



CITY OF

# Waite Park

WHERE MINNESOTA CONNECTS



Police Department | David W. Bentrud, Chief of Police

### WPPD K9 Program Fundraiser

The Waite Park Police Department has had a long history of successful K9 involvement. Starting in 1986 and continuing until 2019 when K9 Parker was purchased by the St. Cloud Police Department due to our reduced staffing and budget constraints. Since 2019 it has been the goal of the Waite Park Police Department to re-start our K-9 program. Chief Bentrud has selected a new K9 Officer and the city has approved fundraising for the program. K-9 Units have proven to be an important tool assisting police in the following ways:

- Canines track fleeing persons and assist in the apprehension of violent criminals.
- Canines seek out criminals in active burglaries of businesses.
- Canines search for missing persons.
- Canines are visible deterrents.
- Canines also detect and locate illegal drugs that are concealed.
- Canines are great community ambassadors at special events

The department's goal is to continue to provide this significant service to the citizens of Waite Park with the help of community partners like you. The current cost of outfitting a K-9 team (officer, K-9, vehicle, etc.) is approximately \$70,500:

Training for Handler and Dog	\$15,500
Marked Squad Car	\$50,000
Specialty Equipment for Squad	\$ 3,000
Equipment for Home Care	<u>\$ 2,000</u>
Total	\$70,500

It is unlikely that funding for a new K9 program will be available through our regular department budget. It is our goal to raise the needed funds to place a K9 unit in service the by spring of 2022. Thank you for your consideration in supporting this special project. We appreciate your support. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at (320) 251-6300.

Sincerely,

Chief Dave Bentrud

Sergeant Becca Grosz

Officer Andy Lehmkuhl