



HASTINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT

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To 3Si:

I would like to share several recent success stories from the Hastings Police Department's "bait bike" program.

During the summer, an Officer of the Hastings Police Department researched various GPS tracking products in an effort to reduce bicycle thefts within the city. After receiving strong reviews of the 3Si product, the Officer developed a proposal, and the department purchased one tracking unit.

The GPS tracker was installed inside the battery housing of an electric bicycle that was generously donated by a local citizen for use in the program. On August 5, 2025, the Officer deployed the bait bike in the historic downtown district. On August 9, 2025, on-duty officers received an activation alert and were able to successfully apprehend the suspect after he placed the stolen bicycle into a truck for transport. The male confessed to the theft, pled guilty in court, and was sentenced to 18 months in prison due to his extensive criminal history.

The bait bike was later redeployed to multiple locations. On November 19, 2025, the department received another activation. Officers tracked the GPS signal and made a second arrest. This individual also had an extensive criminal history and had just left court for a separate theft case. He observed the bait bike outside Walmart, stole a pair of wire cutters from the store, and then stole the bicycle. This case is still pending in court; however, we believe the evidence is strong and are optimistic about a conviction.

The GPS device has functioned reliably and responsively. In a relatively short period, it has directly resulted in two successful arrests. While it is still early to measure the program's overall impact on bicycle thefts, we are confident that this initiative, supported by 3Si's DirectToDispatch's ability to centralize key evidence for safer and more efficient responses, will contribute to a reduction in thefts within our community.

Respectfully,

Chief of Police

Hastings Police Department