



COBOURG POLICE SERVICE

BOARD REPORT

Report to:	Cobourg Police Services Board (CPSB)	
Submitted by:	Chief Paul VandeGraaf	Meeting Type: Open Session <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed Session <input type="checkbox"/>
Meeting Date:	November 21, 2023	
Report Type:	Information Only Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Required Report <input type="checkbox"/>	
Previous Related Reports:		
Subject/Title:	Police Activity – 390 King Street East	

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

THAT the Board receive the following report for informational purposes.

BACKGROUND

On or about September 07th, 2023 the existence of a homelessness encampment on Provincial property located at 390 King Street East, the former Brookside Youth Detention Centre, was established. This is provincial property being managed by Infrastructure Ontario (IO). Infrastructure Ontario (IO) is a Crown agency of the Province of Ontario that supports the Ontario government's initiatives to modernize and maximize the value of public infrastructure and real estate.

Like the previous two encampments that established over the course of the summer of 2023, the management of these encampments must coincide with current case law most commonly

known as the “Waterloo Decision”. Details of that decision can be located at several points including <https://omssa.com/blog-waterloo-encampment-decision-may-2023.php>.

The purpose of this report is not to discuss the province’s decision in what has occurred at 390 King Street East, rather to identify the impact this has had on the Police Service. Recognizing there are many interactions with people at the encampment and throughout the neighbouring streets that are informal, the recorded calls for service continue to be an impact on resources and community response.

Recorded Calls for Service – 390 King Street East

September Calls

Police assistance	2023-09-07 12:28
Police information	2023-09-07 15:45
Police information	2023-09-07 21:54
Community services	2023-09-08 6:27
Police information	2023-09-08 9:51
Prevent breach of peace	2023-09-08 17:25
Police information	2023-09-09 6:43
Police information	2023-09-10 5:55
Harassment	2023-09-11 10:52
Suspicious vehicle	2023-09-12 0:25
Police information	2023-09-13 13:37
Police assistance	2023-09-14 15:43
Property check	2023-09-15 0:00
Assault	2023-09-15 2:00
Foot Patrol	2023-09-15 18:36
Threats	2023-09-17 6:30
Suspicious person	2023-09-17 22:09
Assist Other Non Police Agency	2023-09-18 15:48

Prevent breach of peace	2023-09-18 19:21
Foot Patrol	2023-09-18 22:12
Suspicious person	2023-09-20 7:17
Focused Patrol	2023-09-20 22:50
Assist Other Non Police Agency	2023-09-21 8:55
Disturb the peace	2023-09-22 12:01
Police assistance	2023-09-22 13:05
Disturb the peace	2023-09-23 18:55
Police assistance	2023-09-25 14:01
Police information	2023-09-25 16:09
Police assistance	2023-09-25 19:48
Property check	2023-09-26 19:05
Assist Other Non Police Agency	2023-09-27 13:49
Disturb the peace	2023-09-28 2:08
Property check	2023-09-29 15:58
Property check	2023-09-29 23:47
Police assistance	2023-09-30 23:56

Total:

35

October Calls

Suspicious person	2023-10-02 7:39
Community services	2023-10-02 11:44
Police assistance	2023-10-02 14:11
Property related	2023-10-02 14:24
Assist Other Non Police Agency	2023-10-03 13:58
Routine traffic stop	2023-10-04 19:41
Focused Patrol	2023-10-04 23:18

Property check	2023-10-05 21:23
Warrants	2023-10-07 12:07
Warrants	2023-10-07 12:13
Suspicious person	2023-10-08 17:25
Suspicious person	2023-10-10 18:46
Police information	2023-10-11 10:51
Assist Other Non Police Agency	2023-10-11 13:30
Police assistance	2023-10-12 2:09
Community services	2023-10-12 9:04
Police information	2023-10-12 9:23
Assault	2023-10-13 12:53
Community services	2023-10-13 13:40
Theft	2023-10-14 10:26
Domestic dispute	2023-10-15 13:56
Property check	2023-10-16 9:10
Property check	2023-10-16 11:46
Assist Other Non Police Agency	2023-10-16 13:04
Police assistance	2023-10-16 15:25
911 call/911 hang-up	2023-10-16 17:28
Suspicious vehicle	2023-10-16 21:51
Property check	2023-10-17 7:13
Property check	2023-10-17 9:54
Property check	2023-10-17 10:41
Property check	2023-10-17 11:50
Property check	2023-10-17 12:49
Assist Other Non Police Agency	2023-10-17 14:50
Assist Other Non Police Agency	2023-10-17 17:00
Property check	2023-10-17 19:43
Trespass to property act	2023-10-17 20:51
Property check	2023-10-18 0:47
Property check	2023-10-18 6:52
Community services	2023-10-18 7:34
Property check	2023-10-18 9:26
Police assistance	2023-10-18 10:07
Property related	2023-10-18 11:01
Property related	2023-10-18 12:57
Theft	2023-10-18 13:49
Foot Patrol	2023-10-18 15:00
Property check	2023-10-18 18:46
Property check	2023-10-18 21:53
Community services	2023-10-19 6:23
Police assistance	2023-10-19 10:42
Police information	2023-10-19 13:22
Property check	2023-10-19 19:01

Property check	2023-10-19 19:30
Property check	2023-10-20 1:27
Property check	2023-10-20 3:18
Foot Patrol	2023-10-20 7:41
Foot Patrol	2023-10-20 10:09
Foot Patrol	2023-10-20 15:20
Property check	2023-10-20 20:48
Property check	2023-10-20 23:34
Property check	2023-10-21 1:40
Community services	2023-10-21 3:32
Property check	2023-10-21 8:23
Foot Patrol	2023-10-21 9:25
Threats	2023-10-21 10:28
Property check	2023-10-21 12:37
Foot Patrol	2023-10-21 13:02
Foot Patrol	2023-10-21 14:14
Foot Patrol	2023-10-21 16:03
Foot Patrol	2023-10-21 18:32
Community services	2023-10-21 21:14
Property check	2023-10-21 22:00
Foot Patrol	2023-10-22 8:28
Foot Patrol	2023-10-22 9:38
Foot Patrol	2023-10-22 12:30
Foot Patrol	2023-10-22 14:11
Foot Patrol	2023-10-22 15:31
Focused Patrol	2023-10-22 16:23
Property check	2023-10-22 19:53
Property check	2023-10-23 0:37
Property check	2023-10-23 1:13
Community services	2023-10-23 8:06
Foot Patrol	2023-10-23 9:27
Property check	2023-10-23 20:06
Property check	2023-10-24 2:02
Community services	2023-10-24 7:52
Foot Patrol	2023-10-24 10:25
Property check	2023-10-24 18:30
Community services	2023-10-24 19:24
Property check	2023-10-25 1:59
Community services	2023-10-25 8:40
Community services	2023-10-25 10:21
Police assistance	2023-10-25 11:08
Property check	2023-10-25 20:12
Foot Patrol	2023-10-25 23:16
Foot Patrol	2023-10-26 1:54

Community services	2023-10-26 9:02
Foot Patrol	2023-10-26 19:52
Foot Patrol	2023-10-26 22:41
Foot Patrol	2023-10-27 2:06
Fire	2023-10-27 9:19
Property related	2023-10-27 10:16
Weapons	2023-10-27 17:31
Community services	2023-10-27 20:39
Foot Patrol	2023-10-28 2:44
Property check	2023-10-28 8:18
Property check	2023-10-28 10:25
Community services	2023-10-28 22:46
Disturb the peace	2023-10-29 0:02
Property check	2023-10-29 9:24
Focused Patrol	2023-10-29 12:59
Property check	2023-10-29 15:08
Property check	2023-10-29 17:08
Focused Patrol	2023-10-29 20:16
Disturb the peace	2023-10-29 22:03
Police assistance	2023-10-29 22:43
Focused Patrol	2023-10-30 1:18
Foot Patrol	2023-10-30 3:18
Property check	2023-10-30 6:41
Property check	2023-10-30 8:39
Property check	2023-10-30 10:36
Foot Patrol	2023-10-30 11:37
Foot Patrol	2023-10-30 15:08
Property check	2023-10-30 18:59
Community services	2023-10-31 7:29
Foot Patrol	2023-10-31 8:17
Property check	2023-10-31 9:09
Community services	2023-10-31 11:57
Foot Patrol	2023-10-31 13:39
Property check	2023-10-31 16:57

Total 129

November to date

Property check	2023-11-01 6:25
Focused Patrol	2023-11-01 8:57
Community services	2023-11-01 12:24
Property check	2023-11-01 14:44
Police assistance	2023-11-01 19:39

Property check	2023-11-02 6:03
Foot Patrol	2023-11-03 19:13
Foot Patrol	2023-11-03 23:13
Foot Patrol	2023-11-05 10:40
Warrants	2023-11-05 10:55
Police assistance	2023-11-05 14:10
Property check	2023-11-06 9:12
Foot Patrol	2023-11-07 12:34
Domestic dispute	2023-11-07 13:22
Police assistance	2023-11-07 21:44
Assist Other Non Police Agency	2023-11-07 22:01
Prevent breach of peace	2023-11-09 13:14
Weapons	2023-11-10 2:55
Disturb the peace	2023-11-11 13:54
Assault	2023-11-12 23:29
Police information	2023-11-13 16:46

Total Calls 21

Recorded Calls For Service – Surrounding Neighbourhood

CCI

Focused Patrol	2023-09-11 14:21
Property related	2023-09-22 9:39
Suspicious person [8507]	2023-10-04 11:36
Suspicious person [8507]	2023-11-01 16:47
Suspicious person [8507]	2023-11-03 8:57
Theft	2023-09-11 11:41

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Police assistance	2023-09-08 9:00
Police assistance	2023-10-07 1:28
Police assistance	2023-11-02 15:46

Police information	2023-09-26 14:37
Police information	2023-10-06 10:41
Police information	2023-10-16 10:11
Police information	2023-10-18 11:17
Property related	2023-11-02 14:39
Robbery	2023-08-13 1:53
Suspicious person	2023-09-21 17:11
Suspicious person	2023-11-10 5:12
Traffic enforcement - H.T.A.	2023-07-09 22:16
Trespass to property act	2023-10-03 14:22
Trespass to property act	2023-10-17 20:51
Trouble with youth	2023-10-26 18:58

Thomas Street

Community services	2023-10-21 21:37
Community services	2023-10-31 18:37
Focused Patrol	2023-09-11 14:21
Police assistance	2023-10-20 10:22
Police information	2023-07-16 14:08
Theft	2023-10-18 15:40
Theft	2023-09-16 8:24
Traffic enforcement - H.T.A.	2023-10-24 19:04

Meredith Crescent

Community services	2023-10-20 21:15
Community services	2023-10-21 21:37
Community services	2023-10-23 22:46
Community services	2023-10-31 18:37
Community services	2023-11-04 9:51
Community services	2023-11-07 9:57
Focused Patrol	2023-10-18 10:35
Focused Patrol	2023-10-23 21:06
Foot Patrol	2023-10-24 19:53
Noise complaint	2023-10-02 1:01
Police information	2023-10-20 9:10
Property check	2023-10-24 22:51
Property check	2023-10-25 18:34

Suspicious person	2023-09-26 14:32
Theft	2023-07-26 17:30
Theft	2023-09-04 9:50
Theft	2023-10-14 13:42
Unwanted person	2023-10-02 11:20

Jane Street

Community services	2023-10-20 21:15
Community services	2023-10-21 21:37
Community services	2023-10-23 22:46
Focused Patrol	2023-10-18 10:35
Focused Patrol	2023-10-23 21:06
Foot Patrol	2023-10-24 19:53
Property check	2023-10-24 22:51
Property check	2023-10-25 18:34
Routine traffic stop	2023-10-14 15:36

Lonsberry Drive

Police information	2023-10-19 12:46
Theft	2023-08-19 11:58
Theft	2023-07-17 8:54

Total Calls 59*

Officers would have spent considerable time in the neighborhoods on routine patrol not registered as a call for service.

Conclusion

When the encampment was situated at 390 King Street East there was a request for regular patrols throughout the day and evening from IO. The intent was to be short lived. As time continued, we discontinued the regular patrols and moved to a more visible presence in the surrounding neighbourhoods as evidenced in the call logs. We maintain a uniform presence within the encampment, but less concentrated than previously.

It is difficult to assign an exact cost to this as no two calls are the same. A theft may take 30 minutes or across multiple days to resolve. Further this does not consider the many hours spent in meetings, phone calls, answering emails at all levels of the organization. Also, as stated previously, this does not include the time spent by officers during their routine patrols conducting more informal patrols, conversations, and the like.

What is clear is that the directed attention in one area of the community has a direct impact on the ability to remain proactive in crime abatement across the community. Furthermore, the re-allocation of resources to this issue has resulted in a decrease in targeted enforcement consistent with the Board's Strategic Plan. This is not uncommon in communities across Ontario; however, our obligation remains to provide a balanced response for all of Cobourg.

Based on the results of the community canvas our priorities in responding to this issue will be focused on what the community has told us:

- Feeling unsafe while walking in the neighbourhood.
- Concerns with people trespassing on their property.
- Concerns with property being stolen from backyards and porches.
- Concerns with people going through garbage and recycling.
- Finding drug paraphernalia in the area.
- Speed and traffic concerns.
- Street lighting.

Success in addressing this will be measured by what the community indicated would help.

- Increased police presence through foot patrols, especially at night.
- Implementation of CCTV cameras in and around neighbourhoods.
- Speed and traffic enforcement in the area, especially around schools.
- Better neighbourhood lighting.

Recognizing that some of the suggested solutions are not within the police mandate to provide, messages have been forwarded to the appropriate service. In the case of lighting at 390 King Street East, communication has been sent to IO to address. In the case of the Town property, messages have been sent to the Town staff responsible to investigate what can be done. We will continue to engage with the community to hear new ideas/solutions and any new issues that arise.

We have assigned an officer to act directly as the single point of contact moving forward. Sgt MacDonald will be leading the response with the assistance of every member of the Service.

- END-