



Administration and Operations Committee Report

To: The Chair and Members of the Administration and Operations Committee
From: Lesley Jackson, Director of Community Partnerships
Brian Grice, Community Safety and Well-Being Supervisor
Date: December 10, 2024
Report #: RPT-0543-24
Subject: Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Update – Ad Hoc Committee
Purpose: For Approval

Recommendation

That RPT-0543-24 be received as information;
And that should Council deem necessary, a member of County Council be appointed to serve on the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Update Ad Hoc Committee.

Strategic Plan Priority

Strategic Priority 5 - Healthy, Safe, and Engaged Citizens

Impacts and Mitigation

Social Impacts

A Community Safety and Well-Being Plan can strengthen social cohesion by addressing current and emerging community needs through collaborative problem-solving. It enhances equity by focusing on vulnerable populations and reducing barriers to essential services. The process fosters trust between residents, local governments, law enforcement and social services agencies, by demonstrating a commitment to proactive, inclusive, and transparent planning. Engaging diverse stakeholders during the update promotes shared accountability and empowers the community to take collective action. Ultimately, an updated Community Safety and Well-Being Plan improves overall quality of life by creating safer, more resilient, and inclusive environments for all.

Environmental Impacts

Not applicable.

Economic Impacts

A Community Safety and Well-Being Plan can lead to economic benefits by reducing costs associated with crime, healthcare, and emergency response through proactive and preventive measures. It fosters workforce stability and productivity by addressing social determinants of health, such as mental health support and access to resources. By creating safer neighborhoods, it encourages investment, attracts businesses, and boosts property values, contributing to local economic growth. A well-implemented Community Safety and

Well-Being Plan can also improve resource allocation, ensuring funds are used effectively to meet community needs. Overall, the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan supports long-term economic resilience by promoting a healthier, more secure, and socially cohesive community.

Report

Background

As reported to Council in a Briefing Note dated October 25, 2024, under O. Reg 414/23 the County of Brant is required to review, revise and approve by resolution, the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, no later than July 1, 2025.

Pursuant to the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1, the County is required to establish an Ad Hoc Committee to inform the revisions to the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

Analysis

The Ad Hoc Committee must be composed of the following, noting that a single individual may satisfy the requirements set out in multiple paragraphs of the required individuals:

1. A person who represents,
 - i. Ontario Health, or
 - ii. an entity that provides services to improve the physical or mental health of individuals in the community or communities.
2. A person who represents an entity that provides educational services in the municipality.
3. A person who represents an entity that provides community or social services in the municipality, if there is such an entity.
4. A person who represents an entity that provides community or social services to children or youth in the municipality, if there is such an entity.
5. A person who represents an entity that provides custodial services to children or youth in the municipality, if there is such an entity.
6. An employee of the municipality or a member of the municipal council. Employees of the municipality will include the Supervisor of Community Safety and Well-Being and the Director of Community Partnerships.
7. A person who represents the police service board or, if there is no police service board, the commander of the detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police that provides policing in the area or his or her delegate.
8. A chief of police of a police service that provides policing in the area or his or her delegate.

Although requirement six (6) would be satisfied by having members of County staff serve on the Ad Hoc Committee, it is at Council's discretion to appoint a member of Council to the Ad Hoc Committee, should they deem such an appointment necessary.

On November 27, 2024, the General Manager of Strategic Initiatives, the Director of Community Partnerships and the Community Safety and Well-Being Supervisor met with Inspector Andrea Quenneville, Brant OPP Detachment Commander, and Police Services Board Chair, Jennifer Haley to discuss the required update to the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, including the formation and composition of the Ad Hoc Committee, as well as opportunities for public engagement. In consultation with the Brant OPP Detachment Commander, the Police Services Board Chair, the General Manager of Strategic Initiatives,

and the Director of Community Partnerships, the Community Safety and Well-Being Supervisor will reach out to community partners representing requirements one (1) through five (5) to gauge interest and willingness to join the Ad Hoc Committee.

In order to satisfy requirements seven (7) and eight (8), the Police Services Board Chair and the Brant OPP Detachment Commander have committed to serving on the Ad Hoc Committee.

Summary and Recommendations

Staff will continue to keep Council informed of the next steps in the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan update, with a view to present to Council in Q2 of 2025.

Staff recommend that RPT-0543-24 be received as information and that should Council deem necessary, a member of County Council be appointed to serve on the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Update Ad Hoc Committee.

Attachments

None.

Reviewed By

1. M. Connor, General Manager of Strategic Initiatives

Copied To

1. SMT
2. A. Quenneville, Inspector, Brant County OPP Detachment Commander
3. J. Haley, Police Services Board Chair

By-law and/or Agreement

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| By-law Required | No |
| Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and /or Clerk | No |