



TO:	GENERAL COMMITTEE
SUBJECT:	CITY OF BARRIE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN
WARD:	ALL
PREPARED BY AND KEY CONTACT:	C. MAINPRIZE, FIRE CHIEF EXT. # 3256
SUBMITTED BY:	C. MAINPRIZE, ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING COMMITTEE
GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL:	D. MCALPINE, GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL:	M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That the "Our Shared Plan for a Safer Barrie: The City of Barrie's First Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, 2021-2024" attached as Appendix "A" to Staff Report FES001-21, be adopted.

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

Report Overview

2. The purpose of this Report is to present to General Committee on behalf of the Community Safety and Well-Being Committee, Barrie's first Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, for consideration of adoption.

Background

3. Effective January 1, 2019 the provincial government through the *Safer Ontario Act* required municipalities to develop and adopt a community safety and well-being (CSWB) plan. As part of the legislation municipalities are required to develop and adopt community safety and well-being plans working in partnership with a multi-sectoral advisory committee comprised of representation from the police service board and other local service providers in health/mental health, education, community/social services, and children/youth services.
4. The legislation included additional requirements pertaining to conducting consultations, content of the plan, monitoring, evaluating, reporting, and publishing the plan.
5. The legislation required Community Safety and Well-Being Plans to:
 - a) Identify risk factors that contribute to crime, victimization, addiction, drug overdoses and suicide;
 - b) Identify which risk factors the municipality will treat as a priority;
 - c) Identify actions to reduce the prioritized risk factors; and

- d) Set out measurable outcomes that the actions are intended to produce.
6. The province created a planning framework to help guide municipalities in the development of their local plans. The framework identified four key areas of focus for each municipality to understand when developing their local plan. The four priority areas are:
- Social Development
 - Prevention
 - Risk Intervention
 - Incident Response

7. On February 11, 2019, Council adopted motion **19-G-029** concerning the **STRUCTURE OF COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL AND PROCEDURAL BY-LAW UPDATES – ENTITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY AND SAFETY AND WELL-BEING COMMITTEE** as follows:

That a Community Safety and Well-being Committee be established in accordance with the Safer Ontario Act with the following agencies, boards and/or commissions selected to provide a representative on the Committee:

- a) Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre to represent an entity that provides services to improve the physical or mental health of individuals in the community or communities;
 - b) Simcoe County Alliance to End Homelessness to represent an entity that provides community or social services in the municipality;
 - c) Child Youth and Family Services Coalition of Simcoe County to represent an entity that provides community or social services to children or youth in the municipality; and
 - d) Elizabeth Fry Society Youth Justice Committee to represent an entity that provides custodial services to children or youth in the municipality. (18-G-223) (LCS015-18) (File: C05)
8. On April 29, 2019, Council adopted motion **19-G-095** concerning the **COMPOSITION OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING COMMITTEE** as follows:

That the composition of the Community Safety and Well-Being Committee be amended by adding the following members:

- a) Councillor, Natalie Harris;
 - b) A representative from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit; and
 - c) A representative from the Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy. (Item for Discussion 8.1, April 15, 2019)
9. In accordance with the City's Procedural By-Law, the Community Safety and Well-Being Committee was established as an advisory committee to City Council. The Committee reported to City Council through the Finance and Corporate Committee.

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10. The Committee Safety and Well-being Committee consisted of representatives from:
- City Council (2)
 - Barrie Police Service
 - Royal Victoria Hospital
 - Barrie Police Services Board
 - Children, Youth, and Family Services Coalition of Simcoe County
 - Elizabeth Fry Society
 - Simcoe Muskoka Health Unit
 - Georgian College
 - Simcoe County Alliance To End Homelessness (SCATEH)
11. The Committee met on eight (8) occasions from June 6, 2019 – January 14, 2021 to review risk factors that undermine safety and well-being in our community and develop actions plans that build off the many services and resources already in place that support our residents.
12. The Committee developed an on-line Community and Safety Well-being survey that was utilized to collect participant data and information to support the development of the plans actions items. Over 250 community members participated in the survey.
13. Barrie Police Service was successful in obtaining a grant to undertake further community needs assessment and for the development of the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan. On February 11, 2020, Council adopted motion 20-G-023 concerning a **COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT – COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING PLAN**, as follows:
- That MASS LBP be engaged by Barrie Police Services to conduct a community needs assessment and that the information gathered as part of the assessment be used in the development of the City of Barrie's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.
14. The Committee then established a working group supported by MASS LBP with extensive understanding of local challenges and areas of risk. The working group consisted of representatives from:
- Barrie Food Bank
 - Barrie Native Friendship Centre
 - Barrie Police Service
 - David Busby Centre
 - Canadian Mental Health Association, Simcoe County
 - Downtown Barrie Business Association
 - Empower Simcoe
 - Georgian College
 - Loft Community Service
 - Mackenzie Health
 - Salvation Army Bayside Mission Centre
 - Simcoe County District School Board
 - Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions
15. The Working Group met on four (4) occasions from February 24, 2020 – March 12, 2020 to conduct eight (8) small group stakeholder meetings with over 25 additional organizations to evaluate risk and develop actions items for the plan.

16. On March 22, 2021 Council adopted motion **21-G-048** concerning **OUR SHARED PLAN FOR A SAFER BARRIE: THE CITY OF BARRIE'S FIRST COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL BEING PLAN, 2021-2024** as follows:

That the "Our Shared Plan for a Safer Barrie: The City of Barrie's First Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, 2021-2024" circulated on January 14, 2021 be accepted subject to minor revisions to reflect the intent of the discussions during the Community Safety and Well-Being Committee meeting held on January 14, 2021.

17. On March 22, 2021 Council also adopted motion **21-G-050** concerning the **REPORT TO PRESENT OUR SHARED PLAN FOR A SAFER BARRIE: THE CITY OF BARRIE'S FIRST COMMUNITY AND SAFETY WELL-BEING PLAN 2021-2024** as follows:

That staff in the Barre Fire and Emergency Service Department prepare a staff report to present the publication-ready version of the "Our Shared Plan for a Safer Barrie: The City of Barrie's First Community and Safety Well-Being Plan 2021-2024" to General Committee and City Council.

ANALYSIS

18. The Community Safety and Well-Being Plan has been developed with significant community and stakeholder consultation including an on-line survey and stakeholder focus groups. An external consultant, MASS LBP, was contracted to work with the committee to help develop a comprehensive plan. This external consultant led the community stakeholder focus groups and reported back to the Committee.
19. The committee identified important risk factors for Barrie using the information collected from a broad cross-section of local organizations and community members who attended at least one (1) of eight (8) stakeholder meetings.
20. Building on the statistics, public input, and local organizations' insights, members of the Community Safety and Well-Being Committee discussed, identified, and refined the final set of risk factors.
21. The risk factors that emerged from these conversations have been grouped into four categories. The risks identified and the four categories are:

Fragile Conditions

- Opioid Overdoses and other addictions
- Mental Health
- Homelessness
- Lack of appropriate affordable housing
- Poverty and food insecurity
- Low paid and precarious employment
- Lived experience trauma

Services Under Stress

- Fragmented Services
- Funding Challenges
- Caregiver and service provider burnout
- Working in Silos

Holding Together

- Social Isolation
- Weak Community Bonds
- Discrimination
- Limited public transit and mobility options

Emerging Threats

- Pandemics
- Human trafficking and organized crime
- Youth Vaping
- Vulnerability to online risks and financial scams

22. Identification of the local risks supported the developed of the 15 actions items in the City of Barrie Community Safety and Well- Being Plan.
23. Each action item will build upon the many services and initiatives that already make Barrie a safe and thriving community, and each can be achieved without significant new resources.
24. The 15 action items identified in the plan are:
 - 1) The City of Barrie and the Barrie Police Service will work with partners to launch an Annual Community Safety and Well-Belling Forum to review our progress and strengthen working relationships.
 - 2) The signatories of the new Barrie Health Accord will undertake a community-wide planning process that will lead to coordinated and sustainable investments in improving determinants of health.
 - 3) The Barrie Police Service and partners will strengthen the “Collaborate Barrie” Situation Table as a way to improve responses to situations where and individual is at significant risk of harm.
 - 4) The Barrie Police Service will work with partners to develop a proposal and build community support for a community justice centre in Barrie.
 - 5) The Barrie Police Service and partners will work towards creating a community service campus where individuals can access a range of health and social services from multiple providers.
 - 6) The Canadian Mental Health Association, Simcoe County and Barrie Police Service will work together to identify and implement actions that increase access to the mental health services that have the greatest impact on community safety.
 - 7) The Barrie Public Library and partners will strengthen community by spearheading a coordinated effort to increase the number of active volunteers in Barrie.
 - 8) Georgian College and partners will launch a Barrie Inclusion Network that helps coordinate efforts to involve every resident in creating a safe and welcoming Barrie.
 - 9) The Mayor’s Office and the Barrie PoliceService will convene the Barrie Anti-Racism Taskforce, which will help guide anti-racism action throughout Barrie.

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- 10) Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit will work with partners in Barrie to reduce harms from drug use by increasing access to naloxone, advancing plans for other harm reduction services, and creating an updated Simcoe Muskoka Drug Strategy.
 - 11) The Women and Children's Shelter of Barrie, Barrie Public Library, and partners will expand training about how to provide trauma-informed services.
 - 12) The City of Barrie will consult the CSWB plan partners about how to best improve community safety when the City updates its 10-year Affordable Housing Strategy.
 - 13) The County of Simcoe will continue to collaborate with the City of Barrie and local stakeholders in efforts to reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Barrie and surrounding areas.
 - 14) The Barrie Police Service and partners will work to protect residents vulnerable to online threats and phone scams.
 - 15) The City of Barrie and partners will develop an updated City of Barrie Pandemic Plan so that organizations in Barrie build off work done together during the current pandemic in order to be ready for the potential future pandemics.
25. A copy of the entire Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, Our Shared Plan for a Safer Barrie is attached as Appendix "A" to staff report BFES001-21.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT MATTERS.

26. There are no environmental and/or climate change impact matters directly related to the recommendation.

ALTERNATIVES

27. The following alternatives are available for consideration by General Committee:

Alternative #1

General Committee could recommend that the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan be referred back to the Committee for further review and consideration.

This alternative is not recommended. The Committee has undertaken significant engagement of the community through an on-line survey and focused stakeholder sessions. The Plan reflects the feedback received through this engagement process.

Alternative #2

General Committee could recommend changes to the risk factors, action items or other aspects of the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan directly.

This alternative is not recommended. The engagement of the community has informed the identification of risk factors and action items. A number of key stakeholders have not only participated in the identification of these items but have also agreed to lead or support a number of action items.

FINANCIAL

28. There are no direct financial implications associated with the recommendation to adopt the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan. There may be financial implications associated with further efforts to implement the plans. Those financial impacts would be identified to Council for consideration of approval, should this arise.

LINKAGE TO 2018–2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

29. The recommendation(s) included in this Staff Report support the following goals identified in the 2018-2022 Strategic Plan:
- ☒ Fostering a Safe and Healthy City
 - ☒ Building Strong Neighbourhoods
30. The Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, and the implementation of the actions within it is to ensure all residents in the community feel safe, have a sense of belonging and can meet their needs for education, healthcare, housing, income, and social and cultural expression.



APPENDIX "A"

Our Shared Plan for a Safer Barrie