



COMMITTEE REPORT

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject **Crime Prevention Committee – Security Measures to Deter Mail Theft**

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From: Councillor Paul Albrecht
Crime Prevention Committee

Date: March 14, 2023

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council direct the Development Services Department to investigate the feasibility of requiring target-hardening security measures as a standard requirement, as suggested by Canada Post, to deter mail theft for new multi-family development applications.

SUMMARY:

The Crime Prevention Committee has identified the need to address the increasing occurrence of mail theft as it often leads to the more serious crime of identity theft. To that end, the committee invited security operations staff from Canada Post to inform them about methods used to prevent mail theft, specifically addressing multi-family and single family residential properties. Canada Post presented to the committee on February 23, 2023 sharing information about the types of equipment used in Langley and the improvements made related to mailbox security. They provided insight on the type of criminal activities and trends they've identified and shared some preventable measures that the corporation has taken. They further advised what the community can do to improve security in their buildings and neighbourhoods.

The committee learned that Canada Post mandates the installation standards for mail equipment in multifamily residential property developments, however the type of equipment used is at the discretion of the developer. Some equipment is more target-hardened and includes security enhanced features and anti-pry devices and some equipment does not.

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To increase mailbox security and ultimately reduce mail/identity theft and to reduce the monetary burden on strata councils and multifamily residents that incur costs to replace unsecure mailbox equipment, the committee passed a resolution to request Council to consider investigating the implementation of a requirement for developers to install Canada Post recommended mailbox equipment at the development stage of a project.

Respectfully Submitted,



Councillor Paul Albrecht
Chair