

City of Maple Ridge News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Council Moves Forward with Community Safety Plan

**Maple Ridge, BC:** On Tuesday, February 12 Council approved a process to develop the Community Safety Plan, one of the top priorities for this Council.

"Your Council was elected with a strong safety mandate. The development of a Community Safety Plan will address what we all heard on the campaign trail. Whether it is fear and frustration from criminal activity, concerns that citizens are not being served by the social safety net or concerns about speeding and motor vehicle accidents, it is clear our citizens are looking for action to address these problems," said Mayor Mike Morden.

He continued, "The development of the Community Safety Plan will bring together key decision makers from the business, volunteer and social service sectors to work together with the City, School District No. 42, in conjunction with our senior government partners and their related agencies including BC Housing and Fraser Health, along with our first responders. This facilitated group will create the framework that will deliver recommendations and an action plan to deliver improved citywide safety."

"There is no quick fix. This plan will need many components to address the realities and complexities of our modern world," said Mayor Morden. "Each of us will have a part to play in the planning and implementation of the Community Safety Plan. We all have to take responsibility for the obvious things like our behaviour behind the wheel, but more importantly we all need to be engaged with our neighbours to create strong connections and eyes on the street to deter criminal activity and foster resilience. A connected community is a strong community. Council is committed to ongoing check-ins with the public as we engage the expertise in our community to roll out this important work that our citizens mandated us to do."