



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee
From: Rendall Nessel
Officer In Charge
Richmond RCMP Detachment
Re: Safety at Steveston Park and the Village of Steveston



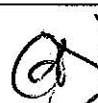
Date: August 3, 2008

File:

Staff Recommendation

That the update on the safety and security in Steveston Park and the Village of Steveston be received for information.

Rendall Nessel
Officer In Charge
Richmond RCMP Detachment
(604)278-1212

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY			
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	 Doug Long - Acting GM	
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  NO <input type="checkbox"/>	REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

In June, 2008 council heard a delegation from Mr. Wade Wagar outlining his concerns regarding Steveston Park and the village due to some incidents involving his sons and other youth.

Council referred this matter to staff for investigation of this and other similar incidents and report to council.

Analysis

The Richmond Detachment Crime Analyst was tasked with the examination of activity in Richmond parks for patterns or crime trends for the period of January 1, 2007 – July 6, 2007 and January 1, 2008 – July 6, 2008.

The following chart identifies the file count for January 1, 2008 – July 6, 2008 and includes files associated to the park, or within 50 metres of the park.

Park Name	Total Files	Misc Files	Assaults or Threats	Assaults with Weapons	Weapons Possession	Robberies
Steveston	42	38	2	1	0	1
King George/Cambie Community	11	10	0	0	1	0
Burnett/Thompson Community	24	21	2	0	1	0
Hugh Boyd Community	38	35	1	1	1	0

The Crime Analyst's study of incidents in and near Richmond Parks concluded there was no identifiable or emergent crime trends related to park activity. A sample study of individual parks did not show any major differences between the years 2007 and 2008 in number or type of incidents.

Current Opportunities

The safety of the citizens of Richmond is based on partnerships throughout the City's departments and while the majority of the responsibility lies with the RCMP Detachment, it is through these partnerships that the City is able to achieve a high level of success.

RCMP

The Detachment has implemented the following initiatives effective immediately:

- foot patrols in all city parks by uniformed police officers, primarily between the hours of 10:00 pm and 2:00 am;
- patrols of the city parks by the Youth Section during all of their shifts;
- patrols of the city parks, when and where possible, by uniformed members on the Detachment ATV and;
- patrols of the city parks by uniformed members of the Detachment Bike Unit.

Parks Operations

Richmond Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Division has created enhanced visibility in Steveston Park by:

- removing the bleachers by the girls' ball diamond, and;
- removing the hedge by the men's ball diamond.

Park Operations has also committed to:

- reinforce with the caretakers at the various parks the necessity to contact the local police if they observe suspicious behaviour.

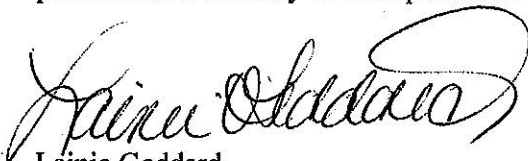
Steveston Community Centre

To create a greater appeal to youth in the community, the Steveston Community Centre has:

- supervised youth activities in the centre until midnight, and;
- retained a group that patrols the park looking to attract young Richmond residents into the centre, rather than allowing them to merely loiter outside the centre in the parking lot.

Conclusion

Although the RCMP Crime Analyst concluded that there was no emergent crime trends related to the City of Richmond park activity, staff recognized and took advantage of the opportunity to enhance police presence and visibility in local parks and community areas.



Lainie Goddard
Manager, RCMP Administration
(4767)

LG:lg

