



## PARADISE VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Chief of Police

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September 28, 2016

Town of Paradise Valley  
Attn: Town Manager Burke  
6401 E. Lincoln Dr.  
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253  
Mr. Burke,

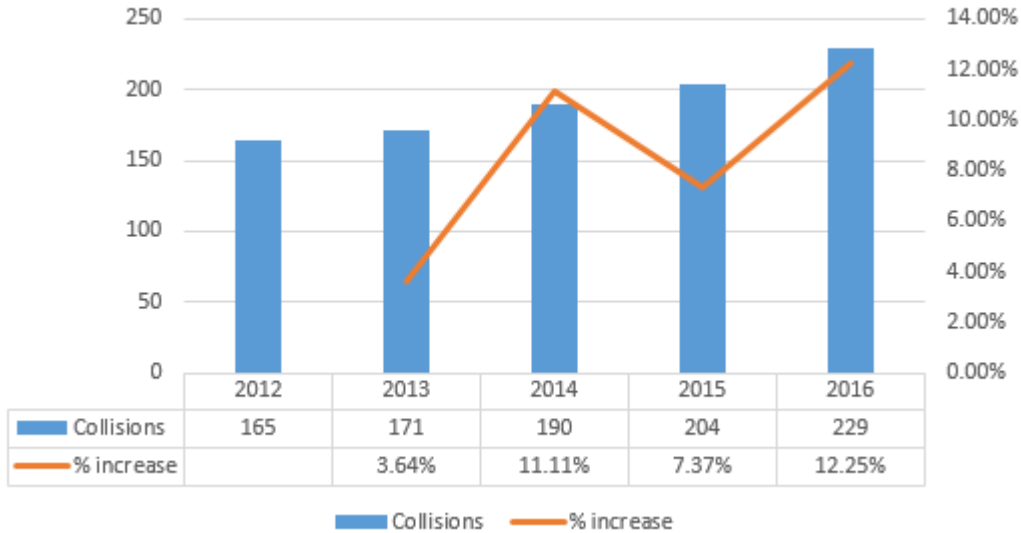
I have received several inquiries from citizens about the use of motorcycles to deter poor bicyclist attitudes and behavior and reduce speeding vehicles on Cheney, Mockingbird, and Doubletree. I know that you are not real excited about motors, but I think a motor program could be beneficial for the following reasons:

1. Motors could be beneficial in solving the bicyclist problem in the areas mentioned. Additionally, motors could be used to deter bicyclist problems in the 100 beat, which is the geographic location closest to town hall, but includes several areas where we are regularly asked to work extra patrol due to bikers.
2. Motors could be beneficial in deterring speed related problems in the same areas. Recently, we have received several requests for extra patrol due to speeders in the area of Cheney and Doubletree.

We attempted to solve the bicyclist problems using stationary and mobile patrols in the areas identified. When we are stationed in these areas in the Tahoe, we are very visible. While we are in the area, we do not see the problem behavior due to our visibility. When we leave, the problem resurfaces. Motors are able to be concealed better, which might assist us in solving this neighborhood problem.

3. Our collisions are up nearly 31% over the three-year average. The majority of the collisions occur on Lincoln Dr. and Tatum Blvd. and are speed or inattentive driving related.
  - a. These areas are difficult to work in a Tahoe because the Tahoe is large and cannot be parked alongside the roadway, leaving only moving radar as the option.
  - b. Moving radar is not a great option due to the traffic on both roadways. It is difficult to execute a U-turn in the large vehicle to get behind a violator, in order to stop the violator.
  - c. If a stop is successfully made on Lincoln or Tatum, it is difficult to get the traffic stop off the main roadway, due to the raised curbing and private driveways. A traffic stop on Lincoln or Tatum impedes traffic due to the size of the Tahoe blocking one entire lane. This problem would be alleviated somewhat with the size of a police motorcycle.
  - d. Motorcycles would allow us to park in town right of way alongside these thoroughfares, yet are nimble enough to conduct U turns on violators.
4. Since February 25, 2014, when the use of a motorcycle as a police vehicle was discontinued, we have seen a year over year increase in collisions, see graph below. The 2016 data is projected through December 31, 2016.

## Collisions in Paradise Valley



5. I envision a motorcycle program being staffed in the following manner: Our current staffing levels of six officer per shift allow one officer to be designated as the traffic officer. The traffic officer would work exclusively traffic and collisions during the officer's tour of duty.
  - a. If any collision town wide occurred, the traffic officer would respond and take the report, allowing the beat officer to remain in their geographic location to maintain visibility in the neighborhoods.
  - b. When not addressing collisions, the officer would concentrate on speeds and bicyclists in the identified areas.
  - c. The traffic officer would only be on the motorcycle during daylight hours. At all other times, the traffic officer would be in the Tahoe.
6. Additionally, the Governor's Office of Highway Safety grant offers overtime for individuals who are interested. The motorcycle could be staffed from these overtime dollars during daylight hours to work the Traffic Enforcement Program. During these times, the GOHS grant pays for an officer to work exclusively traffic related issues in town.
7. Finally, the Governor's Office of Highway Safety has offered the Town of Paradise Valley \$27,000 to purchase and outfit a motorcycle to use for this project. At a later point in time this federal fiscal year, there is a possibility of receiving a second motorcycle through this grant. A second motorcycle unit would be staffed from the GOHS monies.
8. I have received some donations during this fiscal year. Out of these donations, I would be willing to seek an insurance policy to cover the needed insurance, and could seek a rider of some type that would assist with PSPRS if that is of concern to you.

Please let me know your thoughts on the reimplementation of a police motorcycle program.

Thank you.

Peter Wingert  
Chief of Police

