

*City of Bainbridge Island*  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**



**MEMORANDUM**

TO: City Council  
Doug Schulze, City Manager

FROM: Morgan Smith, Deputy City Manager

DATE: September 18, 2014

RE: Information on Bainbridge Island Police Incidents and Officer Response

---

**Background**

This memo serves to provide some information on how the Bainbridge Island Police Department currently responds to calls for service, the distribution of those calls across the island, and other issues related to department response. As the City considers options for Police facilities to replace the existing station, it is important to understand both current service patterns and also how response requirements may change over time.

**Calls for Service**

The Department requested data from Kitsap Central Communications (CENCOM) on the geographic distribution of calls for service for the period covering July 2012 – June 2014. This data helps to illustrate how the department's activities currently map across the island.

As shown in the map, the distribution of calls for service is closely aligned with the community's population distribution. A high percentage of calls are located in the Winslow area, which corresponds to the higher population density in this area.<sup>1</sup> Outside of Winslow, calls for service originate from areas all across the island, and are fairly evenly spread throughout the community.

---

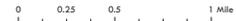
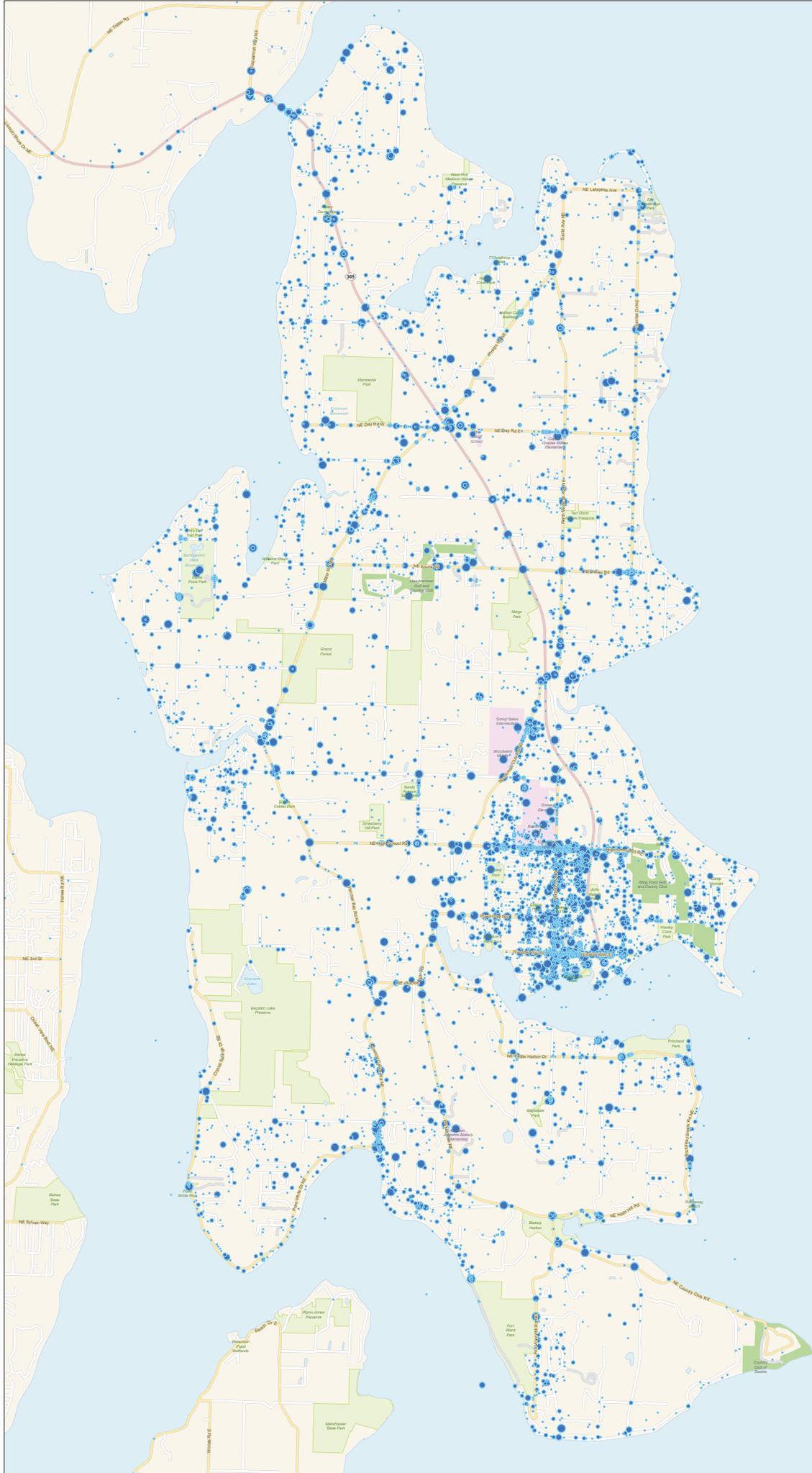
<sup>1</sup> Currently, 30% of the City's population lives within census tract 909, representing the greater-Winslow area.

# Calls for Service (Police)

Bainbridge Island  
7/1/2012 - 7/1/2014

## FREQUENCY

- 1
- 2 - 5
- 6 - 10
- > 10



**Kitsap County Department of Information Services**  
Geographic Information System Division (GIS)  
614 Clinton Street, MS-211 Port Orchard, WA 98365-4614  
<http://www.kitsapgis.com/gis/>

This map was created from existing map sources, not from field surveys. While great care was taken in using the most current map sources available, no warranties of any sort, including accuracy, fitness, or merchantability accompany this product. The user of this map assumes responsibility for determining its suitability for its intended use.  
\* THIS MAP IS NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR A FIELD SURVEY \*

Date Sources:  
Kitsap County GIS  
Cesium  
Esri  
© Calls 2012-14.mxd  
Map Date: 07/2014

Looking ahead, the City of Bainbridge Island's Comprehensive Plan seeks development patterns that will locate 50% of the island's population growth within the central, Winslow-area core. The remainder of the island will continue to feature lower density residential development across a relatively large area. Given which, it is expected that current patterns of Police calls for services are a good guide for service call patterns in the future. There will continue to be a significant portion of activity centered within the Winslow core, alongside less frequent, but widely distributed, calls for service from all other areas of the City.

### **Police Response**

The detailed incident map demonstrates that incidents happen all over the Island with a concentration around the downtown Winslow area. It is important to also understand how Bainbridge Island police officers arrive at these locations. To a large degree, response time depends on where officers are responding from. Officers may be responding from their patrol, in which case response time and route will depend on the officer's position relative to the location of the call.

It is also very common for Bainbridge Island police officers to be responding from the police station (currently located near the Washington State Ferry Terminal, at the intersection of Highway 305 and Winslow Way). Officers routinely spend a portion of their day at the station for several reasons, including to work on reporting, to secure evidence or for personal/lunch breaks.

CENCOM does not currently track the location an officer acknowledges a call. However a rough estimate of the department's current pattern is that 50% to 60% of calls for service are cleared from the station. The remainder of the calls are cleared while patrolling. For this reason, it is crucial that any new facility be centrally located and able to provide good access to both Winslow-area calls and island-wide incidents.

### **Vehicle Access Routes**

As shown in the CENCOM map, there is a concentration of calls for police service in the Winslow area. The map also demonstrates that police officers are routinely responding to calls for service all over the Island.

Police officers responding from a downtown facility must traverse the business district in order to access routes to the south end of the island, or to join Highway 305. Access to Highway 305 from downtown involves transit through either school zones at High School Road or through the ferry terminal area at Winslow Way.

Emergency response from the site at North Madison is adjacent to Highway 305, and so provides quicker access to the central and northern island locations. However access from this site to locations on the south end requires transit through school zones on either High School Road or New Brooklyn Road.