

DATE OF MEETING OCTOBER 9, 2024

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SUBJECT **UPDATED DRAFT PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN**

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report:

To present to the Public Safety Committee an updated draft of the Public Safety Committee term work plan to assist the Committee with finalizing its work plan at the October 9, 2024 Committee Meeting.

BACKGROUND

Through the Committee's Terms of Reference, Council has mandated the Committee with discussing concerns and proposing solutions that would serve to enhance safety and security within the City of Nanaimo. As such, the Committee's role is to advise Council on strategic and policy initiatives related to the City's provision of public safety programs with a goal of maintaining and enhancing a safe and healthy community.

At the June 12, 2024 Public Safety Committee Meeting, the Committee discussed its work plan identifying 16 key priorities and initiatives. The initiatives were organized in the following six themes:

- Transportation Safety;
- Crime Prevention (City);
- Homelessness, Addiction and Community Impacts;
- Health and Wellness;
- Advocacy; and
- Education.

At the September 4, 2024 Special Public Safety Committee Meeting, staff presented to the Committee a draft term work plan, identifying which initiatives were within and beyond the Committee's scope. The Committee reviewed each initiative, provided additional input, and requested that staff incorporate provided feedback and prioritize each initiative.

Updated copy of the draft term work plan is provided as Attachment A of the report.

DISCUSSION

The finalized work plan needs to resemble the Committee's mandate. Initiatives that are beyond the Committee's scope have been removed based on the discussion at the September 4, 2024 Committee Meeting. Removed initiatives include:

- Community Safety Officers patrols in the school system (Crime Prevention theme);

- Creating more parks, green spaces, larger riparian zones around lakes and streams and better access to beaches, green spaces and swimming locations (Health and Wellness theme); and
- Implementing safety improvements for first responders (Health and Wellness theme).

Staff in the departments identified as supporting each initiative have assigned priority rankings (i.e. low, medium and/or high) for each of the 13 remaining initiatives. The priority rankings provide general guidance to the Committee and staff for the future committee agenda planning and meeting discussions during the Committee’s existing term. The rankings do not necessarily resemble how promptly an initiative may be implemented or addressed. Additional factors, such as Council’s priorities, operational needs, availability of staff resources and funding must be considered and may impact the discussion or implementation timelines for identified initiatives.

At the October 9, 2024 staff plan to review priority rankings assigned for each initiative with the Committee in order to finalize the work plan. The Committee members have an opportunity to propose additional initiatives, consistent with the Committee’s mandate, during the annual work plan development process. For any time sensitive matters, the Committee members may bring forward items under the “Other Business” portion of the meetings for the Committee’s consideration.

CONCLUSION

Following the October 9, 2024 Committee Meeting, staff will finalize the draft term work plan and bring it forward to Council for approval. The finalized term work plan will be used to develop annual Committee work plans at the beginning of each year. |

SUMMARY POINTS

- The Public Safety Committee is finalizing the term work plan for its term ending by December 31, 2026.
- The term work plan focuses on six themes with the goal of enhancing safety and security in the community.
- The finalized term work plan will inform the development of annual committee work plans.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment A – City of Nanaimo Public Safety Committee Term Work Plan Development |

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