



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** May 11, 2023
From: Cecilia Achiam **File:** 09-5375-09/2023-Vol
 General Manager, Community Safety 01
Re: **Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – April 2023**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – April 2023”, dated May 11, 2023, from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.

Cecilia Achiam
General Manager, Community Safety
(604-276-4122)

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE
Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:
APPROVED BY CAO 	

Staff Report

Origin

This monthly report for the Animal Protection Services department provides information and statistics for enforcing bylaws related to Animal Protection Services as well as education and public awareness initiatives.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #1 Proactive in Stakeholder and Civic Engagement:

Proactive stakeholder and civic engagement to foster understanding and involvement and advance Richmond's interests.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #3 A Safe and Prepared Community:

Community safety and preparedness through effective planning, strategic partnerships and proactive programs.

Analysis

Animal Protection Services

For the month of April, staff posted a reminder on the City's social media platforms of the importance of leashing dogs in public areas not designated as off-leash. The social media posting, with the slogan "It's the leash you can do", identifies the benefits of the behaviour and relationship between dogs and owners when leashed, such as reduced stress, prevention of attacks and tips on how to secure them.

In April 2023, the total number of dogs licenced was 253. This figure represents 50 new dog licence applications and 203 dog licence renewal applications. The total number of dogs licenced year-to-date is 6,959.

For the month of April, BC SPCA Officers received 173 calls for service related to various animal control and dog licencing infractions, while proactively patrolling a combined total of 46 parks, dikes and/or schools.

Figure 1 below reflects the monthly and year-to-date animal control and dog licencing enforcement activity measured by violation issuance. It should be noted for reference, that the annual canvassing of outstanding dog licences is conducted by staff during the months of May through October and may show an increase of issued violations as depicted in Figure 1. The corresponding revenue is reflected in Figure 2. For the month of April, BC SPCA Officers issued 86 bylaw violation notices, which can be attributed to BC SPCA Officer foot patrols of non-permitted off-leash parks, City dikes and school grounds. These proactive patrols have resulted

in ticketing for non-compliance of both the Dog Licencing Bylaw No. 7138 and the Animal Control Regulation Bylaw No. 7932, together with educational compliance.

Figure 1: Animal Protection Services Violation Issuance Comparison

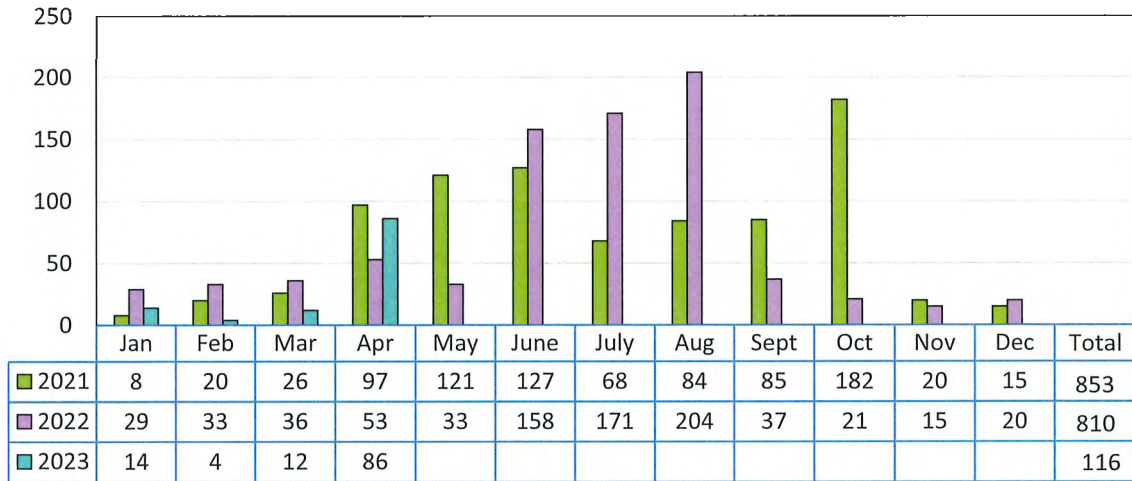
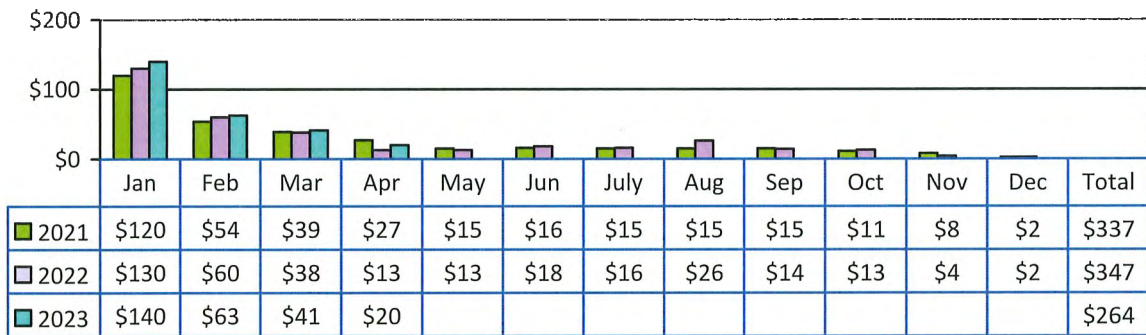


Figure 2: Animal Protection Services Revenue Comparison (000's)



Administrative Staff Activity

In April, staff received 805 calls from the public related to animal services. The calls consisted of a variety of subject matters related to dog licences, bylaw infractions, off-leash dog parks, adjudication process and general inquiries. The total number of calls to-date for 2023 are 1,821.

Animal Protection Services Bylaw Adjudication

The next adjudication session is scheduled for June 7, 2023.

Revenue and Expenses

The Animal Protection Services department derives its revenue from dog licences and fines. Table 1 outlines their individual revenue, while Table 2 highlights Animal Protection Services revenue and expenses within the Community Safety division.

Table 1: Animal Protection Services Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Apr 2023	Actual Apr 2023	YTD Budget Apr 2023	YTD Actual Apr 2023
Dog Licences	11,896	15,968	206,524	252,607
Fines	377	4,400	1,452	11,065
Total Revenue	12,273	20,368	207,976	263,672

Table 2: Animal Protection Services Revenue and Expenses

	YTD Budget Apr 2023	YTD Actual Apr 2023
Revenue	207,976	263,672
Expenses	539,000	530,689
Net Revenue (Expense)	(331,024)	(267,017)

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Staff administer a wide range of bylaws related to animal protection, which includes public parks and school grounds, noise, dog licencing and animal control. This report provides a summary of monthly enforcement and educational activity, including revenue and expenses.



Susan Lloyd
 Manager, Animal Protection Services and Contract Administration
 (604-247-4467)