



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee
From: Cecilia Achiam
General Manager, Community Safety
Date: November 10, 2022
File: 09-5375-09/2022-Vol-01
Re: **Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – October 2022**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – October 2022”, dated November 10, 2022, 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 2018-2022 Strategy #1 A Safe and Resilient City:

Enhance and protect the safety and well-being of Richmond.

1.1 Enhance safety services and strategies to meet community needs.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #8 An Engaged and Informed Community:

Ensure that the citizenry of Richmond is well-informed and engaged about City business and decision-making.

8.2 Ensure citizens are well-informed with timely, accurate and easily accessible communication using a variety of methods and tools.

Analysis

Animal Protection Services

For the month of October and in anticipation of the upcoming Halloween celebrations, staff addressed the use of fireworks and their effects on dogs, with an educational post on the City's social media platforms. The post addresses how loud celebrations can be frightening for your pet and to ensure they are securely and safely inside, with doors and windows closed. The messaging also reminded pet owners to ensure that their dogs licencing is up to date so the BC SPCA can reunite them with their families if they become lost during firework celebrations.

In consideration of the increased number of coyote sightings within the City of Richmond, staff have updated the "report a problem" section under the tab heading Public Safety - Animal Protection Services on the City website to include a hyperlink to the Stanley Park Ecological Society (SPES). The hyperlink provides residents with a tool to report coyote sightings to both the Stanley Park Ecological Society and the BC Ministry of Environment for the purposes of tracking and assessing coyote behaviour within the lower mainland. The hyperlink also provides the contact phone number for the BC Ministry of Environment, to report coyotes who are injured or who display aggressive or threatening behaviour. Established in 2001, The Stanley Park Ecological Society's co-existing with coyotes program aims to reduce conflict between people, pets and coyotes.

In October 2022, the total number of dogs licenced was 87 dogs. This figure represents 75 new dog licence applications and 12 dog licence renewal applications. The total number of dogs licenced year to date is 7,564. To date, there are 390 outstanding 2021 dog licence accounts in arrears. Staff will continue to follow-up on the outstanding 2022 dog licences for either referral to collections or to close accounts.

For the month of October, BC SPCA Officers received 183 calls for service related to various animal control and dog licencing infractions, while proactively patrolling a combined total of 24 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. The corresponding revenue is reflected in Figure 2. For the month of October, BC SPCA Officers issued 21 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

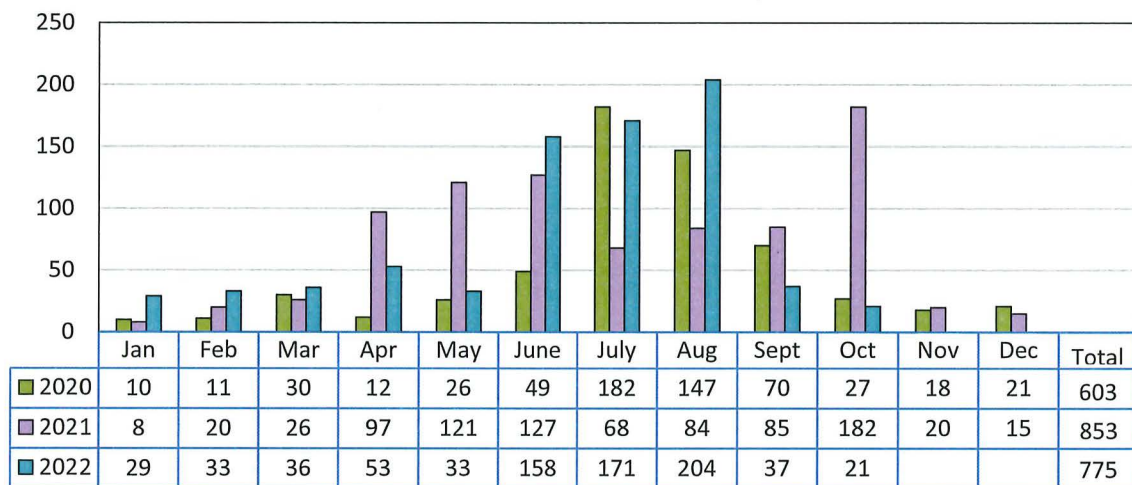


Figure 2: Animal Protection Services Revenue Comparison (000's)



Animal Protection Services Bylaw Adjudication

The next adjudication session is scheduled for November 23, 2022.

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 Oct 2022 | Actual Oct 2022 | YTD Budget Oct 2022 | YTD Actual Oct 2022 |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Dog Licences | 4,840 | 4,923 | 244,744 | 286,022 |
| Fines | 394 | 8,525 | 7,590 | 55,425 |
| Total Revenue | 5,234 | 13,448 | 252,334 | 341,447 |

Table 2: Animal Protection Services Revenue and Expenses

| | YTD Budget Oct 2022 | YTD Actual Oct 2022 |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Revenue | 252,334 | 341,447 |
| Expenses | 1,174,980 | 1,152,252 |
| Net Revenue (Expense) | (922,646) | (810,805) |

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

The Animal Protection Services department proudly serves the animals, residents and visitors of the City of Richmond, while administering 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Lloyd', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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