

Date: 2022-06-16

Subject: **2022-2025 Draft Community Safety Action Plan**

Contact: Razmin Said, Manager, Community Safety & Well-Being Office
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Report Number: Community Services-2022-665

Recommendations:

1. That the report from Razmin Said, Manager, Community Safety & Well-Being Office, dated June 16, 2022, to the Committee of Council Meeting of June 22, 2022, re. **2022-2025 Draft Community Safety Action Plan**, be received; and,
2. That Council approve the 2022-2025 Draft Community Safety Action Plan in principle with the final Plan to be subsequently approved in Q4 2022 following community participation.

Overview:

- **The Community Safety Action Plan (Action Plan) aligns with the Strategic Direction that Brampton is a Healthy and Safe City and Brampton is a Well-Run City; and advances the Term of Council Priorities focused initiatives.**
- **This is the City of Brampton's first Community Safety Action Plan and is a strategic plan that establishes the vision, mission, and principles of the Community Safety & Well-Being Office along with three key areas of focus, twenty-one new tactics, and measurable targets to be achieved within the next four years.**
- **The Action Plan, areas of focus and subsequent tactics were developed with consultations and feedback from town hall meetings, resident meetings, a Citizen Advisory Committee strategy session, City Council interviews, staff and external partner engagements, data from 1800+ residents through the Nurturing Neighbourhoods Program, and lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic.**

- **The Action Plan complements and supports Peel's Community Safety and Well-being Plan and aligns with the Ontario Community Safety and Well-Being Planning Framework.**
- **Community participation will be scheduled following Council approval of the draft Action Plan to provide residents with the opportunity to collaborate in finalizing the plan and validate what CSWO learned through previous engagements.**
- **Additional staff resources to support the implementation of the Action Plan will be identified as part of the 2023 proposed budget submission, pending Council approval.**
- **The Action Plan is a living document that creates space for change, adaptability, and building synergies to deliver tactics between CSWO and the community.**

Background:

The Community Safety & Well-Being Office, a division in the Community Services Department, was newly formed in Q1 of 2021 to fulfill one of 16 focused Term of Council Priority (TOCP) initiatives identified during the TOCP Mid-term Evaluation and Refresh. CSWO was designed and implemented to support the safety and well-being of residents through a community-based approach to address root causes of complex social issues.

A Focused Priority assigned to CSWO was the development of a Brampton Community Safety Action Plan. The Action Plan is an Intergovernmental Priority, aligned with the Ontario Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Planning Framework and the Region of Peel's Community Safety and Well-being Plan to leverage intergovernmental support.

The Action Plan is designed to complement Peel's CSWB Plan and align with the Ontario CSWB Planning Framework. The Ontario CSWB Planning Framework highlights 4 distinct levels of intervention:

- **Social Development: Promoting and maintaining safety & well-being**
- **Prevention: Proactively reducing identified risks**
- **Risk Intervention: Mitigating situations of elevated risk**
- **Incident Response: Critical and non-critical incident response**

Utilizing concepts of strategic and holistic planning, this Action Plan focuses more on the long-term benefits of social development and prevention levels of intervention rather than reactionary and incident-driven responses. Tactics of the Action Plan that belong to the social development and prevention levels of intervention are meant to leverage

existing systems, create new opportunities for promoting and maintaining safety and well-being in our community, and proactively reducing identified risks.

The Action Plan uses neighbourhood-level interventions that can feed upwards into the systems-level work of the upper tier. The connections between both plans are highlighted in the Table below:

Table 1: Lower and Upper Tier Community Safety & Well-Being

	Brampton Community Safety Action Plan	Peel's Community Safety and Well-being Plan
Vision	An empowered and connected Brampton where everyone feels safe, has a sense of belonging, and has their needs met.	Peel is a safe, inclusive and connected community where all residents thrive.
Areas of Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety • Awareness • Empowerment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family violence • Mental health and addictions • Systemic discrimination
Role	Using targeted neighbourhood-level responses to address safety concerns, ensure access to resources, and enhance one's sense of belonging in the community.	Using upstream approaches to tackle systems-level challenges.
Intergovernmental Connection	Focus on social development, prevention, and risk intervention areas of the Ontario CSWB Planning Framework	Focus on social development area of the Ontario CSWB Planning Framework

Current Situation:

This Action Plan is the first of its kind for Brampton and includes findings from a robust engagement process, a clear description of the 21 tactics CSWO is committed to leading over the next 4 years in three areas of focus: Safety, Awareness, and Empowerment.

Each of the focus areas and subsequent tactics were developed with consultations and feedback from various stakeholders over several years. These engagements include feedback through town hall meetings, resident meetings, Citizen Advisory Committee strategy session, City Council interviews, staff and external partner engagement, and data from 1800+ residents through the Nurturing Neighbourhoods Program. Lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic have also factored into developing the Action Plan. As

social isolation was experienced by many due to the pandemic, one of the goals of the Action Plan is to overcome isolation by promoting connectedness and enhancing one's sense of belonging within the Brampton community.

The Action Plan offers innovative solutions for implementing community safety and well-being at the lower tier municipal level. The focus is primarily at the neighbourhood-level to address one's safety concerns, ensure access to resources, and enhance one's sense of belonging in the community. CSWO will implement the identified tactics to achieve a Brampton where everyone feels safe, is connected to resources and information, and participates in the community. The Action Plan is summarized in the tables below:

Table 2: Safety

What We Heard	Residents have expressed the need to have their safety concerns heard and actioned.
Intent	CSWO will work alongside residents to become aware of and address safety concerns.
Tactics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Community Safety & Well-Being Office Survey (2023) • Neighbourhood Chit-Chat Opportunities (2023) • Home and Property Crime Prevention Guide (2023) • Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design – Checklist and Street Walks (2024) • Specialized Training (2024) • Hoarding Coalition Support (2024) • Referral Model Expansion (2023)
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents gain access to municipal supports through CSWO • Residents are equipped with tools, resources, and systems to address and overcome safety concerns • Resources are in place to address acutely elevated risk
Goal	Residents are safer.

Table 3: Awareness

What We Heard	Residents have expressed the need to know more about safety and well-being information and resources.
Intent	CSWO will work to create awareness of community information and resources.
Tactics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Presence for Community Safety & Well-Being Office (2022) • Community Safety & Well-Being Office Newsletter (2023) • GeoHub Neighbourhood Profiles (2023) • Community Safety & Well-Being Recognition Week (2024) • Neighbourhood Association Guide (2023)
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents are equipped with information and resources for supports related to community safety and well-being • Residents are connected to systems and service providers • Residents gain additional tools and platforms to access municipal services.

Goal	Residents are more connected.
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Table 4: Empowerment

What We Heard	Residents have expressed an interest in learning more about taking action within the community.
Intent	CSWO will work to empower residents to build capacity and take action towards enhancing safety and well-being in their neighbourhoods.
Tactics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advance Brampton Fund: Community Safety Sub-Priority (2022) • Community Safety Quadrant Coordinator (2022) • Enabler for Community Projects (2022) • Nurturing Neighbourhoods Program (2022) • Focused Neighbourhood Development and Engagement (2022) • Community-Wide Special Events + Public Education (2023) • Community-Wide Garage Sale Weekend (2024) • Friends of Community Safety & Well-Being Office (2023) • Community Safety & Well-Being Office Volunteer Program (2024)
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents gain access to municipal staff through CSWO • Residents can take the lead in shaping the safety and well-being of their neighbourhoods • Residents have increased opportunities to participate and connect within the community
Goal	Residents have an increased sense of belonging.

CSWO is committed to leveraging intergovernmental support and tracking outcomes and progress for all Action Plan tactics within the three areas of focus. Through these strategies, residents will be equipped with tools and resources to address and overcome safety concerns; will be connected to information, community networks, and service providers; and will build capacity for taking the lead in shaping the safety and well-being of their neighbourhoods.

The tactics outlined in the Action Plan are interconnected and the success of the implementation is dependent on sustainable continuity of each. CSWO currently has 3 permanent full-time complements and 3 full-time contractual complements. To ensure wholesome continuity of the initiatives and to nurture meaningful relationship building, CSWO will work within the 2023 budget process to request additional resources.

CSWO uses a collaborative approach and will work closely with residents, City staff, the Region of Peel, and community partners to build relationships, share information, and drive meaningful action. Community safety and well-being is a collective responsibility and has a vital role for both leaders and partners.

Upcoming Community Participation

Using place-based approaches, the community is at the heart of this work. Through previous resident engagements, CSWO heard that feeling safe, being connected to

resources, and having a sense of belonging are important to creating positive impacts in the community. Community participation allows residents and stakeholders to be part of the evolution of providing solutions to address and overcome existing gaps related to safety and well-being.

CSWO will initiate a period for community participation following the approval of the draft Action Plan. The period for community participation will provide residents with the opportunity to review the draft Action Plan and provide input and feedback prior to the release of the final Action Plan, which will be presented to Council and launched in Q4 2022.

Community participation opportunities will be provided through multiple platforms:

- CSWO website to feature Action Plan feedback form
- City of Brampton social media content to feature polling for Action Plan feedback
- Nurturing Neighbourhoods Program walks and workshops to feature focused discussions for Action Plan input and feedback
- Community Safety Quadrant Coordinators for residents to connect directly for input and feedback

The deep and focused engagements of the community participation period will add meaningful additions to the Action Plan. The community consultations and the opportunity for residents to collaborate in finalizing the Action Plan will enhance the plan and validate what CSWO learned through previous engagements. Community participation is a mechanism that supports the Action Plan's focus areas, empowering residents to take a proactive approach to safety and well-being. In addition to resident participation, community organizations will also have the opportunity to provide input. Their valued perspectives as service providers to Brampton residents will strengthen the Action Plan. The Action Plan is a living document that will evolve. It creates space for change, adaptability, and building synergies to deliver tactics between CSWO and residents. Updates on the progress and evolution of the Action Plan will be provided through a CSWO Annual Report at the end of each year.

Corporate Implications:

Financial Implications:

Sufficient funding is available as part of the Community Safety & Well-Being Office's operating budget for 2022. Additional staff resources to support the implementation of the Action Plan will be identified as part of the 2023 proposed budget submission, pending Council approval.

Term of Council Priorities:

This report and the Community Safety Action Plan support the strategic direction that Brampton is a Healthy and Safety City and Brampton is a Well-Run City. Further, the

Action Plan advances the 2020 Term of Council Priorities: Mid-term Evaluation & Evaluation Refresh, which identified a Brampton Community Safety Action Plan as one of 16 focused that would continue long-term City and community building efforts.

Conclusion:

Brampton’s first Community Safety Action Plan aims to achieve an empowered and connected Brampton where everyone feels safe, has a sense of belonging, and has their needs met. Understanding that safety and well-being is a collective responsibility, the tactics outlined in the Action Plan highlight the commitment of CSWO to work closely with residents, City staff, and community partners to enhance safety, share information, and take action. To move this work forward, staff are seeking approval of the draft Action Plan to commence the community participation phase. Feedback will be incorporated into the final Action Plan, to be presented to Council and launched Q4 2022.

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Attachments:

Appendix A – Draft City of Brampton Community Safety Action Plan (2022-2025)