



CITY OF RICHMOND

REPORT TO COMMITTEE

TO: Community Safety Committee
FROM: Chuck Gale, P. Eng.
General Manager, Community Safety
RE: Update on the B.C. Policing Study

to Community Safety - July 12, 2001
DATE: June 28, 2001
FILE: 5350-07

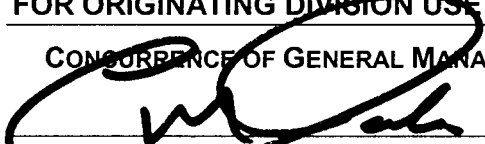
STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council appoint the Mayor (or Mayor's designate), to the RCMP/Mayors Consultative Forum.

Chuck Gale, P. Eng.
General Manager, Community Safety

Att. 1

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER



ORIGIN

The purpose of this report is to:

1. update Committee on the initiatives undertaken by the Municipal Staff Working Group since the Mid-Term Update
2. summarize the Lower Mainland District Officer position and the corresponding Lower Mainland RCMP Policing Advisory Model

BACKGROUND

The Municipal Staff Working Group, at the direction of the Lower Mainland Steering Committee, has been working with the RCMP on the Lower Mainland (British Columbia) Policing Study for the last year. The Mid-Term Update from the Staff Working Group was endorsed at the December 11, 2000 Council meeting. In the Mid Term Update a summary of recommendations was included, which laid the foundation for a detailed plan for resolving a wide range of issues brought forward by various Lower Mainland RCMP policed municipalities.

The Commanding Officer, "E" Division, has acknowledged municipal concerns over the lack of consultation regarding the delivery of policing services. In response, presentations were made by the study team earlier this year to Lower Mainland Councils. An alternative organizational model was proposed, which would result in the creation of a Lower Mainland District Officer position, to focus more direct attention on our municipal policing needs.

ANALYSIS

Municipal Staff Working Group

A two-day workshop was held April 10-12, 2001. In attendance were members of the Staff Working Group, finance staff from both "E" Division and the municipalities, and RCMP staff from Ottawa. Significant issues considered included:

- the incompatibility of the Federal and Municipal budget cycles
- the lack of consultation with municipalities on financial issues and budgets, particularly where cost increases were involved
- the need to improve communication between municipalities, so that a more co-ordinated approach could be taken in working with the RCMP
- the need to improve communication between the RCMP and municipalities, to ensure better understanding of their respective financial processes
- the development of an understanding of how specific costs are determined for items such as recruit training and Divisional Administration, (the cost apportioned to each municipality for the administration of "E" Division), and why those costs have increased in recent years
- identifying ways to improve financial planning and reporting to ensure sufficient information to determine 'value for money'
- determining how our respective financial systems could be streamlined to be more efficient and cost effective

At the conclusion of the workshop, a Work Plan was adopted by the Staff Working Group and the RCMP. Key objectives of the Work Plan focus on the development of:

- A joint RCMP/Municipal *Policy and Procedures Manual*. Components of this manual will include a detailed description of the direct and indirect costs which constitute a municipal

RCMP detachment's budget, a five-year budget forecast, and an annual variance report, suitable for distribution to all municipal stakeholders.

- A framework for undertaking "selective" value-for-money audits of police service delivery.
- Streamlining financial accounting and budgeting systems to increase efficiency and eliminate dual entry.
- Appropriate training for municipal and detachment staff in the application of agreed-upon policies and procedures.
- A communications strategy for the Lower Mainland and the rest of B.C. regarding financial planning and accountability.
- Establishing service delivery standards associated with staffing levels.

Since the adoption of the Work Plan, the Staff Working Group has completed the majority of these objectives.

In the Summary of Recommendations from the Mid Term Update, recommendation 2.2 referred to documenting in a Letter of Understanding, new policies and procedures, and financial controls agreed to between the RCMP and individual municipalities. It is anticipated the Letter of Understanding between the City of Richmond and the RCMP will be completed this month and forwarded to the Community Safety Committee for review.

Lower Mainland District Officer

At the RCMP Consultative Forum on Friday, June 8, 2001 a presentation was made by the Municipal Staff Working Group regarding the establishment of the Lower Mainland District Officer position and the advisory structure proposed to ensure representation from each municipality. At the end of the presentation it was agreed that a letter of endorsement would be sent from the Consultative Forum to Commissioner Zaccardelli (Attach. 1). As a result, the Lower Mainland District management structure was established by Assistant Commissioner Bev Busson effective June 22, 2001 (Attach. 2).

This position is intended to more fully address Lower Mainland municipal policing needs. It will not affect the relationship each municipality enjoys with their respective detachments and OIC's. Any future proposals for changes at the detachment level will involve consultation with municipal staff and the subsequent approval of Council. There will not be any increase in administrative costs during Phase I as a result of this proposal and any subsequent costs will be absorbed through anticipated efficiencies.

At present the Lower Mainland District Officer position has been defined as serving the municipalities within the Lower Mainland which contract with the RCMP for municipal policing services. However crime patterns do not stop at municipal borders. Thus, over time, the position may expand, extending up the Valley to include Mission and Chilliwack.

In response to the RCMP proposal for a Lower Mainland District Officer position, the Municipal Staff Working Group recognized the need to formalize the existing process being utilized for the B.C. Policing Study by the Consultative Forum. Additionally, not every municipality is represented on the Municipal Staff Working Group. If the RCMP is to act in a coordinated way, they need the assurance that all municipalities are represented in the various process elements.

The structure being proposed (Attach. 2), evolved from the RCMP/Mayors Consultative Forum's response to the B.C. Policing Study. Other organizations, such as non-RCMP Police, E-Comm etc. will be included in the advisory process by invitation on an issue by issue basis.

In order to formalize the Lower Mainland RCMP Policing Advisory Model it was recommended by the Consultative Forum that each Council pass a resolution appointing the Mayor or the Mayor's designate, to the Consultative Forum.

As a result of the establishment of a Lower Mainland District Officer, the Staff Working Group has proposed that the Principal Policing Contacts appointed by each Council would also be their representative on LMPAC. Therefore the General Manager, Community Safety will be Richmond's representative on LMPAC.

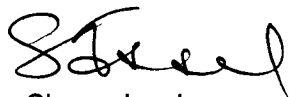
FINANCIAL IMPACT

None

CONCLUSION

The Municipal Staff Working Group in consultation with the RCMP, continue to make progress in assisting municipalities in implementing the recommendations contained within the Primary Issues document. In particular, policies and procedures are being developed and implemented to improve financial planning and accountability, and will be formally agreed to by municipalities and the RCMP through the Letter of Understanding.

We are entering a new era of municipal contract policing, which is characterized by a more consultative/collaborative approach by the RCMP. The creation of a Lower Mainland District Officer will formalize the RCMP's commitment to this approach.



Shawn Issel
Manager, Divisional Programs



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GREG HALSEY-BRANDT
MAYOR

June 8, 2001

Commissioner G. Zaccardelli
c/o Headquarters Public Relations Branch
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
G320 1200 Vanier Parkway
Ottawa, ON K1A 0R2

Dear Commissioner Zaccardelli:

Re: Lower Mainland District Officer

Over the past year, the Mayors/ RCMP Consultative Forum has worked with the RCMP, through the B.C. Policing Study Team, to identify areas for improvement in the delivery of municipal policing services. As a result of this process, and in consultation with municipalities, the RCMP have proposed a change in their organizational structure, to create a Lower Mainland RCMP District Officer position, to more fully address our municipal policing needs. This proposed change, which would result in the dedication of a senior resource to address our municipal policing concerns, reflects a willingness by the Commanding Officer "E" Division to be responsive to our issues, as outlined in the Interim Report that was endorsed by most Councils.

The Mayors/ RCMP Consultative Forum recognizes that the objectives of the proposal will provide municipalities with a more efficient service delivery model. We also understand the RCMP wishes to continue with the consultative style developed through the BC Policing study, by addressing municipal concerns regarding the proposal through the following conditions:

- The relationship between each OIC and their respective municipality will remain unchanged
- Any changes to detachment complements or the service delivery model will require consultation with municipal staff and the approval of individual Councils
- The administrative costs associated with Phase I will not cause any increase to the municipal portion of the RCMP's Division Administration costs, and any subsequent costs of this structure will be absorbed through anticipated efficiencies

Given the above noted objectives and conditions, I would like to inform you that as a result of our deliberations today at the Mayors/RCMP Consultative Forum, that we endorse the proposal for a Lower Mainland position.

It was also decided at today's Forum that in addition to this letter of endorsement, each municipality would endorse this proposal through a resolution of Council which will be forwarded to you as they are received. However, please keep in mind these resolutions may take a couple of months to be passed due to the summer schedule of some Councils. In order to continue with our present level of progress we encourage you to expedite the implementation of this proposal .

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Greg Halsey-Brandt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mayor Greg Halsey-Brandt
Chair, RCMP Consultative Forum

COMMUNIQUÉ

June 22, 2001

British Columbia Policing Study

Assistant Commissioner Bev Busson, Commanding Officer, "E" Division, is announcing the establishment of a Lower Mainland District management structure, consisting of a District Officer (Assistant Commissioner), an Operational Support Officer (Chief Superintendent) and support staff. There will be a direct reporting relationship between the Lower Mainland District Officer and Detachment / Unit Commanders. This follows extensive consultation with RCMP contract municipalities, the Province of British Columbia, and other stakeholders over the past 18 months.

The Lower Mainland District will provide a strategic and coordinated approach towards an urban policing model for communities in the Greater Vancouver Regional District contracting RCMP services, as well as the Provincial jurisdictions of University of British Columbia, Deas Island and Port Mann Highway Patrols.

In early 2000, the BC Policing Study was created to explore all aspects of RCMP contract policing service delivery in the Province and in particular, the Lower Mainland. The Study Team was tasked with determining how the RCMP is presently doing the business of policing as well as recommending what changes are required in the future to meet the expectations of the municipal clients. The implementation of this District structure is a first step in addressing how the RCMP will provide operational support and administrative services to our Lower Mainland Detachments.

There should be minimal or no change for the majority of front line detachment members. Locally delivered front line services such as general duty, traffic, and community policing will remain unchanged. Any changes to support services will be made after consultation, micro-analyses and approval from each municipality.

The BC Policing Study Team will continue their mandate throughout the Province by consulting with communities contracting RCMP services about their policing needs. District Officers and Detachment Commanders will be involved in these consultations.

Enquiries can be directed to any of the BC Policing Study officers:

Assistant Commissioner Gary Forbes	(604) 502-6911
Superintendent Bob Stone	(604) 502-6915
Inspector Randy Bennett	(604) 502-6916
Inspector Dwight Watts	(604) 502-6919

Lower Mainland RCMP Policing Advisory Model

