



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee

Date: October 15, 2016

From: John McGowan
Acting General Manager, Law and Community Safety

File: 12-8060-01/20-Vol01

Re: **Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – September 2016**

Staff Recommendation

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

John McGowan
Acting General Manager, Law & 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 Bylaws 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.

Property Use

Property Use Officers continue to focus on unsightly premises in accordance with the volume of incoming complaints. In addition, boulevard obstruction files continue to grow as a result of proactive staff patrols.

Given the rising popularity of short term rentals (illegal hotels and bed and breakfasts) the property use section continues to allocate considerable resources towards the investigation of short term rentals.

Grease inspections remain on pace to exceed month over month levels.

Parking and Animal Control

Parking and Animal Control Officers continue to conduct patrols for a variety of traffic infractions with a focus on child-safety given the resumption of school season. Although enforcement revenue decreased by 7.2% in September, this decrease was due in part to an increase in "warning" tickets issued during the first week of school, as well as a sustained focus on "Park" patrols.

Officers also finished their canvassing activity at the end of the month concluding a very successful licencing season. As a result, staff are currently preparing for dog-licence renewals beginning this November with an expected increase in the number of dogs to be re-licenced during 2017.

Permit revenue increased by over 11% year over year, however, this was due largely to end-of-quarter permit payments as the number of permits currently in circulation remains stable. Further, permit revenue remains strong despite the ongoing reduction or closure of permit zones due to various "Transportation" initiatives.

Meter revenue decreased by 18% year over year, however, this was a result of the temporary closure of several meter zones in relation to road work, construction and/or property development (i.e. Lesley Rd., Anderson Rd., Buswell St.). Meter revenue continues to exceed revenue targets on a month by month basis.

Financial Impact

The following information is a month by month analysis of September 2016 compared to September 2015.

Consolidated Parking Program Revenue

Consolidated meter, permit and enforcement revenue decreased by 10.1% over the same period last year to \$173,295 in September 2016 from \$192,722 in September 2015. The year to date budget for parking revenue is \$1,351,511 and actual parking program revenue is \$1,660,523.

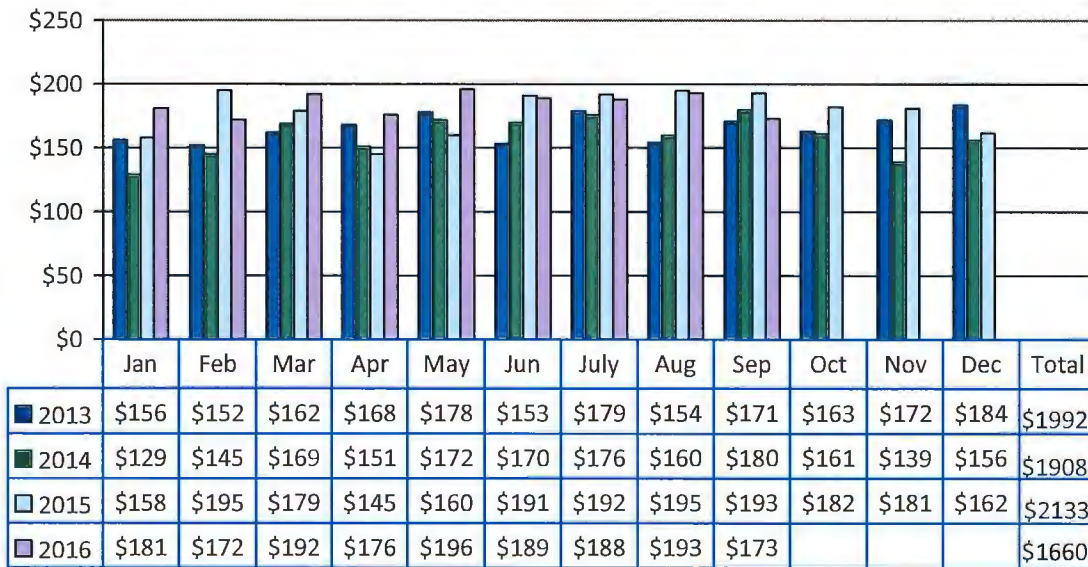
Meter Revenue decreased by 18.1% over the same period last year to \$61,274 in September 2016 from \$74,826 in September 2015. The year to date budget for meter revenue is \$420,458 and actual meter revenue is \$569,665.

Permit Revenue increased by 11.3 % over the same period last year to \$15,739 in September 2016 from \$14,142 in September 2015. The year to date budget for permit revenue is \$95,260 and actual permit revenue is \$160,023.

Enforcement Revenue decreased 7.2% over the same period last year to \$96,282 in September 2016 from \$103,754 in September 2015. The year to date budget for enforcement revenue is \$835,793 and actual enforcement revenue is \$930,835.

Figure 1 compares *consolidated revenue* by month from 2013 to 2016:

Figure 1: Consolidated Parking Revenue (000's)



Conclusion

The property use section remains active and continues to focus on unsightly premises, boulevard obstructions and addressing increased complaints regarding short term rentals. Further, grease inspections remain on pace to exceed month over month levels.

The pay-parking program continues to exceed revenue targets by over 11% despite challenges such as the reduction of meter and permit zones due to road work, ongoing construction and development. None the less, consolidated revenue remains strong and is projected to meet or exceed year end revenue targets.



Ben Dias
Manager, Community Bylaws (604-247-4601)

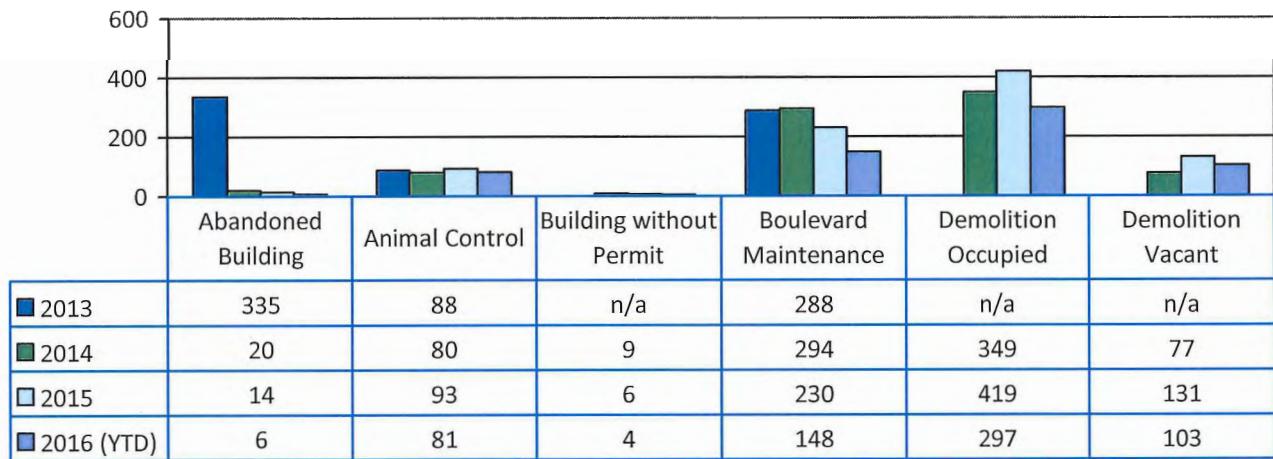
BD:ct
Att. 1: Property Use, Grease, Parking & Animal Control – Enforcement Activity

1. Property Use

Community Bylaw Property Use Officers handled 201 new investigational files during the month of September 2016. This activity represents a decrease of 15.5% compared to the number of files handled in August 2016 and a decrease of 14.8% compared to the number of files handled in September 2015.

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

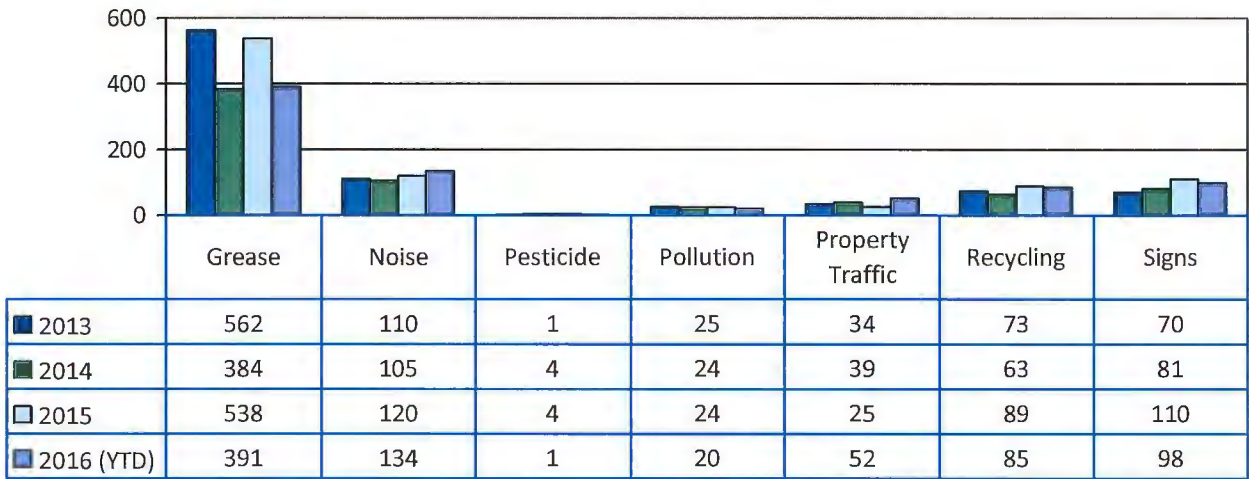
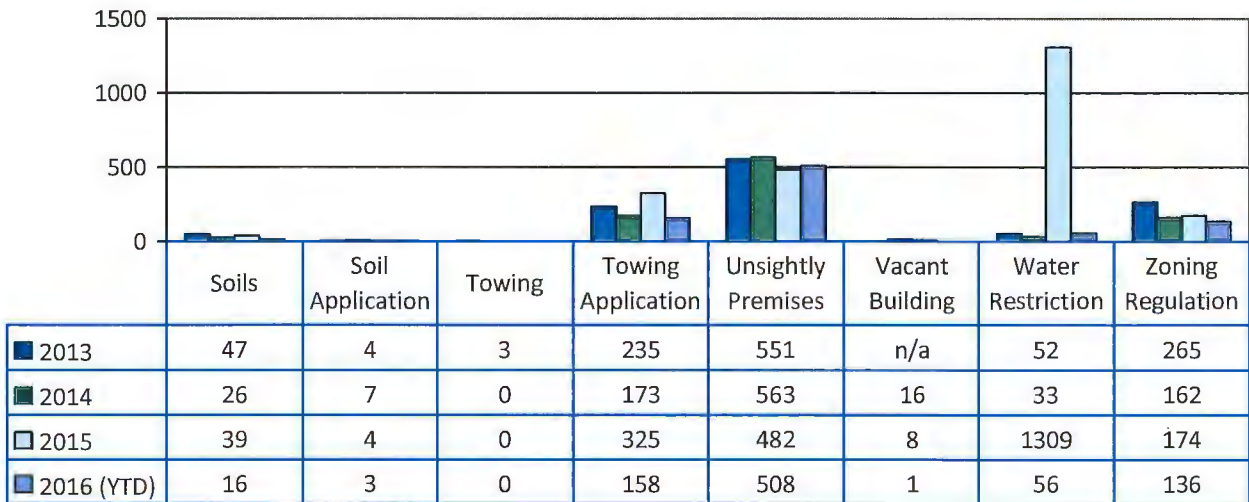


Figure 1c: Service Demand Comparison



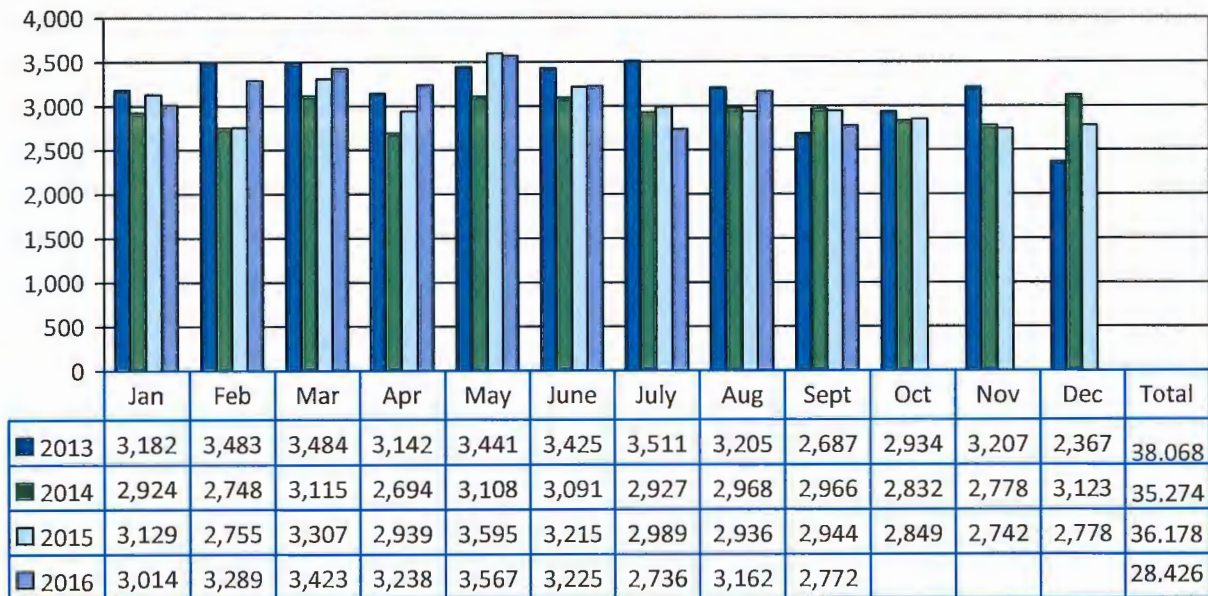
2. Grease Management Program

Grease Inspections resumed during the month of September with a total of 63 inspections being conducted. This resulted in the issuance of eight “Warnings” and twelve “Fines” for non-compliance.

3. Parking Program

A total of 2,772 violations were issued for parking, safety and liability infractions during the month of September 2016. This activity represents a decrease of 12.3% compared to the number of violations that were issued in August 2016 and a decrease of 5.8% compared to the number of violations that were issued in September 2015.

Figure 2: 2013 - 2016 Comparison for Parking Violations Issued



In September 2016, 81 violations or 2.9% of all infractions issued were subsequently 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 September 2016

Section 2.1 (a)	Identity issues	8
Section 2.1 (b)	Exception specified under this bylaw or other bylaw	4
Section 2.1 (c)	Poor likelihood of success at adjudication for the City	11
Section 2.1 (d)	Contravention was necessary for the preservation for health and safety	0
Section 2.1 (e)	Multiple violations issued for one incident	6
Section 2.1 (f)	Not in the public interest	9
Section 2.1 (g)	Proven effort to comply	41
	Total	81

4. Adjudication Program

On September 27, 2016, the results of 9 adjudication hearings were as follows:

- Parking: 7 cases heard
7 cases – Allegation occurred
- Bylaws: 2 cases heard
2 cases – Allegation occurred

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

5. Animal Control

Community Bylaws issued 99 new dog licences during the month of September 2016. This activity represents a decrease of 20.8% compared to the number of licences issued in August 2016 and an increase of 6.5% compared to the number of licences issued in September 2015.

In September 2016, 32 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. The Officers conducted patrols of the following locations:

- Garry Point Park
- Railway Shared Pathway
- West Dyke Trail
- North Dyke Trail
- Steveston Community Park
- Great West Cannery Park (South Cove)
- T. Homma Neighbourhood School Park
- Diefenbaker Neighbourhood Park
- Talmey Neighbourhood Park
- McDonald Beach
- Terra Nova Natural Area
- Terra Nova Rural Park
- Manoah Steeves Neighbourhood Park
- Imperial Landing Park
- Britannia Heritage Shipyard Park
- Great West Cannery Park (South Cove)
- T. Homma Neighbourhood School Park
- Garden City Community Park
- Shell Road Trail
- West Dyke Trail

As of the end of September 2016 there were 7499 dogs licenced within the City including 112 dangerous dog licences. During this same period public reports of dog bites resulted in 7 dangerous dog investigations.