



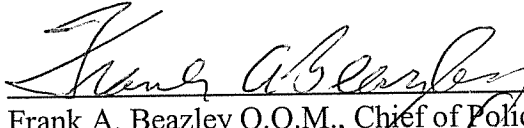
PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

4.1.4

Harbour East Community Council
August 4, 2005

TO: Chairman and Members of the Harbour East Community Council

SUBMITTED BY:


Frank A. Beazley O.O.M., Chief of Police

DATE: July 20, 2005

SUBJECT: Public Participation - Police Presence - Windmill Road

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

At the Harbour East Community Council Meeting of July 7, 2005, a report was requested regarding police presence in the Dartmouth area, particularly in the Windmill Road area.

BACKGROUND

Mr. Hayward addressed the Harbour East Community Council concerning an increase in crime in the Dartmouth area and indicated residents would like to see more police presence in the Windmill Road area.

DISCUSSION

In the last budget year, several officers were approved for Halifax Regional Police over the next two years. We are currently phasing in new initiatives as a result of these new resources. A number of Community Response Officers have been identified to respond directly to community needs. Four such officers have been identified for the Dartmouth area. These identified officers respond to community complaints in the areas of Dartmouth East, Dartmouth South and Downtown, Dartmouth

North and the Burnside area. Police being in the community on a daily basis allows the community to have more contact with the police, which is leading to quality information being passed on for investigative purposes.

Halifax Regional Police also has a group of officers known as the Quick Response Unit (QRU) who can be deployed to various areas to deal with emerging problems. This unit responds not only to emerging problems but is able to focus on planned responses to reoccurring problems within HRM. One such initiative was the 2005 Park Plan which included patrols in a number of parks in Dartmouth such as Sullivans Pond and Bell Lake. The QRU deals with youth problems which normally affect parks at the beginning of the summer break. This unit is a resource which can be used by all three divisions and when deployed on specific tasks can be instrumental in the successful resolution to the problems occurring in that area.

To help increase visibility, Halifax Regional Police has adopted the zone policing model. The Dartmouth area has been divided into seven zones which will be policed by either a two member vehicle or a one member vehicle. The members assigned to the zone will remain in that zone for at least a year, therefore, enabling the member to become more familiar with the community they serve. These members have constant contact with the Community Response Officers, which ensures better communications regarding the needs and concerns of the community.

In direct response to the concerns raised at the Harbour East Community Council Meeting for more police presence in the Windmill Road area, we advise the following. Two zones (four and five) encompass Windmill Road from Wyse Road to Victoria Road extension. The zones have officers assigned to them to patrol full time. In addition, these zones are supported by a patrol wagon as needed.

Recently there was a rash of robberies within HRM. As a result, a Robbery Task Force was created to deal with this serious concern. The Task Force, within a short period of time, made several arrests in relation to these robberies. Several persons have been taken before the courts already and have entered guilty pleas to various offences and are currently incarcerated for the offences.

In an effort to combat driving offences, Halifax Regional Police is reinstating the Traffic Division. The first ten officers will be fully operational by the fall with ten more officers being added next year as part of the two year plan. They will be working throughout HRM including Dartmouth. In the meantime, we have a number of traffic related initiatives planned for the summer especially around speeding and unsafe vehicles.

These are only some of initiatives which are currently in place to provide the citizens of HRM with quality policing. Residents are encouraged to contact the East Divisional Office to speak with either the Divisional Commander or the Community Response Officers for information or to voice concerns affecting the community.

The following contact numbers are provided for reference purposes:

| | |
|---|--|
| Divisional Commander David E. Porter, Staff Sergeant Office: 490-5172 Cellular: 456-1689 | Burnside Community Response Officer Don Jenkins, Constable Office: 490-6350 Cellular: 456-1028 |
| Dartmouth North Chris Friis, Constable Office: 490-4118 Cellular: 223-2735 | Dartmouth South/Downtown J. Don McKinnon, Constable Office: 490-5460 Cellular: 223-4252 |
| Dartmouth East Steven Langille, Constable Office: 490-5462 Cellular: 471-7720 | |

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS - N/A

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES - N/A

ATTACHMENTS - N/A

A copy of this report can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by : David E. Porter, Staff Sergeant 490-5172
Divisional Commander - East