



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

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

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – March 2023”, dated April 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: <i>EB</i>
APPROVED BY CAO <i>Sever</i>	

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 March, staff posted on the City's social media platforms reminders to pet owners that animal poison prevention week begins March 20 through March 26, 2023. The social media postings identify potential dangers within the home that may affect your pets and how to secure them to keep pets safe and healthy.

In March 2023, the total number of dogs licenced was 699. This figure represents 100 new dog licence applications and 599 dog licence renewal applications. The total number of dogs licenced year to date is 6,706.

For the month of March, BC SPCA Officers received 211 calls for service related to various animal control and dog licencing infractions, while proactively patrolling a combined total of 54 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 violations issued as depicted in Figure 1 below. The corresponding revenue is reflected in Figure 2. For the month of March, BC SPCA Officers issued 12 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

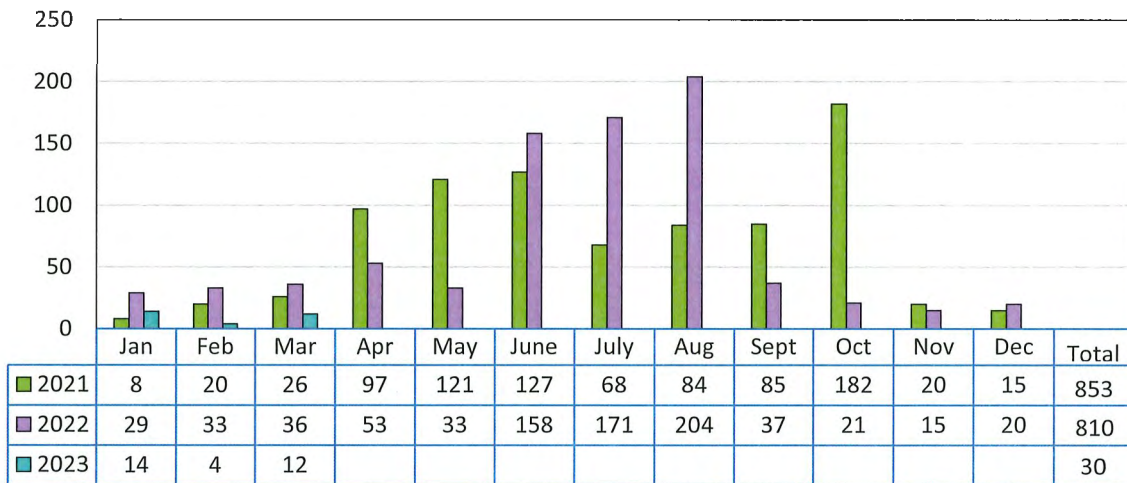
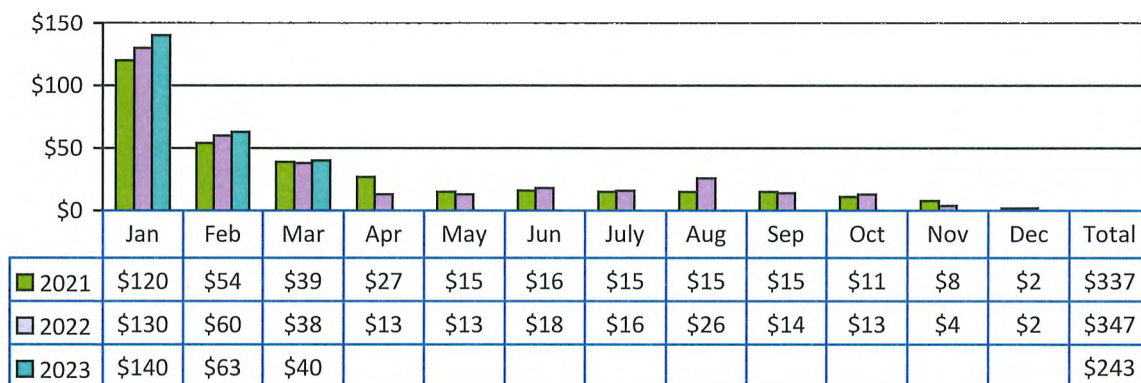


Figure 2: Animal Protection Services Revenue Comparison (000's)



Administrative Staff Activity

In March, staff received 337 calls from the public related to animal services. The calls consist 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 1,017.

Animal Protection Services Bylaw Adjudication

The next adjudication session is scheduled for May 15, 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 Mar 2023	Actual Mar 2023	YTD Budget Mar 2023	YTD Actual Mar 2023
Dog Licences	30,652	38,281	194,628	236,639
Fines	289	2,075	1,075	6,665
Total Revenue	30,941	40,356	195,703	243,304

Table 2: Animal Protection Services Revenue and Expenses

	YTD Budget Mar 2023	YTD Actual Mar 2023
Revenue	195,703	243,304
Expenses	404,250	398,652
Net Revenue (Expense)	(208,547)	(155,348)

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)