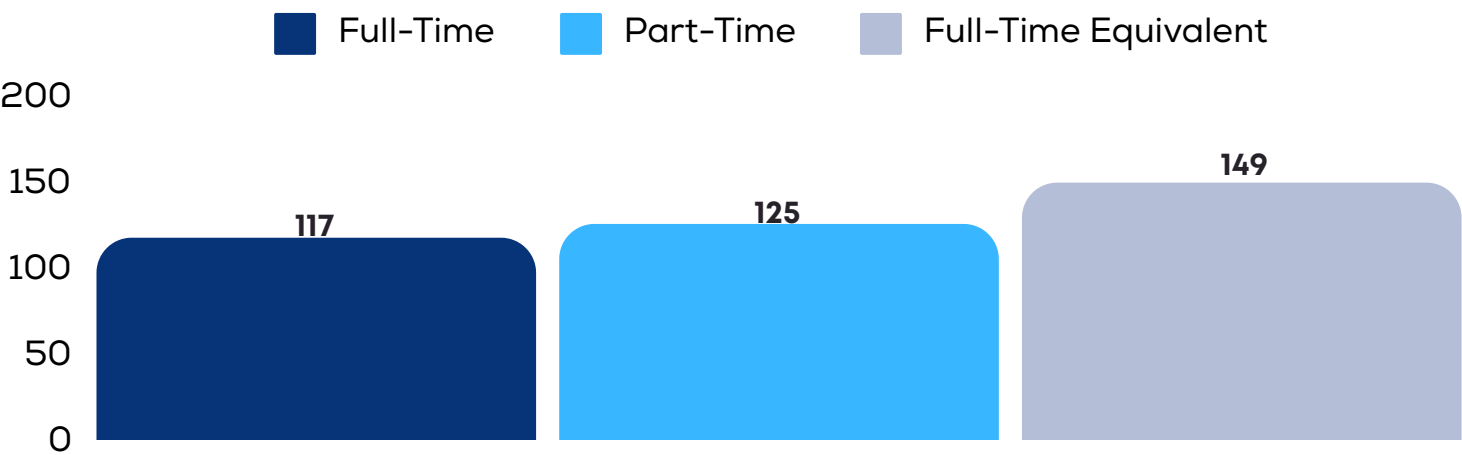
HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources Department (HR) at the City of Ozark is responsible for managing and supporting the city's workforce. Its main goal is to attract and retain qualified employees who can contribute to the success of the city's operations. The HR department handles various tasks, such as recruitment, benefits administration, training and development, performance management, and employee relations.

EMPLOYEE TENURE



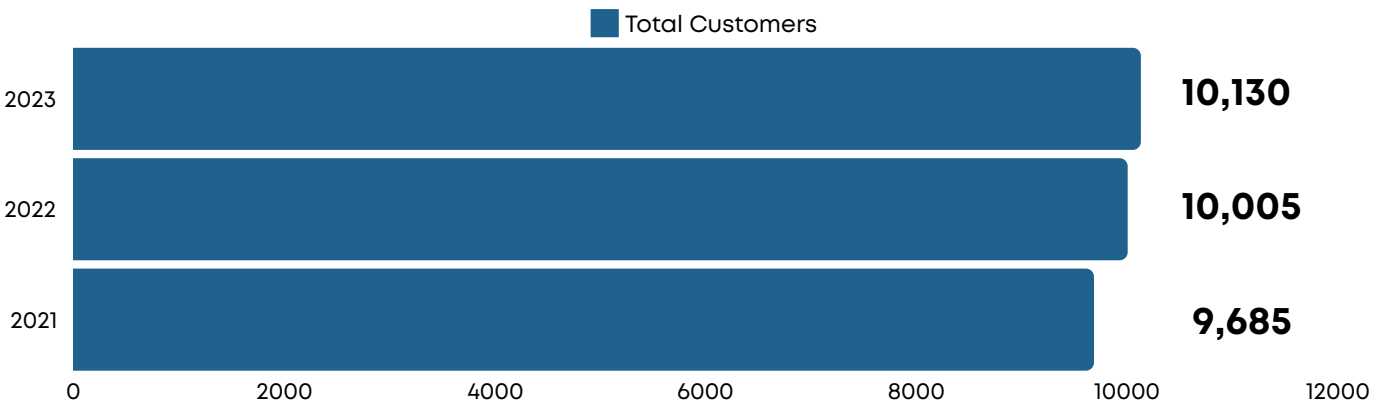
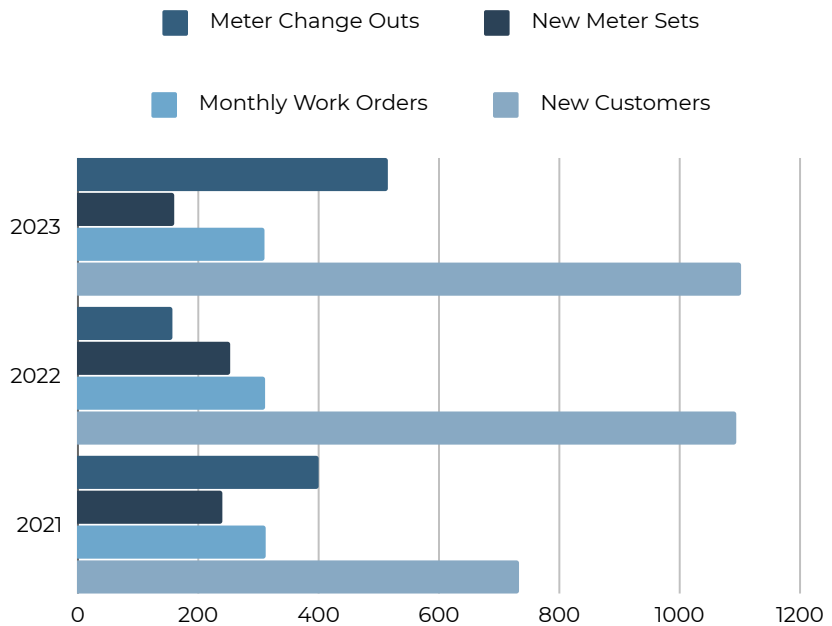
Throughout 2023, the HR Department experienced significant transformations. Amidst these changes, the department successfully onboarded 18 full-time employees and issued 428 W-2 forms. This represents the total number of full-time and part-time employees the City compensated in 2023. Please see the table below for a breakdown of total employees.



WATER UTILITY BILLING DIVISION



The Utility Billing Department for the City of Ozark is responsible for managing and processing utility bills for residents and businesses in the city. Its main goal is to ensure accurate billing and timely collection of payments for water, sewer, and trash services. The department handles a variety of tasks, such as setting up new accounts, processing payments, issuing bills, and addressing customer inquiries and concerns.

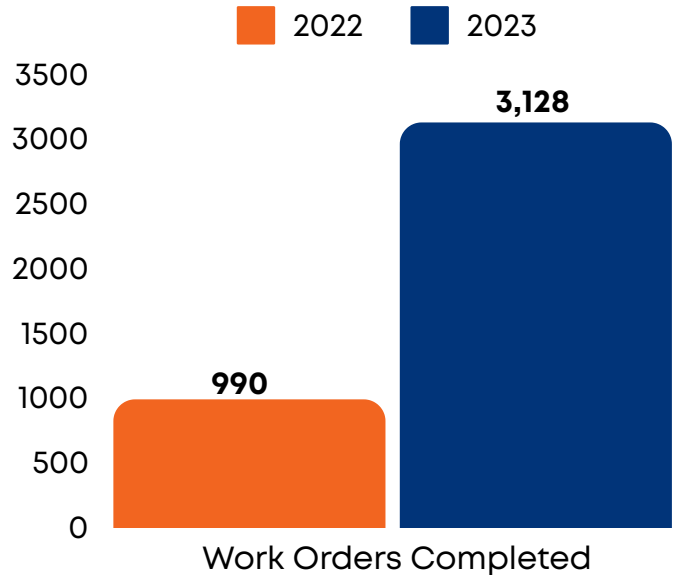




PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

This dedicated team oversees the upkeep of the vast infrastructure that makes up the City of Ozark, including 150 miles of sanitary sewer mains, 3,578 sewer manholes, 196 miles of streets, 40 miles of storm sewer pipes and culverts, and 34 buildings and facilities.

They are responsible for the success of the city's waste management, infrastructure safety, and transportation of our citizens. The department and the employees ensure compliance with various regulatory agencies such as the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), etc.



OUR GOAL IS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THE CITIZENS OF OZARK BY MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING THE CITY'S STORMWATER, STREETS, SANITARY SEWER, WATER SYSTEMS, AND PEDESTRIAN PATHWAYS.

2023 COMPLETED PROJECTS

- ✓ McCracken Road Project
- ✓ Oak Street Project
- ✓ Boat Street Project
- ✓ Georgia Street Project
- ✓ Phase One Inis Trail

2023 GRANTS AWARDED

- ✓ Chadwick Flyer Phase V
- ✓ Chadwick Flyer Spur
- ✓ Finley River Trail Extension
- ✓ Chadwick Flyer Phase 2
- ✓ Downtown Pedestrian Phase 4

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) & ADMINISTRATION

In the past year, the City of Ozark Public Works has made significant strides in modernizing our operations. We successfully transitioned to a new access management software to enhance our ability to manage resources and services efficiently. Additionally, we revamped and simplified our purchase order process, promoting greater transparency and accountability in financial transactions.

Furthermore, we diligently gathered GPS data for 7,000 water meters better utilizing our GIS Software, improving our ability to monitor and maintain our water infrastructure. Moreover, we collected grid coordinates to update the City of Ozark Mapping System, ensuring accurate and up-to-date geographical information for better city planning and service delivery. These initiatives demonstrate our commitment to innovation and excellence in serving the community.

SEWER & WASTE WATER DIVISION

We completed various upgrades and maintenance tasks within our wastewater infrastructure in 2023, enhancing efficiency and security. This included installing SCADA security panels at lift stations and the Elk Valley Wastewater Plant and a new fine screen at the North Plant. Additionally, we installed permanent flow meters at our four largest lift stations and performed Cast-In-Place-Piping (CIPP) for 5,068 feet of sewer main. To ensure comprehensive maintenance, we recorded CCTV footage of over 34,353 feet of sewer main and repaired service lateral connections for 89 homes.

STREET MAINTENANCE

Over the past year, our infrastructure maintenance and management efforts have been substantial. We conducted street sweeping across an impressive span of 2,000 miles while also addressing road integrity by crack sealing 9.3 miles of roadway. To enhance our winter services, we introduced a new snow removal policy. Additionally, we efficiently processed and fulfilled 3,128 work orders, ensuring the timely and effective execution of tasks.

WATER DIVISION

In 2023, the Public Works department achieved significant milestones aimed at enhancing water infrastructure and service reliability. We diligently cleaned the interiors and exteriors of water towers, ensuring optimal water quality and system integrity. Introducing a modernization initiative, we commenced the installation of wirelessly connected "I-hydrants," a step towards advanced hydrant management.

Moreover, our strategic infrastructure improvements included the implementation of water main looping at critical locations such as Hall Street near Riverview Residential Place, Walmart to Oak Hill, and Mullberry to Town and Country near B&B Theaters, effectively reducing the likelihood of outages and ensuring continued service reliability for our community.

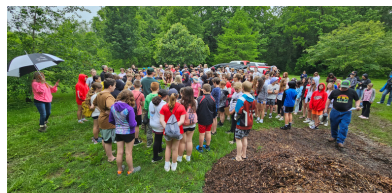
2023 COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Throughout the year, Ozark has actively engaged in community initiatives to enhance the local environment and foster a sense of civic pride. Collaborating with the James River Basin Partnership, we organized a successful clean-up event along the Finley River, effectively removing trash and debris to preserve the natural beauty of the waterway. Additionally, our partnership with Ozark Public Schools included the Adopt-A-Class program and a street sweeper art contest, promoting environmental awareness among students. Furthermore, we provided crucial support for various special events such as the Duck Race, Craft Fair, Concerts, and Rodeos, enriching community life. Collaborating with the Historic River District and Christian County Master Gardeners, we played a pivotal role in establishing planters at the Innovations Center, contributing to the beautification of our city. Moreover, our efforts extended to staging enchanting Christmas lights in Finley River Park, spreading festive cheer and bringing joy to residents and visitors alike.



AWARDED 2023 TREE CITY USA

For the 16th consecutive year, The City of Ozark proudly upholds its dedication to environmental stewardship by being honored once again as a Tree City USA. This esteemed accolade underscores the city's ongoing commitment to conservation and sustainability practices. Beyond the aesthetic charm, being recognized as a Tree City USA emphasizes Ozark's proactive efforts in nurturing a greener, healthier environment. Residents within Tree City USA communities enjoy tangible advantages, including cleaner air and an improved quality of life. Ozark's continued designation as a Tree City USA symbolizes its steadfast commitment to fostering a vibrant ecosystem for present and future generations alike.



NATURAL DISASTER DECLARATION 2023

In the aftermath of severe weather events, their swift action ensures the safe collection and disposal of debris, providing a crucial service to residents. Remarkably, the team successfully collected and disposed of an astounding 8,000 cubic yards of debris, showcasing their efficiency and commitment to keeping Ozark clean and safe.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



The Planning & Development Department of the City of Ozark is responsible for ensuring that land use and development within the city are consistent with the city's zoning and development regulations. Its main goal is to promote responsible and sustainable growth and development within Ozark. The department handles a variety of tasks, such as reviewing development proposals, issuing permits, conducting zoning and land use studies, and providing guidance to property owners and developers on land use and development regulations.



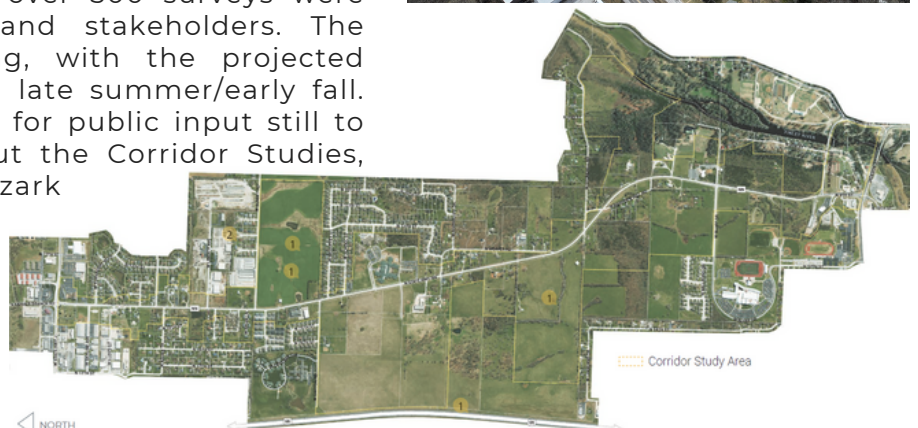
ONWARD OZARK: PLANNING OUR CORRIDORS

In 2023, the City of Ozark, in conjunction with Olsson Studios, started the process of creating a corridor plan for three of the major commercial corridors in Ozark. This plan will encompass the right-of-way of the following roads as well as the adjacent parcels.

- **North State Highway NN Corridor:** (starts as S. 9th Street) extends from the 3rd Street/Highway 14 intersection to the West State Highway J intersection.
- **South 3rd Street Corridor:** extends from the South Street intersection to the N. 9th Street intersection.
- **South Street Corridor:** extends from the Highway 65 intersection to the Highway W intersection.

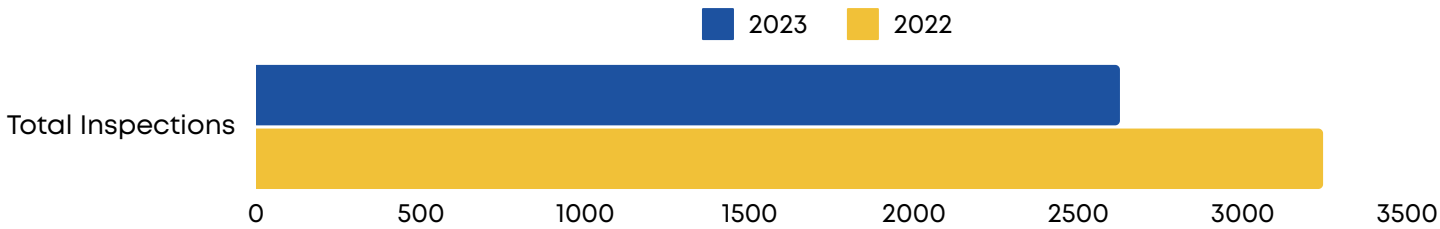
The corridor plan will guide future growth and development, aesthetics and character, and services located along three corridors in Ozark. During this process, the consultants and staff will take a holistic look at the different types of transportation, the land uses of the nearby parcels, infrastructure, and demographic and market trends for the area.

Another large component of the planning process is to collect community input about what they want for the future of these corridors. A community survey was conducted in October 2023, and over 500 surveys were submitted by Ozark residents and stakeholders. The planning process is still ongoing, with the projected adoption of the plan occurring in late summer/early fall. There are additional opportunities for public input still to come. For more information about the Corridor Studies, please visit: myozark.info/OnwardOzark



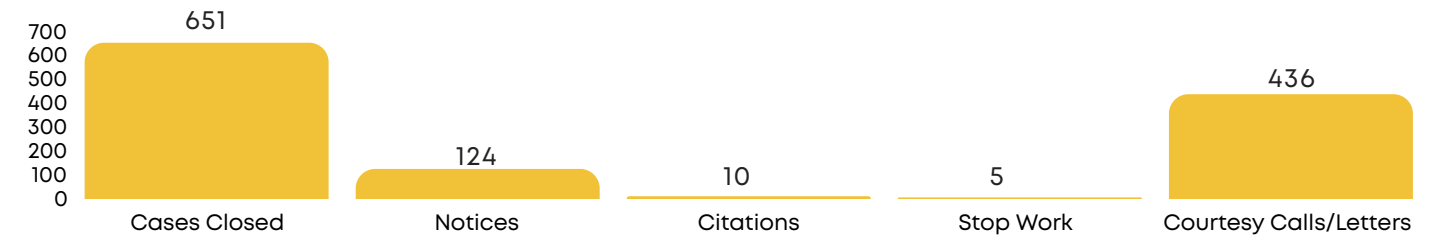
BUILDING INSPECTIONS

The Planning & Development department conducts building inspections as a crucial aspect of ensuring adherence to established building codes and regulations. These inspections serve several vital purposes. They verify that construction projects comply with safety standards, ensuring the well-being of occupants and the broader community. Additionally, inspections help maintain the structural integrity of buildings, reducing the risk of accidents or failures that could result from substandard construction practices.

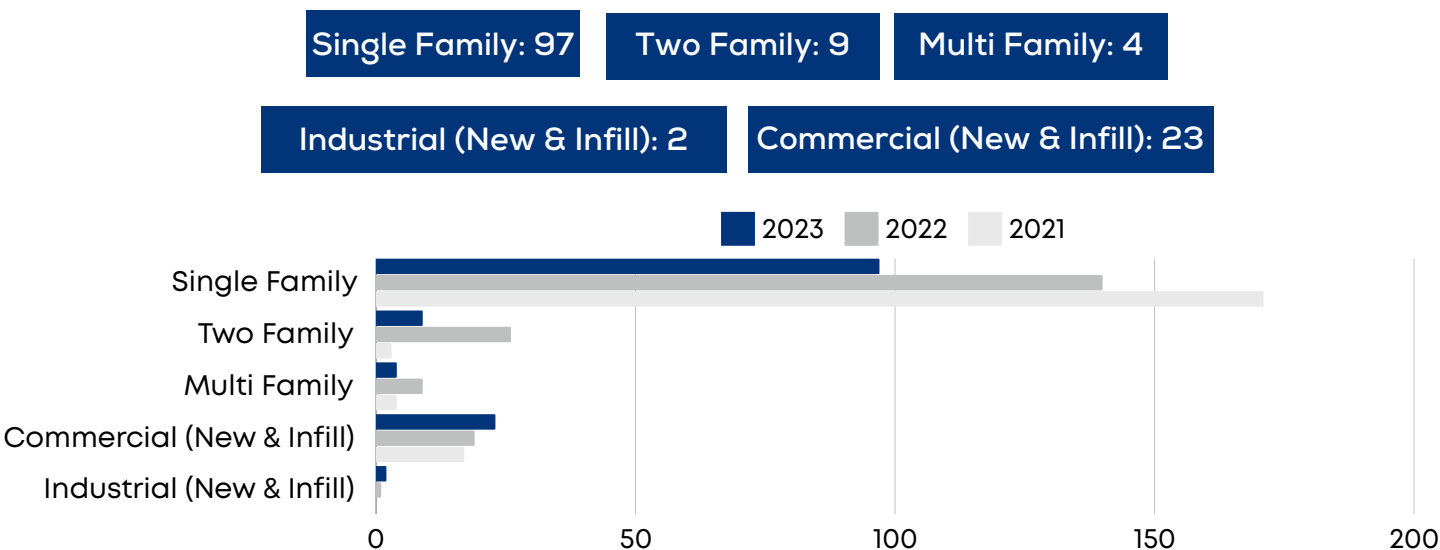


CODE ENFORCEMENT

Through proactive measures and responsive enforcement actions, Planning & Development plays a pivotal role in preserving the visual charm and overall cleanliness of our community. This commitment to code enforcement not only enhances the quality of life for residents but also fosters a sense of pride and belonging in our city, contributing to the collective effort to keep Ozark beautiful for generations to come.



NEW RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, & INDUSTRIAL BUILDING PERMITS:



HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS THAT RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY IN 2023:

Commercial New and Infill permits are a collaborative process between a number of different parties: the owner, architects, engineers, road districts, utility providers, Ozark Fire District, and the Public Works and Planning and Developments. In addition to reviewing plans, the Fire District, Public Works, and Planning Departments all conduct inspections throughout the building process.



STARBUCKS

This new structure is in the Ozark Centre commercial subdivision. It was built on the lot that previously had a Russel Stover store located on it. The city worked with the developer to complete an administrative lot split to allow two businesses to be located in this space

TAKE 5 OIL CHANGE

This was the other structure that was built on the old Russel Stover lot after the administrative lot split was completed.



HUEY MAGOO'S

This development is in the commercial subdivision, Fremont Hills Towne Centre, just west of Mudhouse Coffee. The building was previously a car wash, which was converted into a restaurant utilizing portions of the existing building.

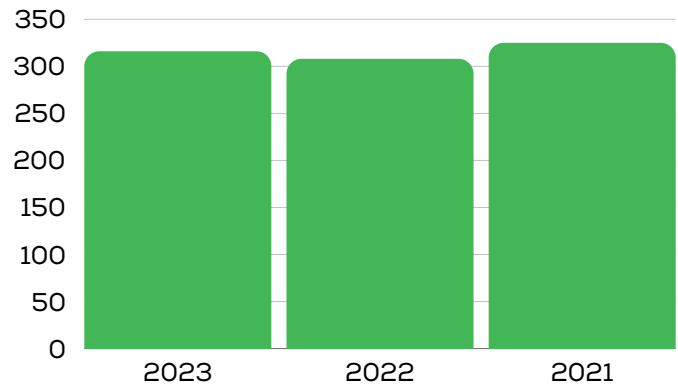


PARKS & RECREATION

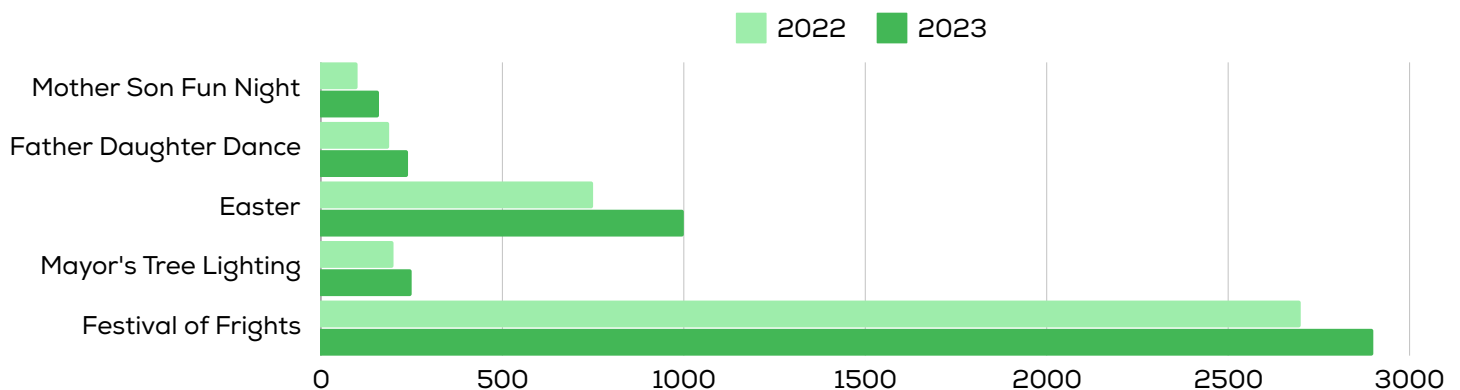
The City of Ozark's Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for providing and maintaining parks, trails, and recreational facilities for the community. Its main goal is to enhance the quality of life for citizens by promoting active and healthy lifestyles through various recreational activities. The department is responsible for planning and organizing events, managing parks and trails, maintaining sports facilities, and providing recreational programs and activities for people of all ages.

2023 SUMMER CAMPS

Summer Camp 2023 consisted of 316 campers over the course of 61 days, with 48 staff, 198 field trips, five buses, and many memories made! Daily attendance averages increased by three children over 2022 numbers and 33 over 2018 numbers. Summer attendance is at its max, with the waitlist hitting all-time highs of 146 children desiring to be admitted to Camp, but there is no space at this time.



2023 COMMUNITY EVENTS



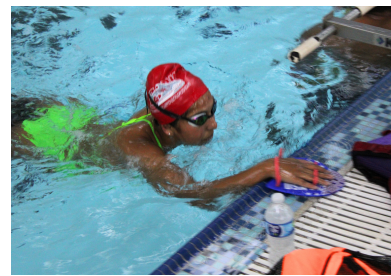
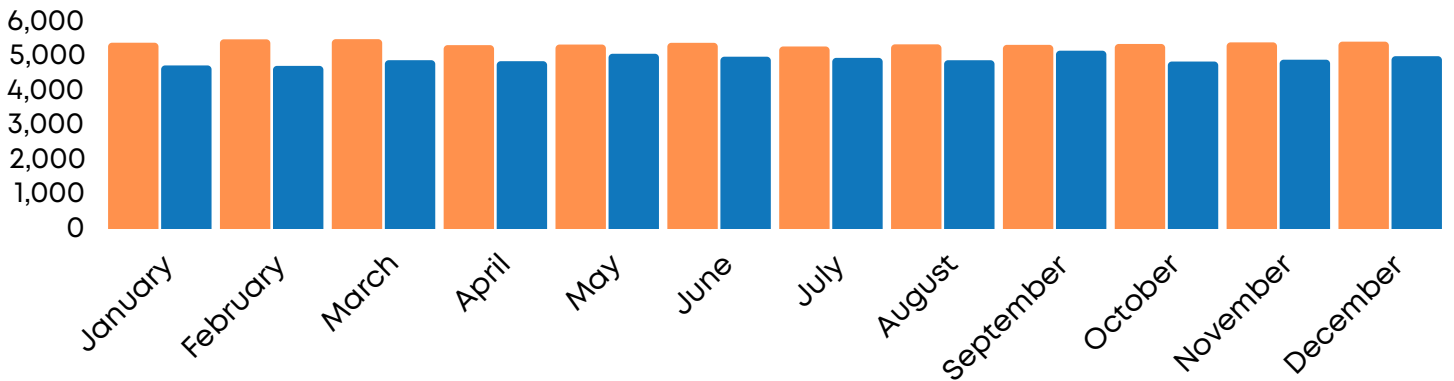


A Destination For Recreation

At the Ozark Community Center (The OC) we recognize that people want an affordable, top-notch facility with state-of-the-art equipment and innovative programs. That's why we offer more than your average local health club at a competitive price. The OC Membership offers a wonderful value you can feel great about.

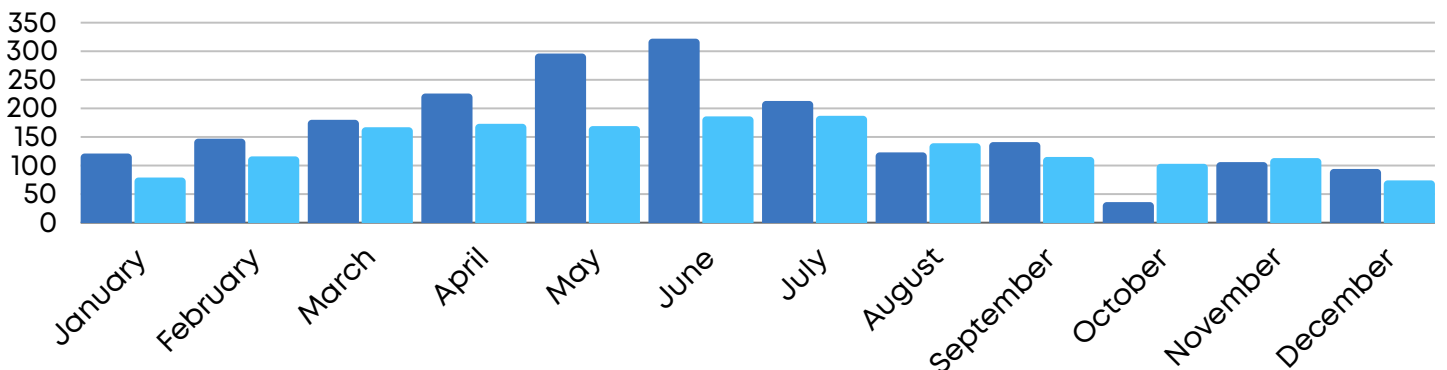
OC MEMBERSHIPS

2023 2022



SWIM ACTIVITIES

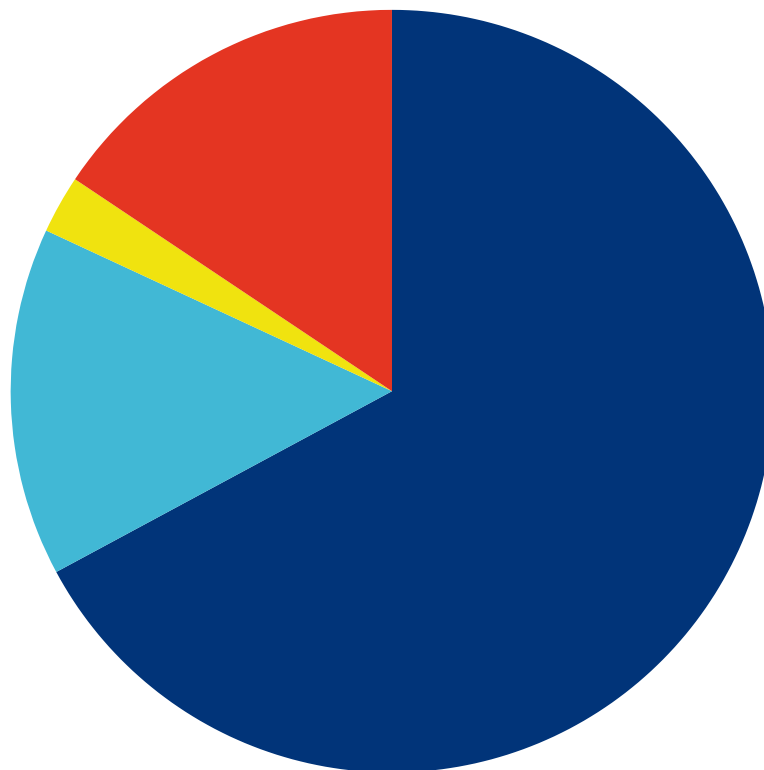
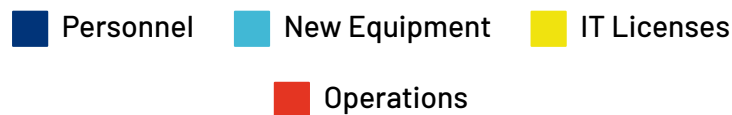
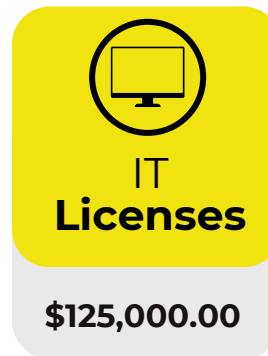
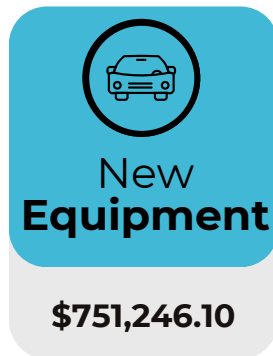
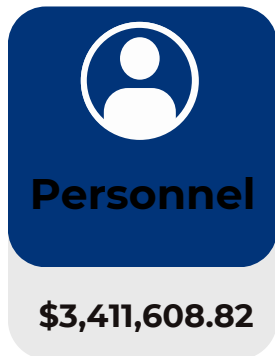
2023 2022



TOTAL 2023 SWIM LESSONS PARTICIPANTS: 2,063

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Ozark Police Department is funded primarily through the City of Ozark's general fund. This fund is supported through revenue from local taxes, permits, fees, fines, and other sources. The department also receives state and federal grants to support specific programs and initiatives. The Ozark Police Department employs 42 staff.



TOTAL BUDGET: \$5,081,479.92



Calls for Service



Traffic Stops



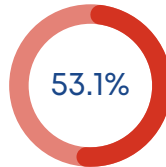
Arrests



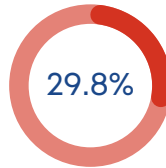
Motor Vehicle
Crashes

The Ozark Police Department releases information annually about its traffic stop statistics to help promote transparency and accountability in its policing practices.

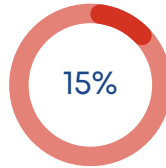
WHERE?



Of traffic stops conducted by the Ozark Police Department were on city streets.



Of traffic stops conducted by the Ozark Police Department were on HWY 65.



Of traffic stops conducted by the Ozark Police Department were on State Highways.

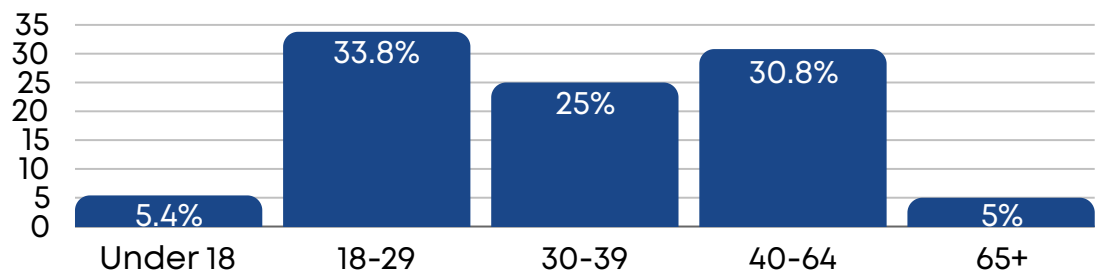
2 % of traffic stops conducted by the Ozark Police Department were on County Roads or Private Property.

ABOUT THE STOPS



73.2% of all traffic stops resulted in warning.

Age of Drivers Stopped:



**FIND THE WHOLE POLICE
DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT
BY SCANNING THE CODE.**

ozarkmissouri.com/464/Annual-Report

HOW YOUR GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATES

The City uses various communication tools to reach stakeholders such as citizens, business owners, and developers. The City relies on these stakeholders to seek out the tools they prefer to use.

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

- **OzarkMissouri.com** | The City's website has important information on every department in the City.
- **Monthly Newsletter** | On the first of every month, the City emails a monthly e-newsletter.
- **Virtual Board Meetings** | Bi-monthly Aldermen Meetings and monthly Planning & Zoning Meetings are live-streamed on the City's Youtube Channel.
- **Social Media** | The City has several different social media accounts.
- **Lobby Monitors** | The Ozark Community Center has TVs in the lobby providing information on upcoming recreational activities.

IN-PERSON

- **Police Outreach** | 201 E. Brick St.
 - 417-581-6600
 - Ozark PD welcomes each new residents and hosts in-person tours of the police department.
- **Board Meetings** | 205 N. 1st St.
 - Bi-Monthly Board of Aldermen Meetings and monthly Planning and Zoning meetings. Don't worry if you can't attend in person, watch it virtually on our YouTube Channel.
- **Ozark Community Center** | 1530 W. Jackson St.
 - 417-781-7002
- **City Hall** | 205 N. 1st St.
 - 417-581-2407

PRINT PUBLICATIONS

- City Recreation Guide
- Welcome Packet
- Mail - Outs

FIND OUR RECREATION GUIDE HERE



myozark.info/parksandrec

GET CONNECTED WITH US!



FACEBOOK

City of Ozark | @CityofOzarkMO
Ozark Community Center | @OzarkCommunityCenter
Ozark Police Department | @OzarkMoPD



INSTAGRAM

City of Ozark | @OzarkMO
Ozark Community Center | @OzarkParks_TheOC



YOUTUBE

City of Ozark | @OzarkMissouri2717
Ozark Community Center | @OzarkCommunityCenter

SIGN UP FOR THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER!



myozark.info/Newsletter