



The City of Ozark, Missouri

ANNUAL REPORT

2024

Mayor Don Currence
City Administrator Eric Johnson

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ABOUT THIS REPORT

We are pleased to present the City of Ozark's 2024 Annual Report, a comprehensive reflection of our city's progress, initiatives, and achievements over the past year. This report highlights the hard work and dedication of our city departments, staff, and engaged community members, all working together to make Ozark a welcoming and thriving place to live, work, and explore.

Throughout 2024, we remained committed to growth, innovation, and service, ensuring Ozark continues to evolve while preserving the values that make our city special. In this report, you'll find detailed updates on key city projects, infrastructure enhancements, public safety initiatives, financial stewardship, and parks and recreation improvements. Each of these efforts reflects our unwavering focus on providing high-quality services, fostering economic development, and enhancing the quality of life for our residents.

We recognize our progress would not be possible without the collaboration and support of our residents, businesses, and local organizations. As we look ahead, we remain dedicated to building an even stronger community, guided by transparency, responsible governance, and a shared vision for the future.

Thank you for being a valued part of Ozark's journey forward. We invite you to explore this report and celebrate the milestones that define our city's success.

CITY ADMINISTRATION

2024: A New Chapter in Ozark Leadership



Eric Johnson, City Administrator

The Ozark Board of Aldermen voted at the June 17, 2024, meeting to approve the appointment of Eric Johnson as city administrator. Johnson brings more than 35 years of local government experience to Ozark. He spent 16 years as city administrator of Blue Springs, Missouri, in the Kansas City area and previously served as an assistant city administrator for six years.

Eric began his duties as Ozark City Administrator on July 15, 2024.

“

I am very excited to serve the great community of Ozark as the next city administrator and look forward to working with the mayor, Board of Aldermen, and community to realize their strategic initiatives for Ozark.

-Eric Johnson, City Administrator

”

Cameron Smith, Assistant City Administrator

Cameron Smith served as the city's community development director for the past seven years. His accomplishments include updating the Ozark Comprehensive Plan, adopting a Dark Sky ordinance, initiating the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan, and launching the Onward Ozark Corridor Study. Smith streamlined the online permitting process to keep up with the market and development trends and to preserve smart growth. He also refined Ozark's Code Compliance system.

Smith began his duties as Assistant City Administrator on October 26, 2024.



Read more about our new leaders:



CITY ADMINISTRATOR

<https://ozarkmissouri.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=423>

ASSISTANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR

<https://ozarkmissouri.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=439>



A New Chapter in Ozark Leadership

City Department Heads



BEN DECLUE
INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR



ERIC JOHNSON
CITY ADMINISTRATOR



CAMERON SMITH
ASST. CITY ADMINISTRATOR



AMANDA CALLAWAY
CITY ATTORNEY



JUSTIN ARNOLD
CHIEF OF POLICE



CHANDRA HODGES
CITY CLERK



MARIA NEIDER
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR



RANDALL WHITMAN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR



MARY EDNA WILSON
FINANCE DIRECTOR



TRACEY HASLER
HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR



HAYDEN PONSAR
PARKS & RECREATION
DIRECTOR



JEREMY PARSONS
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Ozark Finance Department plays a critical role in ensuring responsible financial management and long-term fiscal sustainability. Led by Finance Director Mary Edna Wilson, the department oversees financial planning, budgeting, accounting, and auditing processes to maintain the city's financial health.

Creating the City Budget

Each year, the Finance Department prepares the city budget, which is then reviewed and approved by the Ozark Board of Aldermen. This budget serves as a strategic tool, guiding city departments in making informed decisions regarding resource allocation, program evaluations, financial management, and long-range planning.

Once compiled, the budget undergoes thorough analysis to balance expenditures with available revenues, ensuring fiscal responsibility. The finalized budget is then presented to the Ozark Board of Aldermen for approval and serves as a guide to direct funding toward essential services, infrastructure improvements, public safety, and community development. This collaborative process ensures that every department has the resources needed to serve Ozark residents effectively while maintaining financial stability.

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

The City of Ozark has earned the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for several consecutive years. This prestigious award recognizes governments that uphold high standards of financial transparency, accuracy, and accountability, reflecting Ozark's commitment to excellence in financial management.



Investing in Our Community ARPA-Funded Improvements in 2024

In 2024, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds played a crucial role in enhancing city infrastructure and public facilities. ARPA has been allocated to support essential services, infrastructure improvements, public safety, and pandemic recovery efforts. Cities and counties have used these funds for projects like facility upgrades, security enhancements, broadband expansion, and ADA compliance improvements.

\$37,868.00 SECURITY RENOVATIONS & THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW CARD ACCESS SYSTEM AT CITY HALL, IMPROVING SAFETY & CONTROLLED ACCESS.

\$110,586.99 RENOVATIONS AT CITY HALL FOR THE LAW DEPARTMENT, ENHANCING WORKSPACE EFFICIENCY, SECURITY, & ACCESSIBILITY.

\$135,463.00 DEHUMIDIFICATION AND HVAC SYSTEM UPGRADES FOR THE OZARK COMMUNITY CENTER'S INDOOR POOL.

\$258,643.00 INVESTED IN THE CITY'S ADA TRANSITION PLAN, ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC SPACES.

These projects represent just a portion of the many improvements made possible through ARPA funding, with additional investments enhancing infrastructure, public services, and community well-being across the city.

City Revenue Breakdown

In-Person Sales Tax

For every dollar spent on taxable goods and services in Ozark, **8.35%** in sales tax is collected and distributed among the State of Missouri, Christian County, and the City of Ozark.



4.225 %

STATE OF MISSOURI

1.75%

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

2.375%

CITY OF OZARK

*This dollar illustrates the 8.35% sales tax distribution.

Sales Tax Allocation for Online Purchases

When making purchases online, the State of Missouri is the only entity collecting sales tax, meaning **no local sales tax is generated for the City of Ozark**. Since sales tax directly funds essential city services such as public safety, infrastructure, parks, and community improvements, shopping locally helps keep tax dollars in Ozark, supporting the services and projects that benefit both residents and businesses.



4.225 %

STATE OF MISSOURI

0 %

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

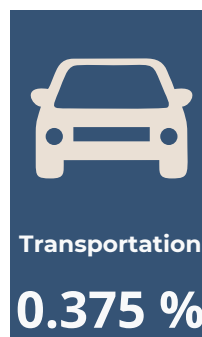
0 %

CITY OF OZARK

Example: When you buy a bike for \$100 at a store in Ozark, \$2.38 (2.375% sales tax) goes toward funding the City of Ozark. If you purchase the same bike online, the city does not receive any sales tax revenue.

Distribution of Ozark's 2.375% In-person Sales Tax

A portion of the total 8.35% sales tax collected in Ozark is dedicated to funding essential local services and improvements. Of this, 2.375% is specifically allocated to the City of Ozark, supporting critical areas such as parks, stormwater management, transportation, wastewater management, and capital improvements. This local sales tax ensures ongoing investments in infrastructure, public safety, public spaces, and city services that enhance the quality of life for both residents and visitors. The images below illustrate how Ozark's 2.375% sales tax is distributed.



Utility Billing

Location: 205 N. 1st Street, Ozark, MO 65721
Hours: Monday - Friday | 8 am - 4:30 pm
Phone: 417-581-2744

This division, under the Finance Department's supervision, is responsible for processing utility payments, managing customer accounts, and ensuring accurate billing for water consumption and sewer usage. The Utility Billing team also assists residents with setting up new accounts, addressing billing inquiries, and handling service requests. Their goal is to provide efficient, transparent, and customer-friendly service, ensuring residents can access reliable utilities while maintaining accurate financial records. Through their efforts, the City of Ozark upholds strong fiscal management and excellent customer service in all aspects of utility billing.



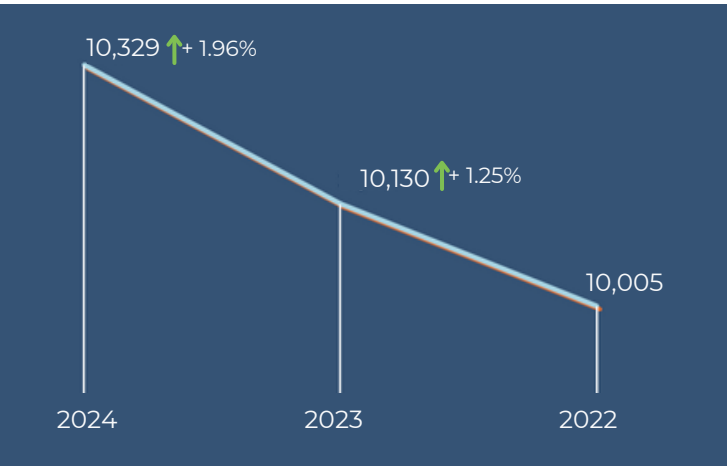
OZARK SUMMER SAVINGS PROGRAM

How It Works

The Utility Billing Department reviews your water usage for January, February, and March and calculates your average usage. This average is used to determine the sewer portion of your bill from May to October, giving you a discounted sewer rate during the summer months.

Contact the Ozark Utility Billing Department at **417-581-2744**.

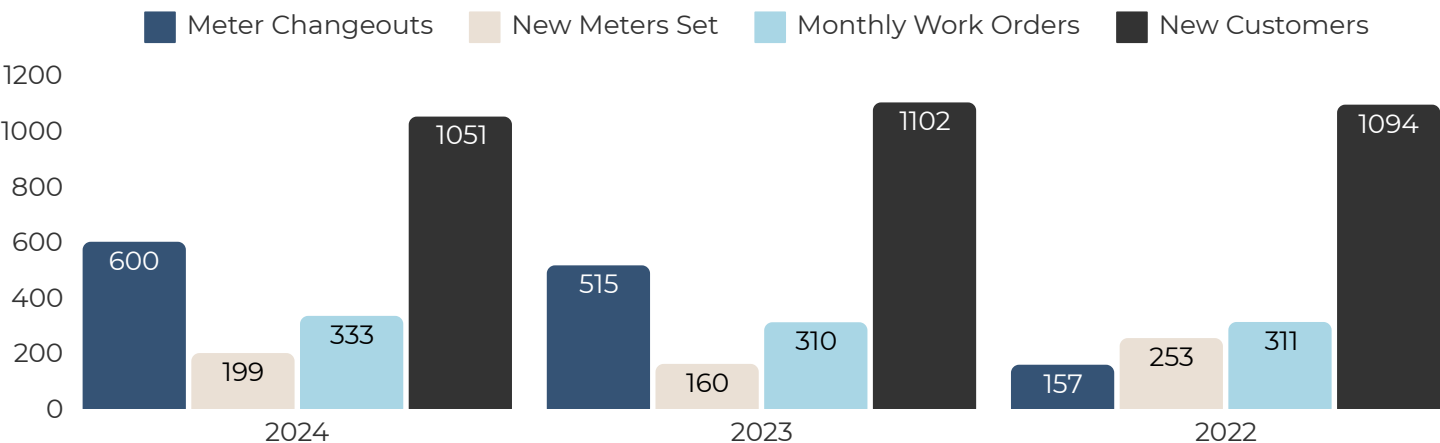
Total City Meters



The City of Ozark continues to experience steady growth, with an increasing number of new utility customers each year.

1051 new customers were added to the Utility Billing system in 2024, reflecting ongoing residential and commercial development in Ozark. The city installed 199 new meters in 2024.

The Utility Billing Department remains committed to providing seamless service for new customers, ensuring smooth account setup and reliable access to essential utilities.



HUMAN RESOURCES

New Director

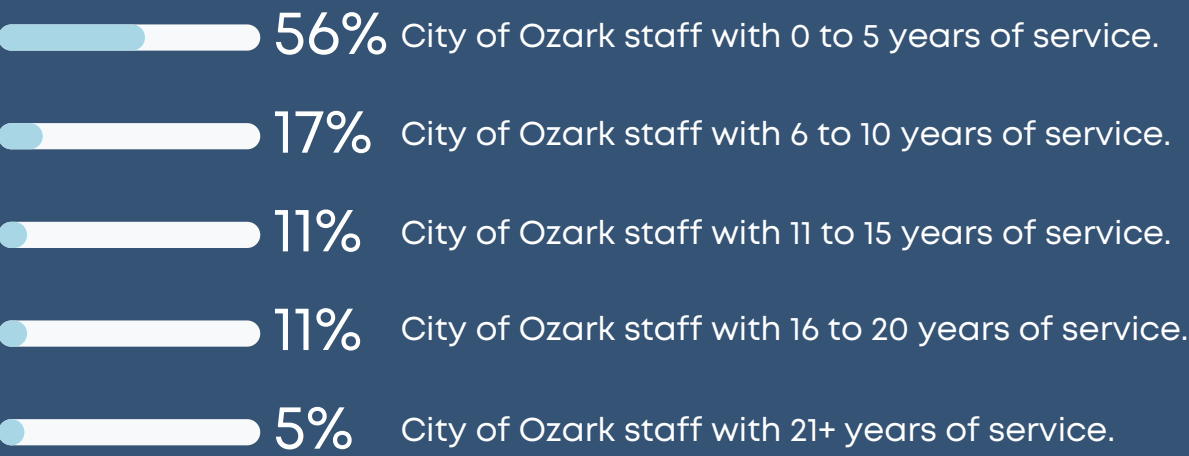


Tracey Hasler

Tracey Hasler joined the City of Ozark as Human Resources Director on September 16, 2024, after serving as Utility Billing Supervisor since April 2022. She brings over 13 years of HR experience, including her role as HR Manager at Walmart in Nixa, where she was recognized as Human Resources Manager of the Year. Hasler is committed to strengthening employee engagement and workplace culture as she leads the HR Department.

Employee Tenure & Service Milestones

In 2024, the Human Resources Department underwent transformative growth, welcoming a new director, and implementing key initiatives to support and strengthen Ozark’s workforce. Amid these changes, the department successfully onboarded 31 new full-time employees and processed 459 W-2 forms, reflecting the city’s investment in both full-time and part-time staff. Ozark’s workforce is a dynamic mix of seasoned professionals and new talent, ensuring a balanced team that fosters experience, innovation, and long-term dedication.



Workforce Overview

Ozark’s workforce is made up of a diverse team of professionals who are committed to serving the community.



In 2024, two valued employees retired, leaving behind a legacy of dedication with a combined 50+ years of service to the City of Ozark. Their contributions have shaped the city’s operations, and their impact will continue to be felt for years to come.

LAW DEPARTMENT

Location: 205 N. 1st Street, Ozark, MO 65721

Phone: 417-582-5883

What Does the Law Department do for the City of Ozark?

Ozark's Law Department assists the mayor, Board of Aldermen, city administrator, and all city departments with municipal law matters. City Attorney Amanda Callaway serves as Ozark's legal counsel on a daily basis.



Provides legal services & advice pertaining to city business and issues



Prepares legal documents such as ordinances, resolutions, and deeds



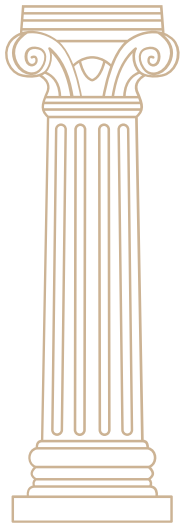
Negotiates & drafts contracts



Represents the City of Ozark in all legal matters



Performs legal research & analysis, and provides legal advice to city officials and staff



Municipal Legal Practice

The Law Department handles a wide range of legal issues, including:

- ✓ Constitutional Law
- ✓ Land Use Law
- ✓ Contract Law
- ✓ Personnel Law

Ozark's Law Department also represents the city in prosecuting ordinance violations. 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. The legal team strives to make Ozark better every day!

COMMUNICATIONS

New Director



Maria Neider

Maria Neider joined the City of Ozark as Communications Director on April 1, 2024, bringing nearly 30 years of experience in media and public relations. She previously served as a trusted journalist and news anchor, building strong connections within the community. Neider is dedicated to enhancing communication between the city and its residents, strengthening public engagement, and sharing Ozark’s story through clear and impactful messaging.

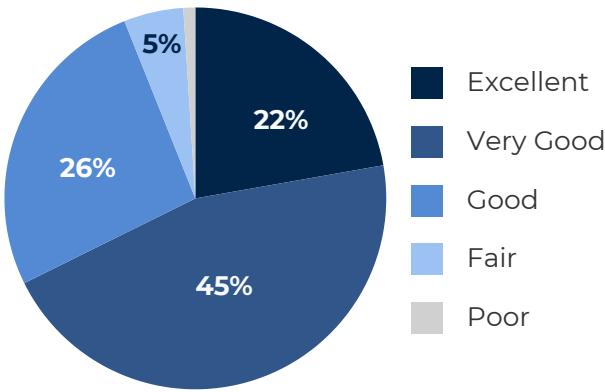
Community Survey

Your Voice, Your City: Shaping Ozark’s Future Together

Through Great Lakes Marketing Research, the City of Ozark’s Communications Department launched a Community Survey in 2024.

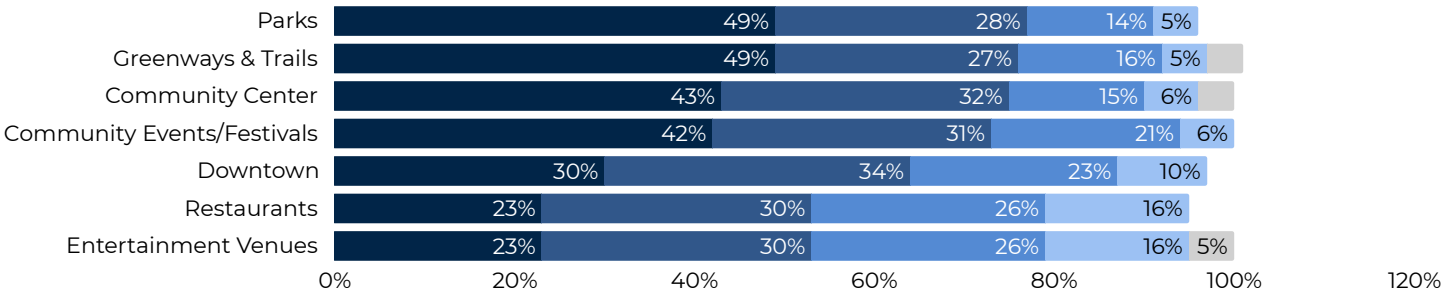
The surveys went to 5,000 randomly selected residents and all 430 businesses. A total of 1,099 residents and 94 businesses participated. The key findings are as follows:

- Quality of Life: 67% of residents rated Ozark’s quality of life as high, with nearly half of respondents highlighting the importance of parks, greenways, and trails in contributing to this positive assessment.



Adding to the Quality of Life in Ozark

How much do the following add to the quality of life living in Ozark?



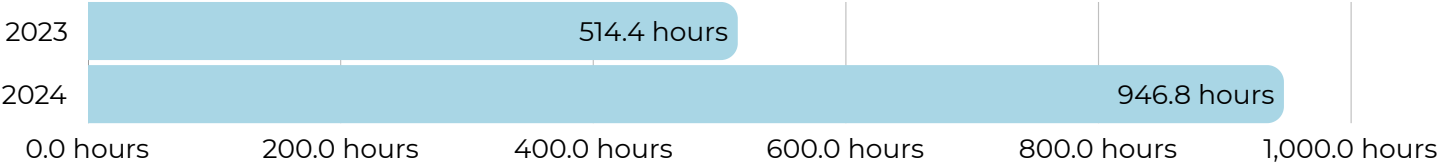
Community Engagement

The Communications Department enhanced community engagement by improving transparency, accessibility, and outreach. Efforts included streamlining communication channels, expanding social media and newsletter outreach, and driving traffic to the city’s website—ensuring timely and accurate updates for residents, businesses, and city leaders.

Enhancing Citizens' Virtual Experience



Since implementing StreamYard, our total watch time nearly doubled from 514.4 hours in 2023 to 946.8 hours in 2024. This growth is driven by StreamYard's professional-quality visuals, seamless screen sharing, and intuitive interface, making public meetings more accessible and engaging. Streaming across multiple platforms like Facebook and YouTube has further expanded our reach, keeping residents informed and engaged with local government.



AUDIO IMPROVEMENTS

We collaborated with Audio Acoustics to optimize the audio and video system, eliminating in-house feedback and enhancing the online audio experience.



MOST WATCHED BOARD OF ALDERMEN LIVE STREAM

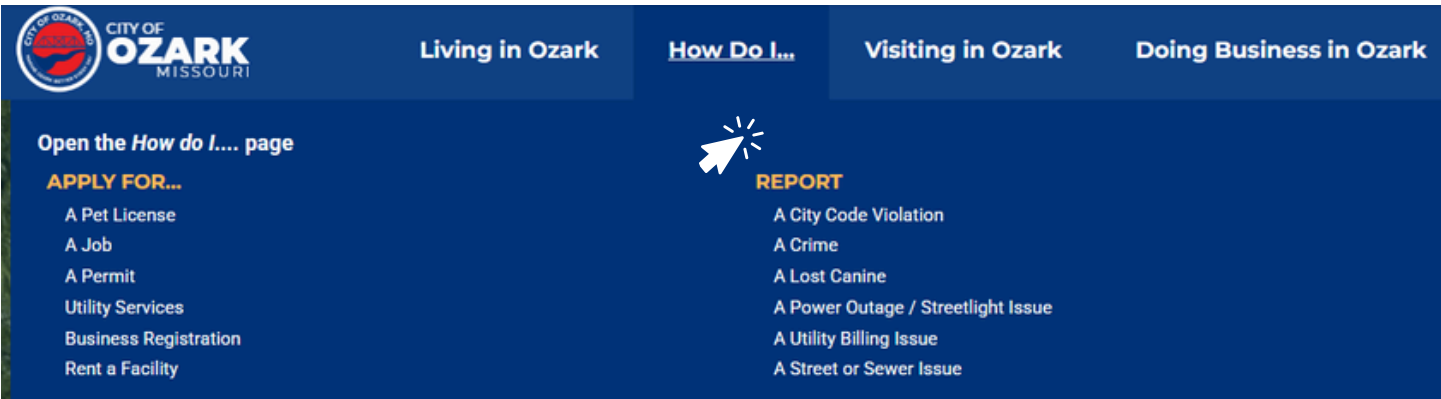
April 15, 2024

First vote on Torgerson building:
130 live viewers, 407 views since posted on YouTube.

JOTFORM



In 2024, the City of Ozark streamlined communication and service requests using Jotform, improving efficiency across key departments. With 439 forms submitted, this digital upgrade replaces outdated paper processes, reducing response times and enhancing accessibility. Residents can now easily submit permits, report concerns, and register for programs. This initiative reflects Ozark's commitment to ensuring a more responsive and efficient government for the community.

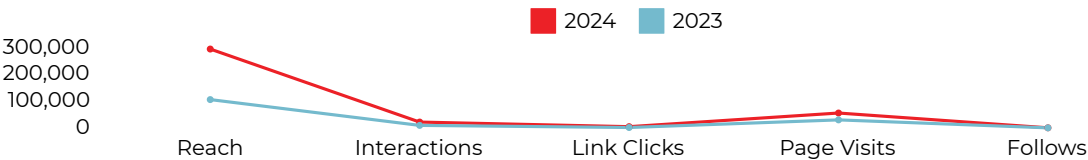


Facebook

The following graphs compare key Facebook engagement metrics from 2023 to 2024 across different City of Ozark pages, including the City of Ozark, the Ozark Community Center, and the Ozark Police Department. Each graph highlights trends in reach, interactions, link clicks, page visits, and follows. This data helps assess social media performance and guide strategies for future engagement.



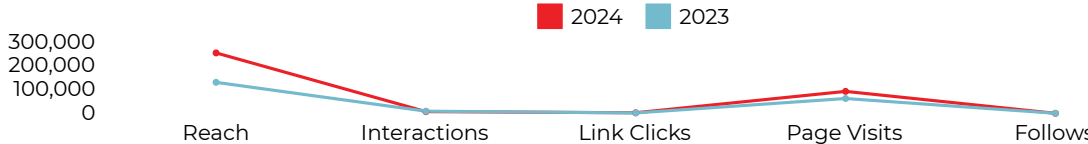
City of Ozark



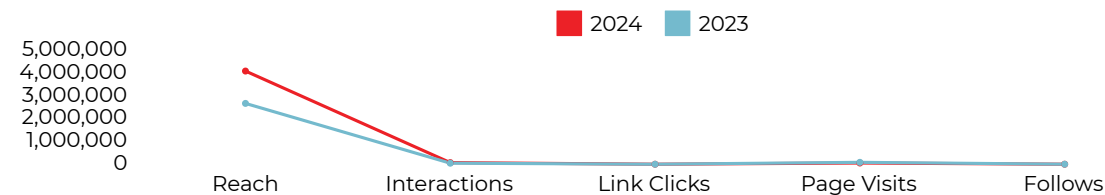
In 2024, we launched a new social media series to keep citizens informed about Board of Aldermen meetings. These posts provide quick highlights from the previous night's meeting, making it easier than ever to stay updated on key decisions, discussions, and community updates—all in one simple recap!



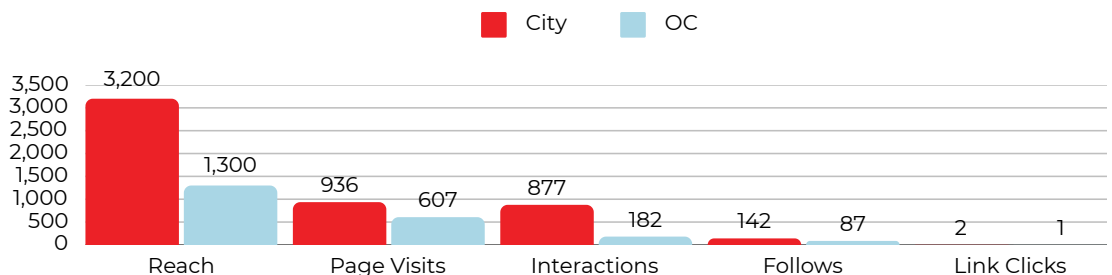
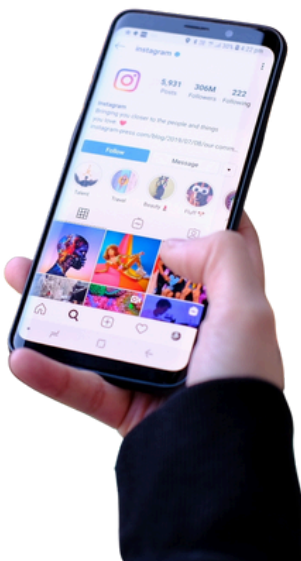
Ozark Community Center



The Ozark Police Department



Instagram



The Instagram engagement metrics showcase the growth of both the City of Ozark and the Ozark Community Center (OC). The OC account, established just last year, is steadily gaining traction, reaching 1,300 people as its presence continues to expand.

Meanwhile, the City of Ozark's Instagram maintains strong engagement, with a reach of 3,200 and 936 page visits. With 877 interactions, the account demonstrates consistent audience involvement and interest in its content.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Location: 203 E. Brick St., Ozark, MO 65721

Phone: 417-581-5976



Guiding Growth, Ensuring Compliance

The Planning & Development Department plays a vital role in shaping the City of Ozark's future by managing growth, enforcing regulations, and ensuring safe, well-planned development. Through subdivision oversight, zoning enforcement, building code compliance, and nuisance abatement, the department maintains the city's structural integrity and aesthetic appeal while fostering economic and residential growth.

A key focus is implementing growth management and transportation plans through detailed development reviews and strategic planning. By balancing progress with preservation, the Planning & Development Department strives to create a community that is both functional and forward-thinking.

As we look ahead, the P & D team remains committed to fostering sustainable growth, enhancing livability, and ensuring regulatory compliance—all while making Ozark a great place to live, work, and invest.

Our Responsibilities

- Reviewing and processing zoning changes and land use requests
- Providing interpretations and recommendations for zoning ordinance amendments
- Assisting residents and developers with platting and development processes
- Issuing building permits and conducting inspections
- Addressing citizen complaints and ensuring compliance through enforcement efforts

Building Permitting & Inspections

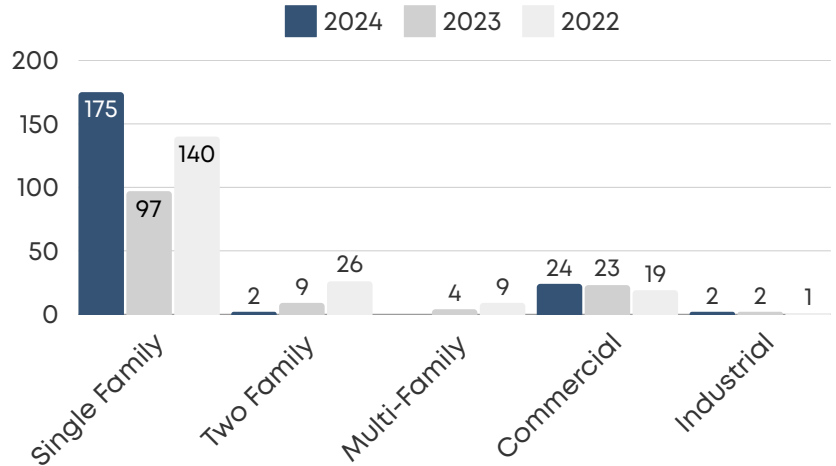


The Planning & Development Department is responsible for approving and inspecting all new public and private building construction in Ozark. All new construction, as well as renovation work, must be in compliance with the city's building, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, and fire codes. Construction work is inspected during progress and upon completion to ensure it meets code requirements.

Applicants are responsible for all third-party commercial and multi-family construction plan review costs, including but not limited to architecture, engineering, stormwater, and traffic reviews. The City of Ozark will determine the necessary reviews and manage invoicing for these costs.

Building Permits Issued

Residential, Commercial & Industrial



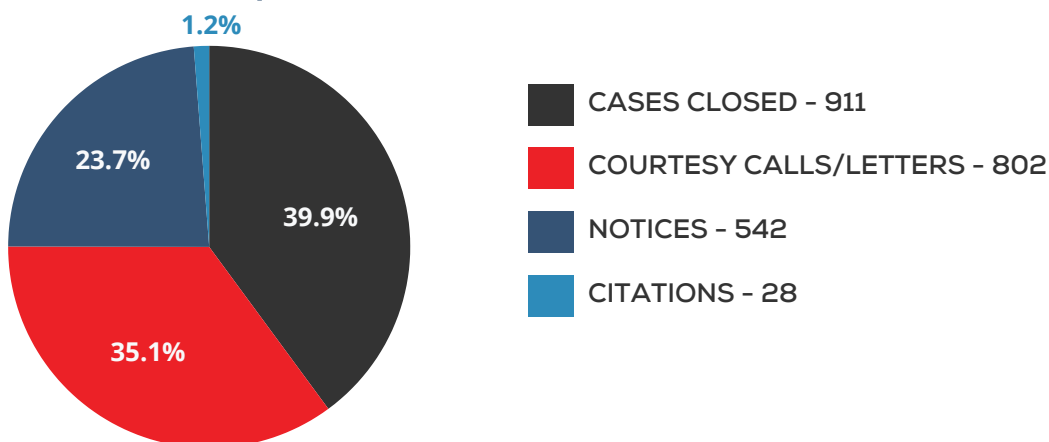
Building Inspections

The City of Ozark issued 203 permits and completed 2,959 building inspections in 2024.

Code Enforcement

The City of Ozark takes pride in its public image and identity for our citizens and visitors to Ozark. The Code Compliance Officer enforces regulations that address health and safety concerns, including the excessive accumulation of trash and debris, overgrown grass and weeds, visibility obstructions, zoning, and inoperable vehicles on private property. Enforcement is both proactive and in response to citizen requests. These efforts help enhance and stabilize neighborhoods, protect property values, and promote a healthier, safer community.

Code Compliance Numbers



Growing Together, Building for the Future

Multi-Family Developments



Finley Ridge

- Location: 2349 N 20th St.
- Units: 192



River Ranch

- Location: 2386 W Spring Dr.
- Units: 240

Residential Subdivisions

Eagle Springs (Phase II)

166 residential lots were platted on the NW corner of N. Fremont Road and W. Longview Road.

Valley Ridge Estates (Phase I)

28 residential lots were platted south of Walmart on S. 9th Street with Phase II under construction in 2025.

Finley Crossing (Phase I)

49 residential lots were platted southwest of W. Pebblebrooke Drive and S. 11th Street with Phase II under construction in 2025.

New Businesses Opened in 2024

These are some of the businesses we welcomed to Ozark this year.



Mr. Dent Paintless Dent Removal & Collision Repair

The business is located on N. 20th Street, on the west side of U.S. Highway 65.



U-Haul Moving & Storage

This new facility is located on North Town Centre Drive, west of U.S. Highway 65. It's an attractive alternative to traditional personal storage that also provides moving and rental services, equipment, and mobile pods for commercial and residential customers.



Jersey Mike's

1940 West Retail Lane

La Casita

750 North 18th Street

Sonic Restaurant

5454 North 12th Street



PARKS & RECREATION

Location: 1530 W. Jackson St., Ozark, MO 65721

Phone: 417-581-7002

New Director



Hayden Ponsar

Hayden Ponsar served as interim director from November 27, 2023 until his promotion to director on July 1, 2024. He started as the recreation supervisor in March 2019. Ponsar has been integral in completing Phase 1 of the Garrison Springs Park project and has overseen the Ozark Community Center facility assessment to aid in long-range planning for its maintenance and repairs.

Garrison Springs Community Forest



The City of Ozark proudly opened the Garrison Springs Community Forest, a beautiful outdoor space designed for everyone to enjoy. It features an ADA-accessible walking trail, a bird-watching area, a scenic overlook, and plenty of open green space for families to relax and explore. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on August 20, 2024 to celebrate the reopening of Garrison Springs.

This property was purchased in March 2021 with the help of grants from the Missouri Department of Conservation and the U.S. Forest Service. The goal has always been to create a place that gives visitors a chance to experience the natural beauty and diverse ecosystems in the Ozarks.

Upgrades to the FEMA shelter



The City of Ozark FEMA shelter at the Ozark Community Center received key upgrades this year. A new access control system now allows staff to remotely unlock the shelter when a tornado watch or warning is issued. It operates on three power sources (battery, generator, and standard) with dual cellular backup for reliability.

To further improve accessibility, staff collaborated with Christian County Dispatch to create a fail-safe keyed access plan. New solar-lit signage enhances visibility, and Ozark's city website now features updated shelter information for public awareness.

New Baseball Field Fences

The first phase of replacing the ballfield fences in Finley River Park was finished in 2024 to ensure it meets the standard of Ozark's Parks and Recreation sports program. With hundreds of children participating in the baseball and softball programs each year—along with many more in local sports organizations that use these fields—this upgrade marks a significant step in meeting the community's needs.

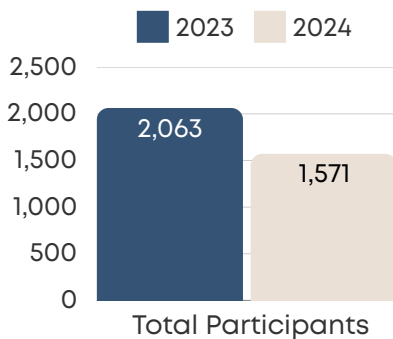
Ozark Community Center



The OC Celebrates 15 years

The OC celebrated 15 years since its opening in May 2009. Parks and Recreation staff threw a big anniversary party for the community. Elected officials reflected on the community center's growth and everyone enjoyed dinner provided by the Sertoma Club. Families celebrated with a fun night of bounce houses, an obstacle course, and exploring everything the facility has to offer.

Aquatics



Over the past two years, facility updates have impacted participation numbers. In 2023, total participation reached 2,063, reflecting strong engagement in aquatic programs. However, in 2024, participation declined to 1,571, primarily due to pool maintenance closures, which significantly disrupted attendance and programs. The mid-year cancellation of the swim team further contributed to this drop. Despite this downturn, participation is expected to recover as the facility returns to full operation, restoring access to programs and activities that contribute to community involvement.

Upgrades to the Aquatics Facilities



Brighter, More Efficient Lighting

- Installed LED lights (3-4x brighter) & dimmable for movie nights at the Indoor pool.
- Replaced lighting at Grubaugh Municipal Pool and parking lot



Fresh Look

- Repainted locker rooms, lockers, and party rooms



Safer Spaces

- Textured water slide stairs, repaired lap pool tile, fixed water sprayers



Better Air & Water Management

- Fixed air-handling motor, two major leaks, & ventilation sock



Upgraded Water Slide

- Replaced motor & pump for smoother operation

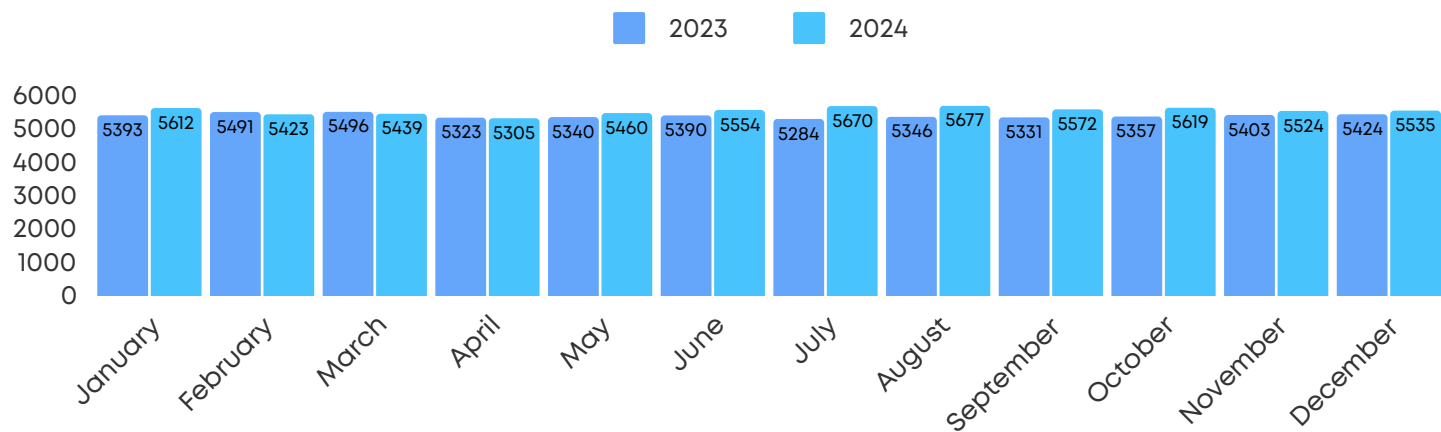


Corrosion Prevention

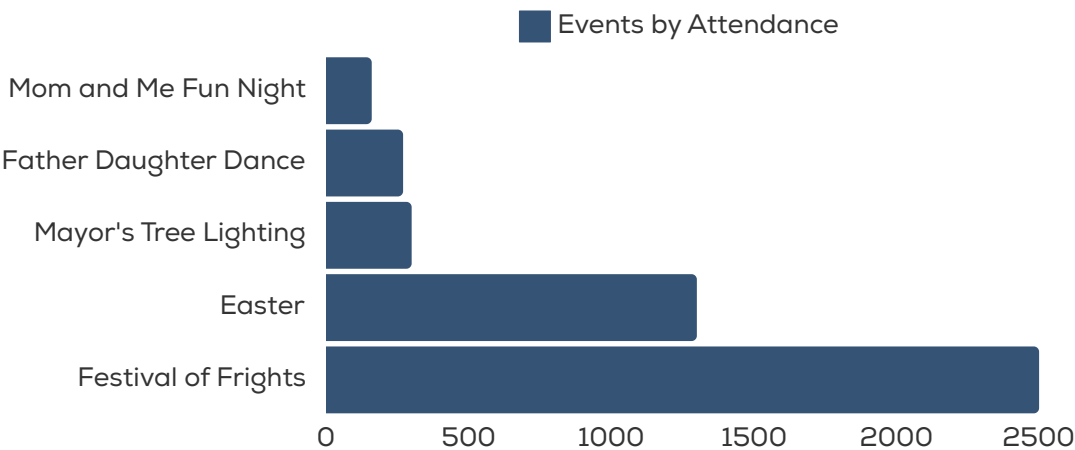
- Installed stainless steel electrical panels for durability

Membership

Membership peaked in July and August 2024, reaching 5,670 and 5,677, respectively, indicating strong summer engagement. The lowest recorded membership in 2024 was in April (5,305), while the highest occurred in August (5,677). These figures suggest steady participation growth, with 2024 outperforming the previous year across several months.



Events



Finley River Camps



310 children participated in our Finley River Camps in 2024. 42 children attended part-time and 268 enrolled full-time. These numbers provide a clearer understanding of camp engagement trends, showing the depth of participation and the overall reach of the program.

FULL-TIME SUMMER CAMPERS: 268

PART-TIME CAMPERS: 42

Total Campers: 310

PUBLIC WORKS

Location: 207 E. Brick St., Ozark, MO 65721

Phone: 417-581-1702

Public Works plays a vital role in maintaining Ozark's waste management, infrastructure safety, and transportation systems. The department and its dedicated employees ensure compliance with regulatory agencies, including the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to uphold environmental and public safety standards.

PUBLIC WORKS MAINTAINS:

3,667	Sewer manholes
179	Miles of water mains
162	Miles of sanitary sewer mains
101	Miles of streets
40	Miles of storm sewer pipes & culverts
34	Buildings & facilities



This year Ozark celebrated 19 years of being a part of Tree City USA.

Trails & Greenway Improvements

Chadwick Flyer Trail

The Chadwick Flyer Trail is part of an ongoing project in partnership with Ozark Greenways and the Ozarks Transportation Organization that will provide a multimodal trail to connect Ozark to its surrounding communities. This trail runs along the old Chadwick Flyer Railroad bed from Ozark to Springfield through a safe pedestrian trail experience.

4,374 Linear feet of concrete trail finished this year!

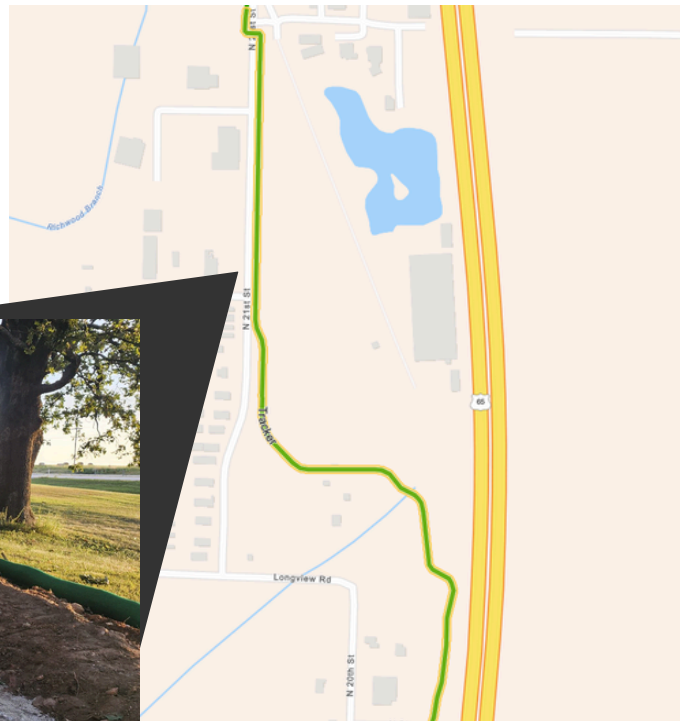
Phase 1 - Completed 5,828 LF in 2022.

Phase 2 - Completed 4,374 LF in 2024.

Phase 3 - Completed 8,820 LF in 2023.

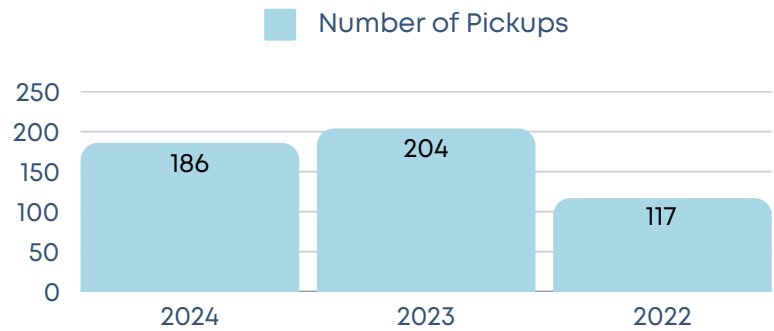
(*LF= Linear feet of 10' trail)

The Phase 3 segment of the Chadwick Flyer Trail runs from Kissick Avenue in Springfield and dead ends in open land near Westwind Drive in Ozark.



Annual Limb Pickup

In 2023, a major storm hit just before clean-up started, leading to 111 call-ins and a total of 204 pickups. In 2024, without a big storm, the number of pickups was lower at 186. The graph shows how storms can greatly increase the need for city services.



Street Improvements

13,700 Linear feet of roadway improvements

**Based upon a data-driven Pavement Condition Index or PCI*

Crews used a variety of street rehab methods including:

- ✓ Full-depth reconstruction of failing streets
- ✓ Mill and fill overlays
- ✓ Advanced microsurfacing to increase the longevity of residential streets

996 Total work orders completed

351 Street sweeper hours

44 Potholes filled

Sewer & Wastewater Improvements

2024 also included one of the largest investments in our sewer treatment and conveyance system. Ozark received a \$3.25 million ARPA allocation, enabling the city to begin Phase I of a major \$5.3 million project that will ultimately:

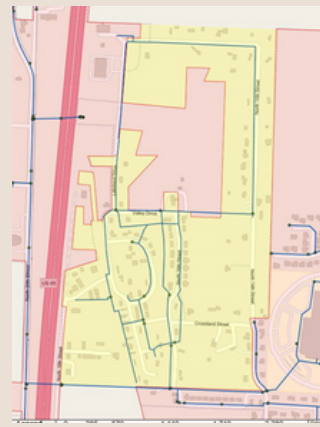
- ✓ Provide flow equalization or additional sewer flow to the Elk Valley Treatment Plant.
- ✓ Reduce the amount of sewer flow to the North Treatment Plant.
- ✓ Eliminate the syphon running under the Finley River.

21,000 Linear feet of force main installed by contractors

Additional upgrades have been completed at the North Plant to help with the treatment process. All of these improvements help to further protect the Finley River while providing economic development opportunities for areas north of the Finley River.

Water Improvements

Spring Valley Water System



Ozark's Board of Aldermen voted to approve the purchase of the Spring Valley Water System. By making the connection to the proposed Chadwick Flyer Business Park, we will provide future businesses with the opportunity to expand along the Highway 65 frontage road.

I-Hydrants

In collaboration with contractors, Public Works crews successfully installed I-hydrants and initiated a comprehensive overhaul of our water metering system.

BENEFITS OF I-HYDRANTS:



1 IMPROVED LEAK DETECTION & PREVENTION

2 CONSERVES WATER & REDUCES WATER LOSS

3 FASTER EMERGENCY RESPONSE

4 COST SAVINGS ON MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Investing in Safety: Facility Upgrades, Budget Highlights & Key Stats

BUILDING REMODEL

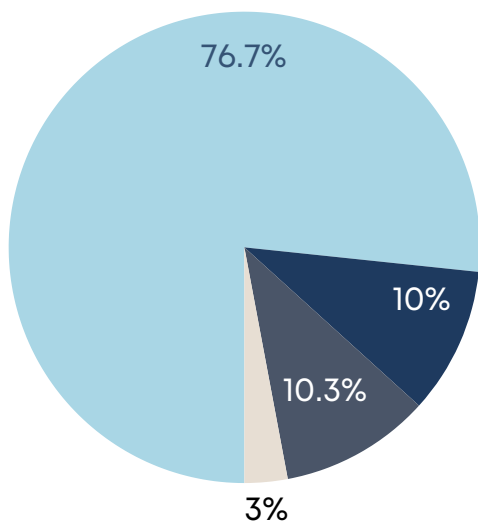
ARPA FUNDED \$452,994.00



Over the past year, ARPA funds helped give the Ozark Police Department a fresh update, making our facility a better place for both our team and the community. We added locker rooms with a shower facility and an extra interview/interrogation room to support our investigative work. We also reconfigured our space into a multi-use cubicle area, updated flooring throughout the building, revamped our break room, and refreshed our restrooms. Improvements to the evidence processing area, along with other smaller upgrades, have helped modernize our department and enhance our daily operations.

Annual Budget

The Ozark Police Department's budget is strategically allocated to ensure efficient operations, officer support, and technological advancements. This year, funding is distributed across key areas to maintain public safety and enhance department capabilities. A majority of the budget is dedicated to personnel costs, reflecting the department's commitment to recruiting, training, and retaining skilled officers. Operational expenses ensure the department remains fully functional, covering essential resources and infrastructure. Investments in new equipment and IT licenses support modern policing efforts, enhancing efficiency and security. Additionally, ARPA funds have been allocated for a building remodel, further improving department facilities to better serve the community.



PERSONNEL

\$4,155,125.48



NEW EQUIPMENT

\$560,000.00



OPERATIONS

\$544,900.00



IT LICENSES

\$160,000.00

Quick Stats

About 2024 traffic stops



CALLS FOR SERVICE
19,894



TRAFFIC STOPS
7,731



ARRESTS
980

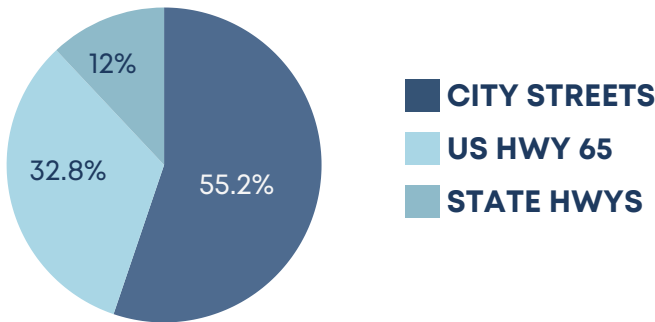


MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES
852

Traffic Stops by Location

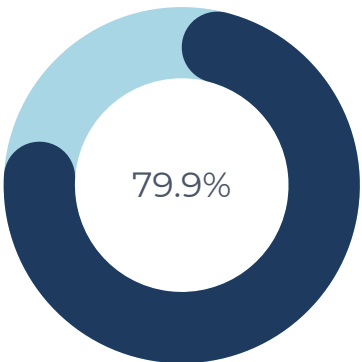
Over half—55.2%—of all traffic stops occurred on city streets, signaling a continued focus on enforcing road safety measures where vehicle and foot traffic are most concentrated.

This trend highlights the concentration of traffic activity within urban areas, where intersections, pedestrian crossings, and speed regulations require heightened attention from both drivers and law enforcement. Compared to other locations, such as U.S. Highway 65 and state highways, city streets saw the highest percentage of stops, emphasizing the ongoing focus on maintaining safety and compliance within city limits.



Majority of Traffic Stops Result in Warnings

79.9% of all traffic stops resulted in a warning, highlighting the department's focus on education. (15.457% Citation, 5.730% Arrest)



Driver's Age Breakdown

The data shows that most traffic stops involved drivers aged 18-64, with the highest percentage in the 40-64 range. This trend reflects typical driving patterns, with working-age drivers making up the majority of road traffic.

