



REPORT TO CALGARY POLICE COMMISSION



CPS Monthly Chief's Reports: Pandemic Update on Crime and Social Disorder – May25, 2022

Date

2022.05.20

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.
- The demonstrations and protests pertaining to the pandemic, vaccinations, and restrictions continue impacting demands for policing.
- The Court of Queen's Bench Injunction that was obtained by the City of Calgary with support from the CPS was lifted prior to the start of the NHL Playoffs. The CPS continued efforts of working with protest organizers to prevent conflicts with other community groups. Thus far, the protest management efforts have been effective, and the CPS continues to monitor how things progress.

- CPS is experiencing a return to pre-pandemic demands in relation to planning and providing policing services for large scale community events.

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:

- In April there was a slight decrease in citywide disorder activity compared to the 5-year average (-369 calls). Year-to-date disorder activity has increased slightly (+1,088 calls). Unwanted Guests, Suspicious Persons, and Disturbances accounted for 61% of disorder related calls for service in April. 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 and further collaboration with Calgary Transit.
- 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. To the end of April, vehicle crime is currently 8% below the 5-year average.
- As reported previously, reported domestic violence continues to show a reduction however domestic reporting continues to be increased as compared to the 5-year average. This trend has been seen to continue since July of 2021.
- Violent crime that is non-domestic in nature, has continued to trend with the 5-year average. One of the key findings from the patterns of the past several months is that the violent incidents in recent months have been highly correlated with both temperature and the amount of economic activities resulting from the public health order. As the restrictive public health orders were fully lifted in February and the temperature continues to rise, the volume of incidents in April was lower than the previous expectation. This trend will continue to be monitored over the next several months. to determine if this is a temporary effect.
- Publicly generated calls for service are continuing to trend upward returning to pre-pandemic numbers. As an example, in April, there were 33,266 publicly generated calls for service. The 5-year average is 31808, and 31159 in 2021. In 2019, there were 33,568 public calls for service. In accordance with that demand, officer generated calls for service have decreased and were 11893 in April of 2022 which is lower than the 5-year average of 12868. In 2021, there were 10820 officer generated calls and in 2019 (pre-pandemic) there were 13223.
- Protests related to the pandemic restrictions continued despite the lifting of most of the Public Health Orders. The Court of Queen's Bench Injunction that was obtained by the City of Calgary with support from the CPS to address the conflict associated with the demonstrations was lifted prior to the start of the NHL Playoffs. The CPS continued efforts of working with protest organizers to prevent conflicts with other community groups. Thus far, the protest management efforts have been effective, and the CPS continues to monitor how things progress.
- The CPS re-engaged business and community stakeholders in the Beltline area with another Townhall that was held on Thursday, April 28th, 2022. This meeting involved the CPS Major Events and Emergency Management Section, District 1 leadership, the established CPS Business Liaisons, City of Calgary Community Standards (Bylaw) and Arts and Culture, and Calgary Neighbourhoods. Externally, it included the Beltline Neighbourhood Association, Beltline Business Improvement Area, and 17th Avenue

Business Improvement Area. Discussions pertained to the impending playoffs and plans to address any concerns arising with residents and businesses in the Beltline pertaining to the Red Mile.

- The CPS is seeing a return to pre-pandemic planning regarding citywide events inclusive of large-scale events such as the 2022 Nagar Kirtan/Dashmesh Parade and Celebration and the Calgary Stampede and related parade.

Attachments (if any)

Nil

Approval signatures

AUTHOR/EXECUTIVE SPONSOR
signature:



2022.05.20

Chad Tawfik, Deputy Chief

Date

Bureau of Community Policing

CHIEF OF POLICE signature:

Mark Neufeld, Chief of Police

Date

Office of the Chief
