



SASKATOON POLICE SERVICE

TO: Shirley Greyeyes Chairperson
Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Cameron McBride
Office of the Chief

DATE: 2025 June 06

SUBJECT: Community Consultation Feedback

FILE #: 2,022

ISSUE:

To provide a summary of feedback from our community consultation in support of the Saskatoon Police Service's strategic plan development.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board receives this report as information.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

This report supports the strategic theme of Innovation through transparency, accountability and by ensuring sustainability through the development of leading practices.

DISCUSSION:

Our strategic plan supports us in creating a shared understanding within the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) and the broader community on our priorities. To support development of our strategic plan, the SPS gathered feedback from Saskatoon residents through:

- A policing satisfaction survey open to the public on the SPS website in January to February 2025;
- In-person Community Consultation Meeting on February 27, 2025 where we held a facilitated discussion with community members on what is working and worrying with community safety;
- Consultation with the Saskatoon Police Advisory Committee on Diversity on March 4, 2025 on perceptions of community safety;

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- Consultation with the Chief’s Advisory Committee on March 18, 2025 on perceptions of community safety; and
- A Community Policing Satisfaction Survey in January 2025 through Advanis Inc. which we will report separately on in August.

The results of the Community Consultation help inform the development of the SPS’ Strategic Plan.

Key Findings

The following reflects the most mentioned themes we heard from residents for what is working and worrying with community safety and residents’ top three priorities for the SPS.

Working well

- *SPS Service:* Twenty-four SPS units, programs and services were mentioned as working well. Responses indicated the SPS’ balanced approach to enforcement enhances community safety.
- *SPS’ community engagement:* Residents stressed how the SPS’ engagement with the community has broken down barriers, built relationships and fostered trust and safety. Comments were made regarding the Service as a whole and the Community Engagement Division and Equity and Cultural Engagement Unit specifically.
- *SPS personnel:* As the quality of the SPS’ service and community engagement are dependent on SPS personnel, it stands to reason that SPS personnel are what is working best in how the SPS contributes to community safety.

Worrying

- *Crime and safety:* Residents indicated public spaces including malls and transit do not feel safe and may keep community members from accessing needed services.
- *Vulnerable people:* Residents are concerned about persons experiencing homelessness and mental health and addiction issues, the lack of funding and resources to assist them and the challenge of connecting them to available resources. At the same time the visibility of these vulnerable people decreases the public’s feeling of safety.
- *SPS service:* Residents have concerns about the quality of the SPS’ services and the capacity of the SPS to keep pace with the growing population and community needs.

Priorities

- *SPS community engagement:* Residents want the SPS to continue and expand the good work they are doing through hosting and attending events, educational presentations, robust communication, relationship building and casual interactions.
- *SPS service:* Residents want increased officer visibility, improved response and service—including for low priority calls, and balanced enforcement.

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- *SPS personnel:* Residents indicated the quality of service and community engagement is dependent on the quantity and quality of the SPS’ personnel. Residents want increased staffing for sworn and civilian employees and for SPS employees to receive continuous training and mental health supports.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Community Consultation Feedback

CONCLUSION:

The SPS has gathered valuable feedback from Saskatoon residents that has been instrumental in developing our Strategic Plan. The SPS is committed to and will be sharing the results of the Community Consultation with participants and everyone who was invited to attend.

Written by:	Karin Martel, Corporate Strategy Advisor
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Reviewed by:	Michele Arscott, Executive Director, Corporate Services
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