

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the standing committee on Finance was held on Monday May 19th, 2025 at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 45 School St., Brockton, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:04PM with seven members present and President Thompson presiding. Councilors Derenoncourt, Minichiello, Rodrigues, and Tavares absent.

A moment of silence for Peggy Cruise.

1. Acceptance of the minutes of the April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 Finance Committee Meeting.

Accepted and placed on file.

Councilor Nicastro motioned to take items #2-5 and act on them collectively and was properly seconded. The motion carried by a hand vote.

2. Reappointment of Matthew Stanton of 160 Tribou Street, Brockton, MA 02301 to the Brockton Beautification Committee for a one-year term ending in April 2026.

Invited: Matthew Stanton

3. Reappointment of Linda Pietrantonio of 55 John Berman Drive, Brockton, MA 02302 to the Beautification Committee for a one-year term ending in May 2026.

Invited: Linda Pietrantonio

4. Reappointment of Kelly Hanlon of 96 Westfield Drive, Brockton, MA 02301 to the Beautification Committee for a one-year term ending in May 2026.

Invited: Kelly Hanlon

5. Reappointment of Peggy Curtis of 153 Dixon Road, Brockton, MA 02301 to the Brockton Conservation Committee for a three-year term ending in April 2028.

Invited: Peggy Curtis

Councilor Farwell motioned to recommend favorably items #2-5. Motion was properly seconded and carried by a hand vote.

6. Ordered: That the City Council authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of the total grant funds in the amount of \$11,961.20

FROM: COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF FIRE SERVICES \$11,961.20

TO: BROCKTON FIRE DEPARTMENT \$11,961.20

Invited: Fire Chief Brian Nardelli  
CFO Dr. Troy Clarkson

Fire Chief Nardelli stated this is a five-year term grant and they are looking to re-up for another five years beginning next year. There were some monies leftover that were not collected so they were able to reapply in the same year for more funds this will be used to buy turnout gear for some of their new members. They are going to buy a few sets of gear out of this money and this is a non-match grant.

Councilor Nicastro: tell us briefly what is turnout gear?

Fire Chief Nardelli: turnout gear is the coats they wear to go into fires and pants they are thermally protected, water protection, and biohazard protection. Looking to buy 3 sets.

Councilor Nicastro: so around \$4,000 a set?

Fire Chief Nardelli: they are a little bit over when doing the math but will be paying a little bit out they have a line item that they purchase gear in.

Councilor Asack motioned to recommend favorably. Motion was properly seconded and carried by a hand vote.

7. Ordered: That the City of Brockton appropriate the amount of Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) for the purpose of paying for design and construction of various stormwater improvements throughout the City. To meet this appropriation the City Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under G.L. c. 44, §7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor.

Further Ordered: That the City Treasurer is authorized to file an application with The Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Municipal Finance Oversight Board to qualify under G.L. c. 44A any and all bonds or notes of the City authorized by this vote, and to provide such information and execute such documents as the Municipal Finance Oversight Board of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts may require.

Invited: DPW Commissioner Pat Hill  
Treasurer & Collector Martin Brophy  
CFO Dr. Troy Clarkson

CFO Dr. Clarkson: this a standard loan order, this project specifically to be paid out of the stormwater enterprises. The stormwater enterprise will generate roughly \$800,000 per year in revenue. The purpose of the enterprise is to be able to do projects within the city so this order represents the opportunity to do \$3million worth projects and the revenue in the storm water authority can certainly support that principle and interest.

DPW Commissioner Hill: this \$3 million amount cam specifically to a project at the Keith Field. There's a culvert that runs across Keith field that was looked at by an engineering firm for another project. Looking at the results determined that the covert needs to be replaced not entirely the very least the roof structure needs to be rebuilt. Working with consultants the best approach it's a no dig option the cost estimate to do 500 foot stretch of covert across Keith field was \$2.4 million they always put contingency of 25% which brought the project to \$3 million.

Councilor Nicastro: this project from Savvy and Sons is dated February 2024 so its more than a year old and would suspect with tariffs will cost more?

DPW Commissioner Hill: actually, that must be a misprint they just got that of February of this year.

Councilor Lally: How long will this covert last?

DPW Commissioner Hill: typically, 50 to 70 years

Councilor Asack: does or doesn't include the section that's with the Boys and Girls club and if it does why are we paying for it?

DPW Commissioner Hill: they had an engineer that went into the culvert to assess the covert in the section that abutted their project that ran through their project and doing so ended up doing an inspection of the entire section. It didn't make sense to him to fix a small portion in the center and leave both ends undone.

Councilor Nicastro: since they will benefit from this culvert and it will be essentially on part of their property, certainly weighing in on a question of fairness from her perspective.

CFO Dr. Clarkson: culvert is the ultimate responsibility of the government and they have sufficient funding in the enterprise funds to support this.

Councilor Farwell: if they are going to have a policy for profit organizations and nonprofits that they need to contribute to infrastructure improvements whether it be water sewer or anything else then he thinks that should be codified, doesn't think it should vary project to project.

Councilor Lally motioned to recommend favorably. Motion was properly seconded and carried by a hand vote.

8. Ordered: That the City Council authorizes the acceptance and expenditure of the total grant funds in the amount of \$2,000,000.

FROM: U.S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY	\$2,000,000.00
TO: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS	\$2,000,000.00

Invited: DPW Commissioner Pat Hill  
CFO Dr. Troy Clarkson

CFO Dr. Clarkson: This earmark is for the purpose of design of a biosolids dryer.

DPW Commissioner Hill: because they spend so much out of the enterprise to deal with the sludge. They should be able to successfully seek funding to actually construct whatever is designed within the appropriation for the enterprise. Just using the money, they now spend on disposal they are very glad that this money has not been pulled back but certainly the acceptance of the city council is critical to allow them to have access to those funds to finally begin that project. The dryer run at 200-300 degrees it takes most of the water out. Currently 26% solid and 74% wet this will reduced the mass to 90% solid and 10% wet.

Councilor Farwell: Eventually if they adopt some type of a plant being designed at least a \$34 million outlay of funds. So, the \$34 million project that was presented and approved by the SRF board was not only for a drier but a secondary process that is not the goal as of this point. Knowing what their primary focus is to try to curb some of the costs that are associated with hauling biosolids dryer.

DPW Commissioner Hill: Will reduce the amount of trucks by 180 per year currently they have about 750 trucks a year. This budget line item will most likely be reduce to \$1.3-\$1.5 million at the end of the drier project.

Councilor Farwell: who would over see the project is it CDM? Who would it be? We would hire someone? CDM is our engineering firm for the wastewater treatment plant and they have no participation?

DPW Commissioner Hill: it would not be CDM. It would be an OPM. Correct. CDM's involvement is just for the design portion of it. If it comes to a construction project CDM will certainly have staff there to ensure that drawings are being adhered to but a project that scale an OPM will oversee.

Councilor Nicastro: both aware of her concerns as the plant is in Ward 4 when it comes to odors and noise and things that impact our quality of life. Not willing to go along with this without a better understanding of how this will impact the neighborhoods.

Councilor Nicastro motioned to postpone to the next finance meeting and was properly seconded.

Councilor Asack on the motion: will postponing this affect the grant?

DPW Commissioner Hill: need to get earmark accepted before moving to the next step but this project seems to get delayed. Delaying this unfortunately doesn't think we can continually afford to do that anymore.

Councilor Nicastro: this is giving her 2 weeks to get a better understanding.

The motion to postpone to next finance meeting was carried by a roll call vote taken by "yeas" and "nays"; seven members present six voting in the affirmative and Councilor Lally in the negative.

9. Ordered: That the following named sum be and the same is hereby transferred as the same was submitted by the Mayor as follows:

Transfer of: \$12,000.00

FROM: ANIMAL CONTROL - FULL TIME SALARIES	\$12,000.00
---	-------------

TO: ANIMAL CONTROL – OVERTIME	\$12,000.00
-------------------------------	-------------

Invited: Director of Animal Control Thomas Dechellis  
CFO Dr. Troy Clarkson

CFO Dr. Clarkson explained there are some vacancies in the animal control and necessary to expend overtime funds and this transfer funds from full-time salaries that there are vacancies to the overtime to provide sufficient funds.

Director of Animal Control Dechellis stated there dealing with a 45% reduction in staffing levels right now.

Councilor Asack motioned to recommend favorably. Motion was properly seconded and carried by a hand vote.

10. Resolve: Be it resolved by the Brockton City Council to invite Jennifer Sprague, Second Assistant District Attorney for the Plymouth County District Attorney's Office to appear before the Finance Committee to discuss the creation of a community court in the Brockton District courthouse, which said community court will be a restorative justice program to address low-level, quality of life offenses and will involve access to mental health counseling, drug/alcohol treatment, housing assistance, and other vital resources.

Invited: District Attorney Timothy Cruz

Community Court Coordinator Jeffrey Smith and or any staff deemed appropriate

Brief Recess.

Back in session.

District Attorney Timothy Cruz stated Jennifer Sprague was unavailable to attend tonight's meeting and is here in her place.

Power point presentation

District Attorney Timothy Cruz: stated 33% decrease in total crime since 2017 to 2024, this past year since 2017, 342 fewer violent crimes, 197 fewer aggravated assaults that's real progress. Continuing to work together from Brockton police, State police, DA's Office, Federal, State, and Local partners that what makes a difference.

President Thompson: thanked both gentlemen for being here tonight and wants to commend the Plymouth county district attorney office for the work they do the statistics presented tonight are encouraging. Two reasons both on the enforcement side and the recidivism reduction side or the treatment side. Plymouth county runs Project Safe Streets amazing coordination with State, Federal, and local law enforcement agencies all working together.

District Attorney Timothy Cruz: lower level crimes get arraigned go to a pre-trial probation and be sent to community court where there are going to be services to get help. Already half way through the grant for the first year and it's a four-year deal hopefully get it up and running and working.

Councilor Nicastro: Is the state judiciary behind this?

District Attorney Timothy Cruz: it's a challenge right now dealing with the judiciary. Hopeful they are going to continue to have conversations and work with them.

Councilor Griffin: Agrees with both of them that accountability is a big factor. Thanks both for being here tonight and all the work you do and if there's any way he can help please let him know.

Councilor Farwell: instead of spending time convince the judges that you have a program maybe ask what their recommendations is other than maintain status quo. The status quo is not going to do anything for the current situation. Is the bar association with this?

District Attorney Timothy Cruz: actually, they're agreeing with them.

Councilor Asack: is very fond of the program. Thinks its great for the community. This is going to happen at the court house thought it was going to be separate?

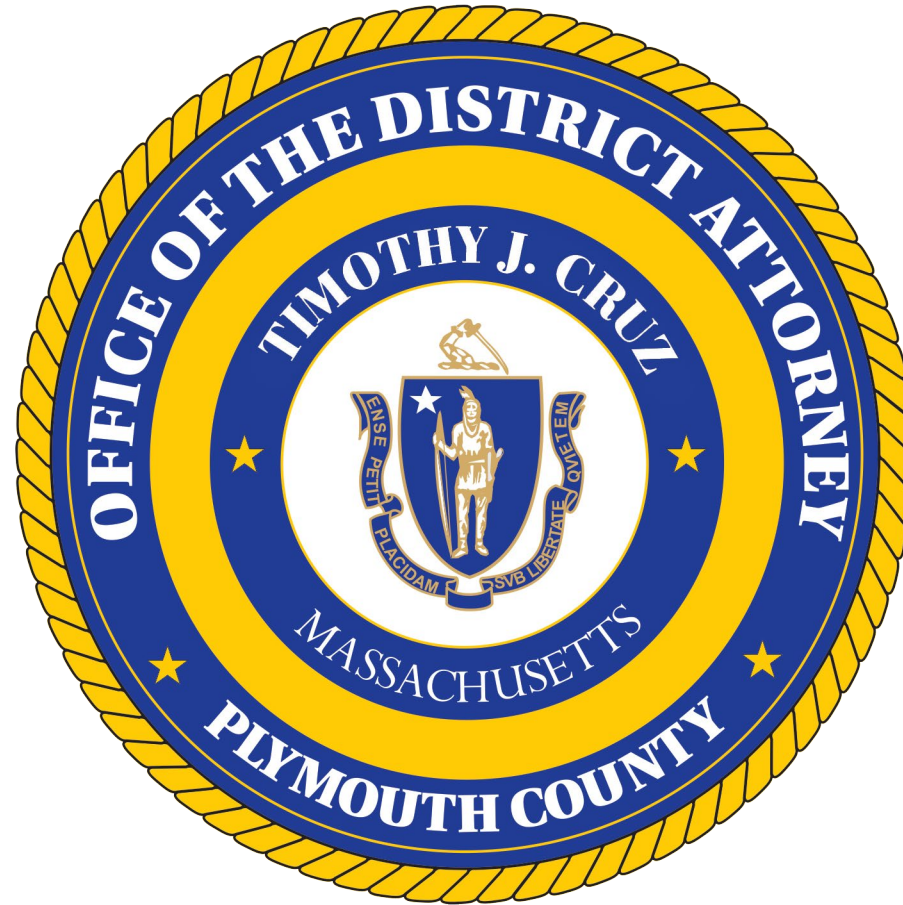
District Attorney Timothy Cruz: not sure where the actually building is going to be.

Councilor Asack motioned to recommend favorably. Motion was properly seconded and carried by a hand vote.

Councilor's Recognition

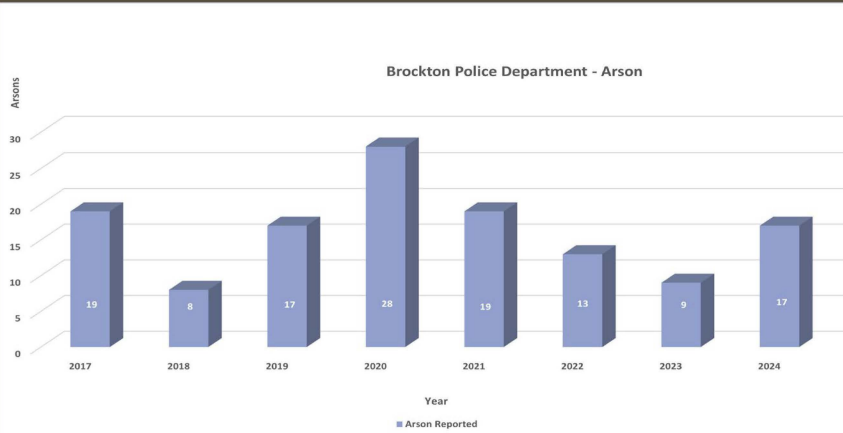
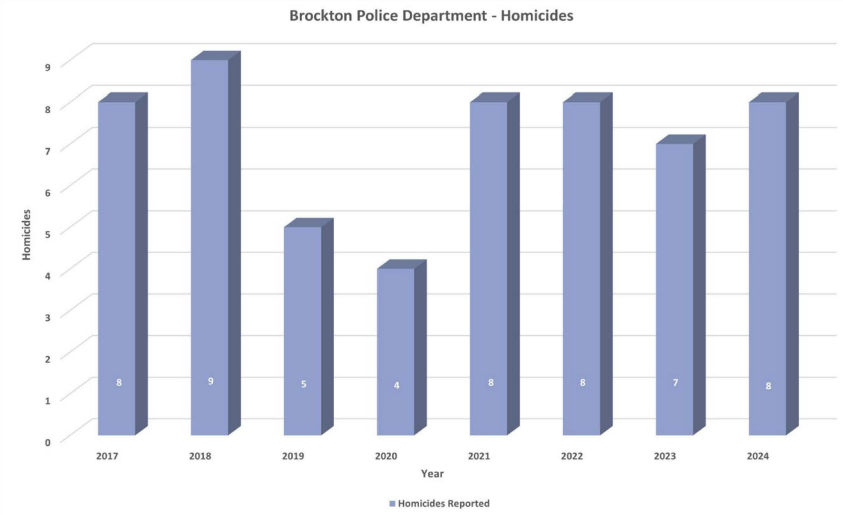
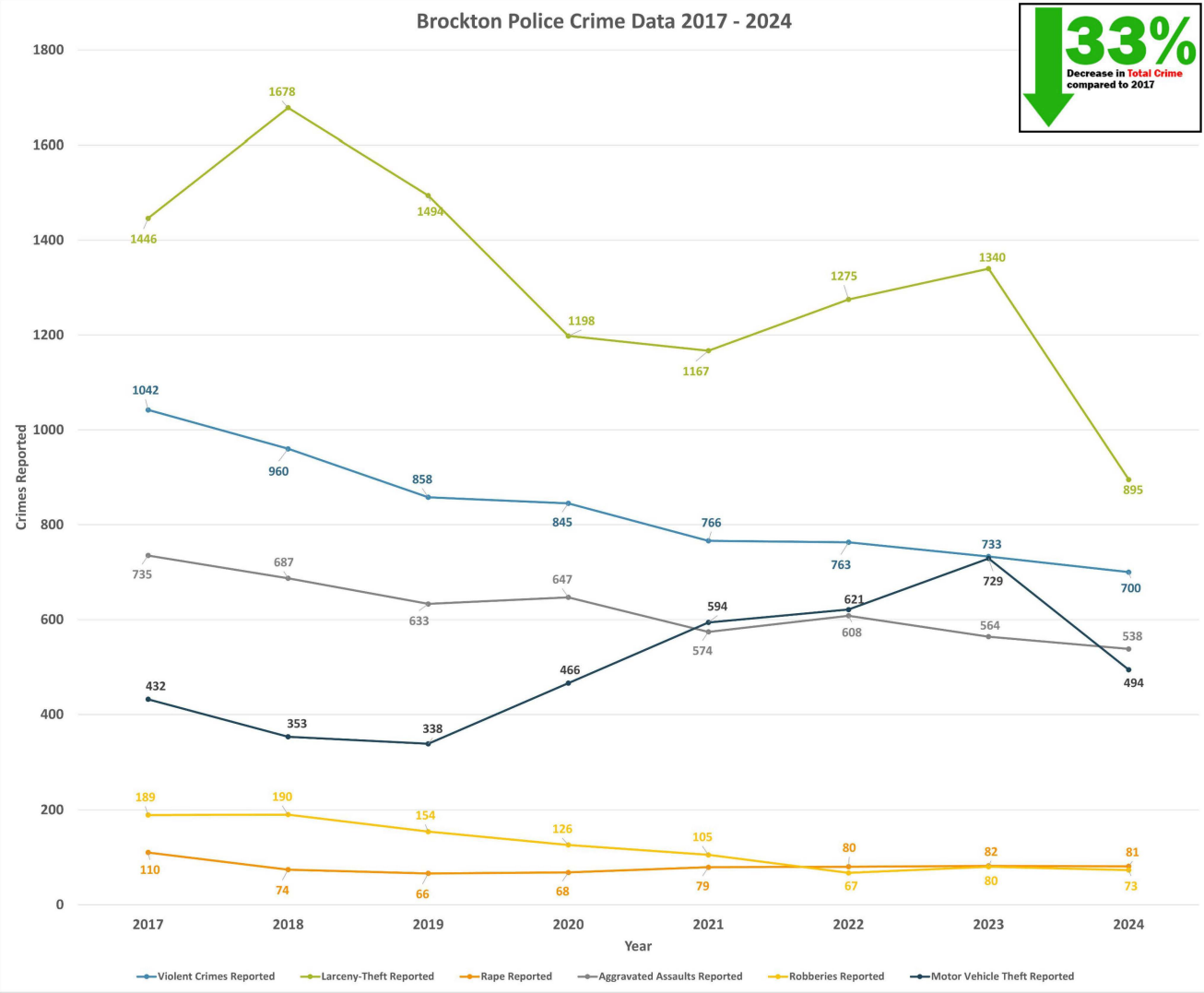
Councilor Nicastro wanted to congratulate everyone who contributed to the success of Brockton High School's musical this past weekend Bye-Bye Birdie. The show was amazing and they should all be so proud.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:58 PM

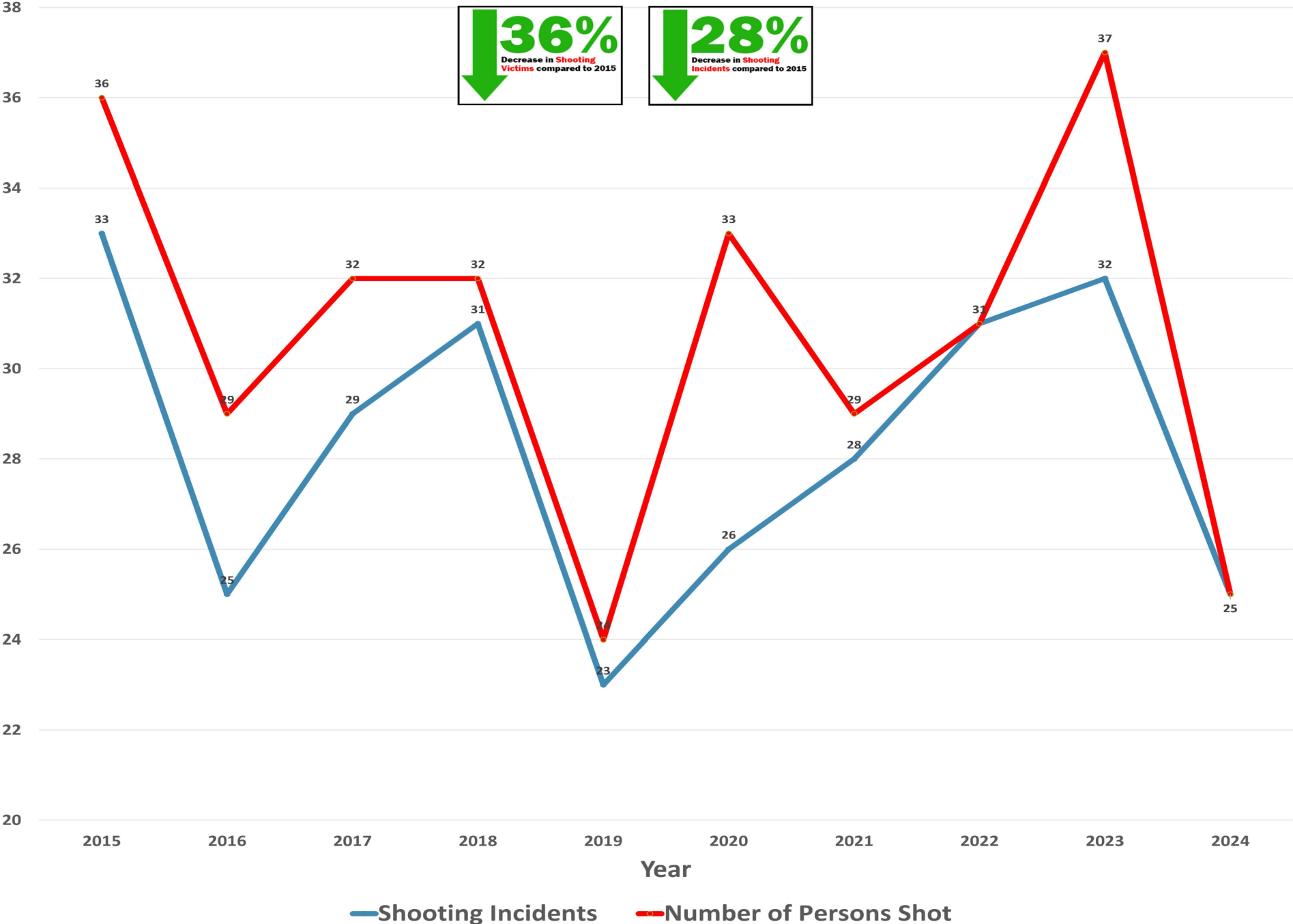


Plymouth County District Attorney's Office  
Brockton City Council  
May 19, 2025





Brockton - Shooting Incidents and Victims

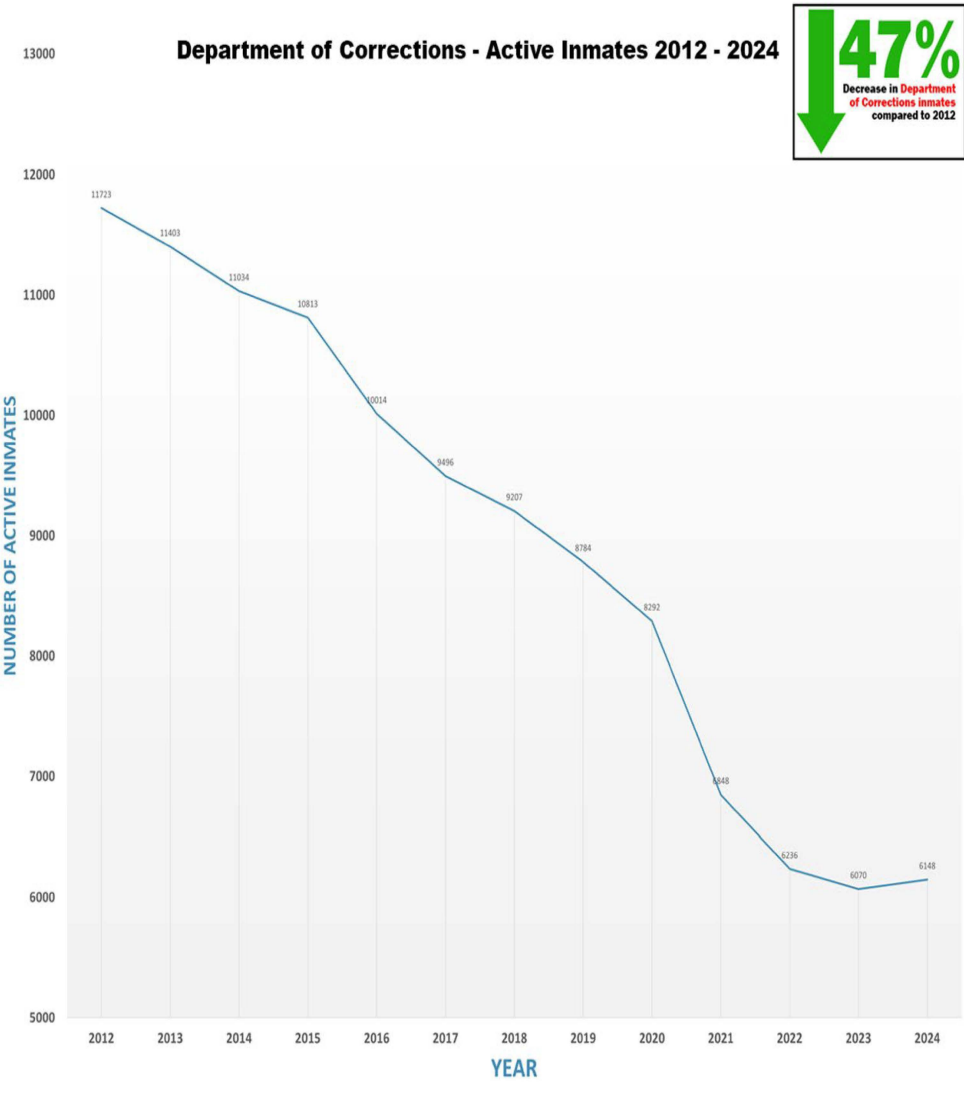


# Juvenile Court Cases 2015 - 2024

**39%**  
Decrease in Juvenile court  
cases compared to 2015



Department of Corrections - Active Inmates 2012 - 2024



Plymouth County Correctional Facility - Plymouth County Inmates 2012 - 2024











# Plymouth County Community Court Initiative



Please visit  
[plymouthda.com](http://plymouthda.com) for  
more information on our  
office.

