



Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 25, 2025, 3:00 p.m.
McNaughton Room - 3rd Floor, City Hall

1. Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee Meeting 03-2025

Chair: Jason Veltri

2. Members

Geoff Abthorpe, Advisor - Mental Health
Eric Bilenki, Advisor - Not for Profit Organization
Paul Capon, Advisor - Indigenous Organization
Jodi Corbett, Educational Services
Andrea Docherty, Services to Improve Physical or Mental Health
Councillor Kasey Etreni
Deputy Chief Ryan Hughes, Thunder Bay Police Service (TBPS)
Jennifer Pasiciel, Advisor - Public Health
Crystal Simeoni, Community or Social Services
Yen To, Advisor - Substance Misuse
Jason Veltri, Police Service Board Representative
Diane Walker, Community or Social Services to Children or Youth

3. Officials

Cynthia Olsen, Director - Strategy & Engagement
Shane Muir, Chief - Superior North EMS
Louisa Costanzo, Manager - Community Safety & Well-Being
Rilee Willianen, Drug Strategy Specialist & Encampment Response Lead
Lori Wiitala, Committee Clerk & Legislative Specialist

4. Guests

Matthew Miedema, Director - Engineering
Stacey Levanen, Engagement & Public Information Specialist

5. Welcome and Disclosures of Interest

6. Land Acknowledgement

Chair Jason Veltri provided the Land Acknowledgement.

7. Agenda Approval

MOVED BY: Councillor Kasey Etreni
SECONDED BY: Deputy Chief Ryan Hughes

WITH RESPECT to the June 25, 2025, meeting of the Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

8. Presentation

8.1 Overview of the Draft Community Safety & Well-Being Plan Framework

Manager - Community Safety & Well-Being Louisa Costanzo presented a review of the Community Safety & Well-Being Plan draft framework including how the Committee would like to participate.

What's Different

- Deeper alignment across City Strategies (Maamawe: Growing Together, Net-Zero, Indigenous Relations, Drug Strategy)
- Integrated Engagement: co-creation, validation and shared ownership
- Prioritization of equity, access and sustainability
- Emphasis on implementation and measurement – a plan built for impact

Refresh 2026-2030

Strategic realignment of priorities
Integrated co-creation & validation

Defined roles & accountability structure
Embedded in overarching City Strategies
Implementation & performance tracking
Equity, reconciliation, access built in

Engagement Opportunities:

- Community Pop-Ups (Aug-Sept): Accessible, family-friendly events across the city
- Design labs: Facilitated sessions with service providers, youth, Indigenous partners, newcomers
- Respect & Safety Awards: Celebrating champions while gathering insights through nominations
- Surveys and Storytelling
- Community Safety and Well-Being Forum(Nov)
- Partner Activation: Engagement led by trusted organizations with deep community roots.
- City Council: Final approval, strategic alignment and oversight
- CSWB Advisory Committee: Multi-sector guidance and validation
- Service Providers
- Residents and Lived Experience Leaders - Embedded voices across phases
- City Divisions: Alignment with corporate strategies and operational planning
- Champion the refresh in your networks, share support
- Align your strategies with CSWB priorities where possible - synergy, not duplication
- Amplify our reach - connect us with voices we might not otherwise hear
- Join us at a pop-up, submit an award nomination
- Shape the future - this plan is built for system change

9. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of Meeting 02-2025 Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee, held on April 23, 2025, to be confirmed.

MOVED BY: Jodi Corbett

SECONDED BY: Yen To

THAT the Minutes of Meeting 02-2025 Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee, held on April 23, 2025, be confirmed.

CARRIED

10. Encampment Response & Temporary Shelter Village Update

Director - Engineering Matthew Miedema and Drug Strategy Specialist & Encampment Response Lead Rilee Willianen provided an update on the Encampment Response Plan and Site Safety Assessment for the Temporary Shelter Village.

At the April 28, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting Report 143-2025–Growth–Strategy & Engagement – Report Back – Temporary Village Initiative – Site Location Comparison was presented and a resolution to approve Kam River Heritage Park as the site for the Temporary Shelter Village Initiative was passed and then ratified at the May 5, 2025 City Council meeting.

A safety assessment was completed at the Kam River Heritage proposed site for the Temporary Shelter Village, review & feedback showed the site has serious safety risks being in the presence of the river and railcars, an increase to the budget, a surrounding fence and increased monitoring would be required making the location impractical.

At the June 23, 2025 City Council meeting a resolution to rescind the decision ratified by Council on May 5, 2025 was passed.

At the June 23, 2025 City Council meeting a resolution was passed recommending that Administration review alternate locations for the Temporary Village that may include locations previously reviewed by City Council.

The updated report will be presented at the July 14, 2025 council meeting; funding is contingent on the number of units being erected, July 30th is the deadline for funding and construction is required to start in July and end December 31, 2025 to remain eligible for funding.

The following motion was presented for consideration.

MOVED BY: Paul Capon
SECONDED BY: Jodi Corbett

WITH RESPECT to the Temporary Shelter Village (TSV) we recommend preparing a Memorandum to present to Council at the July 14, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting from Chair Jason Veltri outlining the following:

- urgency to select a location for the TSV

- adoption of the Enhanced Encampment Response Plan in 2024, recognizing the human rights of people experiencing homelessness and prohibited forced evictions unless viable alternatives exist
- site selection
- health & safety risks
- risk of increase in encampments

CARRIED

The Chair, Director Olsen and Manager Costanzo will draft a letter to council and share with committee via email for editing purposes.

11. Announcements

Indigenous Survivor Day

City Hall Flag Raising

Hillcrest Park Sacred Fire

Monday, June 30, 2025

Pride Parade

Friendship Gardens

Thursday, July 5, 2025

Parade - 11:00 a.m., meet at Patterson Park and walk to Friendship Gardens

Festival - 1:00 p.m. at Friendship Gardens

Drug Awareness

Location TBD

Wednesday, August 27, 2025

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Rockin' Recovery

CLE Coleseum

Saturday, September 13, 2025

12. Meeting Schedule

The Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee will meet a minimum of six times annually or at the call of the Chair, with the exception of July and August, in the McNaughton Room, from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

- Wednesday, September 24, 2025

- Wednesday, October 22, 2025
- Wednesday, November 26, 2025

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.