



New Lathrop Police Department – March 2022



Figure 1 - Picture of City Manager Stephen Salvatore, Incoming Police Chief Bechler and Commanders Oki and Sealy at the Meet & Greet Session on February 28, 2022

The [City of Lathrop](#) remains on track to stand up its first-ever [Police Department](#) this July, and more significant milestones have been reached over the past few months. City staff, including City Manager Stephen Salvatore, incoming Chief Raymond Bechler, and Commanders Kyle Oki and Stephen Sealy recently concluded a series of community meet-and-greet events around Lathrop. Starting at the Welcome Center in River Islands, the group also attended events at the Generations Center, City Hall, and the Senior Center over the course of about two weeks.

The events served as a chance for residents to learn more about the incoming sworn staff, their backgrounds and experiences in law enforcement and share their thoughts about how the new department can best serve the community. Residents in attendance shared their insights regarding the importance of Community Oriented Policing, engaging with subjects experiencing mental health issues, equitable coverage of law enforcement services throughout the city, and community engagement, among other topics. This was also a great opportunity for residents to meet face-to-face with staff members of the Government Services / City Clerk's Office, Parks, Recreation and Maintenance Services, Public Works and Finance Departments. With the support of City staff and the Lathrop City Council, similar opportunities to interact with members of the Department will occur in the weeks and months to come.

The new Police Department continues to grow as open positions are being filled. We anticipate that three new Sergeants will begin service in late March. Nearly two dozen Police Officer applicants are nearing the completion of their background checks. With our non-sworn positions, our Records Supervisor and a Records Assistant are set to start work during the first week of April. We are also continuing to recruit for Community Service Officers and a Property and Evidence Technician.





For More Information,
Visit the Transition
Webpage

[https://www.ci.lathrop.ca.us/
city-manager/page/lathrop-
police-department-transition](https://www.ci.lathrop.ca.us/city-manager/page/lathrop-police-department-transition)



Figure 2 - Picture of Incoming Police Chief Bechler and Commanders Oki and Sealy at the Meet & Greet Session on March 2, 2022

New Lathrop Police Department Equipment & Vehicles

Officer-related equipment is arriving as scheduled, including hand pistols, rifles, ammunition, tasers, holsters, and body cameras. Our 7 Dodge Chargers and 16 Ford Interceptors are receiving the necessary upgrades to get them ready for the street, including the installation of their lights and sirens and communications equipment. The prototype Lathrop Police vehicle with its completed graphics was unveiled, featuring a sleek white base to help reduce cabin temperatures in the summer months.



Figure 3 - Picture of New Lathrop Police Vehicle - Effective July 1, 2022

