

TALK OF the TOWN

BAR HARBOR

Let your voice be heard.

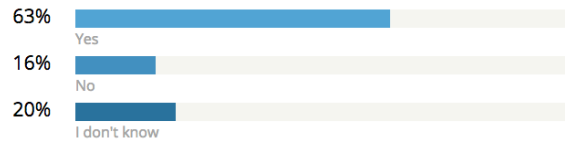
Results from 2/18 Questions on Police Sharing Agreement and Police Force Community Involvement

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MARCH 2018

02/07/2018 | Closed

Do you think the Police Sharing agreement with Mt.Desert has been positive for the community?



Top comments for Yes

Anonymous user's commented on Feb, 15 at 10:40am for Yes
Together is better than them vs us. Like the school district.

Anonymous user's commented on Feb, 23 at 5:12pm for Yes
I do appreciate the individual towns of MDI and their unique qualities; I think we should have one Chamber of Commerce that promotes the whole of MDI, and I think we should be working together as a whole to provide emergency services to all of MDI. I think the collaboration of the police departments appears to be an overall positive step. Working together for the benefit of all is what I would like to see.

Top comments for No

Anonymous user's commented on Feb, 15 at 12:44 pm for No
Must be very helpful in medical and accident response. I see they are working together to stop speeders.... that will help the bottom line. Overall good for the community if used wisely.

Anonymous user's commented on Feb, 09 at 7:06am for No
I used to see and interact with our police force (not a lot) and they were people, now all I see is the cars driving around - no human person unless its in a negative situation. Not negative in that they are doing something bad, but they are only "real" when something wrong is going on. I feel we need to at least be aware who are the people behind the badge. They are also part of our community

Top comments for I don't know

Anonymous user's commented on Feb, 07 at 3:30pm for I don't know
As long as this improves and makes policing better; sounds good to me.

Should the Bar Harbor Police Department continue to expand collaboration efforts with the Mt. Desert Police Department?

80% YES

20% NO

For

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 07 at 3:33pm

Any cooperation between police departments could only be looked at as a positive event.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 10:38am

Seems logical unless politically, financially and union wise it can't be done.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 08 at 4:51pm

Has crime increased in either town since this collaboration has started?

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 8:08am

I have seen very positive outcomes from this collaboration. It feels really good to me, as a resident of Bar Harbor, to see this form of connection and reciprocity with another island town. I support any sensible expansion of this effort.

Yourcommented on Feb, 07 at 3:08pm

yes, it is working well, it is smart, fiscally sound, and is a function of community building. We don't need duplicates of public safety for such a small population in close proximity.

Against

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 09 at 7:01am

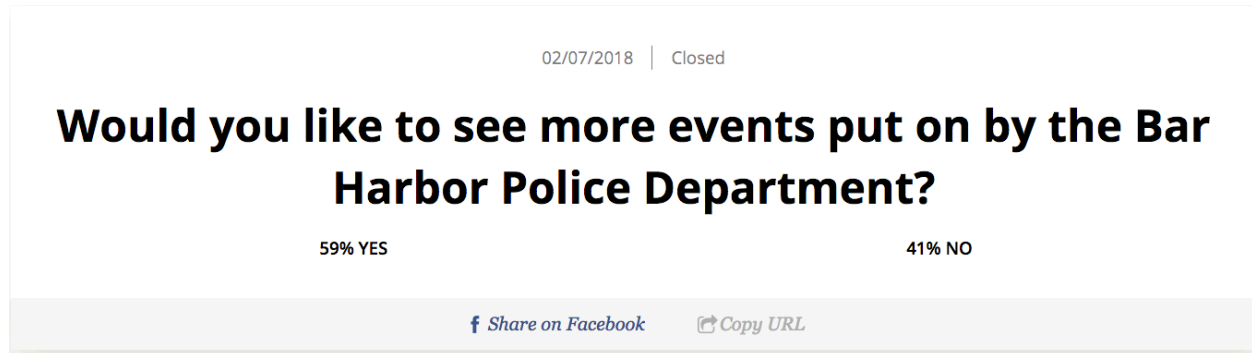
I answered no on this more because I am pro the Towns forces being combined when it is for the good off the community not as a cost saving method. If we reinvest the savings in the police department then it's awesome, but to just do it to save money and keep status quo doesn't make any sense to me. I am fine paying my taxes to improve my community and I'm tired of and disappointed in all the folks that don't care enough to invest in our future.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 08 at 1:42pm

Question is too restrictive, so I voted "no," but there certainly is opportunity to gain efficiencies through collaboration. I feel that downtown Bar Harbor is losing police coverage at a time when it could use it the most. Downtown vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and all the shenanigans that come with that, is heavier than ever. Bring back the foot and bike patrol summer temps to keep those u-turners and j-walkers in line! Then consolidate departments.

Anonymous user'scommented on Mar, 02 at 7:00am

Not unless cost savings and efficiency of service to the Bar Harbor can be articulated... question is too broad. I would suggest that you are not saving the taxpayer one dime in this venture. A decision was made to upgrade software in order to be able to work with the neighboring town of Mount Desert. Again, articulate the savings associated with such a venture...



For

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 09 at 7:14am

"Events" may not be the best as it implies a special "display", but if an event is more of an involvement in daily life as opposed to a special show then sure. I think things like the Fire Dept. being at the Fire of '47 screening was an awesome type of "event" - being part of something on a wider scale. I'd love to see someone at story slam, doing a talk at the Jesup etc rather than say a cook out with the cops (if you do those things make them fundraisers for community programs)

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 7:48am

Love to see officers walking and biking in the summertime. Gives the community a chance to touch base with officers and get to know them.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 5:29pm

My Grandmother used to talk about the fun she had at the Policemen's Balls in the Early Nineteen Hundreds. Food for thought

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 8:09am

Any time that police and fire and other town services can communicate what they do and the importance of their work to citizens is a good thing!

Against

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 08 at 2:02pm

I don't believe additional events or efforts are necessary. The Police Department is extremely involved in the community already - Memorial Day parade, 4th of July parade, Halloween parade, Santa coming to the village green, Bed races, etc. to name but a few. More isn't needed as the relationship is already solid.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 7:57am
I answered no, but really I was unaware of events put on by the PD.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 07 at 3:32pm
It is assumed I have a bad relationship with a police officer?; I have no problem with the police. I do not need to have any events with them.

02/07/2018 | Closed

What types of events and/or community participation will help Bar Harbor & Mt.Desert Police build relationships within the community?

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Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 12:54pm
Can we have a moment in time when we stop making issues where there may not be any. Police are doing enough . Calm down. Take a chill. Focus on important issues like speeding tourists who kill our wildlife. Working with the community on a logical parking plan.. which could include some parking meters to generate income for the town.....Play your role in our community and don't over extend your local power in our rural coastal community. Freedom is an important right. Thanks for your hard work, it is appreciated

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 07 at 3:03pm
Rather than community events, I think that the PDs need more education about who they should be pulling over for questioning. There are many working folks that travel home late at night and get pulled over for some made up reason to check them. For example, my daughter has been

pulled over a total of 6 times after working late, with her work clothes on, and trying to avoid the numerous tire wrecking potholes. No, she had NOT been drinking, but trying to keep her tires in tact. They are smart asses about it as well. EDUCATION about driving these roads!!!! You want good relations? Then they need to act like professionals and stop harassing law abiding citizens!

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 07 at 3:24pm School involvement, maybe coffee with a cop, etc.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 08 at 8:56pm Open gym at MDES is fun

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 11:06am These are all good outreach activities. Keep them up.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 2:51pm
Stop harassment

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 22 at 6:46pm
Maybe have a yearly meet and greet with an organized picnic.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 07 at 3:31pm <https://cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=2468> This question seems easily answered if the local department wants to google. There are a million options and ideas out there. Simply by volunteering with existing nonprofits, officers would build positive relationships. Organizing events, such as anti-bullying seminars with Rotary or the high school's Interact Club, actively participating and supporting community efforts for kids - such as helping to build the Park Street Playground, or be involved in the Kids Book Festival, helping with the backpack program - would have meant a lot to both the community and the organizers. Things like Coffee with a Cop is really just a meet-and-greet that is obviously built around the police department's terms as is the Special Olympic Torch Run or some officers' participation in the marathon. They are a good part of the process, but hardly all the process if you're trying to build a community-centered police force that is more interactive.

Feb, 07 at 3:05pm

I would love to see officers participating in the Island Story Slam. We need to hear their stories too. Library story time at Jesup. Visit Chamber Board Meetings social media posts highlighting each officer- Bio & specialties Workouts at the Y. Lot of youth there looking for rolemodels.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 07 at 5:49pm

Keep up presence around town in “everyday” places.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 07 at 4:53pm

Maybe hosting self defense courses or other safety related events. 0

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 08 at 3:58pm A “community update” session at each of the libraries.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 09 at 7:10am

I'd just like to see them on the street, dropping into a store to chat with the owner (aka monitoring the grapevine), helping the old lady across the road etc. I think formal positions like the school one are great too, but they need to part of daily life, not just put out on display for certain specific things. It would be up to them, but say an officer is going to a local event, are they allowed to wear uniform? Maybe they don't want to and I get that, but that also means that they don't feel they can be an officer and a person at the same time which is the problem in my book

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 13 at 9:31pm

Radar signs are excellent reminders. Daily calls to the elderly is hugely important and a wonderful service.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 7:58am Summer walking cops

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 8:29am Walking instead of being in a car

Peter St Germain'scommented on Feb, 15 at 12:38pm

Public outreach events Common or unified uniforms and vehicles Ultimately a common location

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 09 at 9:31am

The school resource office is a critical component to working with and establishing positive community connections. Attend more sporting events at both the high school and middle school

level to show support. More positive face time with fund raiser like tip a cop for Special Olympics that encourages more public interactions and support. The former Coffee with a Cop was also a great idea.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 22 at 5:10pm
Have opportunities to meet police officers from both towns.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 24 at 8:52am I'm new to Bar Harbor (2 months) so I am not sure yet.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 08 at 1:31pm More "coffee with a cop" type events

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 07 at 3:34pm
Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours or a Chamber Lunch & Learn

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 07 at 7:16pm Citizen's Academy, coffee with a cop

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 08 at 2:28pm No idea.

Francis W Cole'scommented on Feb, 08 at 4:30pm
Pull over the tourist driving slowly and erratically, and not the frustrated local trying to pass them where it's straight and safe. Issue the tourist a warning unless they're drunk. Issue a warning to the NEH/Seal Harbor summer residents who drive 60 in a 30mph zone and tailgate anyone doing less than 60, apply the same policy to the selfsame motorists who blow through traffic control signs (stop, yield, children playing, pedestrian crossings). Driving an expensive car doesn't entitle you to the right of way.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 08 at 5:47pm abolishment

James William John Collier'scommented on Feb, 08 at 2:45pm Ticket the tourists more than the locals.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 21 at 12:28pm

I'm not sure but it would be worth figuring out what has been done in like size communities around the country.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 22 at 6:44am

The fire station is very welcoming, especially for drop-by children with adults. Keep it up. And Thanks.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 21 at 8:54pm

If they kicked Art Greif out of here, people would rally around the cops

Gary Friedmann'scommented on Feb, 07 at 3:58pm Did the "lunch with a cop" events work?

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 07 at 3:57pm

Love seeing officers at the community cafe at the Neighborhood House- maybe sponsor/serve at one of the meals? Street beats stopping at businesses to say hello?

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 10:40am Picnics.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 19 at 5:11pm Do their job courteously

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 22 at 10:43am

Why has the school Dept. been allowed to use the CIP for maintainance. A number of years ago the high school needed a new roof for 1MM, it was approved and spent 5 times before the roof was replaced for 1.5MM. Where is the over site?

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 23 at 9:02am

I think the officers do a great job engaging with the community. The response time is great.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 23 at 8:42am Open house, meet and greets, attend functions.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 07 at 3:15pm I'm not sure I quite understand the question.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 07 at 3:31pm

I personally feel I have a fine relationship with any police department; no need for any events.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 08 at 3:15pm

“The coffee with the cop” was awesome bring it back Adding couple of new school resource officers Tim Bland has built the base time to allow him to train others to continue the success

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 15 at 8:12am

Speaking at Rotary or other civic clubs... interview with Chris Popper and the Islander about what is going well with this arrangement, shared town meeting reports, etc.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 18 at 2:34pm I would like to see a return to foot/bike patrol.

Anonymous user'scommented on Feb, 23 at 7:56am Just being out in the Community

