



Corporate *NO: R084*

Report *COUNCIL DATE: April 29, 2002*

REGULAR			
TO:	Mayor & Council	DATE:	April 25, 2002
FROM:	City Manager	FILE:	7400
SUBJECT:	Police Services and Priorities		

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

1. Council receive the report.
2. Council direct the Surrey RCMP Detachment that a high priority be given to address the Drug and Prostitution issues in the City.
3. Council approve an additional eight officers, effective immediately, in particular to assist with the above priority.
4. Council approve two additional Bylaw Enforcement Officers, effective immediately, in particular to assist with the above priority.
5. Council further direct the Surrey RCMP Detachment that Auxiliary Officer Volunteers be optimally deployed to further support this priority.

2. DISCUSSION

In the Public Safety Committee meeting of April 18th, 2002, the Chief Superintendent outlined urgent needs for additional RCMP resources to deal with a number of policing priorities including reactive and pro-active responses to Drug and Prostitution Issues.

Council has directed that a high priority be given to deal with Drug and Prostitution Issues in the City. In response, the Surrey RCMP Detachment has deployed various strategies to deal with the above Council priority. These include:

- Integrated Service Delivery Approach
- “Operation Sweep”
- Vice Squad
- Direct Action Response Team (D.A.R.T>)
- The new “Grow-Op” Bylaw
- Various Bylaw initiatives

Discussion of Increase in Bylaw Enforcement Officers

The Bylaw enforcement staff compliment has remained the same since 1998. In 1998, an increase of two Bylaw Enforcement Officers was approved, specifically to deal with Commercial Vehicles and the truck route enforcement issues; as part of a joint Bylaw/RCMP unit.

During 1999/2000, an internal streamlining of the Bylaw Enforcement and Business Licensing Services was undertaken, which resulted in the decrease of one exempt position and 3 (term) support staff positions. At the same time, several new enforcement bylaws have been approved such as Grow-ops, No-Smoking, False Alarms, etc. In addition, Council has directed that a high priority be given to issues related to unsightly premises, pawnshops, massage parlours, vacant landlords, graffiti, etc. Furthermore, Bylaw Enforcement is appropriately called upon to take an increasingly role in assisting Police resources and services such as off-street parking complaints, dealing with issues in City Parks, Special Events, etc. As well, given the population increase of about 40,000 during the last 5 years, the City continues to experience a general increase in the Bylaw Enforcement complaints.

Guided by the above needs and based on discussions with the city Solicitor and the Manager, Bylaw Enforcements and Licensing Services, an increase of two Bylaw Enforcement Officers is recommended.

3. FUNDING

The above recommendations require an additional funding of about \$450,000 for the current 2002 year. It is proposed that the “one-time” projected “under-expenditures” of the City be used to fund this need. However, the 2003 operational budget will require to be adjusted which can be undertaken as part of the annual budget process.

4. CONCLUSION

To respond to growing needs for both the Police Services and the Bylaw Enforcement Services, it is requested that Council approve an increase of eight RCMP Officers and two Bylaw Enforcement Officers.

Umendra Mital, P. Eng.

City Manager

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