



City of Moose Jaw

COMMUNICATION # EC-2022-0230

TITLE: Enhanced Patrol – Pilot Program

TO: Executive Committee

FROM: City Manager

DATE: September 22, 2022

PUBLIC: PUBLIC DOCUMENT

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Administration be authorized to conduct a four-week Pilot Program of Enhanced Patrol; and

THAT a report detailing the statistics of the pilot program be prepared and brought forward to the 2023 Budget deliberations.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There has been a marked increase in unsettling incidents with people at City facilities, parks, green spaces, and areas that the Moose Jaw Police Service patrol. A Pilot Project is being recommended to enhance patrol similar to the Saskatchewan Community Safety Officer Program, with the intent to assist the Police by providing additional uniformed personnel in a marked vehicle in the Community during the evening hours.

BACKGROUND

There has been a marked increase in unsettling incidents in the City facilities, parks, green spaces, and Moose Jaw Police Service Patrol areas. Staff, customers and the public feel that more patrol is required in many areas of the City during the 8:00 pm to 4:00 am time period. Moose Jaw Police cannot be always everywhere and a discussion between Rick Bourassa, Chief of Police, Derek Blais, Director of Parks & Recreation and Jim Puffalt, City Manager, concluded that an option that would reduce pressure on the Police, and provide empirical data regarding the number and types of incidents during these hours, would be to implement a pilot program for enhanced patrol.

DISCUSSION

The Saskatchewan Community Safety Program that was piloted in North Battleford in 2015/16 was created because of these similar types of incidents and the need to allow the Police to focus on high-risk/high-priority incidents. An integral component of that program was to provide lower-salaried uniformed community safety officers that would patrol areas of concern in marked vehicles, would act as a deterrent, notify the RCMP of any incident requiring their assistance and allow the Police to focus on high-risk crime.

Our discussion concluded that this would be an excellent joint pilot program to undertake in Moose Jaw and gain valuable empirical data as to the size and complexity of the issue. Details of the pilot project include:

- Commissionaire's Programs existing at City facilities would be varied to take the additional hours into account.
- Hours of operation would be 8:00 pm to 4:00 am, seven days a week and be able to change to meet demand
- Moose Jaw Police Service will provide logistical support, training, vehicle, and radio equipment at their cost.
- City of Moose Jaw would provide funding for the staff in the amount of \$12,000 for the four-week pilot that would be provided from the existing budget for Commissionaires and the City Manager's special initiatives budget.

Data that would be correlated to determine if this should be a permanent program would include and not limited to:

- Number and type of incidents.
- Reduced calls for service to the Moose Jaw Police Service.
- Reduced citizen and staff requests for assistance.

The Pilot would start once the required staff are in place and trained.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

City of Moose Jaw would provide funding for the staff in the amount of \$12,000 for the four-week pilot that would be provided from the existing budget for Commissionaires and the City Manager's special initiatives budget.

STRATEGIC PLAN

This report supports the Strategic Plan Objective #3 – Entrepreneurial Civic Administration.

PRESENTATION

Mr. Jim Puffalt, City Manager, will provide a brief overview of this report.

REPORT APPROVAL

Written by: Jim Puffalt, MBA, CMMA, RMA, City Manager

Reviewed by: Tracy Wittke, City Clerk

Approved by: Jim Puffalt, MBA, CMMA, RMA, City Manager

Approved by: Clive Tolley, Mayor

To be completed by the Clerk's Department only.

Presented to Regular Council or Executive Committee on _____.

Resolution No. _____

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Enhanced Patrol - Pilot Program - EC-2022-0230.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Sep 22, 2022

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:



Tracy Wittke



Jim Puffalt

**No Signature - Task assigned to Clive Tolley was completed by assistant
Caroline Dreger**

Clive Tolley