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VicPD 2008-2010 Strategic Plan  
 Goal 3 – Reduce Property Crime  
 Interim Status Report

Sponsor – Inspector Bob Gehl

**Introduction:**

This report will provide a snapshot of the action plans and activities for the VicPD *Strategic Plan Goal 3 – Reduce Property Crime*. The following four performance measures will summarize the progress of VicPD Crime Prevention Services (CPS) for first six months of 2008. It is important to note that the CPS Program Managers worked diligently towards establishing the performance measures for Goal 3, which were ratified by the VicPD Senior Management and Police Board in June of 2008. While the majority of performance measures listed below are assigned to CPS Managers, there is an overarching commitment by all VicPD Staff and Volunteers who contribute to the success of the VicPD Strategic Plan and Goals.

**Goal 3 - Performance Measures:**

Measurement	2008	2009	2010
Reported crime rate: Property Crime	Decrease by 1%	Decrease by further 2%	Decrease by further 2%
Number of Block Watch and Crime Free Multi-Housing participants	Increase by 5%	Increase by further 5%	Increase by further 5%
Reduction in calls for service to Crime Free Multi-Housing buildings	Decrease by 5%	Decrease by further 5%	Decrease by further 5%
Number of volunteer hours applied to crime prevention programs	Increase by 2%	Increase by further 2%	Increase by further 2%

## 1. Reported Crime Rate for Property Crime:

The following table provides a comparative analysis of Property Crime Offences for the first six months of 2007-2008. Overall, Property Crimes decreased 10.1% over the first six months of 2008, however there is a 1.8% increase in Break and Enters caused by a 21.4% rise in residential break-ins.

PROPERTY CRIME CALL TYPE (UCR Categories)	JAN - JUN 2007	JAN - JUN 2008	%CHANGE
<b>PROPERTY CRIME TOTAL</b>	<b>4012</b>	<b>3606</b>	<b>-10.1</b>
B&E-RESIDENCE	318	386	21.4
B&E-BUSINESS	238	191	-19.7
B&E-OTHER	106	97	-8.5
BREAK AND ENTER TOTAL	662	674	1.8
ARSON	23	28	21.7
FRAUD	255	238	-6.7
COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY	128	38	-70.3
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE	261	188	-28.0
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	1122	1095	-2.4
THEFT	993	855	-13.9
SHOPLIFTING	553	465	-15.9
TAKE AUTO WITHOUT OWNER'S CONSENT	15	25	66.7

### Notes:

Data extracted from PRIME on August 22, 2008. Data was extracted using the "Occurred Date".

Search criteria was all occurrences entered into PRIME between January 01, 2007 and June 30, 2007 AND between January 01, 2008 and June 30, 2008.

Data was then sorted and all "UNFOUNDED" occurrences were then removed from the analysis.

"THEFT" includes theft over \$5000 and theft under \$5000 and theft of bicycles (over and under \$5000).

## 2. Block Watch:

Since January 2008 the Blockwatch Program has recruited 14 new blocks of participants from both Victoria and Esquimalt communities for **an increase of 9.2%**. The 2008 addition of 14 new blocks brings the total to 3,451 homes participating in Blockwatch since the inception of the program in Sept 2003. The Blockwatch Program Manager liaises with 254 Volunteer Block Captains and Co-Captains. Several Blockwatch advertising and recruiting campaigns are planned for the next six months of 2008. These include workshops for education and recruiting additional Block Captains for the already successful program. Program management software is planned for 2009 to assist in the management and administration of the program and participants.

### 3. Crime Free Multi-Housing:

Since the start-up of the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program (CFMH) in October of 2006, the program has continued to grow, providing Rental Property Owners, Managers and Tenants with safe and enjoyable residential communities, along with reduced attendance by police for nuisance calls for service. **During the first six months of 2008, there was a 34% decrease in Police Calls for Service (156 vs. 237) to CFMH Buildings by VicPD,** compared to the first six months of 2007.

As of June 2008, there are a total of 82 CFMH buildings (61 in Victoria, 21 in Esquimalt) participating in the program. The three phase process for CFMH Certification consists of Manager's Training Workshop, Safety-Security Audit of the Building and a Tenant Safety Meeting. To date, 31 of the 82 participating CFMH buildings have received full certification. The VicPD CFMH Program will continue to hold two Manager/Owner recruiting-training workshops annually (Spring and Fall), for intake of new CFMH Buildings- Managers. **Each CFMH workshop-intake session will increase the participation to the program by approximately 15-20 buildings, for an annual participant increase of up to 40 CFMH buildings.**

### 4. Volunteers and Reserves:

The VicPD Volunteer and Reserve Programs continues to play a vital role in supporting VicPD in implementing projects/programs aimed at reducing crime with a specific emphasis on property and retail theft. The Volunteer and Reserve members collectively contribute approximately 15,000 hours to VicPD annually. The roster of current CPS volunteers is broken down as noted with projected numbers noted accordingly.

#### **Volunteer Roster January-July Comparison**

	<i>Crime Watch</i>	<i>Front Counter</i>	<i>Office</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>July, 2007</i>	50	17	4	71
<i>July, 2008</i>	56	21	5	82
<b>% Change</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>15%</b>

As volunteers increase, the administrative demands also increase. As a result, the Coordinator of Volunteers has identified Project Managers from within the volunteer ranks to help carry out program/project goals. This structure has worked successfully with Criminal Record Check's, Anti-Bike Theft, Mature Driver's, the VicPD Museum, and Front Desk.

The role of the Volunteer Program has expanded to become aligned with VicPD Strategic priorities. Lock-Out Auto Crime (LOAC) continues to be a key crime prevention program but there has been a shift towards targeting high crime areas based on Crime Analyst data. Volunteer hours are now aimed at other initiatives in addition to LOAC including a focus on reducing retail and property theft which falls in line with VicPD strategic priorities (i.e. Home Security Audits,

Project Protect). Fall 2008 projects include Detecting Counterfeit Currency directed at educating merchants in Victoria and Esquimalt.

**Volunteer Hours January-July Comparison**

	<i>Front Counter</i>	<i>Crime Watch</i>	<i>Home Security Audits</i>	<i>LOAC hrs/#</i>
<i>July, 2007</i>	1200	1980	8	400
<i>July, 2008</i>	1430	2139	44	348
<b>% Change</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>-13%</b>

The VicPD Reserve Constable Program continues to provide a valuable Volunteer group that supports a variety of Crime Prevention Programs. Since January of 2008 13 new Reserve members joined the program bringing the current strength to approximately 35 members. In addition, since January the Reserves have logged over 2600 volunteer hours supporting a number of CPS programs that include: Blockwatch Orientation Presentations, Personal Safety Lectures, Home-Business Security Audits, Lock-Out Auto Crime Patrols and ride-along with front line Patrol and Focused Enforcement Team members. VicPD Reserves are sought after for recruiting to become full time police officers, 3 have been hired this year by VicPD. Due to the ongoing attrition, VicPD will be starting another Reserve class for late 2008, for graduation in Spring 2009.

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