

City of Maple Ridge

COUNCIL WORKSHOP AGENDA
July 2, 2019
3:00 p.m.
Blaney Room, 1st Floor, City Hall

The purpose of the Council Workshop is to review and discuss policies and other items of interest to Council. Although resolutions may be passed at this meeting, the intent is to make a consensus decision to send an item to Council for debate and vote or refer the item back to staff for more information or clarification. The meeting is live streamed and recorded by the City of Maple Ridge.

REMINDERS

July 2, 2019

Committee of the Whole Meeting

1:30 p.m.

1. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
2. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
3. **PRESENTATIONS AT THE REQUEST OF COUNCIL**
4. **UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS**
 - 4.1 **Engineering Department Update**

Presentation by the General Manager of Engineering Services
 - 4.2 **Parks & Facilities Update**

Presentation by the Manager of Parks Planning & Development
 - 4.3 **Community Safety Plan**

Staff report dated July 2, 2019 recommending a Community Safety Steering Committee be established and that Terms of Reference be developed and that funding be provided from the Community Safety Initiative budget

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence has been received and requires a response. Staff is seeking direction from Council on each item. Options that Council may consider include:

- a) Acknowledge receipt of correspondence and advise that no further action will be taken.*
- b) Direct staff to prepare a report and recommendation regarding the subject matter.*
- c) Forward the correspondence to a regular Council meeting for further discussion.*
- d) Other.*

Once direction is given the appropriate response will be sent.

5.1 **Upcoming Events**

General Community Events

July 2, 2019 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm	Twilight Tuesdays, Memorial Peace Park, Maple Ridge Organizer: Maple Ridge Concert Band
July 4, 2019	Thursday Music in the Park, Memorial Peace Park, Maple Ridge Organizer: Variété D'Arts Society
July 6, 2019 9:00 am to 2:00 pm	Haney Farmers Market, Memorial Peace Park, Maple Ridge Organizer: Haney Farmers Market
July 6, 2019 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm	Movie in the Park – Bumble Bee, Memorial Peace Park, Maple Ridge Organizer: City of Maple Ridge
July 7, 2019 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm	Adstock – Alternative Music Festival, Memorial Peace Park, Maple Ridge Organizer: Adstock Society

6. **BRIEFING ON OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST/QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL**

7. **MATTERS DEEMED EXPEDIENT**

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Checked by: 
Date: 6/28/19



City of Maple Ridge

TO: His Worship Mayor Michael Morden
and Members of Council

FROM: Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: Community Safety Plan

MEETING DATE: July 2, 2019

FILE NO: 2244892

MEETING: Workshop

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On February 12, 2019, Council endorsed a Community Safety Plan development process. To initiate the process staff have undertaken additional research, a regional comparison and initial stakeholder engagement. As a result of this work three broad categories of community safety have been identified:

- 1) Citizens feel safe and are engaged in the community
- 2) Citizens are protected
- 3) Citizen's well-being is supported

In order to deliver on the identified goals, staff are recommending the creation of a steering committee. The work of the committee will be supported by a dedicated resource, for which funding is requested.

Staff have also identified immediate opportunities to make progress within the categories identified above by augmenting and expanding current events and further resourcing existing volunteer, clean-up, visibility and security programs and improving radio communications. Staff are also seeking endorsement of funding to undertake these immediate actions.

RECOMMENDATION:

That staff be directed to establish a Community Safety Steering Committee and develop Terms of Reference; and

That \$100,000 be funded from the Community Safety Initiative budget for a dedicated resource to support the development of the Community Safety Plan; and further

That \$155,000 be funded from the Community Safety Initiative budget to fund immediate actions in support of Community Safety Plan goals.

DISCUSSION:

a) **Background Context:**

Community Safety Plan

Community safety has been identified by Council as a key priority. Specifically, Council has expressed a desire to consolidate community-wide efforts into a holistic and multi-sectoral Community Safety Plan. On February 12, 2019, Council endorsed a Community Safety Plan development process based on best-practice.

Since that time, Council has endorsed its Strategic Plan which articulates a vision for community safety as well as highlighting specific community issues. Concurrently, staff have undertaken a comprehensive literature review, regional comparison, and initial stakeholder engagement with the intent of identifying short-term opportunities and gaining greater context for community safety in Maple Ridge. Attachments A and B note specific content, communities and representatives included in the background formation process.

As a result of both pieces of work, it has become evident that efforts pertaining to community safety align with three broad goals:

- 1) Citizens feel safe and are engaged in the community
- 2) Citizens are protected
- 3) Citizen's well-being is supported

Achieving the goals by leveraging a multi-sectoral team while honouring input from the public is achieved through the prioritization of four overarching elements of success: community engagement, communications strategy, data analysis and metrics, and roles and responsibilities. The four elements interact in synergy with stakeholder engagement fostered by an effective communications strategy that supports the development of an evidence-based plan driven by analytical data provided by partners with clearly defined roles related to community safety.

The goal statements and elements of success provide a high-level framework that captures the mandate and work of many organizations, including: the City, senior levels of government, and service agencies. Therefore, it is critical to engage these partners in a more substantive role during the development of a multi-sectoral community safety plan that relies on the efforts of both the City and these agencies for successful implementation.

Organizational representatives who sit on the committee will have authority over programs and services held by their institution and connected with the safety and well-being of our citizens. A list of proposed Committee member organizations is provided for consideration in Attachment C.

The initial work of the Steering Committee will be to establish, in partnership with City staff and support from Council, Terms of Reference which will govern the group, information and data sharing agreements, as well as the identification and engagement of key partners. Independent of this process, yet occurring simultaneously, the City will begin engagement with the public regarding the elements of safety that fall under the broad categories relating to community safety.

Subsequently, the Committee will identify existing issues and determine priorities based on the information and data obtained from community consultation and meetings with partner agencies. Outcomes from this step will inform the development of an implementation plan.

Given the resource demand of coordinating the Committee and engagement processes, staff recommend a dedicated City resource for facilitating the process moving forward in a timely manner. The staff member will coordinate meetings, organize engagement activities, and be a primary point of contact for committee members and the City with regard to tracking and reporting on the development of the Plan. Staff are requesting a funding allocation from the Community Safety Initiative reserve for seconding a current staff member to this role.

The result of following the previously detailed methodology is a community safety plan developed by the community and key stakeholders who are fully engaged in the actions that will be necessary to make progress on identified priorities.

Immediate Action

Those engaged while conducting background research for the Community Safety Plan development have identified issues that require immediate action. Many of these items are already being addressed by various City departments in conjunction with service partners and senior levels of government. However, there remain additional opportunities to make progress on the high-level Community Safety Plan goals by expanding the current calendar of events and further resourcing existing volunteer programs, early morning clean-up, visibility and enforcement programs.

Vibrant Downtown

The intent of this program is to attract additional positive activity to the downtown area by supplementing and expanding current programming while extending the footprint for enhanced programming to vulnerable areas. Staff have conducted a gap analysis of the events calendar and determined that the greatest opportunity to engage citizens with additional programming is between Thursdays and Saturdays from July through the beginning of September. Additional expansion of programming for youth has also been identified.

An example of events that will be supported by this initiative include expanding the footprint of Bard on the Bandstand by leveraging actors to activate the corridor between the Greg Moore Youth Centre and Haney Place Mall. While new programming may include a beach party in Memorial Gardens.

Supplemented Volunteer Programs

Through the information gathering stage staff we were made aware of several volunteer programs, operated by partners, whose intent is to engage the general public and business community in positive and informative interactions. Additional funding for these resources offers an opportunity to increase the number of volunteer shifts resulting in more touchpoints with the downtown community on a daily basis

Additional Bylaw Officers

Staff propose the addition of two time-durated Bylaws Officers, dedicated to patrol the downtown area and surrounding parks. Their responsibilities include making referrals to service providers, liaising with local community organizations and businesses, engaging citizens in positive interactions, and facilitating the safe and enjoyable experience of the area. This resource will also enforce parks bylaws with regards to overnight camping and misuse of park space.

Enhanced Early Morning Clean-up

Local businesses have identified the prevalence of refuse and sharps as an influential factor that impacts their customer's feelings of safety. In order to mitigate this issue, staff propose further resourcing the City's efforts in preserving the cleanliness of the downtown during pre-business hours through the downtown enhanced maintenance program.

Expanded Communications Network

Currently each partner in downtown security operates on a separate communications network which poses challenges for collaboration and requesting support. Expansion of the City's proprietary radio network provides an opportunity to bring service partners together through

reliable, barrier-free communication. Requested funding will support hardware costs and staff time for setting up the network and on-boarding partners.

b) Desired Outcome:

That Council endorse the development of the Community Safety Steering Committee for the development of the Community Safety Plan, approve the funding allocation for a dedicated resource to support the development process, and approve immediate action items to be funded and implemented.

c) Strategic Alignment:

Council has identified community safety and, more specifically, the development of a holistic and multi-sectoral community safety plan as a key priority. Collaborating with partners and stakeholders across the community supports the City's efforts in strengthening partner relationships and in the overall success of the Plan. Furthermore, improving citizen's feeling of safety and increasing their engagement in the community promotes a sense of community pride and spirit.

d) Citizen/Customer Implications:

A community safety plan built by the public and key stakeholders increases ownership for the implementation of actions that will make a tangible difference to safety in the community.

e) Interdepartmental Implications:

Developing a community safety plan will require support from departments across the City. However, the immediate actions identified in the report have more pressing departmental implications. Staff within each of the program areas relating to the immediate actions have been engaged and are committed to supporting the implementation of the proposed activities over the course of the summer.

f) Business Plan/Financial Implications:

Council has allocated a portion of funding for Community Safety Initiatives. Staff recommend that \$100,000 be allocated from this fund for a dedicated resource to support the development of the Community Safety Plan.

Additionally, that \$155,000 be allocated for the programs listed in *Table 1*:

Proposed Activity	Budget
Vibrant Downtown	\$ 40,000
Supplemented Volunteer Programs	\$ 5,000
Additional Bylaw Officers (2)	\$ 60,000
Enhanced Early Morning Clean-up	\$ 10,000
Expanded Communications Network	\$ 40,000
Total	\$155,000

Table 1- Proposed Activity Costs

g) Alternatives:

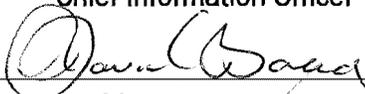
Council has the flexibility to select any combination of proposed programs for implementation this summer.

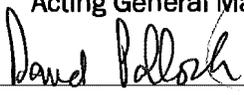
CONCLUSION:

Community safety, and specifically the development of a multi-sectoral community safety plan, has been identified as one of Council's priorities for its mandate. Implementing a steering committee and funding a dedicated resource to oversee the development process will support the delivery of a plan that reflects the community's priority needs. Furthermore, taking immediate action on work items that align with broad Community Safety Plan objectives addresses imminent pressures and opportunities as the Plan develops.


Prepared by: **Daniel Olivieri**
Corporate Support Coordinator


Reviewed by: **Christina Crabtree**
Chief Information Officer


Approved by: **David Boag**
Acting General Manager of Parks, Recreation & Culture


Concurrence: **Kelly Swift, MBA**
, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

- (A) Consulted Agencies
- (B) Research References
- (C) Proposed Steering Committee Members

Social Service Agencies

Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation

RainCity Housing and Support Society

Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Community Services

BC Housing

School District No. 42

Fraser Health Authority, Heathy Communities Partnership

Fraser Health Authority, Clinical Programs – Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Fraser Health Authority, Ridge Meadows Hospital

Family Education Centre

Community Groups

Downtown Maple Ridge Business Improvement Association & its members

Seniors Network

Maple Ridge- Pitt Meadows- Katzie Community Network and its members

Cultural Network Board

Ridge Meadows Seniors Society

Maple Ridge Pitt Meadow Community Services

Additional Resources

Province of BC - Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Office of Crime Reduction & Gang Outreach

Province of Ontario – Ministry of Solicitor General, Public Safety Division

Regional Context	
City of Abbotsford	Crime Reduction and Community Safety Strategy
City of Surrey	Public Safety Strategy
City of Burnaby	Community Safety Planning Process
Best-Practice Research	
Province of Ontario	1) Crime Prevention in Ontario 2) Community Safety & Well-being Planning Framework
Community Safety & Knowledge Alliance	Community Safety & Well-Being Report
City of North Battleford	Community Safety Strategy
Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention	Making Cities Safer: Canadian Cities and Practices
City of Red Deer	Community Safety Strategy
City of Brantford	Safe Brantford Plan

Proposed Advisory Committee Members
BC Housing
City of Maple Ridge
Fire Department
Fraser Health Authority
Justice
MRPM Community Services
Ministries:
- Children & Family Development
- Social Development & Poverty Reduction
- Mental Health
RCMP
School District No. 42