

Chair:

Councillor Steele

Present:Councillor Bose
Councillor Gill
Councillor Hepner
Councillor Hunt
Councillor Martin
Councillor Rasode
Councillor Villeneuve
Mayor Watts**Staff Present:**City Manager
Chief Superintendent MacRae, Surrey RCMP
City Solicitor
City Clerk
Fire Chief
Deputy City Manager
Manager, By-law & Licensing Services
Manager, Crime Reduction Strategy
Deputy City Clerk**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was

Moved by Councillor Hepner
Seconded by Councillor Villeneuve
That the minutes of the November 1, 2010

Public Safety Committee be adopted.

Carried**B. DELEGATIONS****1. Greater Vancouver Transit Authority Police Service (GVTAPS) Update**

Staff Sgt. Doug Semple and Inspector Rick McKillican were in an attendance to provide a presentation regarding the Transit Police. The delegation provided an overview, noting that GVTAPS was rolled out as a police department back in 2005. Although the Transit Police do not have jurisdiction, the force has a broad area of responsibility encompassing the following: Expo Line, Millenium Line, West Coast Express, and the Canada Line.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is in place which establishes the protocols between Transit Police and the Jurisdictional Police Departments (JPD's). The MOU further clarifies that JPD's have primary policing obligations. The Transit Police is supplementary and only has an area of responsibility.

The deployment model was reviewed, noting that by contract requirement there are to be six (6) constables on the Canada Line. Single patrols are not permitted, as the force is bound to have team patrols. In terms of statistics, in 2008 there were 2311 files and 3554 tickets, and in 2010 there were 2726 files and 4402 tickets.

The strategy for the Surrey Central Sky Train Station was reviewed, noting that interagency cooperation has been enhanced. Positive feedback has been received from businesses, with drug dealers and users having moved on.

A reduction in the number of loitering individuals has also been experienced. As a result, there has been reduced pressure on the Transit Police assigned to the Surrey zone to now concentrate on other issues.

During discussion, Council expressed the importance of an overall strategy being in place for all skytrain station and working in conjunction with all forces. The delegation noted that capacity restraints make it a challenge to address all “trouble” spots, however, a strategic plan has been developed and that further direction on the plan will be provided by the new Police Chief. The intention is to build partnerships within the year. In response to a query, the delegation confirmed that the Police Chief reports to the TransLink Board and the Transit Police Board, with the budget having to be approved by both Boards.

With regards to policing the buses, it was noted that the Metro Vancouver Bus Service Region is defined as “the area from Deep Cove in North Vancouver to White Rock on the United States border and from Maple Ridge in the Fraser Valley to Point Grey on the Pacific Ocean.” The capacity is as follows: 3350 operators, 3000 buses, 730,000 passengers, 201 routes, and 1800 square kilometers. The Transit Police had the Transit Center Liaison Officer positions throughout the lower mainland, created to fill the gap as there was no police authority on buses. Damages to ticket machines at various stations has been a significant problem and the inability for the Transit Police to access the video camera footage has been a barrier to addressing and mitigating such incidents. Council spoke to the proposed CCTV pilot project at Scott Road skytrain station and noted that cameras should exist at all stations. In the name of public safety, it was noted that video footage should be accessible to authorities to assist with investigations.

At the present time, the Transit Police do not have the capacity to provide robust police service to the Metro Vancouver Bus Region. The Transit Police will address bus issues in loops and stops tied to other transit modes, such as Sky Train stations and seabus.

It was
Moved by Councillor Martin
Seconded by Councillor Villeneuve
That representatives of the Greater
Vancouver Transit Authority Police Service (GVTAPS) be invited to a future meeting of the Public Safety Committee to provide further updates.

Carried

GVTAPS Delegation left the meeting at 3:26 p.m.

BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation Delegation joined the meeting at 3:26 p.m.

2. Allan Lamb, Executive Director, BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation- “Alexa’s Bus”

Allan Lamb, Executive Director, BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation, was in attendance to introduce the concept of establishing a mobile bus aimed to assist police in processing impaired drivers. Mr. Lamb expressed regrets for Ms. Laura Middelaer who was unable to attend due to another commitment.

In the memory of Alexa Middelaer, a young life who was tragically taken away by an impaired driver, Mr. Lamb noted he is here to help a family tell a story. In terms of impaired driving in BC, in an average year, there are 5000 alcohol-related crashes, with 3000 people injured and 115 people killed. It has been estimated that impaired driving in BC has had \$1.6 Billion in societal costs. The new sanctions are not addressing the high number of impaired drivers, with the average blood alcohol being 0.16 in BC last year.

Termed "Alexa's Bus," the bus would be outfitted with three data master stations, and a private cell area at a total cost of \$225,000. The benefits and impacts of such a bus could be significant, as similar concepts are already in practice in other areas (ie. Durham Regional Police Service, Calgary Police, RCMP "D" Division in Manitoba, Melbourne and Victoria, Australia). The benefits of such a bus were noted as follows: educational resource; highly visible road deterrent; efficiencies in processing suspects; increased convictions of impaired drivers; public awareness; and, overall cost-savings.

In response to a query, the delegation confirmed that a detailed fundraising plan has been developed and at this point partnership is sought to bring the concept into reality. The bus would be driven by police and would be set up as part of road checks and would serve as an enforcement tool. A website has been developed outlining the initiative (www.backthebus.org).

It was

Moved by Councillor Villeneuve

Seconded by Councillor Watts

That the item referred by Council of RCMP

Contract Update, and information items of the Crime Reduction Strategy and OIC

Update be moved into the Closed Meeting of the Public Safety Committee.

Carried

C. OTHER BUSINESS (continued)

1. MOTION TO HOLD A MEETING IN A CLOSED SESSION

It is in order for Public Safety Committee members to pass a resolution to closed the meeting to the public pursuant to Section 90 (1)(f) of the *Community Charter*, which states:

"A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

- (f) law enforcement, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation under or enforcement of an enactment;"

a Closed Public Safety Committee Meeting will be held at City Hall, 14245 – 56 Avenue, Surrey, B.C. in the Executive Boardroom on Monday, January 24, 2011 at conclusion of the Open PSC meeting.

It was Moved by Councillor Villeneuve
Seconded by Councillor Hunt
That pursuant to Section 90 (1)(f) of the
Community Charter, which states:

“A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

- (f) law enforcement, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation under or enforcement of an enactment;”

a Closed Public Safety Committee (PSC) Meeting will be held at City Hall, 14245 – 56 Avenue, Surrey, B.C. in the Executive Boardroom on Monday, January 24, 2011 at conclusion of the Open PSC meeting.

Carried

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved by Councillor Hunt
Seconded by Councillor Villeneuve
That the Public Safety Committee meeting
do now adjourn.

Carried

The Public Safety Committee adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Claudia Jesson, Deputy City Clerk

Councillor Steele, Chairperson