

## Loveland police chief discusses 2019 crime statistics with council

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Police chief Bob Ticer gave an update on the state of crime in Loveland to the City Council on Tuesday, including 2019 statistics and information about shoplifting enforcement and other special programs.

Loveland's Police Department directs enforcement based on statistics and location data obtained through its Data-Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety program, which was introduced shortly after Ticer was chosen to lead the department in 2016.

Although the DDACTS approach is citywide, two areas of the city have since been designated as DDACTS "zones" and receive special attention from police, including:

- The area bounded by East Eisenhower Boulevard from Redwood Drive to County Road 3 on the far east side of Loveland, including four blocks north and south of Eisenhower along the corridor.
- The U.S. 287 corridor from 43rd Street to Eighth Street Southeast, bounded by Grant Avenue to the west and Monroe Avenue to the east.

Ticer attributed a 27.4% drop since 2016 in Part I crimes — including aggravated assault, forcible rape, homicide, robbery, arson, burglary, theft vehicle theft — to officers guiding their enforcement with the DDACTS approach.

Part I crimes fell from 1,994 in 2018 to 1,844 in 2019. He singled out a 6.4% reduction in vehicle crashes since 2016, during which time the city's population also grew by about 6.4%, as another particular achievement.

"Because our officers are being in the right place at the right time and doing the right things — warnings, traffic citations or whatever is appropriate — those numbers are starting to decline," he said.

While violent Part I crimes increased from 198 in 2018 and 189 in 2016 to 227 last year, Ticer said violent crime trends are harder for law enforcement to address than property crime or traffic trends.

The number of sexual assaults also increased from 50 in 2018 and 36 in 2016 to 51 in 2019. In response to questions from Mayor Jacki Marsh, assistant chief Ray Butler said the additional victims included both adults and children and that the department believes increased reporting is a factor.

Ticer also said the department is partnering with the Sexual Assault Victim Advocate Center and other organizations to provide help for victims of sexual violence.

In addition to statistics, Ticer shared that shoplifting violations dropped 26% from 2018 and shoplifting calls fell 41%, which he associated with special enforcement programs at targeted stores.

Throughout his presentation, Ticer cautioned against forgetting about the suffering reflected in the crimes that his department recorded.

“That’s a lot of numbers,” he said. “Those are people in the thousands, so we have a lot of work to do.”