

Council-in-Committee Minutes

Council Chambers City Hall 13450 - 104 Avenue Surrey, B.C. MONDAY, JULY 21, 2014 Time: 4:15 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Watts

Absent:

Staff Present: City Manager

Chairperson - Councillor Villeneuve

Councillor Gill
Councillor Hayne
Councillor Hepner
Councillor Martin
Councillor Rasode
Councillor Steele

City Manager City Clerk

General Manager, Planning & Development

City Solicitor

Acting General Manager, Engineering General Manager, Finance & Technology General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture

General Manager, Human Resources

A. DELEGATIONS

 Colleen Kerr, Crime Reduction Strategy Manager, and Jacki Tokaryk, Community Safety Coordinator

File: 7580-01; 0550-20-10

Note: See Corporate Report R129 of the Regular Council – Public Hearing Agenda.

In attendance before Council to present the Crime Reduction Strategy (CRS) Annual Report for 2013.

The following comments were made:

- A review of the CRS recommendations in May 2014 resulted in the conclusion that 90% of the 106 recommendations of the CRS are either complete or are well underway.
- Overall downward trends in crime continue to be observed and recorded since the development and implementation of the CRS. It was noted that there was a slight increase in motor vehicle theft and property crime, but these numbers did not affect overall crime statistics.
- Demonstrating the significant progress that the CRS has made, the delegation noted a number of key achievements and highlights from 2013 including projects such as:
 - O Guildford West My Neighbourhood, My Future (MNMF)
 The MNMF is a five year investment that is designed to focus on change at the level of individuals and on barrier reduction through neighbourhood-based engagement of families, service providers and stakeholders and service delivery to vulnerable children, parents, and caregivers in the Guildford area.

o Mayor's Task Force on Crime

Initially formed in November 2013, the Task Force worked to address the issues relating to Surrey's homicides. Since that time, the Task Force has successfully created a database through the partnership of the RCMP, Fire Services and Bylaws, to address criminal activity in high risk areas.

o Reporting Card

In 2013, the Crime Reduction Office developed a "REPORT IT" card and distributed 10,000 copies through Parks, Recreation and Culture facilities, Bylaws, Libraries, Fire Services, as well as each RCMP district office. In 2014, the card was modified and renamed the "Surrey Services – Do Your Part, Make the Call" card and is being mailed out with residential utility bills throughout the year.

o Surrey App

The City began work on developing its own smartphone App designed to make it easier for residents and businesses to submit service requests and report issues. The new Surrey-specific App was released in May 2014, which allows people to take photos and report concerns such as potholes, illegal dumping, localized flooding, graffiti and other issues from their mobile device.

o Master Plan for Housing the Homeless

Adopted by the City in July 2013, the Master Plan aims to identify and respond to the need for long-term housing and support services for people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. It also focusses on the need for emergency shelters and related services.

- Supporting Individuals with Developmental Disabilities (SIDD)
 SIDD saw significant funding advancement for a new Justice Advocacy position in Surrey.
- Welcoming Communities Program (WCP)
 WCP worked to support refugees and new immigrants, making them feel welcomed and included by addressing barriers such as access to employment and intercultural training and understanding.
- 2. Alisha Mangat and Kiran Dhesa, Young Women Civic Leaders Committee File: 5080-01; 0550-20-10

In attendance before Council to propose the formation of a Women's Advisory Committee that will work on the development and implementation of a gender equality strategy for the City of Surrey.

The following comments were made:

 The City has made great progress with youth civic engagement and has shown that there are opportunities for youth, but many young women still find politics inaccessible due to feeling disconnected from the formal process.

- The delegation requests that the City create a Women's Advisory Committee, consisting of young women ages 18-25, which will assist the City with the following three (3) goals:
 - 1. Develop a gender equality strategy;
 - 2. Apply a gender lens to City policy making; and
 - 3. Create a Young Women Civic Leaders working group within the Women's Advisory Committee.
- The creation of this new Women's Advisory Committee would endeavor to give young women an opportunity to gain important leadership skills, make important connections through mentorship, and improve their confidence to voice ideas and opinions.

3. Linda Stromberg, Surrey Libraries Board Chair

File: 8145-01; 0550-20-10

In attendance before Council to give a brief overview on the Surrey Libraries Facilities Master Plan (2014 - 2033).

The following comments were made:

- The purpose of the Master Plan is to provide recommendations to Council and offer information on the assistance and development of capital budgets. The City has invested over \$58 million with the expansion of Guildford Library and the introduction of five (5) new community libraries.
- The delegation noted that Surrey Libraries continue to support learning through printed resources, but are endeavoring to provide access to technology and e-books (only 4% of the material borrowed from libraries are e-books).
- Surrey Libraries Master Plan outlines a number of priorities including:
 - o A new library in Clayton Heights
 - o The addition of 4400 sq. ft. at the City Centre Library
 - o Plans for expansion of service in Newton or a new library in Panorama
 - Expansion of the Fleetwood Library
 - o A new library in Grandview Heights
- In addition to the \$58 million already invested, a further investment of \$35.2 million will ensure that services keep pace with community growth.
 Surrey Libraries look forward to delivering services that are relative to the needs of Surrey's communities in future.

4. Bonnie Burnside, President, Whalley Community Association

File: 0390-20; 0550-20-10

In attendance before Council to provide a presentation on the outcome of the April 6, 2013 Community Summit.

The following comments were made:

- The 2013 Community Summit provided an open space and opportunity for individuals to discuss ideas on a variety of topics including guerilla placemaking (unconventional approaches to creating or enhancing public spaces), transportation, sustainability, refugee issues, and community safety.
- Keynote speakers at the 2013 Community Summit included Gord Hume and Matt Hearn, and showcased a number of workshops from groups such as Connecting with Youth Today, City Beautification, Connecting Neighbours, Community Gardens and Urban Gardening, Municipal 101 -Getting to Know City Hall.
- The delegation hopes to hold a 2015 Community Summit with the support
 of the City, as it provides many valuable networking opportunities and
 produces positive outcomes for the larger community. The delegation
 noted that City staff time would be needed to make this event a success.

In response to a question from Council, the delegation noted that Healthy Communities will be producing a Corporate Report which will outline the role the City can play in making the 2015 Community Summit successful.

5. Bonnie Burnside, Manager, Downtown Surrey Business Improvement Association (DSBIA), with Student Interns Maureen Solmundson, Alex Dibnah and Basra Arte

File: 0250-20; 0550-20-10

In attendance before Council to provide an update on various DSBIA initiatives undertaken by co-op students.

The following comments were made:

- With funding from Service Canada, DSBIA has been providing opportunities for co-op students since 2005. Intern roles include: special events (Surrey Fest, Quattro Street Festival, Canada Day, Fusion Festival, etc.), graphic design and website creation, social media, communication publications, sustainability and community safety research.
- The delegation distributed samples of the co-op student's specific projects, noting that all graphic design for event posters, photography and filming was produced by DSBIA interns.

- The delegation invited three (3) co-op students to present the projects they have worked on this summer.
 - o Maureen Sustainability Intern
 - Primarily involved in educating businesses in the downtown Surrey area about sustainable practices. A pamphlet was circulated to local businesses, including tips on reducing waste, water and energy conservation, as well as information regarding the upcoming Metro-Vancouver-wise organics ban in 2015.
 - Research was completed regarding the implementation of an organics pick-up service where organics will be picked up by bicycles and brought to compost.

o Alex - Safety Research Intern

- Created and implemented a "Business Connect" package which aims to give businesses the tools to prevent crime. DSBIA encourages businesses to share information with each other, which will help build a sense of community. Initially, 60 businesses were surveyed to see how they wanted the Business Connect program to be implemented; 50 businesses indicated a desire to be involved.
- Research into panhandling laws was done, with results showing that it is not always illegal to panhandle. A brochure was produced in order to provide local businesses with information on how they can contribute to social services instead of giving money directly to panhandlers. This project was implemented in partnership with the RCMP.
- During various DSBIA Community Cleanup events, it was noted that cigarette butt litter is a growing problem. Using a recycling company called TerraCycle and modelling it after a successful Vancouver program, cigarette butts will be recycled into industrial pallets, reducing litter in target areas in Surrey.
- As part of "Business Connect", key-tags with the emergency and non-emergency numbers were handed out to local businesses, and mailed to all DSBIA members.

Basra - Safety Research Intern

- Produced two (2) community safety pamphlets in conjunction with the RCMP, as well as helped coordinate a recent community safety breakfast.
- Conducted DSBIA's Annual Safety Audit and through this was able to identify new hotspots of panhandling, break-ins and prostitution. Through this Annual Safety Audit, DSBIA is encouraging businesses to communicate with one another and share stories and information on their personal experiences with crime in the community. The Audit is in its final stages and will be made available to Council.

In response to a question from Council, the delegation noted that the DSBIA have been very engaged with City staff, will connect with the Newton BIA, and will look into the community initiative grants available.

- B. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL
- C. CORPORATE REPORTS
- D. DELEGATION REQUESTS
- E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS
- F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS
- G. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Gill Seconded by Councillor Hayne That the Council-in-Committee meeting do

Councillor Villeneuve, Chairperson

now adjourn.

Carried

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

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