

Media Release

SASKATOON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

**Public Meeting Thursday, September 15, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.
Hosted In-Person at Saskatoon City Hall**

Date Issued: September 12, 2022

Release: Immediate

The regular public meeting of the Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners will be held Thursday, September 15, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in-person in Committee Room E, Ground Floor, City Hall. Virtual attendance will also be accommodated.

The agenda for this meeting consists of routine items, with additional items including:

- Delegations: William Smith re: Neighbourhood Complaints and Saskatoon Drivers
- Alternative Service Delivery Pilot Project Findings - One Year Hence

The full agenda can be found on the City of Saskatoon website under City Hall – City Council, Boards & Committees – Agendas, Minutes & Video.

Media are encouraged to attend the public meeting as interviews related to public agenda meeting topics will take place **immediately following the public meeting at City Hall.**

To arrange an interview with the Board Chair outside of the public meeting, please contact the Board at (306) 292-9868 or info@saskatoonpolicecommission.com. For interviews with the Police Service please contact Media@Police.Saskatoon.Sk.Ca.

NOTE: The meeting will be held in-person, including public attendance. Virtual attendance will be accommodated. The public are encouraged to follow the meeting [using the live stream](#) if not able to attend in person. Please note the video may take a moment or two to start playing on your computer and you will only see a live stream if a public meeting is in session. The meeting video will also be posted on the City's website as soon as possible after the meeting is concluded. <http://download.isiglobal.ca/saskatoon/live.html>

-30-

Contact:

Leanne Nyirfa, Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners

info@saskatoonpolicecommission.com or 306-292-9868

Website: www.saskatoonpolicecommission.com



PUBLIC AGENDA

SASKATOON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Thursday, September 15, 2022, 1:00 pm
Committee Room E, Ground Floor, City Hall

COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner J. Custead, Chair
Commissioner Mayor C. Clark
Commissioner H. Gough
Commissioner S. Greyeyes
Commissioner K. Healy
Commissioner Z. Jeffries
Commissioner B. Penner

Pages

1. MINUTES/DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1.1. Call to Order

1.2. Confirmation of Agenda

Recommendation

That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

1.3. Adoption of Minutes

Recommendation

That the minutes of the public Board of Police Commissioners meeting held on August 18, 2022 be adopted.

1.4. Delegations

1.4.1. William Smith re: Neighbourhood Complaints and Saskatoon Drivers

3 - 6

An email from William Smith, dated August 17, 2022 is provided.

Recommendation

That the speaker be heard and the correspondence received as information.

1.5. Chair's Report

1.6. Chief's Report

1.7. Environmental Scan

2. CORRESPONDENCE/CITY COUNCIL REFERRALS

3. ROUTINE/STATISTICAL REPORTS

3.1. Alternative Service Delivery Pilot Project Findings - One Year Hence

7 - 11

A report of the Chief of Police, dated September 15, 2022 is provided.

Recommendation

That the Alternative Response Unit becomes a permanent unit within the Saskatoon Police Service.

4. RESPONSES TO BOARD REFERRALS

5. OTHER

6. BOARD INQUIRIES/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

7. IN CAMERA SESSION

Recommendation

That the Board move *In Camera* to consider matters exempt to the public under its Governance Policy No. 12.4, Section 10(2) of *The Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners Bylaw No. 7531*, Section 27(15) of *The Police Act, 1990*, and Section 21 of *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

8. RISE AND REPORT

9. ADJOURNMENT

Walter, Penny

Subject: FW: Email - Request to Speak - William Smith - City Services - CK 150-1

From: Bryant, Shellie

Sent: Friday, August 19, 2022 9:01 AM

To: William Smith <[REDACTED]>

Subject: RE: Email - Request to Speak - William Smith - City Services - CK 150-1

William, City Council does not have jurisdiction over the Saskatoon Police Service, except for approving the budget estimates. It would be more appropriate for you to address the Board of Police Commissioners. The next meeting is scheduled for September 15 @ 1:00 p.m. I will forward your request to speak to the Secretary of the Board and she will be in touch further.

Shellie

From: William Smith <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2022 5:46 PM

To: Bryant, Shellie <Shellie.Bryant@Saskatoon.ca>

Subject: Re: Email - Request to Speak - William Smith - City Services - CK 150-1

hello this is William Smith once again and I also want to go before city council with basically the same issues that I sent to you for the Saskatoon Police issues that I assembled for your requested email for clarification

From: Bryant, Shellie <Shellie.Bryant@Saskatoon.ca>

Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2022 4:48 PM

To: William Smith <[REDACTED]>

Subject: RE: Email - Request to Speak - William Smith - City Services - CK 150-1

Thank you for clarifying your message. We will provide your comments for viewing by the members of the Board of Police Commissioners.

Sincerely,

Shellie Bryant | tel 306-975-2880

Deputy City Clerk – Administrative Services, City Clerk's Office

City of Saskatoon | 222 3rd Avenue North | Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

shellie.bryant@saskatoon.ca

www.saskatoon.ca

*If you receive this email in error, please do not review, distribute or copy the information.
Please contact the sender and delete the message and any attachments.*

From: William Smith <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2022 9:09 AM

To: Bryant, Shellie <Shellie.Bryant@Saskatoon.ca>

Subject: Re: Email - Request to Speak - William Smith - City Services - CK 150-1

it seems once issues have arisen everyone wants to hide but so be it as I had first phone in two different times to report bylaw infractions and the said special constables each time down right argued with me to why they should show up or to put it precisely do their said job as the latest one was on bylaw 8244 to my next door neighbor as two nights in a row they were outside and to what they were doing I know not but many were as in six to eight peoples on a very loud and boistrous people

I spoke to these said people and asked them that I was trying to sleep and to this I had been awake twice ~ so they next day of maybe a hour and a half sleep I was totally exhausted so on the 11th day they same issue arose once more as during the day I wrote a letter to the said residence and put it in their mailbox ~ and I know they had received the said letter as the woman next store seen me and retreated back into the house and several cars came and when leaving had a long look my way as this said house they are renters and this summer each day, night their have been several vehicals visit or what ever as I have also witnessed them when leaving throw garbage upon the sidewalk so I called the Saskatoon Police the evening of the 11th of August, 2022 and the above total resistance to and at one time referred that she had already stated that she would send officers to the said address to which she had not said before so I took this as she was calling me a liar ~

Now on they said issues of watching not once twice but several times police vehicles when travelling no signalling upon travelling the one squad car weaving in and out of traffic on fourth avenue no fewer than four times, watching a police vehicle go into a intersection and then signal to make a righthand turn, witnessing a police suv cut through 711 on idlywild and thirty sixth street to avoid having to wait for car in front of the said vehicle to make right hand turns ~ I have found this so very disturbing as the drivers in Saskatoon are known North American wide as very bad drivers and to say here that your police officers driving this way they do have the right to disobey laws when REQUIRED but to drive in this manner and showing total disregard for the city and provincial statutes just shows me why our Saskatoon drivers have issues that in the high percentage do not signal, run yellow and red lights, pass me constantly on the right through school zones, do not wait till the yellow flashing lights to stop as then to proceed as these said issues are not a one, two, three time issues I have watched but seems to be the normal for Saskatoon City workers, Saskatoon City Police constables and a few bus drivers as now I do not feel anyway safe driving in the City of Saskatoon ~ I have been ran over by a vehicles in the City of Saskatoon and it destroyed my life in several ways so this is just I have witnessed the cycle continues and why I am asking is not the City of Saskatoon applying the laws to start to control the said vehicles in this said city ~ I could go on with many more examples but I am asking just your city police force to get back the control of the divers of this said city and the it seems no LAWFUL DRIVERS I have so much more too say but I could go on for pages to the occurences I witness on a daily basis so in ending I am just asking the Police Force to start doing their said PAID JOBS ! and stop more the Baily like occurences from happening in the future

From: Bryant, Shellie <Shellie.Bryant@Saskatoon.ca>

Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2022 7:41 AM

To: William Smith <[REDACTED]>

Subject: RE: Email - Request to Speak - William Smith - City Services - CK 150-1

William, all submissions that go to Committee become public information on the website. The four Standing Policy Committees of Council have different policy areas so would more specifics and anything to do with the Saskatoon Police Service would go before the Board of Police Commissioners, again in a public forum. We could also place your comments in the Council members online repository, which is only viewable to them.

Please advise.

Shellie Bryant | tel 306-975-2880

Deputy City Clerk – Administrative Services, City Clerk’s Office
City of Saskatoon | 222 3rd Avenue North | Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5
shellie.bryant@saskatoon.ca
www.saskatoon.ca

*If you receive this email in error, please do not review, distribute or copy the information.
Please contact the sender and delete the message and any attachments.*

From: William Smith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 3:43 PM
To: Bryant, Shellie <Shellie.Bryant@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Re: Email - Request to Speak - William Smith - City Services - CK 150-1

it is more than just city, police and fire inspectors and how they drive as not obeying city and provincial laws but also trying to address civic and actually provincial bylaws and how they respond to me when reporting these infractions which have been not just once or twice but over half a dozen times ~ also to ask why city hall and council always want to play politics when being addressed with such said issues as this is a repeat offence of ignoring a taxpayer

From: Bryant, Shellie <Shellie.Bryant@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 12:14 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Email - Request to Speak - William Smith - City Services - CK 150-1

Hi William, thank you for your submission. In order to determine the proper Standing Policy Committee to place your request on, can you clarify your request. It appears that you want to address non-compliance with city vehicles and the staff that operate them.

Look forward to hearing back from you.

Shellie Bryant | tel 306-975-2880

Deputy City Clerk – Administrative Services, City Clerk’s Office
City of Saskatoon | 222 3rd Avenue North | Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5
shellie.bryant@saskatoon.ca
www.saskatoon.ca

*If you receive this email in error, please do not review, distribute or copy the information.
Please contact the sender and delete the message and any attachments.*

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 10:10 AM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Request to Speak - William Smith - City Services - CK 150-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED]

Submitted on Wednesday, August 17, 2022 - 10:09

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

Date Wednesday, August 17, 2022

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name William

Last Name Smith

Phone Number [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED] 1st Avenue North

City Saskatoon

Province Saskatchewan

Postal Code [REDACTED]

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable) self

Subject city services

Meeting (if known) August 29, 2022

Comments

I want to ask the council on three issues as to reporting bylaw non compliances, city drivers also included cities vehicles included and as part of the issues here to make the Mayor and City Council be held more a countable

Attachments

Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting? No

“PUBLIC AGENDA”

**TO: Jo Custead, Chairperson
Board of Police Commissioners**

**FROM: Troy Cooper
Office of the Chief**

DATE: 2022 September 15

SUBJECT: Alternative Service Delivery Pilot Project Findings, One Year Hence

ISSUE:

The date of June 21, 2022 marked a full year since the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) deployed a fully independent Alternative Service Delivery (ASD) capability onto the streets of Saskatoon as a pilot project. The SPS ASD construct saw Special Constables working under the label of Alternative Response Officers (AROs) within the Alternative Response Unit (ARU), deployed primarily into the Downtown (DTNYXE) and Riversdale (RBID) Business Improvement Districts. In addition, demand for an ASD capability in other parts of the city saw AROs assigned to a number of special project locations. In response to the one year anniversary, this report will briefly examine the results of the pilot project to date.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Alternative Response Unit becomes a permanent unit within the Saskatoon Police Service.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

The development of an alternative response capability meets four of the five themes in the SPS *2020-2024 Strategic Plan*: Crime & Safety, Our People, Partnerships, and Innovation.

BACKGROUND:

Determination of what an ARO Special Constable could do or should do, was borne out of a multi-step process: literature review, gap analysis, and capability scenario development. During the development of the ASD program, it became apparent that a successful pilot project would require attention paid to a number of imperatives, namely: frontline collaboration with strategic and operational SPS partners needed to occur to a greater extent; issues identified by area residents, workers, merchants, and other critical populations needed to be addressed; and, regular

“PUBLIC AGENDA”

police officer time had to be freed up from administrative and lower intensity sworn officer tasks. Furthermore, in all cases, ASD had to take place within the overarching framework of the SPS *2020-2024 Strategic Plan*, underpinned by the philosophy of the SPS Vision, Mission, and Core Values. To that end, in agreement with the Saskatoon Police Association and the provincial Ministry of Corrections, Policing, and Public Safety, ASD by the SPS would be staffed by uniformed, unarmed Special Constables with tasks grouped into three distinct yet interrelated streams: Direct Service Delivery, Investigative Support, and Enforcement Support.

DISCUSSION:

In order to prove the concept and shed light on the value of ASD, three outcomes were envisioned as a means of signaling the efficacy of the pilot project. The outcomes were developed based upon understanding gained through the aforementioned literature review, the gap analysis, and capability scenarios. Importantly, they were framed by the realistic consideration of the new ASD capacities, given the legal and protective operational constraints facing the AROs. They were as follows:

OUTCOME 1

Implementation of a work standard focused on increased collaboration/referrals with other human service providers, and enhanced education surrounding the issues driving vulnerable populations.

OUTCOME 2

Establish increased uniform presence on a consistent basis during the ARO duty period (business week) in DTNYXE and RBID to establish greater perception of deterrence and reassurance.

OUTCOME 3

Decrease the need for armed police officer presence at calls in DTNYXE and RBID, and perform prisoner handling Provost functions.

By no means spanning the actual range of tasks that the AROs were envisioned as being able to do, these outcomes nevertheless were thought to be comprehensive enough that the Service, and by extension the Board, would be able to determine a year hence whether or not ASD in this form was not only functioning, but functioning as designed.

An examination of performance and training statistics, CFS data, and direct communication to the SPS from community sources reveals that the SPS ASD in its current form would appear to be meeting outcome targets. In some cases, ARO performance is exceeding anticipated

“PUBLIC AGENDA”

outcomes, opening up avenues for further examination of deployment practices. In approximately 240 days of duty only (July 2021 to June 2022), AROs engaged in over 6700 lower intensity calls, administrative events and outreach interactions, freeing up regular police officers time and time again to attend higher threat, crime-focused matters.

OUTCOME 1
Implementation of a work standard focused on increased collaboration/referrals with other human service providers, and enhanced education surrounding the issues driving vulnerable populations.

PILOT PROJECT PERIOD July 2021-JUNE 2022	TOTAL
Outreach (Direct delivery/Secondary Agency referral)	389
Transports (Public Safety)	82* (139)

While not initially envisioned as an opportunity for collaboration with other human service providers, three other service delivery categories began to emerge as relevant to this outcome.

Life Saves (NARCAN/BTLS)	12
Transports (Youth Detox)	19* (139)
MHSA apprehension assistance	2* (15)

* Data not separated out or collected during 2021 Q3. Collection process changed for 2021 Q4 onwards. Bracketed number denotes combined totals for listed category (ie. transports, MHSA apprehensions)

AROs were the first frontline staff to receive the Gender Based Violence training from OUT Saskatoon, the enhanced TRC training presentation from SPS ECEU and Lyndon Linklater, and completed the four online courses from York University’s Homelessness Hub surrounding homelessness issues particular to Youth/LGBTQ2S+/women.

OUTCOME 2
Establish increased uniform presence on a consistent basis during the ARO duty period (business week) in DTNYXE and RBID to establish greater perception of deterrence and reassurance.

PILOT PROJECT PERIOD July 2021-June 2022	TOTAL
On View Calls for Service	1054* (490)
Business Contacts	1251* (0)
High Visibility Public Display	29* (0)
Warnings (Written/Verbal for all offenses)	1249
Tickets (Bylaw)	118* (251)
Tickets (Provincial Statute)	212* (see Bylaw)
Charges Laid (<i>Criminal Code, Controlled Drugs and Substances Act</i>)	66
Intoxicated Person Arrests (via Breach of Peace)	80

* Data not separated out or collected during 2021 Q3. Collection process changed for 2021 Q4 onwards. Bracketed number denotes combined totals for listed category (ie. tickets, contacts, displays)

“PUBLIC AGENDA”

In addition to posted duty hours, on a number of occasions over the Christmas shopping season, during pop-up clinics, in support of sidewalk sales, or for numerous cultural events, AROs came out on weekends to provide their unique presence.

Survey results, correspondence to the SPS and the Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners, and direct communication to the AROs and SPS management has largely been positive of the ASD pilot project. Priorities of the ARU are managed internally and can be adjusted as community needs change. Ongoing assessment with all stakeholders is an important part of this program.

OUTCOME 3
Decrease the need for armed police officer presence at calls in DTNYXE and RBID, and, perform prisoner handling Provost functions.

PILOT PROJECT PERIOD July 2021-June 2022	TOTAL
Court Transports	417* (139)
Dispatched Calls for Service	353* (490)
Found Property Handled	94

While not initially prioritized as critical tasks such as the Beat and Provost transports were, the ARO’s day evolved to be able to include an increased number and variety of duties, all of which contributed to the outcome goal of freeing up regular police officer time for higher threat, higher intensity, crime-oriented work.

Arrests (<i>Criminal Code</i> or Provincial Statute warrant)	153* (15)
Transports (other member arrests)	31* (0)
File assistance (other member investigations)	208
Crime Scene guarding	29* (0)
Traffic Escorts/Parades	15* (31)
Traffic Speed Trailer	38* (31)
High Visibility Display (Traffic duty)	7* (0)

* Data not separated out or collected during 2021 Q3. Collection process changed for 2021 Q4 onwards. Bracketed number denotes combined or absent totals for listed category (ie. CFS, arrests, transports, traffic duties)

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

In its present form, the ASD pilot project has been consistently staffed with at least six full time equivalent (FTE) Special Constables. In anticipation of some of the original AROs being selected for regular police officer training at the Saskatchewan Police College (SkPC) in August of 2022, five AROs were hired in March 2022 in order to ensure that there was overlap for critical on-the-job (OJT) training with the outgoing AROs. In anticipation of a small number of AROs being selected for regular police officer training at SkPC each fall, the pattern of spring

“PUBLIC AGENDA”


overstrength hiring to ensure a solid foundation of overlap OJT is anticipated to occur, bringing the number of AROs deployed over the May-July period to ten.

CONCLUSION:

The SPS was challenged by the community to develop an ASD program which would ensure a safe and secure environment through the delivery of lower cost public safety response, service to vulnerable populations, interruption of street-based anti-social behaviour, provision of public reassurance, and community responsiveness. In answer, the SPS deployed a brand new policing capability in the form of unarmed ARO Special Constables as a pilot project, that strove to match capabilities with situation and responder with client needs to the greatest extent possible. As the data has shown, performance by the AROs has exceeded the initial project aspirations across all categories. Working in collaboration with colleagues from other human service agencies and their regular police officer peers, this new tier of public safety professional provided a constellation of lower intensity enforcement, administrative, and outreach activities in a cost-conscious manner. As the ASD pilot project draws to a close, the SPS is confident that what was promised to the Board was delivered, and that service delivery to the community is at its maximal level possible in the most cost-effective way.

Written by: **Darren Pringle**
Inspector, Special Projects

Approved by: **Mitch Yuzdepski**
Deputy Chief, Administration

Submitted by: 

Troy Cooper
Chief of Police

Dated: 
