



REPORT TO CALGARY POLICE COMMISSION



CPS Monthly Chief's Reports: Pandemic Update on Crime and Social Disorder

Date

2022.04.01

Commission Role

Information only Approval

Type of Meeting

- Full Commission meeting
 Governance and Personnel (G&P) Sub-Committee
 Finance and Audit (F&A) Sub-Committee
 Complaint Oversight (COC) Sub-Committee
 Anti-Racism Committee

Purpose

As part of the Chief's Report at the monthly Calgary Police Commission meeting, the pandemic update on crime and disorder is intended to provide the members of the CPC with insights related to the impacts that have been identified as a result of Covid-19 that could be shared publicly. A focus will be made on issues that can be attributed (partial or fully) to the pandemic.

Key Messages

The CPS continues to respond to crime and social disorder trends that have emerged and/or influenced by the global pandemic. Some of the most relevant items that the CPS have responded to since the last update include:

- Monitoring of crime and social disorder has revealed similar trendlines with a gradual return to pre-pandemic rates.
- Continued demonstrations and protests pertaining to the Public Health Orders and restrictions continue demands for policing as a result of the pandemic.
- The Court of Queen's Bench Injunction that was obtained by the City of Calgary with support from the CPS has proven to be a useful mechanism to address escalating behaviours by groups participating in demonstrations.

Summary of Issues and Trends

The CPS continues to monitor and respond to the impacts of the pandemic from an operational perspective. Some highlights of the report will cover the following:

- Social disorder for February trended in line with the 5-year average.
- Social disorder and crime pertaining to the LRT has continued to be an area of concern and focus. Efforts are being made to address this in partnership with Calgary Transit through the Safety for All 2.0 initiative.
- Some of the crime trends continue to be reduced in line with the pandemic with slight trending to return to the average zones. This includes break and enter (residential and commercial), theft of auto and car prowling.
- As reported previously, reported domestic violence has shown a continued reduction however domestic reporting continues to be increased as compared to the 5-year average.
- Within March, protests related to the pandemic restrictions continued despite the lifting of most of the Public Health Orders. Concerns with the community impacts of the ongoing and repeated protests and marches resulted in the mobilization of other protest groups within the Beltline. This resulted in two weekends where conflict increased between the group and a lack of cooperation with police direction was seen.
- The CPS engaged business and community stakeholders in the Beltline area with a Townhall that was held on March 15, 2022. This meeting involved the CPS Major Events and Emergency Management Section, District 1 leadership, the Community Resource Officer, City of Calgary Community Standards (Bylaw), Calgary Neighbourhoods, and Alberta Health Services. Externally, it included the Beltline Neighbourhood Association, Beltline Business Improvement Area, and 17th Avenue Business Improvement Area.
- The CPS presented to the Calgary Police Commission on March 18, 2022 to outline subsequent plans for the following protest activity under the definitions of a Major Policing Event – given the recent conflict and resources required to engage to address the situation.
- The plans included the CPS enforcement of a Court of Queen's Bench Injunction obtained on March 18, 2022, specific to the ongoing protests which provided additional powers to address protest behaviors which had become problematic for the community. The CPS supported the Injunction application by providing an affidavit outlining the prior public safety concerns and issues that had arisen due to the ongoing protests.
- The CPS executed operational plans for the protests on March 19th and March 26th with command oversight within the Tactical Operations Centre (TOC). On March 19th, 6 individuals were arrested due to violations of the Injunction and/or outstanding warrants. Additional enforcement occurred in relation to traffic and bylaw violations. On March 26th, 2 individuals were arrested (1 due to outstanding warrants and the other due to a violation of the Injunction). Due to the combined efforts of CPS with partners and stakeholders, the protests were able to be addressed preventing a march on 17th Avenue and reduction of impact on the Beltline community.
- At a strategic level, the CPS is continuing to participate and collaborate with other stakeholders as part of the provincial Alberta Enforcement Framework for Repeat Offenders Operational Group as mentioned previously. In April, the group will be meeting to adjust the mandate and function to support future inter-agency work.

Attachments (if any)

Nil

Approval signatures

**AUTHOR/EXECUTIVE SPONSOR
signature:**

Digitally signed by Chad Tawfik
Date: 2022.04.01 09:42:32
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Chad Tawfik

2022.04.01

Chad Tawfik, Deputy Chief

Date

Bureau of Community Policing

CHIEF OF POLICE signature:



2022.04.01

Raj Gill, Acting Chief of Police

Date

Office of the Chief