

## City of Nanaimo Public Safety Committee Term Work Plan Development

### Note:

- This document is being provided for the October 9, 2024 Public Safety Committee meeting to assist the Committee with finalizing its term work plan.
- Only items within the Committee's scope and those that are achievable within the current Committee's term are included in the work plan.
- Assigned priority rankings do not reflect how quickly an initiative may be considered or addressed by the Committee due to the need to consider additional factors.
- Once finalized, the work plan will be advanced to Council for final approval.
- The term work plan will form the basis for annual work plans. Items can be removed or added during the annual work plan development process.

### Committee Purpose:

Provide a forum for engaged citizens to **discuss concerns** and **propose solutions** that would serve **to enhance safety and security within the City of Nanaimo**. The Committee will **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.

The Committee will:

- Discuss and provide recommendations to Council related to residential and commercial business safety, public nuisance matters, graffiti and vandalism, vehicular crime, traffic safety, enhancing public safety and security, fire safety
- Review and provide recommendations to Council regarding community safety concerns
- Receive information from groups and agencies dedicated to community safety, including the Nanaimo RCMP, Nanaimo Fire Rescue and City of Nanaimo Bylaw Services
- Support advocacy work relating to public safety including integrated enforcement, social responses and the protection of vulnerable persons
- Discuss issues referred to the Committee by Council, the CAO, GMs or Directors
- Work with Council to increase public awareness and education on matters related to public safety and security

**Theme 1: Transportation Safety**

| <b>Work Plan Item Identified by the Committee</b>                                | <b>Committee's Scope</b>  | <b>Details/Actions</b>   | <b>Budget Implications</b> | <b>Priority (High/Low/Medium)</b> | <b>Responsible Department/Division</b>   | <b>Examples of Related Ongoing or Completed Projects/Initiatives</b>   |
|--|---|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Improve safety of transit stop locations (in relation to social disorder issues) | Depending on the details, the matter could be City's or Regional District's responsibility (transit stops are under City's jurisdiction).<br><br>The Committee may identify problem locations and discuss design/safety improvements. | Staff to invite Regional District of Nanaimo Transportation Services' Senior Manager for a presentation. | Supplies and labour        | Low/Medium                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Safety</li> <li>RCMP</li> <li>Traffic – Engineering</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transit shelter and bench contract renewal</li> <li>Transit exchange planning – Country Club and Woodgrove</li> <li>TransLink/BC Transit stop guidelines</li> </ul> |

**Theme 2: Crime Prevention (City)**

| <b>Work Plan Item Identified by the Committee</b>  | <b>Committee's Scope</b>   | <b>Details/Actions</b>   | <b>Budget Implications</b> | <b>Priority (High/Low/Medium)</b> | <b>Responsible Department/Division</b>  | <b>Examples of Related Ongoing or Completed Projects/Initiatives</b>  |
|--|--|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Increase use of CCTV   | The Committee may identify preferred locations, keeping in mind privacy limitations and legislation. | Staff to solicit the Committee's input on preferred locations.   | Supplies and labour        | Low                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IT</li> <li>Legislative Services</li> <li>Public Safety</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CCTV project team is working on a City-wide plan</li> </ul>  |
| Avoid closure/relocation of businesses and public open spaces due to crime and social disorder | The Committee may provide recommendations on crime prevention measures to improve business safety.   | Staff are working on a report to Council on options to regulate vacant properties (Council may refer to Committee if there are follow-up actions).<br><br>Develop a Communication Plan to encourage reporting of crimes. | Supplies and labour        | Medium/High                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Safety</li> <li>RCMP</li> <li>Real Estate</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Safety Officer (CS) Program</li> <li>Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) initiatives</li> <li>Social planning initiatives (warming centres etc.)</li> <li>RCMP has a dedicated unit for downtown</li> <li>The City empowers neighbourhood associations as partners to raise concerns about the impacts of homelessness on residents and local businesses.</li> </ul> |
| Implement community-wide graffiti removal and clean-up initiatives                             | The Committee may provide recommendations on graffiti clean-up and vandalism.                        | Staff to invite Community Policing Coordinator to provide a presentation.<br><br>Review the possibility and  | Supplies and labour        | Medium/High                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Safety (private land)</li> <li>Parks, Recreation and Culture (public spaces)</li> <li>Public Works (public spaces)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graffiti Task Force (disbanded ~10 years ago)</li> <li>The City has a contractor for graffiti identification and removal on public property</li> <li>The City has budgeted for wrapping of traffic cabinets and BC Hydro has a program</li> </ul>  |

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|  |                   | implications of the City permitting graffiti art in select designated locations. |                     |                            |                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for municipalities to apply for wrapping of BC Hydro boxes with graffiti</li> <li>The City provides relief through the Vandalism Relief Fund operated by the Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>Volunteer-based graffiti cleanup groups through the Parks Department and the RCMP</li> </ul> |

**Theme 3: Homelessness, Addiction and Community Impacts**

| Work Plan Item Identified by the Committee   | Committee's Scope   | Details/Actions   | Budget Implications  | Priority (High/Low/Medium) | Responsible Department/Division   | Examples of Related Ongoing or Completed Projects/Initiatives   |
|--|---|---|--|----------------------------|---|---|
| Establish baselines and implement long term monitoring for the impacts on community safety | The Committee may make recommendations on residential and business safety based on provided data.   | Staff to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a report regarding good neighbour and service agreements and update on HEART and HEARTH</li> <li>information regarding the number of calls to first responders and bylaw officers relative to BC Housing sites</li> <li>an update on Travellers Lodge project</li> </ul> | Labour   | Medium                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GIS Division – Engineering</li> <li>RCMP</li> <li>Public Safety</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Policing Program at the RCMP preforms safety audits with neighbourhoods</li> <li>RCMP data analysts map and review public safety data</li> <li>City Plan Monitoring Strategy includes indicators and metrics for traffic related injuries and fatalities, real crime, perception of safety, non-domestic assaults, break and enters</li> <li>Indicators and metrics for City funded social support programs (i.e. Shower Program, drop-in hubs, etc.)</li> <li>Risk tracking database from the Nanaimo Acute Response Table</li> </ul> |
| Provide indoor spaces for unhoused individuals   | Overnight shelter spaces are provided dependent on the funding from the Province. The City has undertaken advocacy efforts with the Province. There are limits in terms of the City property. | Staff to consult the Committee regarding establishment of two daytime drop-in hubs to provide input on safety and security elements for the clients and the   | Supplies and labour.<br><br>Budget for the hubs has already been approved. | High                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Safety</li> </ul>   | The City: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>has provided funding for community-operated warming centres in the past</li> <li>operates extreme weather response shelters</li> <li>is in the process of creating two year-round drop-in hubs</li> </ul>  |

| Work Plan Item Identified by the Committee | Committee's Scope | Details/Actions                      | Budget Implications | Priority (High/Low/Medium) | Responsible Department/Division | Examples of Related Ongoing or Completed Projects/Initiatives |
|--|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
|  |                   | immediate surrounding neighbourhood. |                     |                            |                                 |   |

**Theme 4: Health and Wellness**

| Work Plan Item Identified by the Committee  | Committee's Scope   | Details/Actions   | Budget Implications | Priority (High/Low/Medium) | Responsible Department/Division  | Examples of Related Ongoing or Completed Projects/Initiatives  |
|---|---|---|---------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Work to ensure safe access to public spaces | The Committee may provide recommendations regarding utilization of public spaces related to public safety concerns. | Consider alternate modes of transportation.<br><br>Consider how to program spaces for active use.<br><br>Staff to provide information on the successful implementation of the Night Market. | To be determined    | High                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engineering – Transportation</li> <li>• Parks, Recreation and Culture</li> <li>• Public Safety</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial Street redesign and reactivation of Diana Krall Plaza</li> <li>• Implementation of the Night Market</li> <li>• Annual grant funding is provided for organizing community events</li> <li>• CPTED analysis of public spaces</li> <li>• The City encourages good design of public spaces through the development permit process</li> </ul> |

**Theme 5: Advocacy**

| Work Plan Item Identified by the Committee  | Committee's Scope   | Details/Actions  | Budget Implications | Priority (High/Low/Medium) | Responsible Department/Division   | Examples of Related Ongoing or Completed Projects/Initiatives   |
|---|---|--|---------------------|----------------------------|---|---|
| Advocate for addressing root causes of the opioid overdose public health and safety emergency | <p>Social determinants are within provincial jurisdiction.</p> <p>The Committee through Council can advocate on the related issues, and support grassroots advocacy in the community.</p> | <p>Staff to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensure information received by Council relevant to the Committee is shared with the Committee</li> <li>• share initiatives with the Committee members to spread awareness</li> </ul> | To be determined    | Medium                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Safety</li> <li>• RCMP</li> <li>• Fire</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocacy letters have arisen from the Mayor's Leaders' Table</li> <li>• The City provides housing support through the Nanaimo Regional Rent Bank program administer by Connective and the Rent Supplement Program</li> <li>• The City provides Social Planning Grants to organizations that offer programs related to social cohesion, root causes of poverty, community vitality and social equity</li> </ul> |

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|--|---|-----------------|---|----------------------------|---|---|
|  |   |                 |   |                            |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The City has partnered with Public Safety Canada to provide programs and initiatives that address the root causes of youth engaging in gun and gang violence through the Youth Resilience Strategy</li> <li>Nanaimo Acute Response Table (a program of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General coordinated by the City) data and experience can be utilized for advocacy</li> </ul>  |
| Advocate for the Implementation of Housing First initiatives and related best practices to address/reduce homelessness | The Committee through Council can advocate on the related issues.   |                 |   | Low                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning</li> <li>Public Safety</li> </ul>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Health and Housing Action Plan is being implemented through the Systems Planning Organization (SPO)</li> <li>Council continues to advocate with the province for investments in shelter beds, rent supplements and other housing supports</li> <li>The City has completed many initiatives to encourage affordable housing – offering property tax exemptions for non-market units, ensuring rental units are available for long term tenants, revising zoning regulations to allow for infill housing, support to non-market housing through the Housing Legacy Reserve Fund, offering rent bank and rent supplement supports through contracts with non-profit agencies, etc.</li> </ul> |
| Request reimbursement of the municipal funds expanded on the opioid overdose public health and safety emergency        | The Committee through Council can advocate to the Province regarding raising the awareness of increased costs of the emergency and safety implications. |                 | Significant savings for the City if the reimbursement is provided | Medium/High                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finance</li> <li>Fire</li> <li>RCMP</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocacy through the Union of BC Municipalities</li> </ul>   |

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|---|--|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Advocate for a restorative justice program        | Connective Nanaimo operates the Restorative Justice Program.<br><br>The Committee through Council can advocate for more funding from senior governments. | Staff to provide information regarding success of the school liaison officers program.<br><br>Examine successful initiatives from other municipalities (i.e. Cowichan).                                     | To be determined           | Medium                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RCMP – Police Support Services manages the current contract</li> <li>Finance</li> </ul>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restorative Justice Program through the Connective (the City already provides funds)</li> </ul>              |
| Report on the details of Council's advocacy       | The Committee is better informed when advised of public safety related actions taken by Council.   | Staff to report on outcomes of the Committee's recommendations through the agenda process.<br><br>Staff are working on an advocacy section on the City's website to capture Council's advocacy initiatives. | Minimal                    | High                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chief Administrative Officer's Office</li> <li>Communications</li> <li>Legislative Services</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Similar agenda process implemented with the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness</li> </ul> |

**Theme 6: Education**

| <b>Work Plan Item Identified by the Committee</b>     | <b>Committee's Scope</b>   | <b>Details/Actions</b>   | <b>Budget Implications</b> | <b>Priority (High/Low/Medium)</b> | <b>Responsible Department/Division</b>  | <b>Examples of Related Ongoing or Completed Projects/Initiatives</b>   |
|---|--|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| Improve the understanding of public safety in Nanaimo | The Committee to support raising awareness in the community relating to public safety including sharing of information through various channels. | Staff to arrange for presentations on the Speed Watch Program and Block Watch Program.<br><br>Public education initiatives regarding both crime in Nanaimo | No                         | Medium                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communications</li> <li>Fire Department</li> <li>Parks, Recreation and Culture</li> <li>Public Safety</li> <li>RCMP</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A variety of ongoing initiatives through the City's website, social media and other communication channels</li> <li>The Fire Department provides a variety of public safety programs such as Community Bystander CPR Training, participates FireSmart initiatives, issues public safety alerts, shares information and collaborates with other</li> </ul> |

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|--|-------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
|  |                   | <p>and perception of crime.</p> <p>Highlighting positive stories and encouraging care for community members.</p> |                     |                            |                                 | <p>relevant agencies, and supports disaster readiness and prepares for response and recovery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency Preparedness Month promotion – training</li> <li>• NFPS – trainee training video – new training apparatus</li> </ul> |