



**RPT 20-443**

**TITLE:** Community Safety Initiative - Motion Sensor Lights

**DATE:** November 16, 2020

**TO:** Executive Committee

**PUBLIC:** X

**INCAMERA:**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

That alley and walkway safety as well as the Community Safety Initiative – Motion Sensor Lights program be added to the 2021 Planning Advisory Committee work plan for consideration and discussion.

**TOPIC & PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Executive Committee on the development of the Community Safety Initiative – Motion Sensor Lights and to have this topic added to the Planning Advisory Committee’s 2021 work plan.

**BACKGROUND:**

On January 27, 2020, Council Resolution No. 0050 was passed, asking that Administration prepare a report for consideration regarding the implementation of a City Security Program where citizens could purchase motion sensor lights at cost, similar to a program established in North Battleford.

On February 25, 2020, Planning Advisory Committee Resolution No. 0005 was passed, requesting that Administration bring back options to improve the safety of alleys and walkways throughout the City, including the Eyes That Care program and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, to an upcoming Planning Advisory Committee meeting. Subsequently, due to the threat of COVID-19, all remaining 2020 Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings were canceled and Administration forwarded the follow up report to the Executive Committee for consideration.

On September 8, 2020, following the Executive Committee’s review of the information presented in RPT # 20-364, Resolution No. 0238 was passed, requesting, “That Administration work with community partners to develop a Community Safety Program, similar to the Eyes That Care Program established by the City of North Battleford; and, That Administration forward the program to an upcoming Executive Committee meeting for consideration by members of Council, once prepared.”.

**PROPOSED APPROACH AND RATIONALE:**

Since the last report was presented to City Council in September, Administration completed a further review of the Eyes That Care program offered in North Battleford and worked on preparing something similar for Prince Albert (see attached). As program development progressed, questions kept coming up regarding both the ultimate goal of the program (specifically, what are we trying to achieve) and the logistics of implementation (how much funding and resources should be assigned – do they align with the goal and are they realistic).

Though these are questions that Administration can answer and we have through the attached program, because this initiative is not based on a single, objective result, it is recommended that further review and a conversation with PAC (representing our community partners) take place before the program is implemented. One of the more significant points that will be discussed with the PAC is the fact that it will be difficult to attribute a/any reduction in crime to the increased presence of motion lights – should that inform the project goal. Another point to discuss is how we wish to poll the public on what they feel the success of this program is. We have indicated that a survey would be sent out, but further discussion is needed.

Therefore, Administration is recommending that this community safety initiative be referred back to the PAC for further consideration before it is implemented. This recommendation is in accordance with the February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 PAC resolution noted above.

**CONSULTATIONS:**

In considering this program the Department of Planning and Development Services consulted with the Department of Community Services, Finance, Human Resources - Communications, the City Solicitor's Office and Prince Albert Police Service. The general consensus from this group is that a further conversation with the PAC should take place before the program is rolled out.

**COMMUNICATION AND/OR ANNOUNCEMENT PLAN:**

The Department of Planning and Development Services will continue to engage with the departments and divisions noted above as this program is developed. Once a further conversation with the PAC has taken place, an update will be provided to City Council.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The estimated cost of the program attached is as follows:

- A \$25.00 rebate (one per property) offered to the first 500 applicants whose properties abut a back alley or walkway:
  - At 100% uptake would cost \$12,500.
  - At 50% uptake would cost \$6250.

It is difficult to predict the level of participation, so setting a limit of 500 applications allows the City to control the financial implications and further consider whether or not the limit should remain or be removed in the future.

**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS/IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no other policy or privacy implications to consider with the above noted recommendation.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

One of the City's operational themes is compassion. We strive to understand how our services impact and are valued by our citizens and we continue to work to ensure that the services we provide meet the needs of the community. This is a program that through proper consultation, and given sufficient thought, can provide a valuable service.

**OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN:**

The City of Prince Albert Official Community Plan supports initiatives like this, as it states:

**"1.6.6 Social Environment and Culture**

The strategy for a healthy social environment is to ensure that social aspects of individual and neighbourhood health and wellbeing contribute toward the health and safety of the City...

6. The role of CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles in planning for a safe, healthy and livable city;"

**OPTIONS TO RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the draft Community Safety Initiative – Motion Sensor Lights program be approved and offered for one year, starting on January 1, 2021.

**PUBLIC NOTICE:**

Public Notice pursuant to the Public Notice Bylaw No. 24 of 2015 is not required.

**PRESENTATION:** Verbal – Director of Planning and Development Services

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Community Safety Initiative – Motion Sensor Lights Rebate Form

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Approved by: Director of Public Works & City Manager