

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**TO:** MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

**SUBJECT: SU: BURNABY COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2024 PROGRESS  
REPORT**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT** the report titled “SU: Burnaby Community Safety Plan 2024 Progress Report” of the Public Safety Committee meeting, dated February 26, 2025, be received for information.

**REPORT**

The Public Safety Committee, at its meeting held on February 26, 2025, received and adopted the attached report providing Council with a progress report on the 2024 Community Safety Plan.

On behalf of the Public Safety Committee,

Councillor J. Wang  
Chair

Councillor M. Santiago  
Vice Chair

**TO:** PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (PSC)  
**FROM:** GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY SAFETY  
**SUBJECT:** **SU: BURNABY COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2024 PROGRESS REPORT**  
**PURPOSE:** To provide the Committee with a progress report on the 2024 Community Safety Plan.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the report titled “SU: Burnaby Community Safety Plan 2024 Progress Report” dated February 26, 2025, be received for information.

## **1.0 POLICY SECTION**

The Community Safety Plan (2020) and the Burnaby Strategic Plan (2022) are integral to the 2024 Community Safety Plan Progress Report as they provide foundational frameworks and goals for addressing safety, well-being, and quality of life in the community. Together, these two documents ensure that the 2024 Community Safety Plan Progress Report not only tracks the success of safety initiatives but also keeps them in harmony with Burnaby's overall vision for a safe, inclusive, and thriving city.

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

The purpose of the 2024 Community Safety Plan (“CSP”) Progress Report is to provide an annual update on the initiatives and actions taken to improve safety in the city. The report highlights key accomplishments over the past year, including the continued development of new programs, the expansion of public safety partnerships, and the identification of emerging challenges. Looking ahead, the city is preparing for a significant update in 2025, marking five years since the CSP's inception. This update will build on the lessons learned and successes achieved, refining the plan to address new safety concerns and incorporate recent feedback from the community and key stakeholders. The 2025 update will focus on enhancing existing initiatives, addressing new public health and safety issues, and ensuring that Burnaby remains a safe and inclusive place for all.

## **3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION**

Burnaby has long recognized the importance of community safety in fostering a vibrant and welcoming environment for its residents. The City's commitment to safety is reflected in its proactive approach, including the implementation of the Community Safety Plan in 2020. This plan was designed to address a wide range of safety concerns, from crime prevention to enhancing emergency response systems, through a collaborative approach

involving residents, local organizations, and law enforcement. Over the years, Burnaby has continuously worked to adapt and improve these strategies to meet the evolving needs of the community. Numerous initiatives were successfully implemented in 2024, which in turn have provided the foundation for continued progress in 2025. Examples of the achievements are highlighted here and further detailed in the attached Burnaby CSP 2024 Progress Report:

- **Non-Emergency Call Service**

In 2024, the City successfully completed the final transition phase of the Non-Emergency Call service, making it accessible to the public 24/7. This improvement has significantly reduced wait times, allowing citizens to quickly receive assistance for non-urgent matters. The shift has been met with positive feedback, as it enhances service delivery and improves overall efficiency in handling calls, making it easier for the public to connect with the right resources at any time of day or night.

- **Gun and Gang Grant**

With the support of a \$2.7 million Gun and Gang grant funded by Public Safety Canada, the City is advancing important research projects in partnership with Simon Fraser University (SFU). The grant is also enabling direct prevention and intervention efforts with several key community organizations. These initiatives are essential in addressing gun violence and gang activity by focusing on both long-term research solutions and immediate community-based interventions aimed at creating safer environments for all residents.

- **Community Safety Plan Engagement**

A robust public engagement process was implemented in 2024 to help shape and update the 2025 Community Safety Plan. The City actively involved residents, community leaders, and local organizations in conversations around safety priorities and concerns. This collaborative approach ensures that the new plan reflects the diverse needs of the community and fosters an inclusive environment where all voices are heard in the pursuit of improved safety for everyone.

- **Grant Opportunities for Safety Initiatives**

The City has been proactive in exploring and applying for several grant opportunities to supplement its funding for new safety initiatives. These efforts are aimed at bolstering the resources available for public safety projects, ensuring that innovative and impactful solutions can be implemented. By leveraging external funding, the City can expand its safety programs and address emerging challenges without solely relying on internal budgets.

- **Intervention Support Team Expansion**

In response to increasing demands for intervention services, the Intervention Support Team has been expanded to include a total of five staff members. This expansion allows for more comprehensive support to individuals in crisis and

enhances the capacity to respond to urgent situations. The additional staff will help deliver faster, more effective interventions, providing critical assistance to those in need while improving the overall community safety response.

#### **4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The 2024 Progress Report will be posted to the Community Safety Plan web page to make it publicly available after presentation to Council in late Spring 2025.

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Funding for the Gun and Gang initiatives has been provided through a successful grant application to Public Safety Canada. Any financial requirements for remaining initiatives in the CSP are included in the respective departmental base budgets as part of the 2024-2028 financial plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Critchley, General Manager Community Safety

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 – Burnaby CSP 2024 Progress Report

#### **REPORT CONTRIBUTORS**

This report was prepared by Chris Hoang, Business Manager.