



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** November 15, 2016
From: John McGowan **File:** 12-8060-01/20-Vol01
Acting General Manager, Law and Community Safety
Re: **Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – October 2016**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – October 2016”, dated November 15, 2016, from the Acting General Manager, Law and Community Safety, be received for information.

John McGowan
Acting General Manager, Law and Community Safety
(604-276-4104)

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE
Finance Division	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: DW
APPROVED BY CAO 	

Staff Report

Origin

This monthly activity report for the Community Bylaw Department provides information on Property Use, Grease, Parking and Animal Control.

This report supports Council's Term Goal #1 - A Safe Community:

Maintain emphasis on community safety to ensure Richmond continues to be a safe community.

Analysis

Property Use

Property Use Officers continue to focus on unsightly premises and a growing number of reported illegal short term rentals files. There has also been a significant rise in on-street offences, such as dirt and debris from construction sites; and an increased number of complaints associated with residential recycle bins being left on the street (Attachment 1).

Overall, when compared to October 2015 the file activity has increased 14.9 per cent. This is largely attributed to an increase in unsightly premises, grease, boulevard and short-term rental files. However, when compared to September 2016 the file activity has declined 15.9 per cent due to a decline in vacant building, noise, pollution and sign regulation files (Attachment 1).

Parking and Animal Control

Parking and Animal Control Officers continue to conduct patrols for a variety of traffic offences with a focus on safety/liability infractions including yellow curbs, fire hydrants and roadway setbacks. Although enforcement revenue decreased by 13.7 per cent during October, when compared to October 2015, overall enforcement revenue is projected to surpass the budgeted amount by 10.3 per cent. Also, a greater number of tickets were issued this October compared to the previous year, which included an increase in the number of warning tickets issued in an effort to educate the public and increase compliance.

Overall there has been an increase in the total number of dogs licensed year-to-date than the year end totals from 2014 and 2015.

- 2016: 7560 dogs licensed (up to October 31)
- 2015: 7140 dogs licensed
- 2014: 6257 dogs licensed

Permit revenue decreased by 12.5 per cent when compared to October 2015. This is due to the timing and processing of permit payments and is also reflective of ongoing permit renewals and cancellations. Regardless, year-to-date revenue exceeds revenue targets by a significant margin but remains tempered by minimal growth, due to a stagnant stall inventory and fixed permit rates.

Meter revenue decreased by 8.7 per cent when compared to October 2015. This is the result of ongoing meter zone closures due to continuing construction. Meter revenue continues to exceed revenue targets.

Financial Analysis

The following information shows budget to actual variances in revenues for 2016 and provides an analysis of October 2016 compared to October 2015.

Consolidated Parking Program Revenue encompassing meter, permit and enforcement revenue to date was budgeted at \$1,494,159, while actual parking program revenue is \$1,820,772. This is 21.9 per cent favorable, despite a revenue decrease of 11.8 per cent over the same period last year (\$160,249 in October 2016 compared to \$181,712 in October 2015).

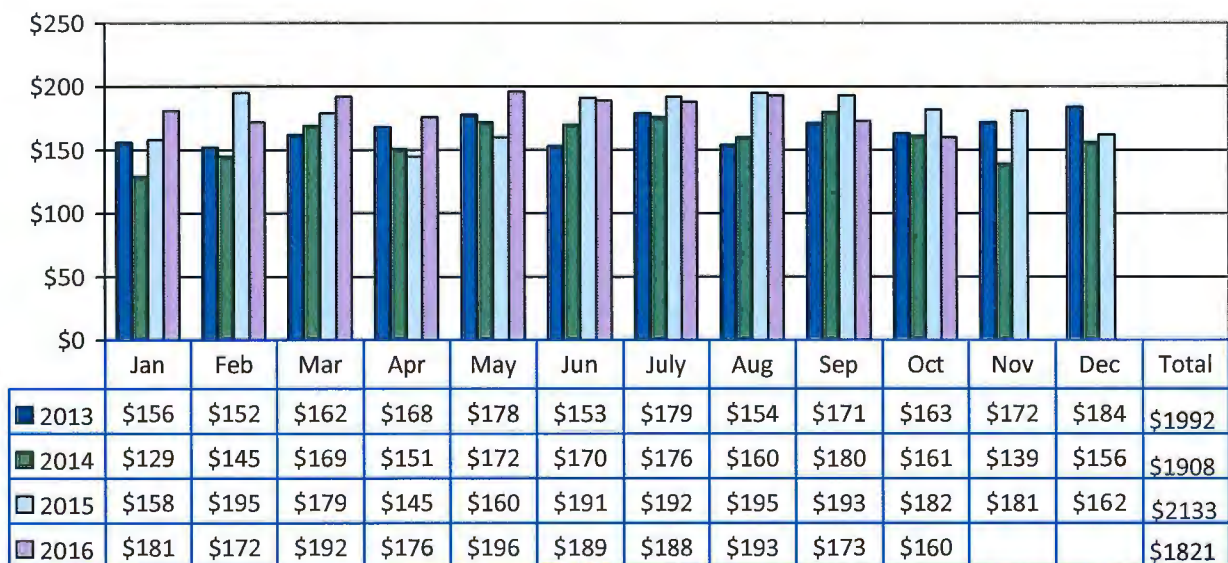
Meter Revenue was budgeted at \$464,836, while actual meter revenue is \$629,065. This is 35.3 per cent favorable, despite a revenue decrease of 8.7 per cent over the same period last year (\$59,400 in October 2016 compared to \$65,091 in October 2015).

Permit Revenue was budgeted at \$105,315, while actual permit revenue is \$172,485. This is 63.8 per cent favorable, despite a decrease of 12.5 per cent over the same period last year (\$12,461 in October 2016 compared to \$14,243 in October 2015).

Enforcement Revenue was budgeted at \$924,008, while actual enforcement revenue is \$1,019,222. This is 10.3 per cent favorable, despite a decrease of 13.7 per cent over the same period last year (\$88,388 in October 2016 compared to \$102,378 in October 2015).

Figure 1 compares *monthly consolidated revenue* from 2013 to 2016:


Figure 1: Consolidated Parking Revenue (000's)



Conclusion

The property use section continues to focus on unsightly premises, illegal short term rentals and a rise in on-street offences associated with construction activity. Furthermore, grease inspections remain on track to surpass previous inspection levels.

Consolidated revenue for the pay-parking program has been somewhat turbulent over the past quarter due to ongoing construction in Richmond. Greater stability is expected by the end of the year with revenues projected to exceed targets by greater than 20 per cent year to date.



Ron Graham
Acting Manager, Community Bylaws (604-247-4601)

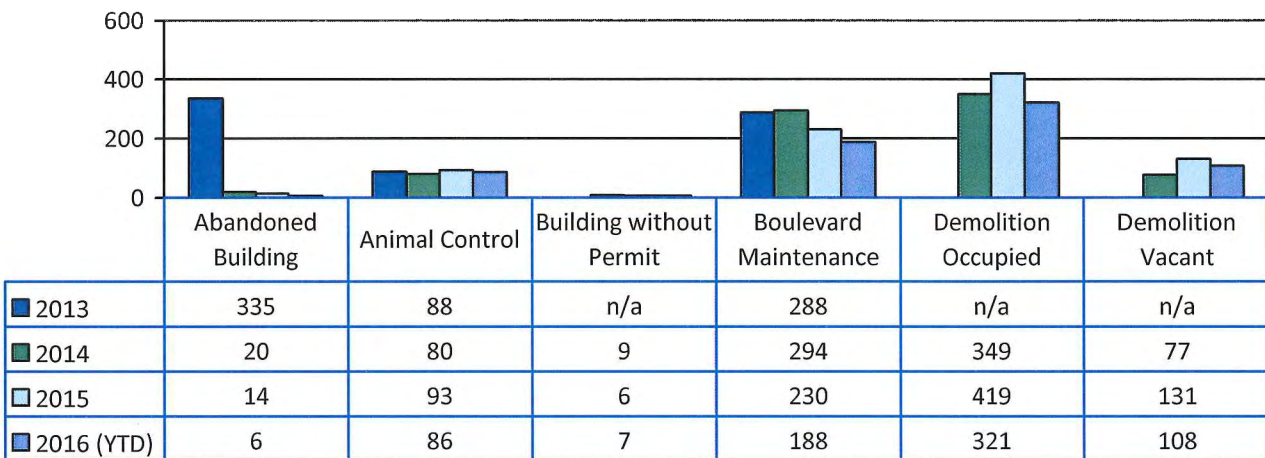
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Att. 1: Property, Grease, Parking & Animal Control Enforcement Activity Summary

1. Property Use

Community Bylaw Property Use Officers investigated 169 new files during the month of October 2016. This activity represents a decrease of 15.9 per cent compared to the number of files handled in September 2016 and an increase of 14.9 per cent when compared to the number of files handled in October 2015.

Currently there are 18 residences on the “Abandoned /Vacant Home Joint Operations” list, which staff continues to monitor.

Figure 1a: Service Demand Comparison



1. In 2013 all vacant properties were categorized as abandoned buildings. As of 2014 three other categories were created – “Demolition Occupied”, “Demolition Vacant” and “Vacant Building”.
2. Animal Control in these charts is in reference to dangerous dog investigations.

Figure 1b: Service Demand Comparison

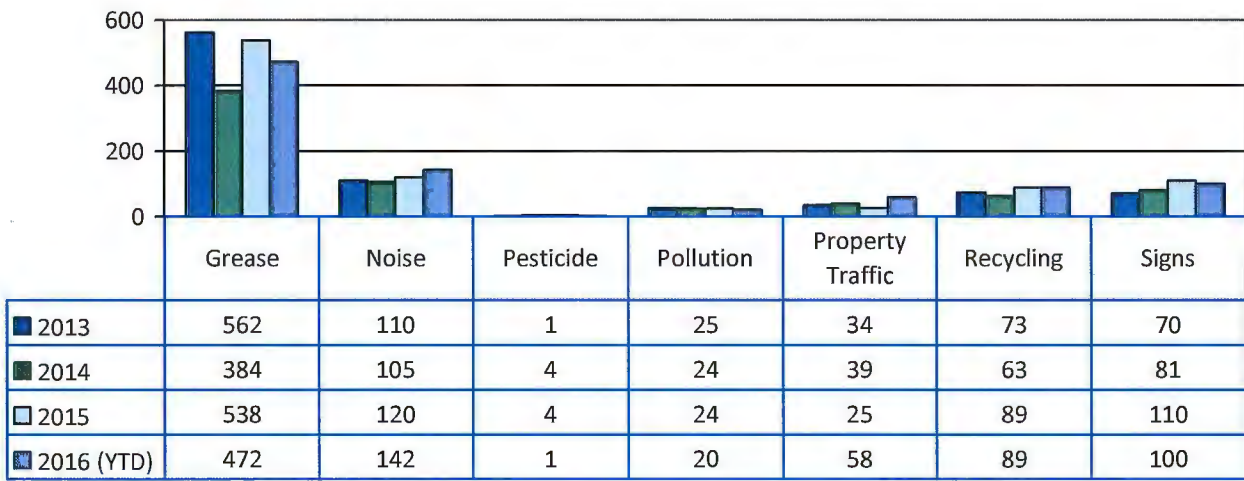
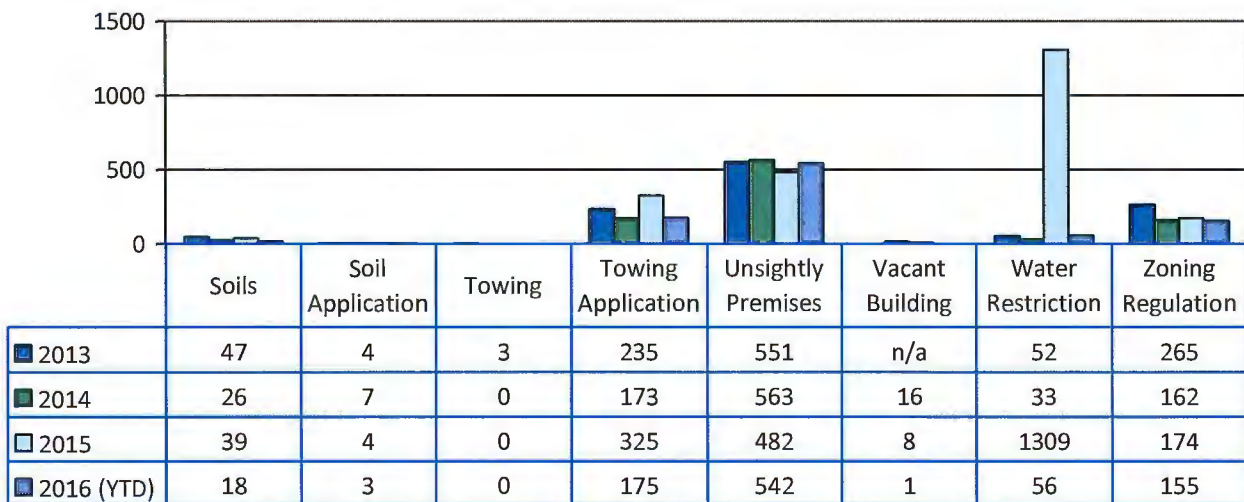


Figure 1c: Service Demand Comparison



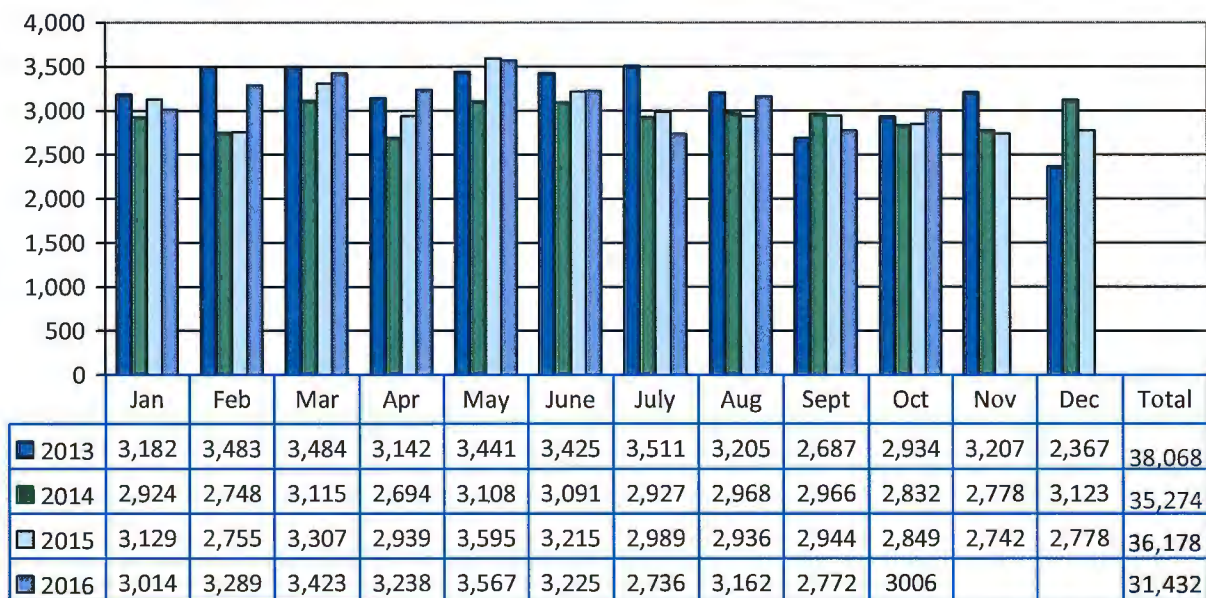
2. Grease Management Program

There were 61 inspections being conducted in the month of October 2016. This resulted in the issuance of three warnings and five fines for non-compliance.

3. Parking Program

A total of 3,006 violations were issued for parking, including safety and liability infractions during the month of October 2016. This activity represents an increase of 8.4 per cent compared to the number of violations that were issued in September 2016 and an increase of 5.5 per cent compared to the number of violations that were issued in October 2015.

Figure 2: 2013 - 2016 Comparison for Parking Violations Issued



In October 2016, 78 violations or 2.6 per cent of all infractions issued were changed to warnings. The following table provides a breakdown of the common reasons for the cancellation of bylaws violation notices pursuant to Council's Grounds for Cancellation Policy No. 1100 under specific sections.

Figure 3: Ticket Cancellations for October 2016

Section 2.1 (a)	Identity issues	10
Section 2.1 (b)	Exception specified under this bylaw or other bylaw	1
Section 2.1 (c)	Poor likelihood of success at adjudication for the City	9
Section 2.1 (d)	Contravention was necessary for the preservation for health and safety	1
Section 2.1 (e)	Multiple violations issued for one incident	2
Section 2.1 (f)	Not in the public interest	3
Section 2.1 (g)	Proven effort to comply	52
	Total	78

4. Adjudication Program

The next adjudication hearing is scheduled for November 29, 2016.

5. Animal Control

Community Bylaws issued 56 new dog licences during the month of October 2016. This activity represents a decrease of 43.4 per cent compared to the number of licences issued in September 2016 and a decrease of 42.9 per cent compared to the number of licences issued in October 2015.

In October 2016, five animal control tickets were issued related to various dog violations, including failure to produce a dog license, failure to leash a dog and failure to pick up dog excrement. Officers conducted patrols at the following locations:

- Garry Point Park
- Railway Shared Pathway
- South Arm Park
- South Dyke Trail
- Steveston Community Park
- West Dyke Trail
- T. Homma Neighbourhood School Park
- Diefenbaker Neighbourhood Park
- Middle Arm Trail
- McDonald Beach
- Sea Island
- North Arm River Road Trail
- Imperial Landing Park
- Minoru Park
- Britannia Heritage Shipyard Park
- Garden City Park
- Corner of Elmbridge and Alderbridge
- Garden City Community Park
- Shell Road Trail
- West Dyke Trail

As of the end of October 2016 there were 7560 dogs licenced within the City including 115 dangerous dog licences. During this same period three dangerous dog investigations were initiated as a result of dog bites. These investigations concluded with the three dogs involved being deemed as dangerous.