

The Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board

Public Board Meeting
October 27, 2021

Report of the Chief of Police

Community Safety Data Portal

1. Recommendation

1. That the Board receive this report and a presentation for information related to the new York Regional Police Community Safety Data Portal (CSDP) to be launched during crime prevention month, November 2021.

2. Summary

The new CSDP was created and designed by the Business Intelligence and Analytics team to support greater transparency and community engagement. The portal enables our community to engage and participate in community safety and well being as a shared responsibility. The newly created CSDP leverages our existing Business intelligence software and replaces the existing public crime map with enhanced features and functionality.

This report summarizes the new CSDP which will be launched during crime prevention month, November 2021. The CSDP aligns with the Police Services Board's business plan in the following ways:

- The vision for the CSDP is to foster greater community engagement
- Fosters a shared responsibility of community safety and well being

- Modernizes and automates the sharing of data and enhances evidence based policing practices through Business Intelligence
- Supports community engagement by improving transparency
- Promotes awareness of our crime prevention programs
- Improves Road Safety through collaboration and education
- Advances collaborative partnerships with our community, businesses and municipal partners
- Enables integration with other systems and supports ease of access and data sharing

3. Background

THE NEW COMMUNITY SAFETY DATA PORTAL IS DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE GREATER COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT THROUGH A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL BEING

York Regional Police recognizes that community safety and well being is a shared responsibility. The collective community is integral to ensuring our communities remain safe and secure.

The Business Intelligence and Data Analytics team, in consultation with internal and external stakeholders, developed an innovative approach to generate greater community engagement through the enhancement and redesign of the original York Regional Police crime map.

This solution provides an opportunity for community members to access key crime trends at the neighborhood, municipal and regional level

The focus of the portal is to allow for greater transparency, increased participation and engagement in community safety and well being as a shared responsibility.

Greg Stanisci and Scott Hurst will provide a demonstration of this new application to the Board so that they may better understand the solution's key features.

4. Analysis

THE COMMUNITY SAFETY DATA PORTAL OFFERS THE COMMUNITY THE FOLLOWING CORE CAPABILITIES:

- New easy to use crime map with built in crime prevention tips and community safety alerts which can be tailored to the community member's neighbourhood
- Simple dashboards that provide regional and municipal statistics and trends for both Crime and Road Safety key performance indicators

- Dedicated road safety map which identifies roads and intersections with high collision volumes and other road safety issues
- Comprehensive open data downloads
- Integration with our Digital Evidence Management Solution (DEMS) for the submission of evidence
- Links to resources such as the Community Security Camera Registry
- Links to submit Crime Stoppers tips
- All of which lead to greater transparency for our community members, business owners, municipal partners, academics and special interest groups
- Future plans involve enhancing mobile phone alerts and notifications

Stakeholder engagement was critical

York Regional Police remains committed to ensure our applications and platforms are accessible to the community. The Business Intelligence and Data Analytics team conducted numerous internal and external requirements gathering meetings. The following community groups were consulted: District Community Liaison Committees (DCLC), Police Community Advisory Committee (PCAC), Investigative Services Community Advisory Committee (ISCAC), 2SLGBTQ+ Community Consultative Roundtable, as well as a Community Town Hall offered virtually through Zoom.

All internal and external meetings were valuable with overwhelming positive support from our community.

5. Financial

The solution's costs are paid through the annual Business Intelligence capital budget with an annual software cost of approximately \$18,000.

6. Conclusion

York Regional Police (YRP) has invested considerable effort into the innovation and design of the new CSDP, conducting many internal and external consultation sessions. We also worked with our vendor Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) to configure and implement new features and functionality that we believe will empower our citizens to help keep our community safe. Based on the initial feedback received during our consultation sessions, we believe that this solution will better inform the community of any potential safety concerns in their neighbourhood, offering greater transparency and awareness of crime and road safety data. Through the implementation of the CSDP portal, York Regional Police is committed to gathering public feedback and incorporating suggestions to improve features

and functionality with the goal to enable and encourage the community to become more engaged in the issues that relate to their own communities, as YRP believes community safety is a shared responsibility.

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.

Jim MacSween, B.A.A.
Chief of Police

JMS/gfs