



To: Community Safety Committee

Date: December 2, 2002

From: Shawn Issel
Manager, Divisional Programs

File: 5000-01

Re: Community Safety Advisory Task Force Work Plan

Staff Recommendation

That the Community Safety Advisory Task Force Initiatives be endorsed in principle, and

That the Community Safety Advisory Task Force undertake a program to solicit community input.

Shawn Issel
Manager, Divisional Programs

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CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER

Staff Report

Origin

The CSATF (Community Safety Advisory Task Force) was appointed in June 2002 to identify public safety issues from a community perspective and to provide a public forum for community participation.

The CSATF has identified goals and initiatives, as well as a process to invite public input into their decision making. This report is an update to committee on their activities and seeks endorsement of their initiatives and program for community input.

Analysis

The CSATF was provided with a briefing by Community Safety Division staff on the mandates of their respective departments, current issues and initiatives. The CSATF was also provided with the findings of the Community Safety focus group sessions held last January. Based on this information the task force developed a mission statement to guide their progress:

Mission Statement

The Richmond Community Safety Task Force is actively bringing the community back into taking responsibility for the general safety and welfare of Richmond. The Richmond Community Safety Advisory Task Force works with residents, business, community groups, the City of Richmond and the City of Richmond Community Safety Division to educate the public and support programs to make Richmond one of Canada's safest cities. The task force focuses on four primary goals in its effort to support a safe city.

In support of the mission statement, the CSATF developed goals and went through a process to identify and prioritize key initiatives for each goal area. These are contained in *Attachment 1*. The Chair of the task force, Mr. Bob Aldcorn will present these findings to Committee.

There were a number of traffic safety issues identified, which have been forwarded to the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee for advisement. The complete list of initiatives identified by the CSATF is contained in *Attachment 2*.

The CSATF is proposing to take the following steps to receive community input and report back to Council with recommendations for implementation:

Action	Completion
Identify potential groups to request input on CSATF initiatives, e.g. District Parents Advisory Committees, Chamber of Commerce, Minoru Seniors' Centre Board, Richmond Asian Pacific Business Association, SUCCESS, Tourism Richmond, Community Associations.	complete
Endorsement in principle from Council	February 26/03

Action	Completion
Schedule and conduct a series of meetings with specific groups. (This would include a short survey to be conducted at the end of each meeting).	April 15/03
Incorporate community input into the CSATF initiatives and identify community priorities	April 30/03
Report to back to Community Safety Committee on the community input, and make final recommendations.	May 13/03

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact as this time. However when the CSATF reports back to Community Safety Committee with the community input, any budget implications will be identified.

Conclusion

The Community Safety Advisory Task Force has developed a comprehensive list of safety initiatives, which will require further input from the community to determine priority. Once this input has been received the CSATF will be able to provide the Community Safety Committee with recommendations on specific initiatives.



Shawn Issel
 Manager, Divisional Programs

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Community Safety Advisory Task Force Goals and Initiatives

Goal	Initiative
<p>Leadership - we will provide leadership in mobilizing Richmond residents to develop and coordinate events and initiatives that make Richmond a safer place to live and work..</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 24 hour bylaw enforcement – life quality issues, such as dogs and noise 2. Home Safe – CSATF endorsement of this program 3. Youth Strategy – combined city program to encourage youth participation in safety issues
<p>Community Participation - we will actively encourage comments, participation, input and support in addressing community needs and issues to ensure a safe city.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Organize a series of meetings with identified groups to present CSATF safety plan to the community for input 5. Advertise CSATF safety plan and meetings through a variety of media
<p>Strategic Alliances - the Community Safety Advisory Task Force seeks community partners to assist in identifying community needs and implementing new community programs and initiatives that promote community safety in Richmond.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Business Watch – invite the Chamber of Commerce to assist with business community safety information 7. Real and virtual Community Safety Village – endorse the proposal by City Staff, and assist in promoting the concept to community partners 8. Safe Communities Foundation – establish a Richmond Safe Communities Foundation to ensure ongoing support and coordination for safety programs and initiatives
<p>Education - the Community Safety Advisory Task Force acts as a liaison between members of the community and the City of Richmond Community Safety Division while developing and maintaining effective communication and marketing strategies that educate the public and promote initiatives that support a safe community.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Promoting volunteerism for various community safety programs, i.e. Blockwatch, crimewatch, 10. Educational Programs – assisting the Community Safety Division in the development of programs and promoting to the community

<p>Goal</p>	<p>Initiatives</p>
<p>Leadership</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Twenty-four hour bylaw enforcement – dogs, noise (life quality issues) 2. Youth Initiative – research existing youth services and programming and recent changes to legislation, restorative justice, strategy to involve youth, Youth Safety Week, anti-bullying campaign, which includes a component sponsored by shopping malls. Work with Youth Clubs & Schools. Start a school crime stoppers program, adopt a park, support programs to reduce student dropout rates, report all suspicious persons hanging out at schools, organize anti-litter and stamp out graffiti projects. Combined city program to encourage youth participation in safety issues – i.e. bicycle, skateboard, rollerblading safety, traffic safety, Halloween safety, at home alone, street proofing; invite all emergency services to speak to schools, clubs, etc. 3. Home Safe Program – the CSATF endorses this program, which promotes more attractive, safer and socially connected neighbourhoods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Crime Watch – CSATF supports expansion of this RCMP program. volunteers patrol the city & report concerns to the RCMP. Volunteers are not paid for their hours (reimbursed for gas used). Program currently in effect in Steveston ▪ Liquor Regulation changes (hours that establishments would be allowed open) – review and provide input to City ▪ Policing in Parks policies (after hours) – review and provide input to RCMP ▪ Special Events Safety Initiatives (e.g. Halloween, Moonfest)
<p>Community Participation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Town Hall Meetings – to ‘take the temperature’ of the community, broad based (not just criminal activity), translated in Chinese, utilizing the newspapers to distribute <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Series of meetings with identified groups CSATF ideas for initiatives presented to the community for input, e.g. Parent Advisory Committees, Rotary Clubs, Chamber of Commerce, Block Watch meetings, Church groups. Gather alternate ideas from residents. Develop a small survey to use at these meeting ▪ Advertise CSATF initiatives and seek input from the community - surveys, pamphlets, City website, Town Hall Meetings, newspapers, utilizing Blockwatch, Community Cable Television, service clubs, rotary clubs, and schools. Send an e-mail Postcard to local schools, businesses, the Mayor’s office, and media. Promote upcoming events and continue to publicize your achievements with an e-postcard.

Goal	Strategic Alliances	Initiatives
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aircraft Dumping Fuel - Determine protocol and if it is being following ▪ Ban on cosmetic pesticides – research City Park’s department practices regarding the use of cosmetic pesticides. ▪ Business Watch – invite Chamber of Commerce to assist with business community information, establish an employee crime prevention committee, share your business safety initiative program with the City, connection to City’s Community Safety website that provides updated information on - personal safety, computer crime, internal theft, robbery prevention, fraud on the internet, business security, violence in the workplace, safety while travelling, harassment, bullying in the workplace. ▪ Community Safety Village and Virtual Community Safety Village – endorse the proposal by City staff ▪ Disabled Access - Barrier Free Buildings for disabled access (once occupied), Bylaw enforcement of Sidewalk impediments – sandwich boards, garbage cans ▪ Mandatory testing of food handlers – discuss feasibility ▪ Partnerships – identify partners, do they have incentives, plans, memberships or personnel, build portfolio of resources ▪ Safe Communities Foundation – establishing a Richmond Safe Communities Foundation to ensure ongoing support and coordination for safety programs and initiatives with members from the community, business and community safety providers, such as Fire, RCMP, School District, Health, ICBC, WCB, Ambulance, Coast Guard, Youth groups etc. ▪ Traffic Safety – the Advisory Task Force to provide input to the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New Traffic Patterns, Cyclists/Transportation - Integration of bikes and pedestrians on sidewalks, Crosswalk Safety, Enforcement of speed limits in school zones. ▪ City police (RCMP) and other City staff should set an example at all times when driving in the community. Possibly vehicles should display a number to call if violations noted. A number of companies have an invitation to notify them if a vehicle is not being operated responsibly. ▪ Enforce vehicle respect for crosswalks and fines. ▪ A program to encourage Richmond residents to report abuses with the understanding a letter would go out to the perpetrator to advise he/she had been reported doing “.....” Then, if ICBC or the Police kept a running record, frequent reckless behaviour would be on file. ▪ Ticketing all safety violations i.e. Too close to a corner parking, parking in a fire zone, parking too

<p>Goal</p>	<p>Initiatives</p>
<p>close to fire hydrants, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vehicle Speeding – develop a high profile program
<p>Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Block Watch – identify areas with and without, identify crime areas, publish a map marking all current streets protected by the program, how to implement a Neighbourhood Watch – e.g. checking in on elderly neighbours, smoke detection if a neighbour is on vacation ▪ Communication strategy – educate the community with material in key locations, Community Safety Page in local newspapers, other print media, flyers, website, schools, businesses, PR visits by different safety departments, community cable TV, service clubs, library, City Hall, Community Centres. Topics include Emergency Preparedness, child and pet safety, Halloween safety, traffic safety, bylaw updates, new traffic patterns/signals. Safety Messages - Hints on Types of Areas to Walk with a Friend, Pet and Child safety in Cars, Preventing Break-Ins, Promote Business Watch, Promote Homesafe Program, Bylaw updates. ▪ Getting the community involved by promoting the following – become a safety city volunteer, become a friend to senior living alone, be a road watch volunteer, get to know your neighbours, report suspicious or criminal activity to the RCMP then share it with your neighbours, organize graffiti clean up in your community, share your ideas on safety with the City, set up a buddy system with your neighbours ▪ Educational Programs – topics include Landlord education on grow-op identification, dispute resolution between neighbours, CPR ▪ Free Clinics - work with City staff and other agencies to provide safety workshops on different subjects, e.g. CPR, Emergency Preparedness ▪ House Safe Program – research where in Richmond ▪ Riskwatch – work with Fire Rescue to establish an accident prevention program aimed at children, which would be offered at local schools