

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

<b>TO:</b> Shane Bourke, City Manager	<b>DATE:</b> October 29, 2024
<b>FROM:</b> Danielle Whiteway, CFO	<b>MEETING:</b> Council Committee of the Whole
<b>REPORT WRITER:</b> Danielle Whiteway, CFO	
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Projected Cost Comparison – GPPS & RCMP	

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council Committee of the Whole receive this report for information.

### PREVIOUS COUNCIL / COMMITTEE DIRECTIONS

There are no previous Council/Committee directions.

### BACKGROUND

In March of 2023, Council approved the transition from RCMP contracted policing services, to the City’s own municipal force, Grande Prairie Police Services (GPPS). Although the decision was not solely based on budget, there are projected differences in costs that should be highlighted.

### ANALYSIS

Considering budget, Administration performed an analysis comparing projected RCMP contracted services costs to the expected GPPS costs. It is anticipated that GPPS will be less than RCMP contracted services (had it remained in place).

The analysis demonstrates a projection of both services, with the RCMP being projected as if the contract were to continue and compared against the 2025-2028 operating budget for GPPS. In order to project what RCMP would have cost into the future, we used the Multi-Year Plan (MYP) as provided by the RCMP to the City annually. The MYP forecasts multiple years of expected costs, based on 100 officers.

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
RCMP Budget	20,322,926	17,470,784	11,272,023	2,446,322	-
GPPS Police Service (Transition) Budget	5,460,876	7,026,260	4,423,209	1,954,811	-
GPPS Police Service (Tax) Budget	1,768,184	4,430,435	11,835,658	19,330,241	23,318,222
GPPS Police Commission Budget	64,800	58,750	227,576	318,360	312,997
GPPS Budget	7,293,860	11,515,445	16,486,443	21,603,412	23,631,219
Total RCMP & GPPS Budgets	27,616,786	28,986,229	27,758,466	24,049,734	23,631,219
Provincial Transition Funding	- 5,460,876	- 7,026,260	- 4,423,209	- 1,954,811	-
Net Policing Budget (as presented)	22,155,910	21,959,969	23,335,257	22,094,923	23,631,219
RCMP Projections (MYP)	20,322,926	23,326,220	24,077,637	24,834,742	25,263,965
<b>Anticipated Costs (Savings)</b>	<b>1,832,984</b>	<b>- 1,366,251</b>	<b>- 742,380</b>	<b>- 2,739,819</b>	<b>- 1,632,746</b>

This projection assumes current staffing for RCMP and future plans for GPPS. Although the Police Commission is still finalizing the optimal officer count required for future service delivery, this analysis was done based on original plans of being at 110 officers by 2028. The RCMP contract projections are for only 100 officers (based on the RCMP MYP). So, with either the same amount of officers or more, the expected costs for GPPS are lower than what RCMP costs would have been.

Additionally, under RCMP contracted police services, the City is required to pay a share of divisional administrative costs, including item such as cadet training, legal services, recruitment, and other costs. These are a significant portion of costs each year, ranging upwards of \$5.5M to \$6M annually and another line item that the City will see cost savings from with a municipal police service. Under a municipal police service, there will still be administrative costs similar to those that the RCMP charge under contract, however they are expected to be significantly less.

It is expected that GPPS will be the police of jurisdiction in 2026, with the full transition away from RCMP being final in 2028. In 2028, the city is expecting to remain below what the RCMP budget would have otherwise been.

**Relationship to City Council's Areas of Focus / Strategic Priorities**

Innovative Efficiencies & Economic Readiness

**Environmental Impact**

None

**Economic Impact**

Although the decision to transition to a municipal police service was not strictly made based on budget, the City is expecting GPPS to cost less than contracted RCMP services. This will help reduce future tax levy increases.

**Social Impact**

None

**Relevant Statutes / Master Plans / City Documents**

None

**Risk**

None

**STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

None

**BUDGET / FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None

**SUMMARY / CONCLUSION**

The decision to transition from RCMP contracted policing services to a municipal police service will allow the City to provide modern, professional, and locally accountable police services that will enhance public safety within the city, at a lower cost.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None