



August 22, 2017

Victoria City Council
#1 Centennial Square
Victoria, B.C.
V8W 1P6

RE: Request for Information Related to 1002 Vancouver St and Surrounding Area

Council,

At the conclusion of the July 27, 2017 Council meeting, city staff requested the following information from the Victoria Police Department:

- Calls for police service to 1002 Vancouver St prior to February 4, 2016 and during the time period of February 4, 2016 through July 31, 2017
- Calls for police service to the new playground (former Tent City site at the Provincial Courthouse) and Pioneer Park

I have included a summary report from our staff with regard to the information requested. The report presents the requested information in a manner that allows for a comparison of calls for service prior to, during and after Tent City for the Mount Edwards Court facility located at 1002 Vancouver St., the immediate area around Mount Edwards Court, and in the wider neighborhood area we have used previously to compare calls for service to the area surrounding the former Tent City site. Pioneer Park is included within these areas.

We trust that this information will be useful for your purposes.

Regards,

Colin Watson
Deputy Chief Constable



VICTORIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Memorandum

TO: Deputy Chief Colin Watson

FROM: Ray Lonsdale – Analysis and Intelligence Section

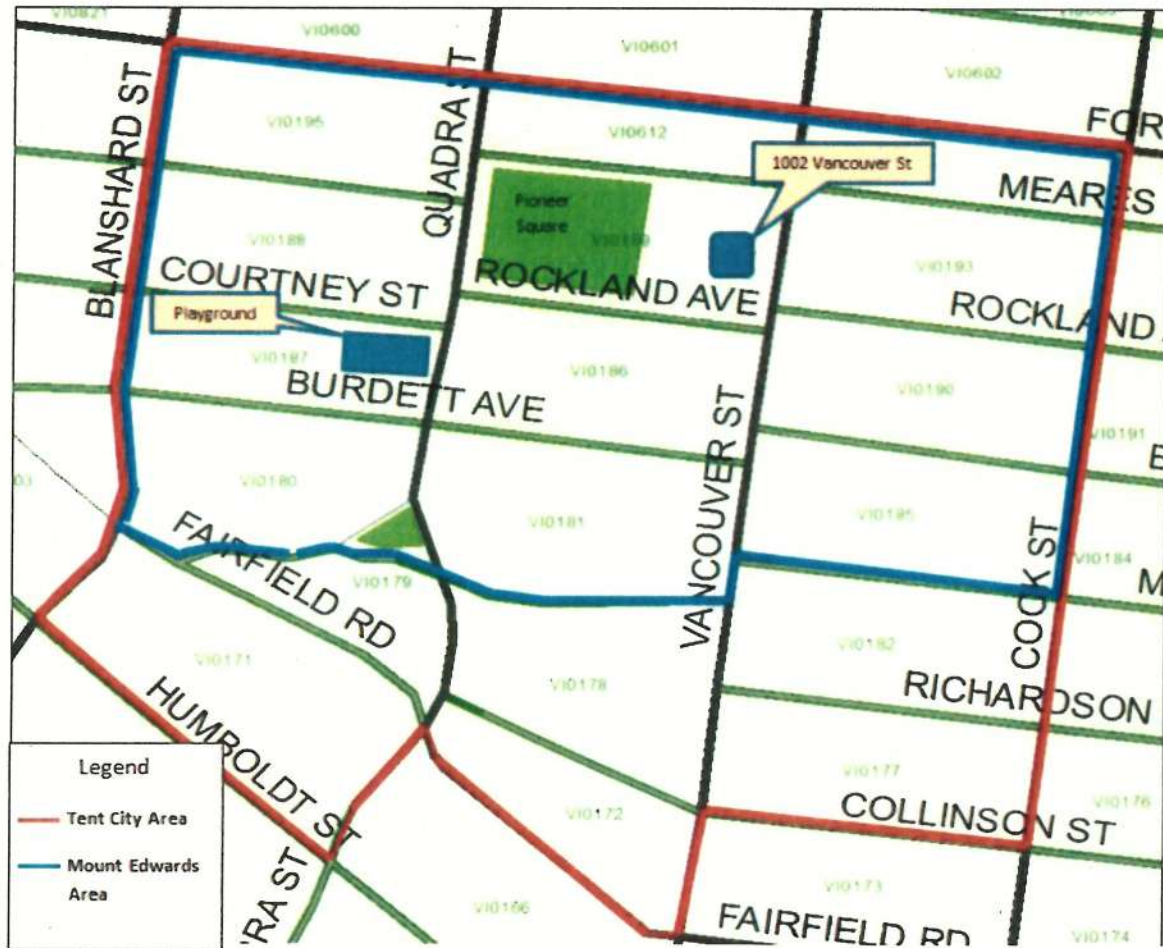
DATE: August 22, 2017

SUBJECT: 1002 Vancouver St and Surrounding Community – Calls for Service

Mount Edwards and Tent City

- The information that follows is based on the requests for information received by VicPD, including the request from Victoria City Council.
- Ordinarily, the best comparisons would be to use calls for service data over five years as this usually increases the accuracy of any changes and trends/patterns.
- The analysis examined the data at three levels. A map of the area has been provided below:
 1. Mount Edwards Court facility at 1002 Vancouver St.
 2. The Mount Edwards Area (blue area on the map below) representing an approximate 1 block radius around the facility.
 3. The Tent City Area (red area on the map below) representing the area used by VicPD to analyze calls for service during the time period of Tent City.

Map of area used for Analysis of Calls for Service to the area around Tent City and to the area around Mount Edwards



Calls for Service to 1002 Vancouver St. – Mount Edwards Court:

The table below presents the calls for service directly to 1002 Vancouver St. for the requested 18 month time periods. Some caution should be taken when interpreting the data as the time periods cover different times of the year and; 1002 Vancouver St. was vacant for a period of time leading up to the reopening in early 2016.

Calls for Service between August 2014 - July 2017			
	1002 Vancouver St	Mount Edwards Area	Tent City Area
Aug 2014 - Feb 2016	21	1748	2101
Feb 2016 - Jul 2017	61	2025	2487
Grand Total	82	4284	5262

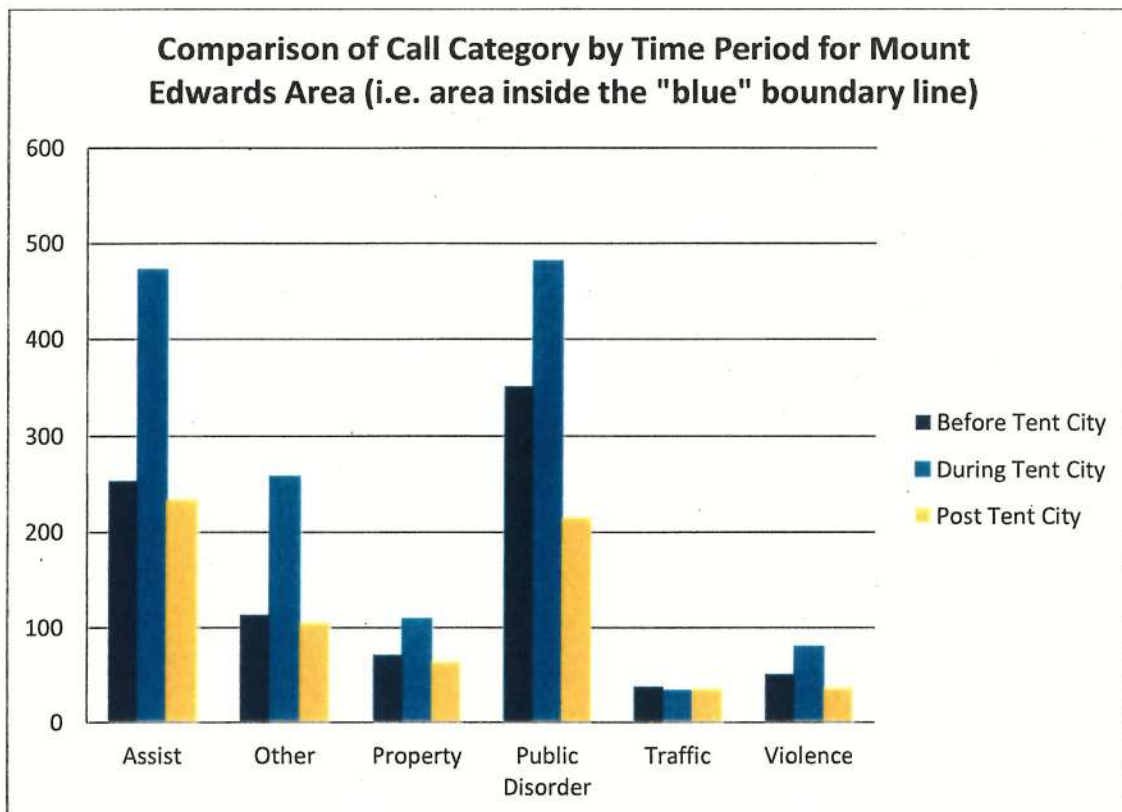
Calls for Service to the Area:

- All Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) calls from Aug 9, 2014 to Jul 30, 2017 were used and then divided into 5 categories (Assist, Property Crime, Public Disorder, Traffic Offence, Violent Crime and Other) and then into 6 Time Periods.
- For the purposes of the analysis, Tent City is deemed to have started on November 15, 2015. Therefore, the table below compares the calls for service in this area during three time periods: Before, During and After Tent City.

Calls for Service to 1002 Vancouver St, The Mount Edwards Area and the Tent City Area (Comparing Time Periods Corresponding with Tent City)			
Prior to Tent City	Mount Edwards (1002 Vancouver)	Mount Edwards Area (includes 1002 Vancouver)	Tent City Area (Includes Mount Edwards Area)
Nov 2014 - Aug 2015	17	875	1020
During Tent City	Mount Edwards (1002 Vancouver)	Mount Edwards Area (includes 1002 Vancouver)	Tent City Area (Includes Mount Edwards Area)
Nov 2015 - Aug 2016	27	1431	1642
After Tent City	Mount Edwards (1002 Vancouver)	Mount Edwards Area (includes 1002 Vancouver)	Tent City Area (Includes Mount Edwards Area)
Nov 2016 - Jul 2017	32	682	855
Grand Total	76	2988	3517

To get a complete picture of calls for service in the area, like time periods are noted in the chart below demonstrating the differences in calls for service to the police for the same time periods without the direct influence of Tent City.

Calls for Service to 1002 Vancouver St, The Mount Edwards Area and the Tent City Area (Comparing Time Periods Not Corresponding with Tent City)			
	Mount Edwards (1002 Vancouver)	Mount Edwards Area (includes 1002 Vancouver)	Tent City Area (Includes Mount Edwards Area)
Aug 2014 - Nov 2014	4	256	321
	Mount Edwards (1002 Vancouver)	Mount Edwards Area (includes 1002 Vancouver)	Tent City Area (Includes Mount Edwards Area)
Aug 2015 - Nov 2015	1	343	407
	Mount Edwards (1002 Vancouver)	Mount Edwards Area (includes 1002 Vancouver)	Tent City Area (Includes Mount Edwards Area)
Aug 2016 - Nov 2016	14	255	327
Grand Total	19	854	1055



Data Interpretation:

- The three time periods illustrates that this area of town was becoming busy in terms of calls for service a year before Tent City was established.
- VicPD experienced an increase of 64% in calls for service to the area once Tent City became established until it closed in August of 2016.
- Following the closure of Tent City:
 - Calls for service for the August through November time periods have returned to pre-Tent City levels
 - Calls for service for the November through August time periods have dropped to levels lower than prior to Tent City
 - Calls for service increased for calls for service directly to 1002 Vancouver St. however these numbers are likely influenced by the time period where the facility was vacant.
 - 22% decrease in all calls to the area around Mount Edwards.
 - 8% decrease in Assist calls
 - 8% decrease in calls categorized as "Other"
 - 11% decrease in Property Crime
 - 39% decrease in Public Disorder calls
 - 8% decrease in Traffic related calls
 - 30% decrease in Violent Crime

Call Category Translation Table

ASSIST	OTHER	TRAFFIC
ABANDONED 911	CALL STARTED IN ERROR	IMPAIRED
ABANDONED VEHICLE	DEMONSTRATION / PROTEST	COLLISION
ALARM CANCELLED	DOMESTIC IN PROGRESS	COLLISION - HIT AND RUN
ALARM FALSE	DOMESTIC REPORT	COLLISION - INJURY
ALARM HOLD UP	FOUND PERSON	COLLISION - POLICE VEHICLE
ALARMS SILENT / PANIC	HAZARDOUS SITUATION	PARKING COMPLAINT
ANIMAL	INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT	TRAFFIC INCIDENT
ASSIST GENERAL PUBLIC	INSECURE PREMISES OR VEHICLE	TRAFFIC SUSPENSION / 24 HR / 12 HR / PROHIB NOTICE
ASSIST MENTAL HEALTH ACT	INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION	
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	LIQUOR ACT / LICENSED PREMISES CHECK	VIOLENCE
ASSIST POLICE / FIRE / AMBULANCE	MENTAL HEALTH ACT	ASSAULT
CHECK WELLBEING	MISSING PERSON	ASSAULT IN PROGRESS
FOUND BIKE	OTHER CRIMINAL CODE	ASSAULT SEXUAL
NEXT OF KIN NOTIFICATION	RECOVERED VEHICLE	ROBBERY
PROPERTY	SPECIAL ATTENTION / DETAIL / EVENT	THREATS
	SUDDEN DEATH	
PROPERTY	SUICIDAL PERSON	
ARSON	SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	
BREAK AND ENTER	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	
BREAK AND ENTER IN PROGRESS	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	
FRAUD	WARRANT	
THEFT		
THEFT IN PROGRESS	PUBLIC DISORDER	
THEFT OF VEHICLE	ANNOYING CIRCUMSTANCES	
	ARREST	
	BOMB THREAT	
	BREACH	
	BYLAW	
	DISTURBANCE	
	FIGHT	
	HARASSMENT	
	INDECENT ACT	
	KEEP THE PEACE	
	MAN DOWN	
	MISCHIEF	
	MISCHIEF IN PROGRESS	
	PANHANDLER	
	PROWLER	
	SCREAM	
	SHOTS FIRED / HEARD	
	PUBLIC INTOXICATION	
	UNWANTED PERSON	
	WEAPON	
	DRUGS	
	OVERDOSE	