



Community Safety Committee

Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026
Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall
Present: Councillor Alexa Loo, Chair
Councillor Andy Hobbs
Councillor Laura Gillanders
Councillor Kash Heed
Councillor Bill McNulty
Also Present: Councillor Michael Wolfe (by teleconference)
Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held on January 13, 2026, be adopted.

CARRIED

LAW AND COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

1. **COMMUNITY BYLAWS ACTIVITY REPORT – DECEMBER 2025
AND YEAR IN REVIEW**

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-02) (REDMS No. 8284213)

Discussion ensued with respect to (i) reactive and proactive calls for service, (ii) the process of prioritizing calls for service for soil deposition and/or removal calls, (iii) the process of handling complaints against City bylaw officers, (iv) school patrols and traffic signage around schools, and (v) repainting of medians on Chatham Street and installation of traffic signage.

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In response to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) support is needed from the Ministry of Forests and the Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT) to address issues on Provincial land such as decamping sites within the city, (ii) over 50 percent of calls about unauthorized soil deposition and removal activity involve repeat offenders with some properties receiving multiple tickets per week, and several cases proceeding to Provincial court, (iii) in 2025, staff removed five derelict vessels and two sunken vessels from docks and moorage areas, these were complex operations involving multiple different agencies, (v) in 2025, 55 properties were deemed non-compliant for soil deposition or removal, with an average of 52 active files at any time. The addition of a second full time Soil Bylaw Enforcement Officer has increased capacity to deal with many of the calls for service, and expedite soil permits, and (vii) through the SPCA, there is a network of veterinarians in Richmond that provide care to unhoused animals, staff will provide Committee with more information on this program.

Staff will provide Council with a breakdown of calls for service and with information on any Canada geese related calls.

It was moved and seconded

That the report titled “Community Bylaws Activity Report – December 2025 and Year in Review”, dated January 15, 2026, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.

CARRIED

2. **RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – DECEMBER 2025 AND YEAR IN REVIEW**
(File Ref. No. 09-5140-01) (REDMS No. 8278848)

Discussion ensued with respect to (i) the on-going toxic drug crisis in BC and the effectiveness of naloxone on the illicit drug supply, and (ii) Richmond Fire Rescue’s process for prioritizing calls for service.

It was moved and seconded

That the report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – December 2025 and Year in Review”, dated January 13, 2026, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

CARRIED

3. **FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING**
(Verbal Report)

None

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4. **RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – DECEMBER 2025**

(File Ref. No. 09-5030-01) (REDMS No. 8260839)

It was moved and seconded

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – December 2025”, dated January 16, 2026, from the Officer in Charge, be received for information.

CARRIED

5. **RCMP/OIC BRIEFING**

(Verbal Report)

None

6. **MANAGER’S REPORT**

(i) City of Richmond’s Public Safety Camera System Program- city of Williams Lake

Staff shared correspondence received from the City of Williams Lake expressing support for the City of Richmond’s Public Safety Camera System Program (attached to and forming part of these minutes as Schedule 1). Staff spoke to the next steps in the application for judicial review of the Order of the Information and Privacy Commissioner and advised that they have corresponded with City of Surrey who has indicated support for the City’s Public Safety Camera System and will be releasing a press release to that effect.

(ii) Oak Street Bridge – Clean Up Overview

Staff referred to the memorandum titled “Oak Street Bridge – Clean Up Overview” (attached to and forming part of these minutes as Schedule 2) and updated Committee on the City’s coordinated response to the accumulation of abandoned structures, debris, and materials located on MOTT lands beneath the Oak Street Bridge. Staff highlighted that all 14 sites were cleaned and hazards removed without MOTT’s participation in the clean-up operation. The City led the effort using its own resources and inter-agency partnerships to address safety, environmental, and public concerns and multiple social service agencies worked to connect individuals residing under the bridge deck with housing, treatment, and detox services.

Discussion ensued with respect to invoicing MOTT for the clean up efforts made by the City, and the possibility of conducting a similar coordinated operation at Westminster Highway and No. 5 Road.

Staff advised that they will invoice MOTT for the Oak Street Bridge clean up and coordinate with the Communications department on a public news release highlighting the operation’s success.

3.

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ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (4:53 p.m.).

CARRIED

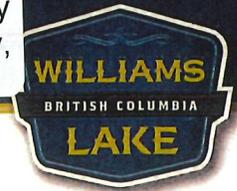
Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Tuesday, February 10, 2026.

Councillor Alexa Loo
Chair

Raman Grewal
Legislative Services Associate

CITY OF WILLIAMS LAKE

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the Community Safety Committee meeting of Richmond City Council held on Tuesday, February 10, 2026.



February 9, 2026

File No. 2-9-13A / 0530-08

Mayor Malcolm Brodie and Council
City of Richmond
6911 No. 3 Road
Richmond, BC
V6Y 2C1

**TO: MAYOR & EACH
COUNCILLOR
FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE**



Sent via email: mayorandcouncillors@richmond.ca

Dear Mayor Brodie and Council:

Re: City of Richmond's Public Safety Camera System Program

At its Regular meeting on January 27, 2026, City of Williams Lake Council received information regarding the City of Richmond's public safety camera system program. Our understanding is that in May 2025, the BC Information and Privacy Commissioner commenced an investigation into whether the City of Richmond's pilot project to install high-resolution cameras at select intersections complied with privacy provisions set out in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. In January 2026, the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) issued an order to the City of Richmond to remove the high-resolution intersection cameras, which the City is currently challenging.

With threats to public safety escalating, local governments must have the tools to be able to respond quickly to serious incidents that threaten the safety and security of their communities. They must have the ability to be creative and innovative, recognizing that local governments cannot always count on senior levels of government for immediate funding and support. Advancing the targeted use of public cameras in Richmond and comparable communities in BC is a critical tool to help ensure public safety.

Strategic camera use can assist in deterring and addressing criminal activity, accelerate investigations, and increase safety without eroding individual privacy rights. Local governments are constantly responding to ongoing and increasing challenges with vandalism, theft, illegal dumping, violence, and public disorder, the revolving door of the justice system and the ongoing need for bail reform, among other issues.

The option to implement security cameras to address specific safety issues is extremely important. When implemented with strict privacy protection measures in place, cameras are a proven tool to target illegal activity and can deliver meaningful reductions in crime, assist RCMP investigations, and improve community safety and confidence. This is not just the view of local governments, but is also supported by the RCMP for their investigative purposes.

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FEB 10 2026

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There is no doubt that the OIPC's investigation and resulting order does not address the very real threats to public safety that exist across the province. It is local governments that must respond to issues in their communities proactively and quickly. The inability to implement a system that is effective and used judiciously only enables those acting outside the law to continue their activities, to the detriment of the public as a whole.

City of Williams Lake Council supports the City of Richmond's Public Safety Camera System Program, and urges senior levels of government to reconsider the outdated and unnecessarily restrictive approach to collecting data for public safety. Downloading the responsibility for public safety to local governments without the power to implement proactive and effective measures puts our communities at ever-increasing risk, and we must be able to use reasonable methods to help ensure our residents' safety, including the targeted use of public cameras.

Yours truly,



Mayor Surinderpal Rathor

c: Premier David Eby Premier@gov.bc.ca
Union of BC Municipalities ubcm@ubcm.ca
North Central Local Government Association admin@nclga.ca



**TO: MAYOR & EACH
COUNCILLOR
FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE**

Schedule 2 to the Minutes of the
Community Safety Committee
meeting of Richmond City Council
held on Tuesday, February 10,
2026.



**City of
Richmond**

Memorandum
Law & Community Safety Division

To: Mayor and Councillors
From: Mark Corrado
Director, Community Bylaws and Licencing
Re: **Oak Street Bridge – Clean Up Overview**
Date: February 9, 2026
File: 12-8060-01/2025-Vol 01

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide Council with an update regarding the City's coordinated response to the accumulation of abandoned structures, debris, and materials located on Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT) lands beneath the Oak Street Bridge.

From January 27 through February 3, 2026, the City oversaw a carefully planned and phased clean-up operation of abandoned structures and discarded materials located beneath the Oak Street Bridge, between Van Horne Way and Bridgeport Road. Acting under authorities provided to the Fire Chief under the Fire Protection and Life Safety Bylaw No. 8306, the clean-up operation was led by Community Bylaws and conducted in close coordination with Joint Operations Team (JOT) members including, Richmond Fire-Rescue, City Homelessness Outreach staff, Environmental Programs, Richmond RCMP and Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (MSDPR) staff.

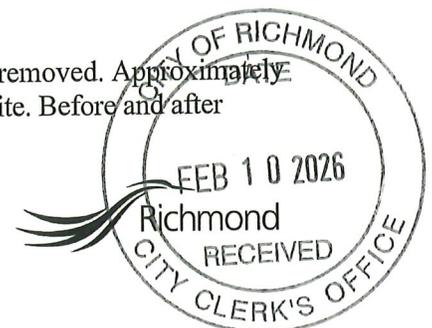
This multi-agency approach ensured the work was conducted safely, lawfully, and with appropriate consideration for both environmental and human impacts. The clean-up was conducted in phases, beginning at the southernmost portion of the bridge deck and progressing northward. This phased approach allowed crews to systematically address hazards while minimizing disruption and maintaining situational awareness.

For several months prior to the cleanup, multiple social service agencies worked to connect individuals residing under the bridge deck with housing, treatment, and detox services. These efforts reduced occupancy from a peak of 12 individuals to three. At the time of the cleanup, the three individuals still regularly occupying portions of the area were well known to City staff and partner agencies. In these cases, services had either been declined or engagement and support remained ongoing.

In accordance with jurisdictional authority limitations, no individuals were decamped or directed to vacate the site, and the clean-up was limited to abandoned structures, debris, and unsafe materials. Prior to removal, items identified for disposal were screened for personal effects such as ID or wallets. The remaining individuals were informed of the work in advance and, in some cases, assisted crews by sorting materials and identifying items for removal.

In total, 14 previously identified sites of structures and dumping sites were removed. Approximately 15 commercial truckloads of debris and materials were removed from the site. Before and after images are provided in Attachment 1.

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Where feasible, contractors made reasonable efforts to sort materials for appropriate recycling. The total contractor cost of the operation was \$18,678, exclusive of applicable taxes. This does not include internal or external staffing costs.

MOTT did not participate in the clean-up operation. MOTT policy requires that sites be fully vacated of all persons before a clean-up can take place. As the clean-up was conducted while individuals were still occupying the area, MOTT's procedural requirements could not be met at the time to enable their participation. As a result, the City advanced the clean-up using its own resources and inter-agency partnerships to address immediate safety, environmental, and public interest concerns.

Should you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.



Mark Corrado
Director, Community Bylaws and Licencing
604.204.8673
mcorrado@richmond.ca

MC:gb

pc: SMT
Jim Wishlove, Fire Chief
Suzanne Bycraft, Director, Public Works
Dammy Ogunseitan, Director, Corporate Communications and Marketing
Kim Somerville, Director, Community Social Development
Geoffrey Bramhill, Manager, Community Bylaw Operations
Chris Duggan, Manager, Community Social Development
Kristina Grozdanich, Manager, Recycling & Waste Recovery

Att. 1

Selection Of Before and After Photos of Oak Street Bridge Clean Up



