



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** September 14, 2021
From: Cecilia Achiam **File:** 12-8060-01/2021-Vol
 General Manager, Community Safety 01
Re: **Community Bylaws Parking Enforcement and Animal Services Monthly Activity Report – August 2021**

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Community Bylaws Parking Enforcement and Animal Services Monthly Activity Report – August 2021”, dated September 14, 2021, 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 Parking Enforcement and Animal Services department provides information and statistics for enforcing bylaws related to Pay Parking, Parking Enforcement, Animal Services and Dog Licencing 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.

Analysis

Dog Licencing and Patrols

In August there were 116 dogs licenced. This figure represents 115 new dog licence applications and one dog licence renewal application. The total number of dogs, licenced year to date is 7,405. Community Bylaw staff continue to collect outstanding renewal licencing fees and have reduced the amount of unpaid renewal licences from 960 to 193. The annual dog licencing campaign will continue until October 2021, with additional fines being levied against the remaining dog owners who have not renewed their licences.

During the month of August 2021, BC SPCA Officers conducted 77 on-foot patrols of 37 parks, schools and dykes located within the City. Five out of nine park patrol requests received by the BC SPCA were for Officer attendance at school grounds to address public concerns regarding off-leash dogs.

For the month of September 2021, the BC SPCA will be scheduling Officers to patrol Cook Elementary daily, between the hours of 12pm to 8pm, to conduct education and/or ticketing to address an abundance of off-leash dogs witnessed by a BC SPCA Officer and occurring during the above-specified hours.

Patrols by BC SPCA Officers conducted at Garry Point, have had a positive effect, resulting in no complaints received by the BC SPCA for dogs off leash for the month of August.

During the month of August 2021, BC SPCA Officers attended 13 dog in hot car calls, which resulted in three violation notices and 10 warnings being issued under the Animal Control Bylaw section 1.1.1(b) "*A person must not cause any animal to be confined in an enclosed space, including a vehicle, without adequate ventilation*". The City and the BC SPCA continue to promote the dangers of leaving your animal in a vehicle on social media platforms and will continue to do so throughout the summer months. As the fall and winter season approaches, both Community Bylaws and the BC SPCA will focus on addressing the dangers of leaving an animal in a vehicle during cold weather, which can be just as fatal to the animal.

During the month of August 2021, the BC SPCA received 18 calls for service regarding barking dogs. The complaints are likely attributed to more dogs being outside and windows being left open during the hot weather experienced in August. BC SPCA Officers attended the residences of the dog owners, to alert them to both the complaint, while also referencing the Noise Regulation Bylaw No. 8856 (Noise Bylaw), Section 3.2.1 (a) which prohibits a dog from barking for any period in excess of one-half hour of time. Out of the 18 barking dog complaints received for the month of August, one violation notice and two warnings were issued to dog owners who did not comply with the Noise Bylaw.

The fledgling season for seagulls took place in the month of August and this led to an increase of calls for service from well-intentioned individuals believing the fledglings are injured or in danger. BC SPCA continued to educate the public on fledgling season during the month of August and the importance of not disturbing the nests.

Additionally, BC SPCA Officers conduct both education and enforcement, which includes licence checks, muzzling requirements and general animal services and dog licencing violations, while continuing to foster a strong relationship within the community

Figure 1 below highlights the top five patrolled parks and/or schools followed by Figure 2, which represents BC SPCA Officer public engagement while conducting enforcement and education within City parks for the month of August. Figure 3 represents the 230 calls for service that the BC SPCA Officers attended for the month of August.

Figure 1: Parks Patrolled by BC SPCA

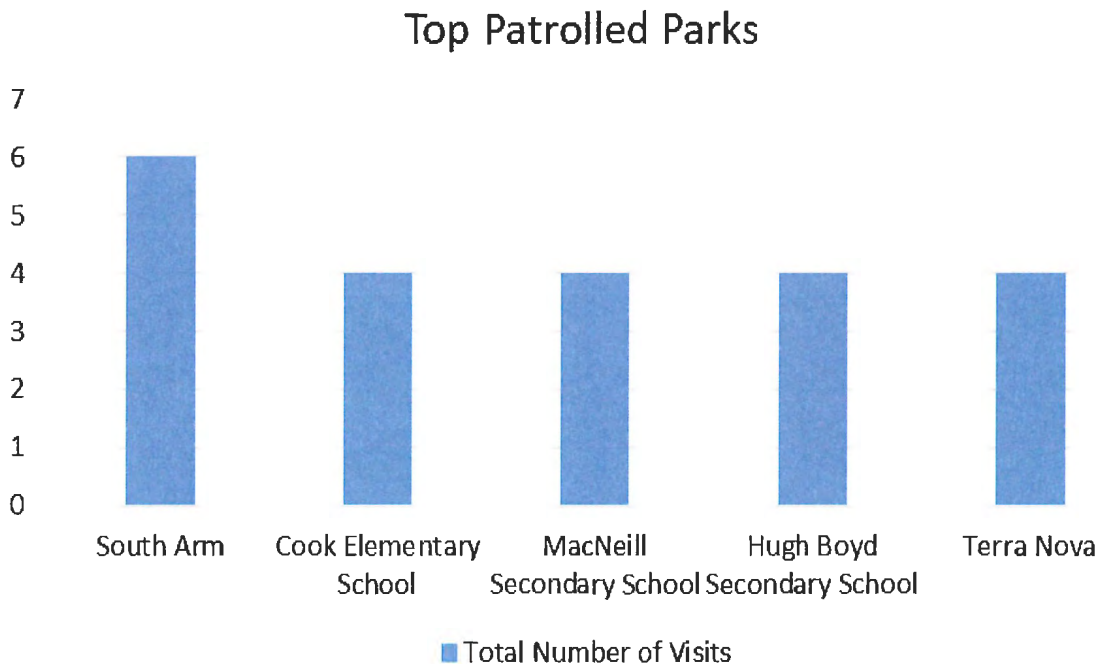


Figure 2: Education and Enforcement by BC SPCA

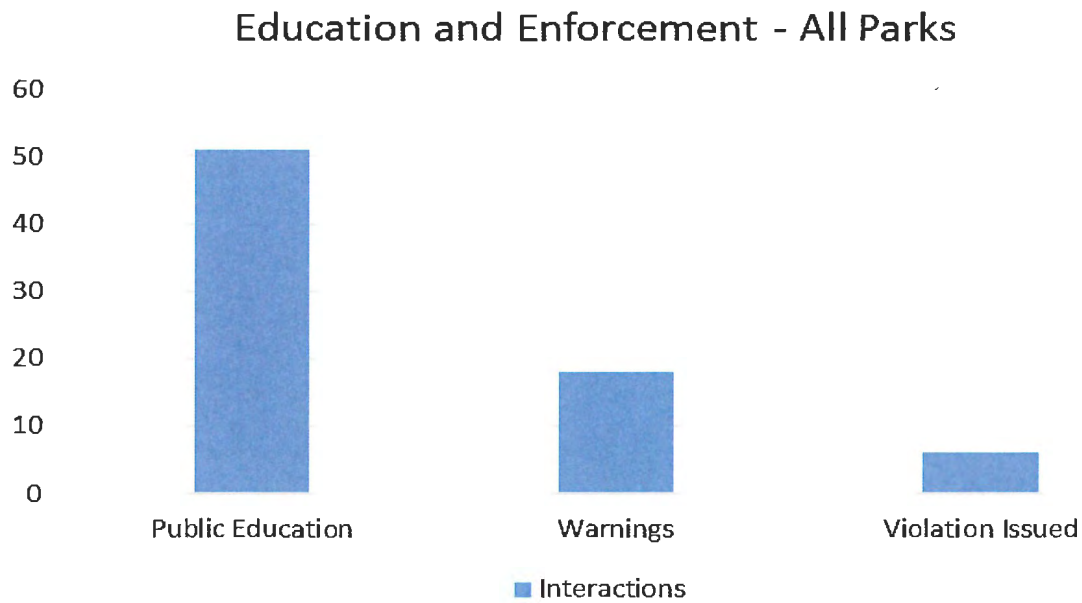
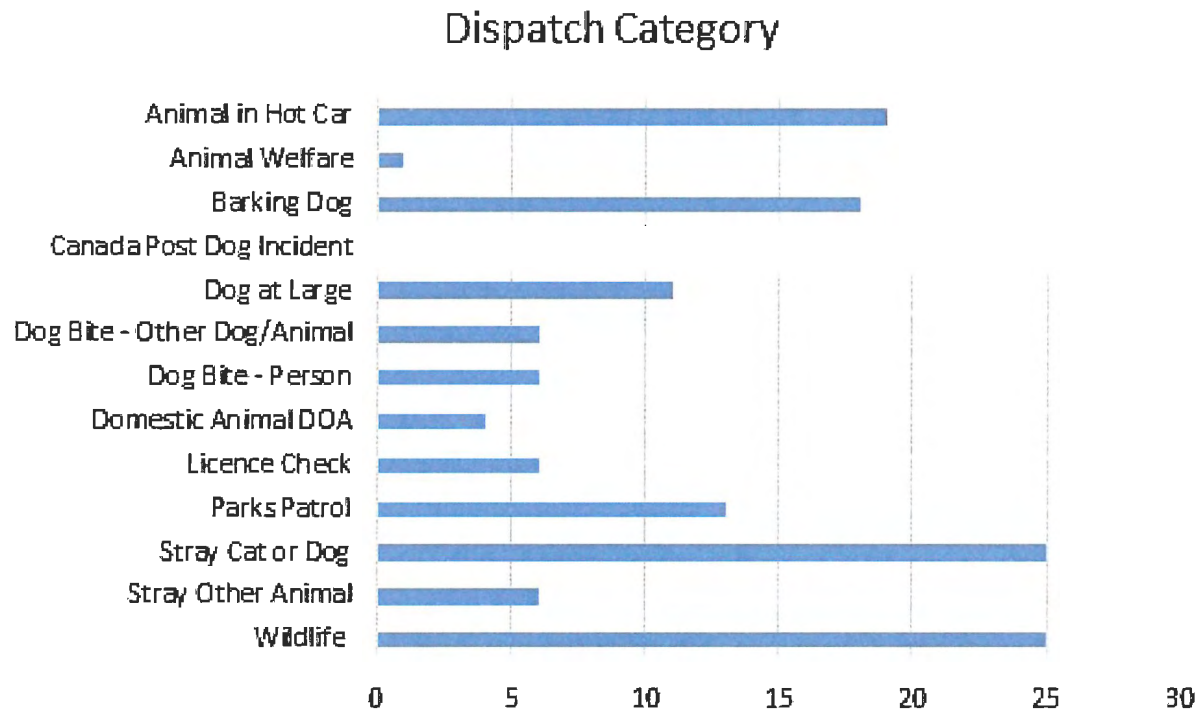


Figure 3: Dispatch Calls for Service – Animals



Parking Enforcement

For the month of August 2021, Parking Officers attended 203 calls for service for parking and/or stopping related offences. Out of the 203 calls, 61 were attributed to requests for enforcement of the Traffic Bylaw No. 5870 (Traffic Bylaw) as it pertains to either the 72-hour or 3-hour requirement within the Bylaw. These calls are associated with recreational vehicles and other types of vehicles either parking in front of a single-family dwelling or on City streets and are not moving within the required period set out in the Traffic Bylaw. Parking Officers are required to attend, chalk the tires and monitor the vehicles for movement for either 72-hours or 3-hours depending on the nature of the complaint.

Parking Officers proactively patrol City owned off-street parking lots for compliance of pay parking and City roadways for stopping and parking offences. Management of files by Parking Officers is priority based with all safety and obstruction requests receiving top priority.

In August 2020, Council supported the development of the City owned vacant property at 8660 Beckwith Road to increase available commuter parking near the Bridgeport Canada Line Station. In August 2021, the City’s new metered parking lot opened, “*Bridgeport North*”, located at the corner of Beckwith Road and Sexsmith Road with a capacity of 32 spaces and a parking rate of \$3.00 per day.

Figure 4 reflects the monthly and year-to-date parking enforcement activity measured by violation issuance. The corresponding revenue is reflected in Figure 5.

Figure 4: Parking Violations Issuance Comparison

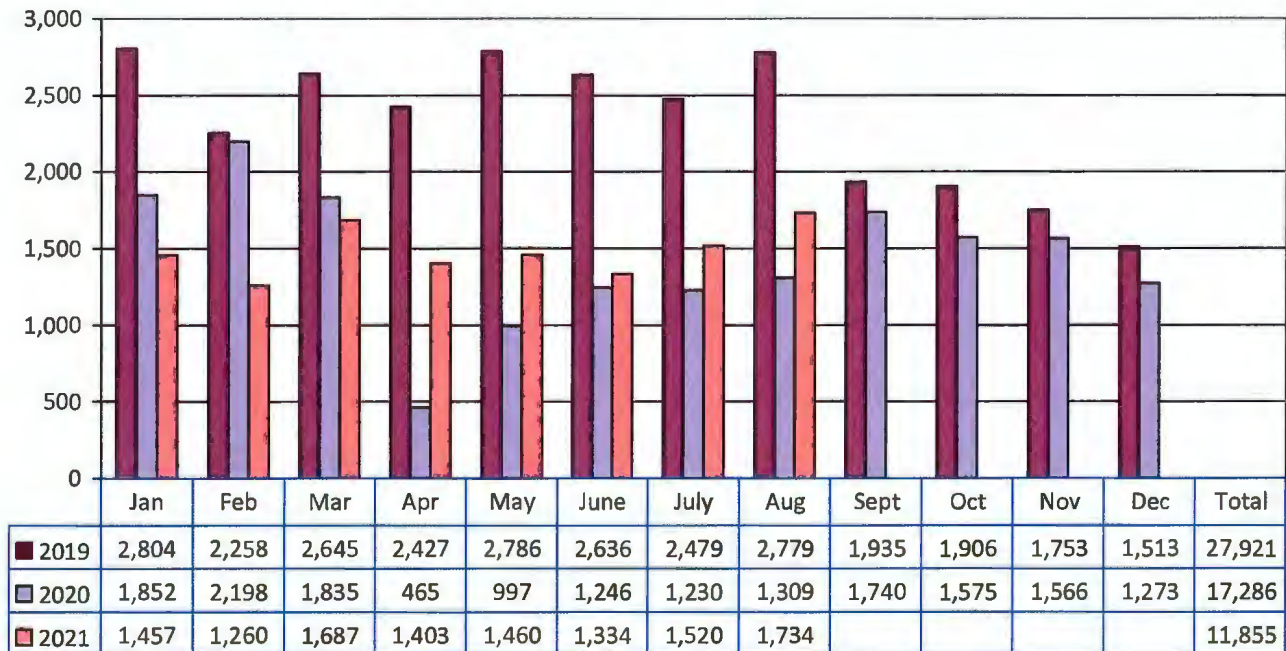
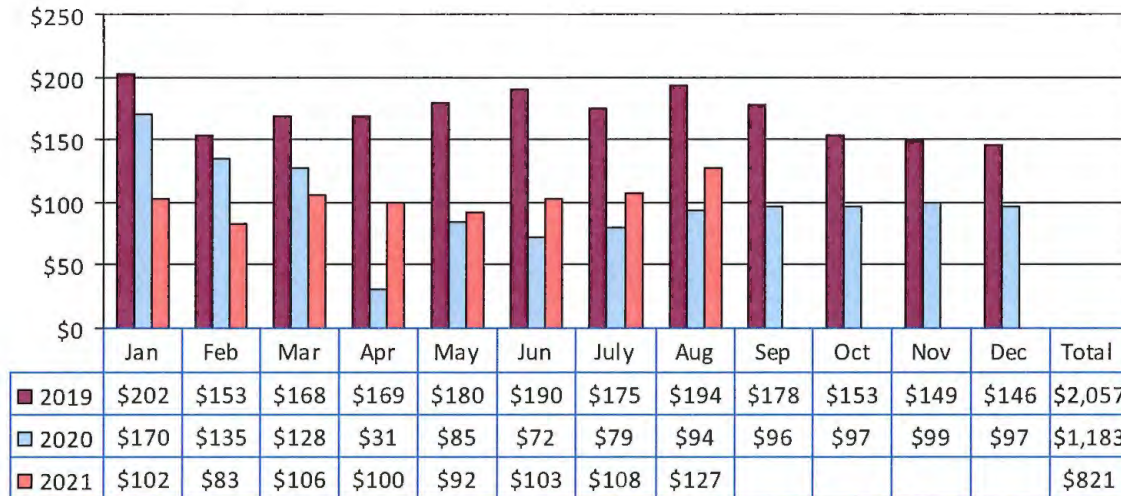


Figure 5: Parking Revenue Comparison (000's)



Ticket Issuance

Parking violations make up the majority of tickets issued by Bylaw Enforcement Officers. Table 1 exhibits the number of parking violations issued together with the number of animal services violations issued.

Table 1: Violations Issued

| Ticket Issuance | August | YTD |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Parking & Stopping Offences | 1,734 | 11,855 |
| Animal Services Offences | 77 | 536 |
| Totals | 1,811 | 12,391 |

The increase in ticket revenue for the month of August can be attributed to fines issued by Parking Officers for parking and/or stopping violations occurring at the Richmond Night Market. A total of 411 tickets have been issued since the opening of the Night Market on July 24, 2021. Enforcement services performed by Parking Officers at the Night Market are recovered by the City through the Night Market contractor and are shown in Table 2 below, as receivable income.

Animal Services ticket revenue continues to reflect an increase during the month of August. This is attributed to the annual dog licence-canvassing program, which ensures non-compliant dog owners purchase renewal licences. Increases in revenue can also be attributed to increased uniform presence and enforcement of City bylaws by BC SPCA Officers as they relate to animal control and licencing issues.

Bylaw Adjudication

The adjudication session was held on August 25, 2021, and consisted of:

- two violations in contravention of the Animal Control Regulation Bylaw No. 7932;
- one violation in contravention of the Fire Protection and Life Safety Bylaw No. 8306;
- one violation in contravention of the Traffic Bylaw No. 5870; and
- one violation in contravention of the Business Licence Bylaw No. 7360.

All violations were upheld and the Adjudicator ruled in favour of the City. The next adjudication is scheduled for November 17, 2021.

Revenue and Expenses

The Community Bylaw Parking and Animal Services department derives much of its revenue from parking meters, parking permits and parking violations. The remainder of revenue generated is from dog licences, animal services fines, false alarm disturbances and newspaper box permits. Table 2 outlines individual revenue types while Table 3 highlights revenue and expenses for the programs within Community Bylaws Parking and Animal Services.

Table 2: Parking and Animal Services Revenue by Source

| Program Revenue | Budget Aug 2021 | Actual Aug 2021 | YTD Budget Aug 2021 | YTD Actual Aug 2021 |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Contract Revenue ¹ | 5,319 | 5,000 | 41,362 | 40,000 |
| Filming Revenue | 0 | 699 | 0 | 12,332 |
| False Alarm | 4,533 | 0 | 36,267 | 5,875 |
| Dog Licences | 15,072 | 8,411 | 163,182 | 199,500 |
| Newspaper Box Permits | 2,429 | 0 | 28,905 | 8,648 |
| Animal Services Fines | 632 | 6,575 | 6,836 | 35,925 |
| Parking Revenue ² | 181,201 | 127,139 | 1,409,194 | 820,893 |
| Receivable Income ³ | 8,864 | 10,020 | 68,935 | 10,019 |
| Total Revenue | 218,050 | 157,844 | 1,754,681 | 1,133,192 |

¹ City Towing Contract with Rusty's towing

² Parking Revenue consists of Parking Meters, Monthly Parking Permits, and Parking Enforcement

³ Receivable Income consists of Night Market Recoveries

Table 3: Parking & Animal Services Revenue and Expenses

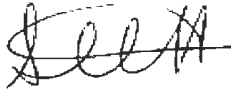
| | | YTD Budget Aug 2021 | YTD Actual Aug 2021 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Parking⁴ | Revenue | 1,584,663 | 897,767 |
| | Expenses | 1,104,259 | 782,771 |
| | Net Revenue (Expense) | 480,404 | 114,996 |
| | | | |
| Animal Control⁵ | Revenue | 170,018 | 235,425 |
| | Expenses | 672,349 | 613,525 |
| | Net Revenue (Expense) | (502,331) | (378,100) |
| | | | |

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

The Parking Enforcement and Animal Services department administers a wide range of bylaws related to parking, animal services, public parks and school grounds. This report provides a summary of monthly enforcement and educational activity, including revenue and expenses. Ticketing revenue continues to fluctuate, primarily due to the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic, which is managed and partially offset by a decrease in costs in all areas of the department.



Susan Lloyd
 Program Manager, Administration, Parking
 Enforcement and Animal Services
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⁴ Includes all revenue from Table 2, excluding dog licences and animal services fines

⁵ Includes dog licences and animal services fines from Table 2