

**COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE****Thursday, September 18, 2025**

A Regular Meeting of the Community Safety Advisory Committee convened on Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Dennis Marsden, Chair  
Councillor Trish Mandewo, Vice Chair  
Leo Chen, Coquitlam Youth Council  
Andrea Corrigan, Hope for Freedom Society  
Ron Coulson, Citizen Representative  
Julianne (Jewels) Cressman, Citizen Representative  
Carol Metz, Citizen Representative  
Ally Wang, Citizen Representative

ABSENT: Judy Payne, School District No. 43 (Regrets)  
Mezie Odigboh, Citizen Representative (Regrets)  
Ravinder Safaya, Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce (Regrets)  
Amandeep Sangha, Citizen Representative (Regrets)  
Mohammad Ziaei, Block Watch Program

STAFF: Jim Ogloff, General Manager Community Safety  
Scott Young, Fire Chief  
Kim Singh, Senior Manager Police Services  
Aaron Hilgerdenaar, Senior Manager Bylaw Services  
Eva Kaczmarczyk, Manager Risk and Emergency Programs  
Sean O'Melinn, Manager Business and Innovation  
Lawrence Dunks, Manager Traffic and Street Use  
Sergeant Jaime Myles, Coquitlam RCMP  
Anagha Krishnan, Team Lead Road Safety and Operations  
Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgement.

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

### **1. Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, May 22, 2025**

The Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, May 22, 2025 were approved.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2. Pedestrian Safety Improvements**

The Team Lead Road Safety and Operations gave a presentation entitled “Pedestrian Safety Improvements: Towards Vision Zero” and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Councillor Mandewo entered the meeting at this point (7:06 p.m.).

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The cost of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFBs) installation, maintenance, and asset replacement budgeting as well as suggestions to explore local and/or domestic manufacturers and sourcing.
- Consideration that collision data from ICBC and police reports does not include near misses, unreported incidents, or collisions of non-motorized vehicles.
- The need for pedestrian education regarding intersections and phone distraction, and suggestions that ICBC programming be promoted in schools and that new communication platforms be used to broaden audiences.
- Concerns about neighbourhoods without sidewalks and/or streetlights, particularly near schools and in winter.
- Whether preferred accessibility routes to and from schools are provided by the School District.
- The understanding that the City’s Sidewalk Program plans construction over the coming five years and that the plan considers proximity to schools.
- Ways that neighbourhood groups could become involved in communications, for example with a social media challenge.

### **3. Extreme Weather Planning and Policies**

The Manager Risk and Emergency Programs gave a presentation entitled “Extreme Weather Response” and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The communication of cleaner air facility locations in event of air quality events.
- The availability of commercially prepared household emergency kits, and the possibility of community organizations preparing some for distribution.
- Recent efforts to coordinate responses to extreme weather, particularly extreme heat, across the region including municipalities and the health authority.
- The possibility of extending cleaner air and cooling facilities operations to 24 hours a day when extreme heat does not sufficiently dissipate in the night.
- Different ways to support vulnerable individuals who do not seek assistance during extreme weather.
- A suggestion to use household mailers to inform residents annually or seasonally about extreme weather resources in the community.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- Vulnerable populations can be supported during extreme weather through personal communications and neighbourhood relationships, support for pets that might keep people isolated at home, and health checks requested through 911.
- Following the Coroner's Inquest into the 2021 heat dome, updated emergency programs legislation by the province suggested that municipalities make plans to support vulnerable populations.
- Communications from the City about extreme weather is typically responsive to specific circumstances, which may limit the effectiveness of prescheduled communications content.

#### **4. Fire/Rescue Incident Responses: Types and Trends**

The Fire Chief gave a presentation entitled: "Fire and Rescue Incident Responses – Types and Trends" and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The change to 24 hour shifts and improvements to work-life balance and sleep patterns.
- Appreciation of the compassion displayed by firefighters and fire inspectors in interactions with the community, particularly vulnerable populations.
- Timeliness of responses in west Coquitlam where the transit corridor is supporting population growth and the possibility of building a new Fire Hall nearby.
- The proportion of medical calls that are responses to overdoses.

- The establishment of the training centre at Fire Hall #1 and opportunities for youth to get involved through School District No. 43's Junior Firefighter Program.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- Response times in west Coquitlam are within the acceptable range, but response times and growth of high-rise structures have been identified as a risk.
- A study of Fire Hall locations found the ideal location of Fire Hall #3 would be slightly further north on Blue Mountain Street and a new Fire Hall is planned to serve the south and southeast of the City.

Ally Wang left the meeting at this point and did not return (8:29 p.m.).

The Team Lead Road Safety and Operations left the meeting at this point and did not return (8:32 p.m.).

## **5. Homelessness and Encampment Response**

The Senior Manager Bylaw Services gave a presentation entitled "Homelessness and Encampment Response" and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The critical role of making appropriate and attractive housing available and the challenge of addressing safety issues, such as fire risk, without feasible alternatives for the affected population.
- Comparative statistics of supportive housing provided in other municipalities, and opportunities to follow successes.
- The need for collaboration between the province, municipalities, and service providers to address the issue comprehensively and regionally.
- The distinction between supportive housing being constructed versus ongoing operating impacts and between the provision of land versus capital to build housing.
- A desire for a housing-first approach and enhanced mental health services, with the HEART & HEARTH program and the involuntary care model as examples to be built upon and s̓míq̓w̓əʔel̓ as a potential land resource.
- The fiscal and social costs of homelessness that are incurred without preventative or targeted investment, and the relative size of investments to the growth of the unhoused population in recent years.
- Challenges faced by community organizations with respect to receiving funding and the inability of some organizations to seek funding due to administrative overhead demands.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- The unhoused population of a nearby encampment is 69-76% men and 23-30% women.
- The City is part of a working group of municipalities for the HEART & HEARTH program to review its successes and challenges, particularly the need for greater wrap-around services and social integration.

Leo Chen left the meeting at this point and did not return (8:51 p.m.).

#### **6. Committee Members' Roundtable / Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)**

The Chair invited Committee members to share emerging issues and information regarding events occurring in their communities.

The Committee Clerk made the following announcements:

- Members are encouraged to promote the campaign to recruit volunteers to other City Boards and Advisory Committees.
- The annual Volunteer Recognition Event will take place in spring 2026, rather than fall 2025, and further information will be provided in the coming months.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **NEXT MEETING DATE – Thursday, November 20, 2025**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

#### **MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

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Councillor Dennis Marsden, Chair

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Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk