

COUNCIL REPORT

TO: CITY MANAGER

DATE: 2015 June 10

FROM: DIRECTOR FINANCE

FILE: 7500-01

SUBJECT: STRATEGIC COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUNDS

PURPOSE: To provide a report to Council regarding 2014 Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Grant funding.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. THAT this report be received for information
- 2. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Ms. C. Oakes, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

The Strategic Community Investment Fund (SCIF) program ended 2014. The Provincial Local Government Grant program targeted the provision of a steady stream of grant funding to municipal governments. The financial certainty of this revenue stream enabled cities to utilize this revenue source as funding to meet operational requirements. The Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Grant was a component of the SCIF program.

Beginning in 2015, the Province of British Columbia will return to regular annual grant funding (similar to funding calculations prior to SCIF). The Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development advised Council on 2015 April 14 that the 2015 unconditional grant funding will be paid in two installments, 2015 March 26 and June 30 totaling \$2,716,650.

2.0 2014 PUBLIC REPORT

The Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Grant was an unconditional grant provided by the Provincial Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development to municipalities for the purpose of assisting them in promoting community safety and addressing community strategic priorities. Each year the City must report publically on how the funds were used in the prior year. Transfer amounts were authorized each fiscal year, subject to receipt of a report from each city confirming that the funds received to date have been or are being used for the intended purposes and that public disclosure has been made.

The purpose of this report is to advise Council that 100% of the Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Grant received has been used or is being used to provide City policing services. Cash funds received in 2014 totaled \$1,881,990. Some highlights of the 2014 Police program are noted below.

- The Community Police Offices house the Community Response Team whose mandate is to work collaboratively with the public to target problem areas, chronic offenders and crime hot spots in the City of Burnaby. The Community Response Team had many successes including the results of an investigation into a problem residence whose occupants were engaging in ongoing drug and property-related crime in a Burnaby neighbourhood. Following the investigation, the house was closed down and 18 people were arrested. Officers recommended 23 charges against two people who were well-known to police.
- A number of vehicle theft offenders who were identified by the Burnaby's Prolific Offender Suppression Team (POST) have been arrested and are facing several vehicle-related charges.
- Business Watch, Crime Free Multi-Housing education opportunities and Block Watch
 programs are delivered to the community through the RCMP's Crime Prevention Unit
 (CPU). Public outreach programs that educate the public on how to work with the police
 to increase overall safety in their neighbourhoods and business districts. The CPU hosted
 a Free Safe Communities Series several times during the year which included public
 education initiatives on everything from Apartment Safety to mail theft. On the
 operations side, the Burnaby RCMP's Economic Crime Unit (ECU) contributed greatly
 by safeguarding businesses, financial institutions and potential investors from
 unscrupulous people. In 2014, the Burnaby RCMP's ECU had a number of successful
 investigations that targeted people who were committing fraud.
- In 2014, Burnaby's traffic services became involved in the Distracted Driver Campaign, Shift into Winter Campaign and a Pedestrian Safety Campaign with key partners such as ICBC and Transit Police. One of our most important partnerships is with our volunteers at the Community Police Offices. In 2014, our volunteers conducted 131,560 cell watch check hours as part of the traffic unit's campaign to reduce distracted driving and volunteered 42,229 speed watch hours.
- The Burnaby RCMP responded to 60,263 calls for service representing a 11% increase calls over 2013. Calls for service, included everything from assisting the public in a traffic accident to property-related crime but what it does not represent is the number of hours that police officers, municipal staff and our volunteers contribute to the communities where they live and work. Last year, our officers and municipal staff saved people from a burning vehicle, contributed to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank and ALS Canada and over 60 were recognized by the Officer-in-Charge Chief Superintendent

Dave Critchley for their outstanding contributions in making the City of Burnaby a special place to live and work.

The following chart outlines the SCIF grants received by the City to date:

Year	Grant Received
2010	\$1,080,152
2011	\$3,847,295
2012	\$3,838,656
2013	\$1,874,865
2014	\$1,881,990
Total	\$12,522,958

The City of Burnaby will continue to use these grant funds to strengthen policing services in the community to support crime reduction and improve safety. Grant funds help to reduce the impact of police costs on property taxes which are the main source of funding for Burnaby Police Operations.

It is recommended that Council receive this report for information, and that a copy of this report be sent to Ms. C. Oakes, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development.

Denise Jorgenson DIRECTOR FINANCE

DJ:NK/ab

cc: Deputy City Manager (L.Chu) OIC, RCMP