

COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM SUMMARY

Program Mission

To provide a safe and enjoyable street experience for everyone in our community.

Why?

To address the public's concerns of street safety and provide support.

Who Does the Program Serve?

1. **Businesses**
The Community Support Program (CSP) foot patrols liaise with local businesses to identify issues and collaborate to generate solutions in the Downtown, Broadway, and Riversdale Business Improvement Districts (BIDs).
2. **General Public**
The CSP provides a highly visible presence that reassures and responds to the public in the Downtown, Broadway, and Riversdale BIDs.
3. **Vulnerable Community Members**
The CSP connects community members in need to the appropriate service providers or other supports. Everyone deserves to be safe on the street, and for those who are more vulnerable, it is essential.

Main Duties of Community Support Officers Are:

1. Provide a familiar, highly visible, and accessible uniformed presence, primarily through foot patrols in identified areas of Saskatoon;
2. Assist community members in need in accessing relevant supports, such as healthcare, addictions and crisis counselling, food and shelter, etc., and contact the appropriate community support agency when necessary;
3. Respond to requests regarding panhandling, loitering, public drunkenness, and other related activities, as well as being responsible for the enforcement of relevant municipal bylaws and contacting other civic organizations, such as the Saskatoon Police Service (Police Service) when necessary;
4. Establish and facilitate partnerships with local businesses, residents, and community support organizations, in order to be aware of potential issues and areas of concern. Assist with the identification of locally highlighted issues and collaborate with community support agencies, residents, and others to develop and implement resolutions to these issues;
5. Promote relevant social programs to members of the community in need; and
6. Provide support in the prevention of criminal activities and provincial offences.

What Does the Program Do?

1. Businesses
 - i. Initiate and respond to calls;
 - ii. Link businesses to appropriate services and agencies;
 - iii. Identify and track issues;
 - iv. Educate and enforce municipal bylaws; and
 - v. Increase awareness of street activity concerns.

2. General Public
 - i. Improve perceptions of safety in the identified BIDs;
 - ii. Respond to requests for assistance;
 - iii. Build trust with all people on the street;
 - iv. Provide general information to the public; and
 - v. Discourage negative street activity.

3. Vulnerable Community Members
 - i. Interact and build trust with people on the street;
 - ii. Match needs with services;
 - iii. Respond to requests for assistance; and
 - iv. Maintain strong relationships with service providers.

How Is This Measured?

The CSP tracks a large number of indicators through reports and patrol counts. They also keep a written record of concerns or complaints, client information, developing trends, warnings or cautions that have already been issued, needed follow-ups, as well as other information.