

HALIFAX

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Item No. 6
Halifax Regional Council
June 4, 2019

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed by 
Denise Schofield, Director, Parks & Recreation

Original Signed by 
Dave Reage, A/Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: May 24, 2019

SUBJECT: Surveillance Camera Pilot Project for Public Spaces – Farrell Street Park Pathway

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

June 20, 2017 – Motion of Halifax Regional Council:

That Halifax Regional Council:

1. Request a staff report on the use of Surveillance Cameras to identify the best public spaces in HRM to locate Surveillance Cameras, and allow for both permanent and temporary Surveillance Camera systems.
2. Consider as a pilot project, Farrell Street Park Pathway in Dartmouth to address the recent violent criminal activity in the area.

July 31, 2018 – Regional Council Approval of Administrative Order #2017-006-ADM, Respecting Video Recording on Municipal Property.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act, S.N.S. 1998, c.18, Part XX, *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy*

- 483 (1) Personal information shall not be collected by, or for, a municipality unless
- (a) the collection of that information is expressly authorized by, or pursuant to, an enactment;
 - (b) that information is collected for the purpose of law enforcement; or
 - (c) that information relates directly to, and is necessary for, an operating program or activity of the municipality

Administrative Order 2017-006-ADM, *Respecting Video Recording on Municipal Property*

BACKGROUND

Farrell Street Park is in the community of Dartmouth North (Attachment 1). The park occupies 1.41 hectares, and is surrounded by a predominately residential area (Catherine Street to the Northeast and Farrell Street to the Northwest). Metro Housing townhomes occupy the park's southeast border. Nova Scotia Power has a substation to the southwest. There is a fenced-in playground on the northeast section of the park, and The Boys and Girls Club is adjacent to the park's northeast side. A pathway on the southwest section acts as a well-used connector linking the park with commercial and residential properties on Wyse Road and Albro Lake Road.

The park has had a reputation as being unsafe due to ongoing social disorder issues and, in 2017, two serious violent crimes occurred on Farrell Park's pathway, one of which was a homicide. Despite the seriousness of these incidents, a review of police reported crime in the park and surrounding area, and consultation with the Division's Inspector, indicate that serious violent crimes are unusual in the park's vicinity. Violent crime is a relatively rare occurrence in the municipality's parks, indeed the overall violent crime rate in HRM has been on a long-term decline since the 1990s.

Nevertheless, the violence heightened concerns about the park's safety, and prompted a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) audit (Attachment 2).¹ The audit was conducted in June 2017 by Halifax Regional Police (HRP), and included several recommendations to prevent crime in the park (discussed below), one of which was the installation of video surveillance. Subsequently, a motion from Regional Council requested a staff report to identify the best public spaces in HRM to locate Surveillance Cameras and consider a pilot installation of video surveillance in Farrell Park.

Farrell Park CPTED audit

CPTED is a suite of place-based strategies to create conditions for a safer environment. It pivots on three principles: natural surveillance, natural access control and territorial reinforcement, all of which aim to manipulate the environment to increase everyday users' ability to observe and control it 'naturally' through their everyday use of the space.

The Farrell Park CPTED audit includes 13 recommendations: nine environmental, three social, and one technological. The CPTED audit's environmental and social recommendations are in various stages of implementation (Attachment 3), and will be discussed in greater detail in the following section. The technological recommendation calls for considering the installation of video surveillance as a crime prevention measure.

Video surveillance systems are presently installed in municipal assets and property, such as public buildings, recreation centres, workplaces, transit terminals, and buses. The primary purpose of video surveillance in HRM is to enhance safety and security, and it is used to aid in forensic investigations. On July 31, 2018, Regional Council approved Administrative Order (AO) 2017-006-ADM, *Respecting Video Recording on Municipal Property* to govern their use.

Investments in social infrastructure and recreation programming, as outlined in the Farrell Park CPTED, will be funded through the existing Parks & Recreation budget.

The remainder of this section assesses the evidence behind the use of video surveillance as a crime prevention tool in outdoor public places.

Assessing the use of video surveillance in a municipal context

The use of video surveillance appears to be commonplace among Canadian municipalities and public

¹ One of the violent crimes resulted in the death of a young woman, and a manslaughter conviction against a 16 year old male.

institutions (ranging from education to police).² Sudbury, Ontario, was one of the first municipalities to install video surveillance, when it launched its 'Lion Eye in the Sky' open street surveillance system in 1994.³ The most recent inventory (2011) documented 30 cities with video surveillance systems monitoring open streetscapes.⁴ However, due to a lack of clear regulatory standards, it is difficult to estimate the true extent of video surveillance in Canada. What is certain is that there has been significant growth in these systems over recent years.⁵

Municipalities most often deploy video surveillance to improve public safety (by aiding in the control and management of municipal assets, improving emergency responses, preventing, deterring and/or investigating crime). A wide array of factors contributes to their effectiveness: type and technology of system, density of coverage, availability and retention of recordings, geographic location, and social, political and cultural contexts. As discussed below, significant differences have been observed in the ability of video surveillance to prevent or deter crime versus its forensic applications.

Is video surveillance useful in preventing crime in public places?

Used as deterrent strategy, the presence of video surveillance in a public place would theoretically dissuade a potential offence from occurring due to perceived heightened risk of apprehension. The key component of prevention thus, is that the potential offender is aware of the system's presence and its capacity to monitor activity. Presently, there is very little evidence demonstrating a causal relationship between the installation of video surveillance and a reduction in crime. Specifically, research indicates that video surveillance is unlikely to deter violent crime, particularly impulse or alcohol related crime. Premeditated crimes, such as property crimes, show more promising results, with positive impacts on vehicle theft in parking-lots.⁶

Is video surveillance useful as an investigative tool?

The greatest utility for video surveillance is forensic. Surveillance footage can help police determine what happened and who was involved. To be a useful tool, the incident must be captured on camera and be of sufficient quality. Thus, high quality cameras, with dense coverage of the area, are necessary. Additionally, the approximate time of the incident must be known so that investigators can access the event without overconsuming resources.⁷

How does the presence of video surveillance impact feelings of safety in public places?

Video surveillance has been promoted as a measure to reduce fear of crime. Theoretically, if fear of crime is reduced, crime itself may decline as communities are more likely to use their shared spaces, thereby increasing informal ownership, social control and natural surveillance: all factors proven to reduce crime and fear of crime. Some studies show that *if the public is aware* of the use of video surveillance (through ample signage) there is a corresponding decrease in fear of crime.⁸ However, the effects of signage on reducing fear of crime, appear to be temporary. In other words, the longer the cameras are in place, the

² Deisman; W., P. Derby; A. Doyle; S. Leman-Langlois; R. Lippert; D. Lyon; J. Pridmore; Smith; K. Walby; J. Whitson. 2009. Report on Camera Surveillance in Canada. Surveillance Camera Awareness Network

³ KPMG. 2000. Evaluation of the Lion's Eye in the Sky Video Monitoring Project. Sudbury, Ontario. <http://popcenter.org/library/scp/pdf/100KPMG.pdf>

⁴ Hier, S. and K. Walby. 2011. Privacy pragmatism and streetscape video surveillance in Canada. *International Sociology*. 26/6: 844 – 861.

⁵ For instance, since 2011 the number of surveillance cameras (excluding police, transit, parking) in Calgary has increased by 83%, from 600 to 1,141 (Dipple, S. September 2, 2016. Calgary's use of networked security cameras nearly doubles in 5 years. CBC News).

⁶ Gill et al. 2015. The impact of CCTV: fourteen case studies. London Home Office; Tilley, N. 1993. Understanding car parks, crime and CCTV: evaluation lessons from safer cities. Crime Prevention Unit Papers series. London: Home Office; Welsh, B.C., & Farrington, D.P. 2009. Public Area CCTV and Crime Prevention: An Updated Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis, *Justice Quarterly*, 26:4, 716-745,

⁷ Ashby, M. 2017. The Value of CCTV Surveillance Cameras as an Investigative Tool: An Empirical Analysis *European Journal of Criminal Policy Research*. 23:441–459; Gill, M. and Spriggs, A. 2005. Assessing the Impact of CCTV. London. Great Britain Home Office Research Development and Statistics Directorate.

⁸ The AO requires that signage accompany the installation of video surveillance.

less their impact on fear of crime.⁹

Conversely, in neighbourhoods where distrust of police or government is high, the presence of video surveillance can contribute to feelings of insecurity and mistrust. Whether rooted in perception or reality, residents may come to feel that investments in their surveillance supersede investments in their community's social and physical infrastructure.¹⁰ Such concerns are amplified when considering video surveillance of vulnerable or marginalized groups who *already* are subject to increased surveillance through social norms like public gazing, and social systems such as income assistance, housing, and policing.¹¹ Feelings of negative self-worth, among youth in particular, may also be reinforced by video surveillance. Negative self-worth, in turn, may undermine youths' attachment to, and engagement with institutions, agencies, and places contributing to their safety and wellbeing.¹²

Does video surveillance undermine natural surveillance of shared spaces?

Video surveillance can generate an artificial sense of security among the population surveilled. Individuals may (wrongly) assume that cameras are live monitored with nearby police or security guards on hand to immediately respond to an incident. Individuals may also become less inclined to participate in natural surveillance of shared spaces as they increasingly become accustomed to the 'comfort' of electronic surveillance.¹³

Status of video surveillance in public places: use and governance

As noted above, video surveillance systems are presently installed in municipal assets and property, such as public buildings, recreation centres, workplaces, transit terminals, and buses. On July 31, 2018, Regional Council approved Administrative Order (AO) 2017-006-ADM, *Respecting Video Recording on Municipal Property*. The AO's stated purpose is to enhance the safety and security of employees, members of the public and municipal property while minimizing privacy intrusion. Under the AO, the decision to install closed circuit television (CCTV) is made by Corporate Security in consultation with the applicable Business Unit Director.

The AO applies to a CCTVs on all municipal property and municipal assets, but does not apply to: CCTV or other recording devices used by the HRP or the digital records produced as a result of the operation of such devices; CCTV installed for the purpose of traffic management, including for the enforcement of traffic laws or regulations; or to covert video surveillance. That AO includes a transition timeline for HRM to review all existing cameras to be able to ensure they are compliant with the new administrative order.

Presently, HRP has six CCTV cameras monitoring public spaces in the downtown core of Halifax¹⁴. HRP deployment of video surveillance dates to a 2006-2007 HRP Business Plan, which initiated a Public Spaces

⁹ Ratcliffe, J.H. 2011. Video surveillance of public places. Problem-Oriented Guides for Police Response. Guides Series. Washington: DC: Center for Problem-Oriented Policing

¹⁰ See for instance, community response to the installation of CCTV in Uniacke Square in 2017, where some residents called the move by MRHA 'dehumanizing'. Boon, J. 2017. Uniacke Square security cameras slammed as invasion of privacy. *The Coast*. May 4.

¹¹ Wortley, S. 2019. Halifax, Nova Scotia: Street Check Report. Halifax, NS: Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, https://humanrights.novascotia.ca/sites/default/files/editor-uploads/halifax_street_checks_report_march_2019_0.pdf; See also BBC. December 6, 2006. CCTV Staff Spied on Naked Woman. http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/merseyside/4503244.stm; Cavallaro, A. 2007. Privacy in video surveillance. *IEEE Signal Processing Magazine*, March, v.168, pp.165-66; Pringle, R. 2018. Facial recognition is everywhere-here is why that's concerning. *CBC News*, Sept 18. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/facial-recognition-technology-concerns-1.4826931>

¹² Research Group of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada. 2012. *Surveillance and Children*. Ottawa: Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada; Heir, S., J. Greenburg. 2010. *Surveillance: Power, Problems, Politics*. Vancouver: UBC Press; Kelly, P. 2005. Growing up: risky business? in *TASA 2005 : The Annual Conference of The Australian Sociological Association*. Proceedings, Sociological Association of Australia, [Hawthorn, Vic.], pp. 1-11.

¹³ SCANS. 2009. *A Report on Camera Surveillance in Canada: Part II. The Surveillance Project*. Queen's University <http://www.surveillanceproject.org/projects/scan>

¹⁴ HRP cameras are installed in the following locations: two on Argyle St (Old WTCC) overlooking Parade Square and Neptune Theatre; one on Grafton St (Pizza Corner); one on Spring Garden Rd (across from Park Lane); and two on Lower Water St, both on Summit Building.

video surveillance pilot project in public spaces. In September of 2006, video surveillance cameras were deployed for a Rolling Stones concert to monitor traffic and pedestrian flows. At that time, a draft policy was developed to guide their use. The six video surveillance cameras installed for the Public Space Video Project are still in operation in Halifax's downtown core. As part of the debate on the adoption of AO 2017-006-ADM in June 2017, Regional Council also passed a motion related to the governance of HRP video surveillance systems:

"THAT Halifax Regional Council request the Chief Administrative Officer to provide a report on how Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) employees in the Halifax Regional Police (HRP) Business Unit and HRM assets used by the HRP Business Unit achieve the purpose of HRM Administrative Order 2017-006-ADM, and make any necessary recommendations to Regional Council, and if required, to the Board of Police Commissioners"

This report does not address that motion, as it will be presented in a future report from HRP.

DISCUSSION

Through the approval of the AO, Council delegated authority for business unit discussion on CCTV installations to staff. Therefore, AO 2017-006-ADM requires Corporate Security, in consultation with the applicable business unit Director and the Access & Privacy Officer, to consider the following criteria when making a decision to install CCTV:

- (a) the existence of demonstrated and significant safety or security concerns at the location, or at similar locations to the location, where placement of CCTV is being proposed;
- (b) what measures, other than the installation of CCTV, are available to address identified safety or security concerns;
- (c) whether measures other than the installation of CCTV would be effective in addressing the identified safety or security concerns;
- (d) the effect that the proposed placement of CCTV may have on personal privacy, and the ways in which privacy intrusion can be minimized;
- (e) the operational requirements of the business unit; and
- (f) any other criteria deemed relevant by the CAO.

The results of this analysis are summarized in the discussion below.

a) Are there demonstrated and significant safety or security concerns in Farrell Park, or similar locations?

As noted in the background section of this report, the violent incidents in 2017 heightened concerns about Farrell Park's safety, and prompted a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) audit, which included a recommendation to install video surveillance.

b) What measures, other than the installation of CCTV are available to address identified safety or security concerns?

The bulk of the CPTED audit recommendations focused on improving the park's natural surveillance through environmental and social improvements. Most of the environmental recommendations of the CPTED audit have been, or are in the process of being, completed (see Attachment 3). These recommendations include tree and shrub maintenance and/or removal, improvements to lighting, installation of grass, signage, waste bins, benches and pathways. The social recommendations are:

RECOMMENDATION 7: Introduce more family friendly venues to the site. At a Neighbourhood Watch meeting, poll the attendees and see what they would like to see that space used for. What is being used for now? What are their concerns and how can they be addressed? It will give the community a sense of ownership to the park which in turn can help the space be maintained and clean. City Watch can be used to help get the message out about an upcoming meeting.

RECOMMENDATION 9: Increase the community projects in the park. Community Gardens, a space for families to play and picnic, hold barbeques etc. Bringing family friendly activities that the residents would like, in most cases would move the unwanted people and activities out. They would be less likely to access that area, if it is filled with family and people enjoying the park.

RECOMMENDATION 13: Ideally, all partners should come together and meet about this space. There are only a few land partners/users in the area. Bring the City, the corporate partners, community partners and discuss budget issues, are there future plans for this site? How can they contribute? This is a prime site for a community collaboration and with a bit of work, could be a beautiful safe space.

These social recommendations are at various stages in the implementation process. A Community Developer in Parks and Recreation has been informally engaging area residents on what type of community projects they would like to see in the park. A grand reopening of the park is planned for Summer 2019, and will serve as a venue to further engage community members on changes they would like to see implemented to improve social connectivity and sense of ownership in the park.

c) Would these other measures be effective in addressing identified safety or security concerns?

Effective crime prevention means using resources where evidence demonstrates they will have the most impact. Compared to video surveillance, there is strong theoretical and empirical evidence supporting social and environmental improvements to public spaces as a causal factor in crime prevention.¹⁵ By creating opportunities for engagement, a community can strengthen its capacity for social cohesion and sense of ownership over shared public spaces. Building capacity for communities to regulate their communal spaces has the effect of improving safety and feelings of safety as residents come to feel a greater sense of inclusion, ownership and pride.¹⁶

Moreover, of the 76 actions in the Public Safety Strategy, none recommend the use of video surveillance to improve public safety. Conversely, proceeding with the Farrell Park CPTED social recommendations supports the following actions as outlined in the Public Safety Strategy:

ACTION 26. Enhance access to existing arts, cultural and recreational facilities and programming.

ACTION 29. Preserve and create urban green spaces and urban outdoor gathering places.

ACTION 45. Incorporate food production and food access into the design of municipal programs, facilities and parks/open spaces.

d) What effect may the proposed placement of CCTV have on personal privacy, and how can that be minimized?

Not applicable as CCTV is not being proposed for this area.

e) Are there operational requirements of Parks and Recreation?

None have been identified.

f) Has the CAO deemed other relevant criteria?

None have been identified.

¹⁵ Klienenburg, E. 2018. Palaces for the People. (New York: Penguin).

¹⁶ Sharkey, P., G. Torrats-Espinosa and D. Takyar. 2017. Community and the Crime Decline: The Causal Effect of Local Nonprofits on Violent Crime." *American Sociological Review*. V 82/ 6: 1214 – 1240; Sampson, R. 2012. *Great American City: Chicago and the Enduring Neighborhood Effect*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press; Bursik, R. 1999. The Informal Control of Crime through Neighborhood Networks. *Sociological Focus* 32/1:85–97;

Summary

Video surveillance requires network and power, neither of which are present in the park (unlike other municipal assets where such features are common). Undergoing a pilot project would require significant investments, and according to the evidence available, would be unlikely to prevent future violent incidents, such as those that occurred in the park in 2017. Other measures to improve the environmental and social conditions of the park would be more beneficial than the installation of video surveillance to improve the safety and security of Farrell Park. For these reasons, pursuant to AO 2017-006-ADM, Farrell Street Park will not be considered as a pilot project for surveillance camera.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications in this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

There was no community consultation undertaken for this report. As noted, the Community Developer is engaged with the community on the social recommendations from the CPTED audit.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map of Farrell Park
Attachment 2: CPTED Audit of Farrell Park
Attachment 3: Farrell Park CPTED Audit Status
Attachment 4: Farrell Park Site Plan

A copy of this report can be obtained online at halifax.ca or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

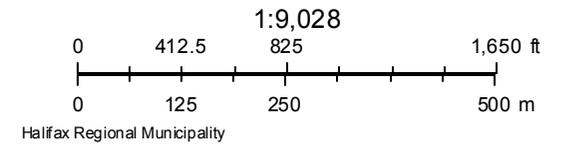
Report Prepared by: Amy Siciliano, Public Safety Advisor, 902.490.4177

FARRELL PARK



05/06/2018 2:33:49 PM

 HRM Parks





Attachment 2 - CPTED Audit of Farrell Park

MEMORANDUM

TO: Paul Leadbetter, East Supervisor
Halifax Parks, Playgrounds and Greenspaces

CC: Tony Mancini
Councillor, District 6 HRM

FROM: Cst. Nancy Miller
CPTED Technician
Halifax Regional Police Community Response Team

DATE: June 20th, 2017

**SUBJECT: CPTED Audit – Farrell Street Park/HRM Pathway through HRM Greenspace
between Farrell Street and Wyse Road**

The CPTED Response Team has been asked to provide comments as it pertains to CPTED principles on the above noted space.

Three key concepts when looking at CPTED Principles are:

1. Access Control (Formal/Informal)
2. Surveillance/Lighting (Natural, Artificial and Controlled)
3. Territorial Reinforcement and Maintenance (Ownership)

History:

This area consists of a large portion of grass and a very dense wooded area consisting of some older trees as well as thick brush. There is a concrete walkway that runs through the site from Farrell Street to the intersection of Albro Lake Road and Wyse Road. On either end of the pathway there are residential buildings and homes. The pathway is very well used by local residents as a major connection point from the residential area to the more commercial area of Wyse Road. There is a convenience store/bakery at the end of the pathway on Albro Lake Road. There are many areas of concealment on the site and along the pathway, mainly due to the very thick, dense brush that has grown. There is a playground located at the corner of Farrell and Catherine Street that has overgrown trees on one side of it (that backs onto an apartment building). This also provides interrupted site lines to the playground when looking from these apartments.

During our visit, it was noted that this is an area that some choose to come and engage in sexual activity and alcohol use. There were used condoms and wrappers located near the end of the pathway, in behind the bakery and apartment building. Old beer boxes also littered the area. There were some non-formal entrances to the area from the back of the apartment building, which opens to a cleared space.

The area has been of concern to the local residents for quite some time. A request for a CPTED audit was done in the area of 2015, but with the recent homicide as well as a stabbing in the area, residents are becoming more fearful of the space. Having spoken with a few residents in the area, they want something done to make this area safe.

The area in question, is in the heart of an older residential area of Dartmouth. There have been past efforts to introduce Community Projects to the site, for example a community garden.

In the audit completed in 2015, the following was noted, and it is true to this day. "There are land use and lease agreements in place. Nova Scotia Power and HRM have a long-standing lease in place for portions of the land, Bell Aliant also has a right of way in place and there appears to be HRM Water and Sewer lines through the site.

Access Control:

Access Control can restrict, encourage and safely channel movement of people and vehicles into, out of, and within a designated area. It can also decrease criminal opportunities. Properly located entrances, exits, fencing, landscaping and lighting can direct both pedestrian and vehicular traffic in ways that discourage crime. Further, consideration needs to be given to the safe movement of both vehicular and pedestrian traffic from a development to road network.

Access control is the same as it was when this audit was done in 2015. There is no control. It is a fairly open green space with a playset and walkway. The site is open along Farrell Street which is wide open for access. It was noted that there are some informal pathways from various points along Farrell street to the pathway and well as into the neighbouring apartment buildings. The end along Catherine Street is as well wide open to access. The end that borders onto the Nova Scotia Power site is fenced along the end and along the pathway to Albro Lake Road, the fence ends at the Nova Scotia Power property line. The southeast side backs on to Multi-unit residential units on Lahey Road (fenced), then along the northeast side of the walkway it borders onto residential units on Clarence Street and Albro Lake Road. There seems to be some storm water or sewer components running along the side of the walkway and possibly through the site. It also shows Bell Aliant having an easement along the walkway.

Surveillance:

Offenders commit crimes when there are opportunities and incentives. Criminals generally do not want to be seen, however, surveillance keeps intruders under observation. Placing physical features, activities and people in ways that minimize the ability to see what is going on, can increase the opportunity for criminal activity, therefore it is imperative that sight lines are kept

open and clear. If **Natural** surveillance is not an option, then there are 2 other types of surveillance that may be an alternative: **Artificial/Mechanical and Controlled/Organized**.

Natural: Natural crime prevention (eyes and ears on the street), empowering the community to take ownership of issues, can be realized depending on the design and planning of the development. People will go into a protective mode if they feel a connection to the area. Having the ability for people to see and be seen is a product of good planning, design and healthy community interaction.

Artificial/Mechanical: Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) and mirrors are examples of mechanical surveillance. CCTV systems placed at appropriate locations can assist in deterring criminal activity (in conjunction with appropriate lighting). Further, mirrors, if placed in specific locations, can assist one in seeing who is waiting/walking towards them, from around a corner.

Controlled/Organized: Police patrols, security guards, Citizens on Patrol, Neighbourhood Watch and City Watch are all examples of controlled or organized surveillance technique.

Lighting: Is a very important component of all 3 types of surveillance. People want to see and be seen. Especially with Mechanical Surveillance (CCTV) we need a good quality white light (LED, Metal Halide or Fluorescent) to assist with the quality of the image and colour rendition. i.e. – under white light, reds will be seen as red, and blues as blue.

Natural Surveillance in the area is great in some areas and terrible in others. The thick brush that has grown as well as the trees provide lots of blind spots and areas of concealment. This is true for both the walkway which is fenced but also in the wooded area. The area along the pathway is clear and has a great site line, but on the other side of the fencing, there is thick brush and trees which is where the beer cans, boxes and condoms were located. This thick brush enables great spots of concealment all along the pathway.

The playset, as mentioned, for the most part has great site lines, except for the side that is along Lahey Road. This site line is blocked by taller brush that offers no natural surveillance.

At this time, there is no Artificial/Mechanical Surveillance in place at this site.

Controlled/Organized Surveillance would be done by routine police patrols in the area, including special checks if requested. There is a very strongly led Neighbourhood Watch in the area that meets monthly at Farrell Hall. East Division, also has a volunteer group, called Citizens on Patrol (COPs).

Lighting in the area is minimal. There is lighting on Farrell Street and Catherine Street, as well as along the pathway and each end. Upon closer inspection, there were three along the pathway and then one at either end.

TERRITORIAL REINFORCEMENT and MAINTENANCE:

Territorial Reinforcement is the perception that people care about where they live. Areas and properties that are well maintained by keeping the property clean, free of graffiti and the landscaping well-maintained, often keep away undesirable activity.

The territorial reinforcement in the area is overall adequate. The large green space is mowed on a regular basis and there wasn't a lot of litter out in the open area, but there was some visible along the pathway on both sides of the fencing: dog feces, cardboard, plastic bottles and some cigarette packages. At the end of the pathway behind the convenience store/bakery is where the used condoms, condom packaging and beer boxes were located.

Recommendations:

This portion of the audit is not going to be much different from the one completed in 2015, however for the purpose of an updated audit, will be included.

- 1) The area needs to be reclaimed as parkland. The open green space is great, but there is too much potential for hiding spots as the area is concealed with overgrown thick brush and trees. The thick brush on the other side of the pathway, needs to be removed permanently. If not removed permanently, yearly maintenance will be required.
- 2) Once this low underbrush is removed, then the mature trees that are there, will need to be limbed up to a minimum of 6'. Any larger trees that aren't thriving can be removed as well. This will open up the site lines all along the path and in the open area as well.
- 3) The thick brush along the fence of the playground must be removed as well as in doing so, the site lines will be unobstructed from all sides, and will allow a clear site line from the apartment building.
- 4) Although there were no large garbage items noted this time, the garbage that is there needs to be cleaned up. Once this is clean up it is suggested that a couple of garbage cans be placed at each entrance to the pathway.
- 5) Once the brush, trees and undergrowth have been removed or maintained, we can look at the site to see where new pathways could be placed. This would provide more connectivity to the park. As noted earlier, there were a few informal pathways made by pedestrians into the area, as well as through the bush to the nearby apartment buildings.
- 6) With the excess brush and trees limbed, the area should be reclaimed by sodding the site. This would provide more usable space and leave the parkland open, friendly and inviting, as well as easier to maintain. Mowing a well sodded area would be more economical than the yearly maintenance of the brush and undergrowth.
- 7) Introduce more family friendly venues to the site. At a Neighbourhood Watch meeting, poll the attendees and see what they would like to see that space used for. What is being used for now? What are their concerns and how can they be addressed? It will

give the community a sense of ownership to the park which in turn can help the space be maintained and clean. City Watch can be used to help get the message out about an upcoming meeting.

- 8) Place park benches along the pathway, and throughout the site once it is tidied up.
- 9) Increase the community projects in the park. Community Gardens, a space for families to play and picnic, hold barbeques etc. Bringing family friendly activities that the residents would like, in most cases would move the unwanted people and activities out. They would be less likely to access that area, if it is filled with family and people enjoying the park.
- 10) The lighting that is currently there now is limited. Pathways are not normally lit, but because this is an access way to Wyse Road and Farrell Street and basically an extension of the sidewalks it has been lit. Once all the unwanted brush is removed, we can review the necessity for more light.
- 11) Lastly, once the brush has been removed, the site lines are clear, trees limbed up, the appropriate signage needs to be placed. Parks By-law (P-600) and Animal By-law (A-100). This signage would pertain to the whole park, not just the playground. If the park is going to be called Farrell Street Park, then signage should be posted saying so.
- 12) Mechanical Surveillance can be a great motivation to deter criminal activity however the space must be a fit. Some things that would need to be considered would be the cost of having cameras installed, who would monitor these cameras, and the fact that people can easily move out of the site line to commit crime outside of the camera parameters. Very good and high quality cameras are often required to capture solid images for identification purposes.
- 13) Ideally, all partners should come together and meet about this space. There are only a few land partners/users in the area. Bring the City, the Corporate Partners, Community Partners and discuss budget issues, are there future plans for this site? How can they contribute? This is a prime site for a community collaboration and with a bit of work could be a beautiful safe space.

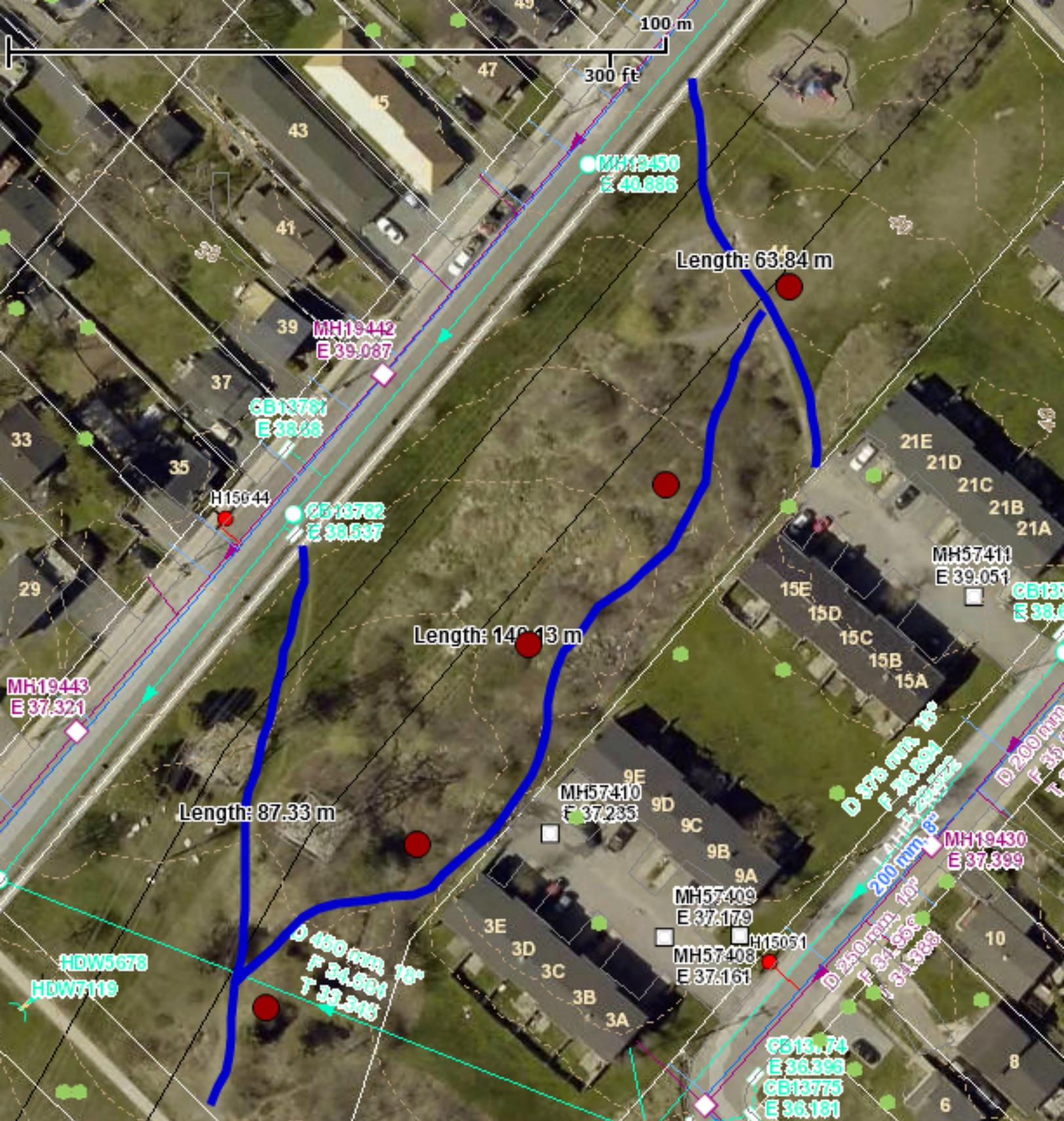
Respectfully submitted,

Cst. Nancy Miller
Halifax Regional Police

ATTACHMENT 3: FARRELL PARK CPTED AUDIT STATUS

	Recommendation	Status
1	The area needs to be reclaimed as parkland. The open green space is great, but there is too much potential for hiding spots as the area is concealed with overgrown thick brush and trees. The thick brush on the other side of the pathway, needs to be removed permanently. If not removed permanently, yearly maintenance will be required	Completed
2	Once this low underbrush is removed, then the mature trees that are there, will need to be limbed up to a minimum of 6'. Any larger trees that aren't thriving can be removed as well. This will open up the site lines all along the path and in the open area as well.	Completed
3	The thick brush along the fence of the playground must be removed as well as in doing so, the site lines will be unobstructed from all sides, and will allow a clear site line from the apartment building.	In process
4	Although there were no large garbage items noted this time, the garbage that is there needs to be cleaned up. Once this is clean up it is suggested that a couple of garbage cans be placed at each entrance to the pathway.	In process
5	Once the brush, trees and undergrowth have been removed or maintained, we can look at the site to see where new pathways could be placed. This would provide more connectivity to the park. As noted earlier, there were a few informal pathways made by pedestrians into the area, as well as through the bush to the nearby apartment buildings.	In process. See map for location of new paved pathways
6	With the excess brush and trees limbed, the area should be reclaimed by sodding the site. This would provide more usable space and leave the parkland open, friendly and inviting, as well as easier to maintain. Mowing a well sodded area would be more economical than the yearly maintenance of the brush and undergrowth.	The area will be re-graded to alleviate wet spots, topsoiled and hydroseeded
7	Introduce more family friendly venues to the site. At a Neighbourhood Watch meeting, poll the attendees and see what they would like to see that space used for. What is being used for now? What are their concerns and how can they be addressed? It will give the community a sense of ownership to the park which in turn can help the space be maintained and clean. City Watch can be used to help get the message out about an upcoming meeting	A formal public engagement session is planned for the park's grand opening
8	Place park benches along the pathway, and throughout the site once it is tidied up	Five benches will be installed
9	Increase the community projects in the park. Community Gardens, a space for families to play and picnic, hold barbeques etc. Bringing family friendly activities that the residents would like, in most cases would move the unwanted activities out. They would be less likely to	Take Action, a local community organization has expressed

	access that area, if it is filled with family and people enjoying the park	interest in a community garden
10	The lighting that is currently there now is limited. Pathways are not normally lit, but because this is an access way to Wyse Road and Farrell Street and basically an extension of the sidewalks it has been lit. Once all the unwanted brush is removed, we can review the necessity for more light	Five additional lights will be installed, plus one from NSP.
11	Lastly, once the brush has been removed, the site lines are clear, trees limbed up, the appropriate signage needs to be placed. Parks By-law (P-600) and Animal By-law (A-100). This signage would pertain to the whole park, not just the playground. If the park is going to be called Farrell Street Park, then signage should be posted saying so	Sign has been ordered
12	Mechanical Surveillance can be a great motivation to deter criminal activity however the space must be a fit. Some things that would need to be considered would be the cost of having cameras installed, who would monitor these cameras, and the fact that people can easily move out of the site line to commit crime outside of the camera parameters. Very good and high quality cameras are often required to capture solid images for identification purposes	Pursuant to AO 2017-006-ADM, the site has been reviewed by Corporate Security, in consultation with Parks & Recreation and the Access and Privacy Officer. As a result of that review, mechanical surveillance will not be installed.
13	Ideally, all partners should come together and meet about this space. There are only a few land partners/users in the area. Bring the City, the corporate partners, community partners and discuss budget issues, are there future plans for this site? How can they contribute? This is a prime site for a community collaboration and with a bit of work, could be a beautiful safe space.	HRM Parks and NSP partnered to implement environmental improvements to the park



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ReGIS
Farrell Park Concept



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Attachment 4 Farrell Park Site Plan

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