



CITY OF LANGLEY

MOTION

Community Safety Officer (CSO) Program in Langley City - Councillor Leith White

WHEREAS Langley City continues to face complex social and safety challenges, including increased visibility of mental health crises, substance use, and vulnerable populations in the downtown core; impacting residents, businesses, and public spaces; and

WHEREAS The RCMP and municipalities across British Columbia and Canada have successfully implemented Community Safety Officer (CSO) or equivalent programs that provide high-visibility, non-investigative support to improve public safety, community engagement, and service coordination; and

WHEREAS The Province of British Columbia has endorsed community-based safety planning and multi-agency coordination as essential to building safer, more resilient communities [1][2][3]; and

WHEREAS Langley City has committed to inclusive, community-driven governance through initiatives such as the Citizens' Assembly and public safety consultations, and a Community Safety Officer program would directly support these priorities by fostering responsive, localized enforcement and outreach that reflects the needs and values of residents; and

WHEREAS CSO programs have demonstrated positive outcomes including: enhanced public trust and safety through visible, non-threatening presence [4]; improved coordination between police, health, and social services [5]; cost-effective deployment of resources by freeing allowing RCMP to focus on core policing duties, improving service efficiency and cost-effectiveness for the community; [6]; increased community engagement and crime prevention education [7][8];

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Langley City Council direct staff to:

1. Develop a framework for a Community Safety Officer Department, including staffing model, training standards, operational scope, and budget implications;
2. Engage with Fraser Health, Langley RCMP, local businesses, and community organizations to define collaborative roles and service integration;
3. Report back to Council with a proposed implementation plan, including funding options, by Q2 2026.

SUPPORTING FOOTNOTES:

- [1] B.C. Policing and Community Safety Plan – <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/policing-in-bc/publications-statistics-legislation/publications/policing-community-safety-plan>
- [2] Round Table #6 - Greater Vancouver and Fraser Valley (Surrey) <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/police/publications/community/rt-6-surrey.pdf>
- [3] Community Crime Prevention Publications – <https://gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/crime-prevention/community-crime-prevention/publications>
- [4] RCMP Community Action Guide – <https://rcmp.ca/en/youth/community-action-guide>
- [5] BC Safer Communities Action Plan – <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2022PREM0090-001743>
- [6] Nelson Police Department CSO Program – <https://www.nelson.ca/DocumentCenter/View/7205/NPD---CSO-Program-Job-Description>
- [7] Study Commission on Community Event Safety – https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/about-bc-justice-system/inquiries/commission_of_inquiry_into_community_events_safety-report_20250626.pdf
- [8] Delta Police CSO Pilot Program – <https://www.deltapolice.ca/community-safety-officer-cso-program>