

ANNUAL POLICING PLAN

Issue

The 2024 Municipal Enforcement priorities and RCMP Annual Performance Plan is provided to Council for approval.

Motion Proposed by Administration

That the local priorities of Enhanced Officer Visibility, Provincial Traffic Safety, and Crime Reduction be included in the 2024 Municipal Enforcement priorities and RCMP Annual Performance Plan respectively.

Report, Analysis and Financial Implications

Public safety is a shared responsibility. By actively engaging with both agencies, each community member has played a crucial role in shaping public safety priorities within our community.

The Okotoks Municipal Enforcement team is pleased to share key findings as part of the 2024 Public Safety Survey.

Top Concerns

1. Traffic enforcement
2. Nuisance and unsightly premises
3. Parking violations

Community Perception

A majority of respondents expressed satisfaction with the overall level of safety in our community. However, there were pockets of concern in certain neighbourhoods, particularly regarding traffic enforcement, unsightly premises and animals at large.

Priorities for improvement

1. Provincial traffic safety
2. School zone safety
3. Bylaw enforcement

These common themes have been identified as part of citizen priorities, which allow in the development of targeted strategies across 2024.

Each year the RCMP deploy their resources based on an Annual Performance Plan (APP). The APP is a strategic blend of provincial and local priorities intended to reflect

the public safety priorities of our community. For 2024, three policing priorities were established through the Okotoks Detachment leadership team based on local community consultation reflecting the most recent community concerns:

Policing Priorities

1. Crime reduction
2. Proactive police visibility
3. Community involvement and communication

The 2024 Survey results indicated that 20% of residents had no concerns in their neighbourhood, with 92% indicating they felt safe or very safe in the community. Over the last four years, there has been a decrease in respondents reporting they were a victim of property crimes in Okotoks.

Strategic Plan Goals

<input type="checkbox"/>	Responsibly Managed Growth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrated Environmental Leadership
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strong Local Economy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Enhanced Culture & Community Health
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organizational Excellence		

Equity/Diversity/Inclusivity Impacts and Strategy

Diverse engagement opportunities are provided to our community so that perspectives and ideas from all interested parties are considered in Council’s decision-making process. The 2024 public safety engagement was offered in-person and online to address barriers to participation and reflect the range of diversity with the community.

Environmental Impacts

n/a

Governing Policies/Bylaws/Legislation or Agreements

Public Participation Policy GP-D-2.1

Public Participation Strategy

2024 public safety engagement focused on community members’ perspective of the current state of safety in Town, and the community priorities for the upcoming year. Okotoks RCMP and Municipal Enforcement serve the Town of Okotoks as an integrated policing service. The RCMP is contracted to provide policing services and work alongside Municipal Enforcement, who administer community bylaws.

Local RCMP along with Town Administration conducted a recent online survey focused on community perceptions of public safety during the 2023 calendar year.

Additionally, there was a Public Safety Open House with 65 community members in attendance. Feedback from both the online survey and open house were compiled into the final What We Heard Report.

This year, the public safety survey included additional Municipal Enforcement and bylaw questions in a separate section to better capture the Town's overall safety concerns in addition to the RCMP's policing priorities.

The survey was made public to residents and the business community from March 13 to April 1 and garnered 469 respondents. The survey was also sent to the Okotoks Citizen Panel via direct mail of which 130 members' participated. The Citizen Panel is a group of engaged citizens who have registered to be contacted for all community engagement opportunities in Town.

Administration would like to extend appreciation to each resident who made time to participate in the annual public safety survey and to those who attended the public safety open house.

Alternatives for Consideration

n/a

CAO Comments

These priorities are reflective of community input and provide opportunities for targeted and coordinated efforts of both Town of Okotoks Peace Officers and RCMP members. This is the first time Administration has coordinated the responses to develop an annual plan for both agencies. Reporting out on success will also be included in the annual plan.

Attachment(s)

1. Public Safety Survey What We Heard – March 2024

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