



Public Safety Committee Minutes

Executive Boardroom
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2011
Time: 10:00 am
File: 0540-20

Chair:

Councillor Steele

Absent:

Councillor Bose

Staff Present:

City Manager
City Solicitor
Fire Chief
Crime Reduction Strategy Manager

Present:

Mayor Watts
Councillor Gill
Councillor Rasode
Councillor Hepner
Councillor Hunt
Councillor Martin
Councillor Villeneuve

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

B. DELEGATIONS

1. RCMP Delegation to Present Integrated Teams

Assistant Commissioner Fraser MacRae introduced Chief Superintendent Janice Armstrong and Deputy Commissioner Norm Lipinski of the Lower Mainland District -RCMP who would be presenting on the Integrated Teams.

Deputy Commissioner Norm Lipinski thanked the Council for the opportunity to present this topic. Chief Superintendent Armstrong introduced the various Integrated Team leaders in attendance. There are 5 teams that provide specialized investigative support in 26 communities in the Lower Mainland area:

- Emergency Response Team (ERT)
- Integrated Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Service (ICARS)
- Integrated Forensic Identification Service (IFIS)
- Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT)
- Police Dog Service (PDS)

These Teams serve your community and provide specialized support for front-line officers and are available on a 24/7 basis.

Each area is very specialized – the officers have extensive additional training and there are significant investments made in people and equipment required for each Team. Several initiatives were undertaken that make the Teams as cost effective as possible, however, the goal was not in save money, it is to more effectively use the funding provided to them. Goals of Integration were

for better:

- Service delivery – value for the dollar and best result for each and every effort
- Shift coverage – always have full teams available to the community
- Staffing – ability to cover off vacancies across the region
- Career streaming and training – larger teams allow members career advancement, can provide coverage when teams are training and training together is cost efficient
- Supervision – allows for mentoring of less experienced members.

The Chief Superintendant then gave an overview of each Team as follows:

Emergency Response Team

- Started in 2006 and based at Surrey Detachment
- Provides tactical support in dangerous situations and perform patrols, back-up regular members and work files when not on ERT calls
- Also coordinates Lower Mainland Tactical Troop which includes the Transit Police and all Police Departments (excluding VPD and Port Moody)
- Has a 16 member Crisis Negotiation Team
- Responded to 1391 calls for service in 2010/2011 all resolved peacefully – 549 of those calls were in Surrey

Integrated Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Service

- Home base is Surrey Annex
- Team investigates collisions to determine the cause, sequence of events and the speeds involved, works with IHIT to measure crime scenes
- Team conducts proactive work in collision prevention and works with City Engineering on problem roadways
- Piloting an unmanned aerial device to assist with photographing scenes
- 4 of the 20 members are funded by the Province
- Opportunity for Civilian members on ICARS – do not need power of arrest
- West Vancouver joining the Team April 2012
- 233 collisions investigated in 2010/11 of which 89 were fatalities of which Surrey had 22, so far this year Surrey has had 8 fatalities

Integrated Forensic Identification Service

- Home based at Surrey Detachment
- Responds to all types of calls, any crime where a fingerprint or DNA can solve it
- Has a Video Analyst Team with a new 2 year pilot program using trained civilians to focus on processing property crimes that the RCMP forensic specialists were not getting to, stats are impressive with tremendous success in terms of number of prints taken and number of suspects identified.
- The Team responded to 2221 calls in Surrey for 2010/11 and successfully identified 272 suspects – a 27% increase

Integrated Homicide Investigation Team

- Canada's largest homicide team serving the 13 Lower Mainland Detachments as well as Abbotsford and New Westminster.
- Based in Surrey at 2 locations with another location in Chilliwack
- Trend in homicides from 2007-2009 where majority of homicides were gang related, now 4 in 10 are related to gangs
- Homicide investigations are very expensive – front-end then the project costs of undercover operations, witness protection and management
- The issue of disclosure leading up to and during trial has burdened officers more than ever
- Case law/ court decisions continue to add more requirements than ever to obtain warrants, one-party consents and wire taps
- Team investigated 38 new homicides in 2010/2011, 12 of these were in Surrey
- 15 of the 38 new homicides have been solved along with an additional 5 cases being solved from previous years
- 9 homicides in Surrey so far this year

Police Dog Services

- Canada's largest Police Dog Service posted in pods throughout the Lower Mainland
- Since integration, the entire Lower Mainland is covered by Teams strategically placed throughout the District
- Dogs regularly work with ERT, IHIT and TAC Team and SAR for avalanche search and rescue
- All dogs trained for tracking and searching for suspects, evidence, drugs and explosives but spend most of their time working break and enters, pursuing criminals from dumped stolen autos, and searching for bombs and drugs
- 44 Police Dog Service Teams, 3 from Abbotsford Police Department
- Tragically lost 2 dogs this year
- 8674 calls were responded to in 2010/2011, 2098 were for responses in Surrey

Chief Superintendent Armstrong concluded by saying that they recognize that policing is very expensive and that the RCMP understand the need to be fiscally responsible – to look for cost savings, watch the bottom line and to demonstrate value for money. Improving accountability involves better communication, better consultation and more transparency and the way that they are doing that is:

- Providing an annual report
- New performance metrics that have been established for each Team to report on to better measure successes.
- Interim Advisory Committees were established and an independent consulting firm is currently looking at governance structures and decision making models for the Integrated Teams
- CAO/PPC/Mayor's Forums and presentations like this
- Presentations to Communities

The RCMP are committed to provide the best specialized support possible to the Surrey Detachment, to solve and reduce crime in the neighbourhoods and make your communities safe.

The Mayor acknowledged the work of the RCMP and wanted to pass around accolades for the all around professionalism of all the RCMP members dealing with protesters at the recent Economic Summit.

Assistant Commissioner MacRae reported that the cost of policing for the Economic Summit was negligible to the City of Surrey as most of the RCMP members that were working the event were on duty that day. The planning and organizing of the security coverage and much of the security costs were borne by the US's budget.

C. REPORTS

D. NEW BUSINESS

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

H. OTHER BUSINESS

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; and,

It was

Moved by Mayor Hepner
Seconded by Councillor Hunt

That Council close 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;

Carried

It was

Moved by Councillor Hunt
Seconded by Councillor Rasode
That the Public Safety Meeting is

now reconvened.

Carried

The Public Safety Committee was reconvened at 12:10 pm.

2. Community Court

It was

Moved by Mayor Watts
Seconded by Councillor Hunt
That the City send a letter to the

BC Attorney General to renew the City's request for the Provincial Government to establish a Community Court in Surrey.

Carried

3. Civil Forfeitures Program

The Civil Forfeiture Program is a Provincial program to initiate civil court proceedings to forfeit the instruments and proceeds of unlawful activity.

It was

Moved by Mayor Watts
Seconded by Councillor Hepner
That staff investigate

opportunities to apply for funds under the Provincial Civil Forfeiture program and provide a report to Council on the matter.

Carried

4. Proceeds of Crime Program

It was

Moved by Councillor Hunt
Seconded by Mayor Watts
That staff review the

opportunities to apply for funds under the Federal Proceeds of Crime program and provide a report to Council on the matter.

Carried

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Hunt

Seconded by Councillor Rasode

That the Public Safety Committee meeting

do now adjourn.

Carried

The Public Safety Committee adjourned at 12:14 pm.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Barbara Steele, Chairperson