

Report to Council



Date: November 8, 2021
To: Council
From: City Manager
Subject: Community Safety Plan – Update
Department: Community Safety

Recommendation:

That Council receive for information the report from the Community Safety Department, dated November 8, 2021 on the update of the development of the Community Safety Plan.

Purpose:

To present an overview of the work achieved to date in relation to the Community Safety Plan (CSP)

Background:

Fundamental to community safety is the reduction of vulnerability and the number of people at risk for coming into conflict with the criminal justice system. In developing Kelowna's CSP, we seek to create an ideal state of a sustainable community where everyone is safe, feels safe, has sense of belonging, access to services, and opportunities to participate fully in all that Kelowna has to offer.

Developing the CSP requires a collective and collaborative effort. Through public engagement including guided and self-directed consultation and an online, public validation survey, the CSP incorporates the diverse perspectives, experiences, and concerns of Kelowna residents. Participation by community is instrumental in identifying local priorities and ensuring community safety efforts are rooted in the experiences and context of the residents within the city of Kelowna.

Through the public engagement process and review of existing data, several community safety themes emerged. The CSP Steering Committee, supported by the Project Team, assigned these themes into three categories:

- **Scope 1:** Priorities to be addressed in Kelowna's CSP
- **Scope 2:** Priorities supported by Kelowna's CSP and advanced by others
- **Scope 3:** Priorities out of scope of the CSP

Priorities identified under Scope 1 will form the basis of the CSP.

Scope 1 Priorities for CSP	Scope 2 Supported by the CSP but advanced by others	Scope 3 Out of scope for CSP
Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime Prevention, Intervention & Sense of Safety • Domestic & Intimate Partner Violence • Housing & Homelessness • Mental Health & Problematic Substance Use (including alcohol) • Racism & Discrimination 	Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty & Income • Role of Police • Services for Specific Populations 	Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Transportation • Roads • Wildfires

Next Steps:

The Steering Committee is actively engaged in finalizing the implementation actions needed address the key priorities within Scope 1. Each action/s associated with a priority will have an identified lead organization/s responsible for the implementation as well as potential partners to support efforts. Multiple stakeholders will need to be involved in the implementation of CSP recommendations and actions and thus, determining who is responsible for each element is vital to its success.

As part of the next steps in the development of the CSP, the Project Team and Steering Committee will determine the governance structure required for CSP implementation. As part of Budget 2021, seed funding to support initial CSP implementation has been assigned. Further, capacity has been created within the Crime Prevention Unit to support the future governance structure which will drive implementation of the CSP.

Conclusion:

The final Community Safety Plan will be presented to Council for approval in early 2022. The five-year CSP is committed to being tangible, pragmatic, and targeted with a focus on prevention, risk intervention, social development, and on reducing demand for incident response. At the heart of Kelowna’s CSP is a focus on creating a community where all people are safe and feel safe.

Submitted by: C. Cornock, Crime Prevention Supervisor

Approved for inclusion:

