



BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



Jamal A. Simington - Chief of Police
Paul D. Williams - Assistant Chief
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For Immediate Release: September 27, 2024

Strategic Community Planning

Bloomington, IL - On Wednesday, 09/25/24, twenty-one Bloomington community stakeholders and fifteen Bloomington Police Department (BPD) employees gathered at the Bloomington Public Library to provide input towards the Bloomington Police Department's 2025-2029 Strategic Plan.

Chief Jamal Simington said, "The participants were highly engaging and provided critical input, which will be essential in setting the vision for the next five years. The discussions were great and candid, as residents and business, government, and organizational leaders engaged in this planning process. We understand that public safety is a partnership, and our community has a voice as we strive to improve the quality of life collaboratively."

The planning session reviewed current BPD statistical data, strategic plan, organizational composition, the results of two current community surveys BPD utilizes, and crime and traffic trends. The top three concerns of our community are traffic safety, homelessness, and violence. During the meeting, participants provided feedback on BPD's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats, and other visions they may have for improvements and the potential for different collaborations. The community input phase will continue for a few weeks, and the new BPD Strategic Plan will be completed in December for implementation in 2025.

Some feedback BPD received included growing engagement, increasing mental health partnerships, having more outreach with the youth, pursuing more funding for additional police officers, and increasing diversity. Some of the threats constituents shared included staffing levels and recruitment, access to guns, mental health, and the budget.

Following the meeting, one of the attendees wrote, "I felt that it was a great experience. I was surprised at how much I didn't know about the police department and the role they take in our community. Some of the common themes were mental health, homelessness, increase in juvenile crime (gun violence) and the perception of police. Finding a way to have a positive impact on these areas will increase the Livability within Bloomington."

Chief Simington exclaimed, "I am sincerely thankful for the participation and stakeholder investment in this process. BPD is only as good as its community, and we are extremely blessed to serve in a city that cares

Media Contact:

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about its future and safety! The women and men of our agency will continue to work on this community's behalf to make impactful improvements based on the continuous feedback we receive from those we serve. As a reminder, if you receive an anonymous survey from Blockwise or Axon90 regarding the Bloomington Police Department, please provide feedback as it impacts our service delivery and allows our agency to make improvements and investments in the proper arena."

###

If you wish to submit a crime tip and remain anonymous, please contact the Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit (CIAU) at 309-434-2963 or email CIAU@cityblm.org. You can also text the number 847411 by texting the word "BPDTIPS", then a space, followed by your tip information.

The tip line is not monitored 24/7. The CIAU office is staffed from 8am-4:30pm, weekdays. If no one is available to answer your call, please leave the information on the voicemail or send it by e-mail.

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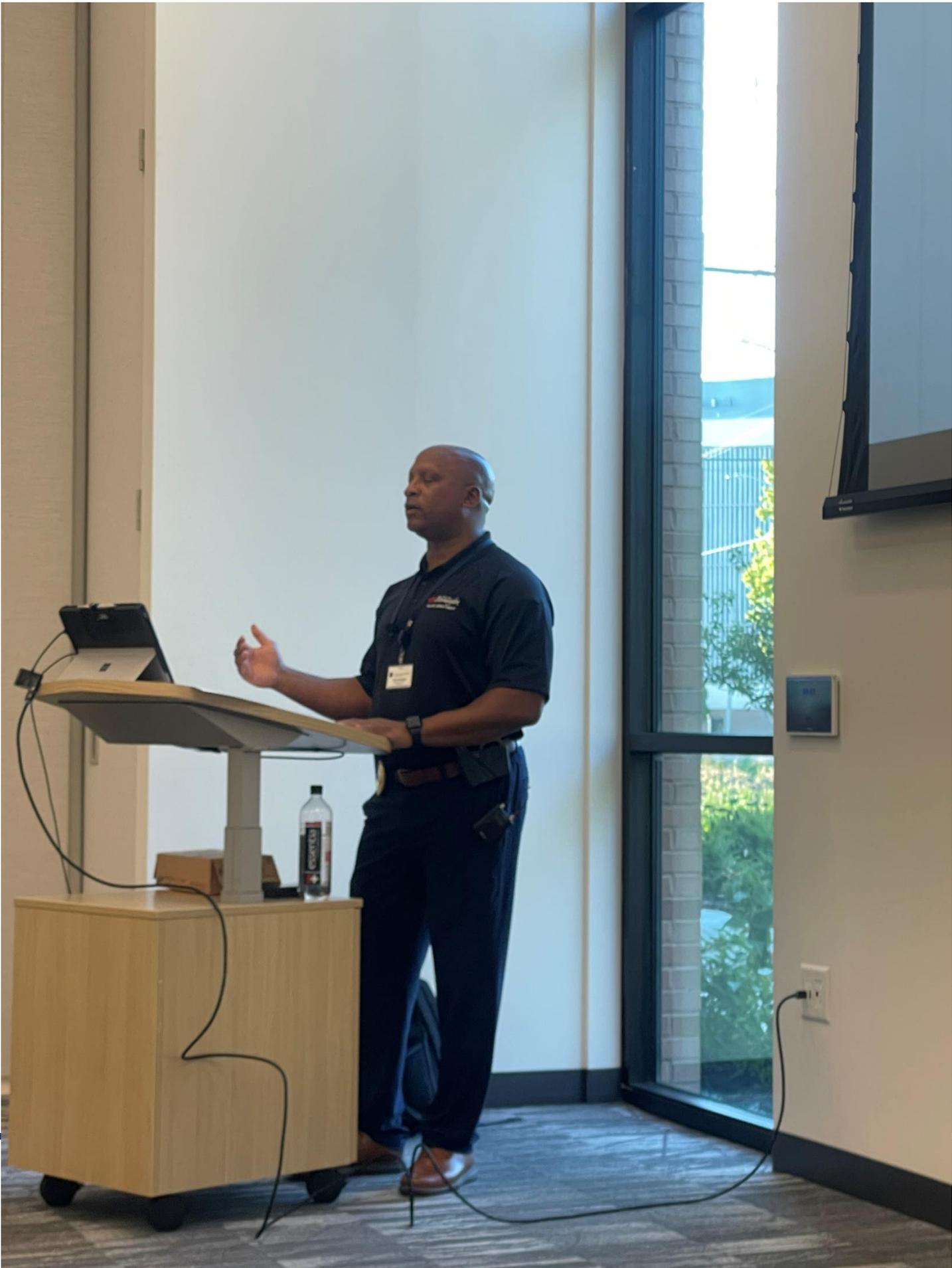


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Bloomington PD, IL | July 2nd, 2024

Blockwise - Q2 Executive Summary Report

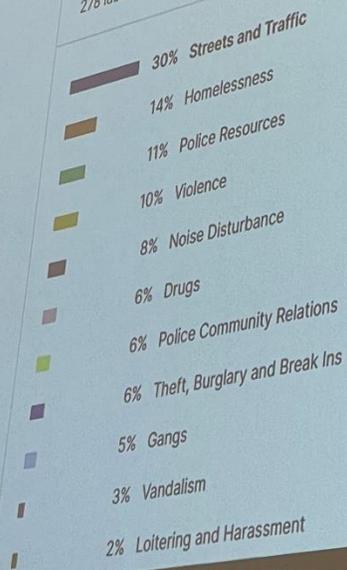


The open comment feed provides open-text comments identifying general themes and specific issues and locations. **Streets & Traffic** is the top concern for residents with 30% of the labeled comments. Homelessness came second with 14% of the labeled open comments.

76% of residents stated they feel completely or mostly safe in their neighborhood. 86% of respondents are very or fairly willing to contact the police.

Top concerns

278 labeled responses out of 347



Top 3 concerns breakdown

Number of responses by leading subtopic

