

City of  
Beaumont  
Municipal  
Enforcement  
Priorities Plan



2021

## Overview

Under the umbrella of the Protective Services Department, Municipal Enforcement provides services seven days a week to residents and visitors of Beaumont. Consisting of three uniformed Patrol Officers, one School Resource Officer, and one seasonal Weed Inspector, officers use a balanced approach of education and enforcement when seeking compliance with Municipal Bylaws and Provincial Acts. Officers are trained to address most residential concerns - enforcement of the Criminal Code of Canada is the responsibility of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

The purpose of this document is to outline the enforcement priorities for Beaumont Municipal Enforcement for the next year. Growth, observations, and public engagement have each contributed to the creation of this annual plan. As the needs of the community evolve, Municipal Enforcement adjusts priorities in efforts to promote a safe and secure community, while promoting the strategic priorities of the City of Beaumont (Beaumont Strategic Plan 2017-2021).

## Survey Results

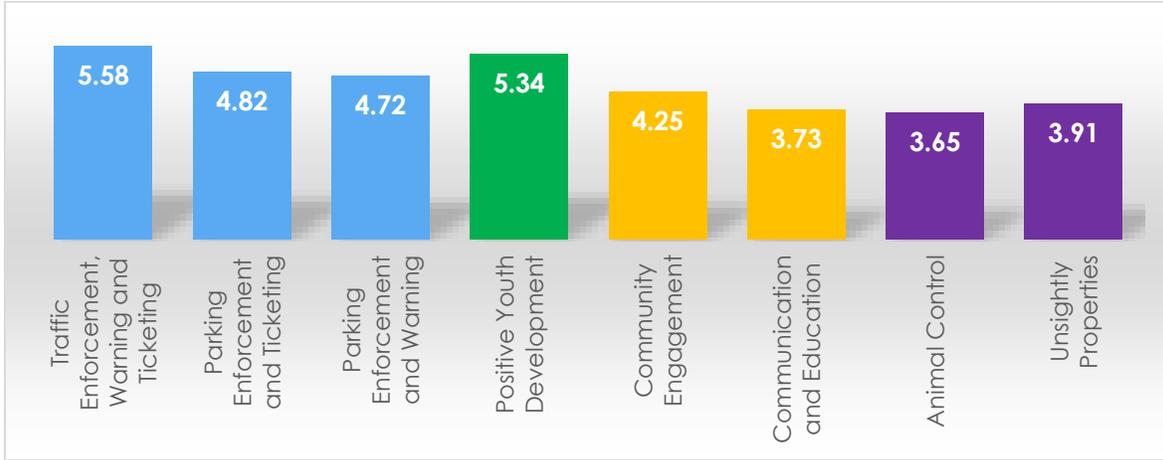
Between February 26<sup>th</sup> and March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the City of Beaumont conducted an online survey for residents, seeking input on what they felt the focus of Municipal Enforcement should be for the coming year. The survey was conducted in partnership with the RCMP's annual priorities survey. 472 on-line surveys were completed while 121 paper copies of the survey were also submitted. This year's submissions are up from previous totals - 331 in 2019 and 152 in 2018 - and are a result of the hard work and efforts of Beaumont's Communications Team, the RCMP Community Policing Officer, and Beaumont Municipal Enforcement's School Resource Officer.



## Recommended Priorities

Weighed against the total number of entries and the selected level of importance, the range of results varied by only 1.93 points, with the highest score totaling 5.58 and the lowest 3.65.

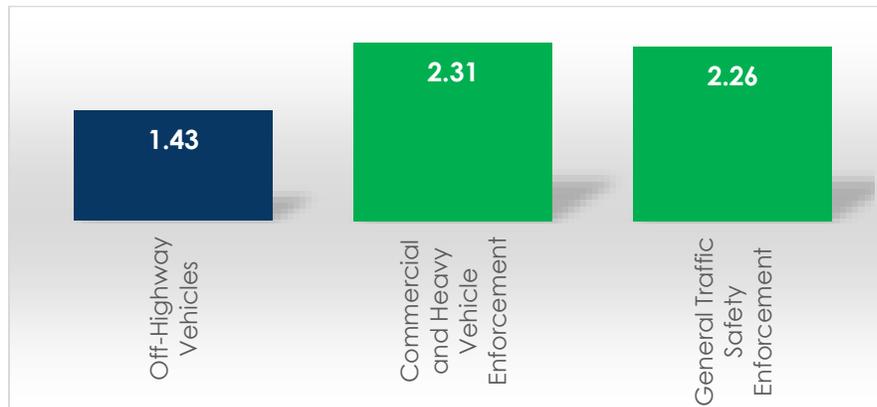
When grouped together, this year’s survey returned four specific themes for Beaumont Municipal Enforcement: *Traffic Enforcement, Positive Youth Development, Community Engagement & Communications, and Enforcement of Municipal Bylaws.*



### PRIORITY ONE: Traffic Enforcement

Moving violations, parking, and off-highway vehicles encompass the main aspects of traffic enforcement within the City of Beaumont. Officers enforce these areas under the authority of Beaumont Bylaw #834-14, *Traffic Safety Bylaw*, and the Province of Alberta’s *Traffic Safety Act*.

As shown in the following table, additional data obtained in the priorities survey revealed that Commercial and Heavy Vehicle Enforcement, along with General Traffic Safety Enforcement, are the two desired areas of focus over the coming year.



### Heavy Vehicle Enforcement

In cooperation with the City's Operations Department, Beaumont Municipal Enforcement monitors heavy vehicle (truck) traffic for compliance with Beaumont Bylaw #837-14, *Heavy Vehicle and Dangerous Goods Bylaw*, ensuring approved road use agreements are in place with transport companies working in our City, as well as the enforcement of Beaumont's road ban order(s), when applicable.

### School Zones

In coordination with the RCMP, Beaumont Municipal Enforcement continues to conduct proactive school zone patrols during peak drop-off and pick-up times, as well as during lunch hours, to promote safe driving habits and the safety of our children.

To further address the priority of Traffic Enforcement in Beaumont, Municipal Enforcement will:

- Continue proactive school zone patrols
- Continue enforcement of Bylaw #837-14
- Coordinate joint traffic operations with the RCMP and Commercial Vehicle Inspectors
- Coordinate targeted enforcement operations with the RCMP (i.e. distracted driving)

### PRIORITY TWO: Positive Youth Development

With the survey's overall second highest score (5.34), Positive Youth Development remains a top priority for residents, and the members of Beaumont Municipal Enforcement.

Ensuring COVID-safe measures are in place, general duty members, along with Beaumont's School Resource Officer (SRO), routinely engage local youth at schools, while on patrol, and when members visit the local skate park and playground areas.

The emphasis of *positive youth development* begins with building a relationship between youth and law enforcement agencies, as these agencies should be viewed as a friendly resource and a safe place to turn, should one be required.



In addition to the steps currently being taken by officers and Beaumont's SRO, Municipal Enforcement will explore additional opportunities including the creation of local and regional partnerships, the continued delivery of in-school programs, and maintaining a continued presence at youth special events.

Key initiatives to promote Positive Youth Development include:

- Collaboration with the RCMP utilizing Beaumont's Positive Ticketing program
- Interacting and educating youth while on patrol, promoting safe behaviors
- Creating educational/safety videos for social media
- Continued attendance at Beaumont's skate park, Youth Centre and playground areas
- Continued interaction with youth at City events.

### PRIORITY THREE: Community Engagement & Communication

Ranking third overall, the theme of Community Engagement & Communication was identified as a 2021 priority. Scoring 4.25, Community Engagement is important to residents, while Communication and Education with residents follows close behind at 3.73.

Maintaining the priority of Community Engagement & Communication is essential for all City service areas. When the public interacts with an enforcement officer, it allows the opportunity to forge relationships, address any questions that might be of concern. It also gives residents an opportunity to provide suggestion(s) on how to ensure Beaumont remains a safe community. When able, enforcement officers attend community events, providing a visible and engaging presence.

Additional steps that may be taken to support this priority include:

- Updating Beaumont Municipal Enforcements webpage with related enforcement events, or changes to local laws
- Conducting community engagement on emerging topics such as the consolidation of local bylaws
- Add an on-line reporting/complaint system for enforcement issues

Input received in the 2021 Priorities Survey suggested the addition of an on-line reporting system for enforcement matters. However, it is important to note that an internal impact assessment will be required prior to launching such a system.

### PRIORITY FOUR: Enforcement of Municipal Bylaws

Data returned from the 2021 Municipal Enforcement Priorities Survey scored Animal Control and the enforcement of Unsightly Properties, at 3.65 and 3.91 respectively.

Although these two priorities received the lowest scores, it is important to note that they ranked within two points of the highest priority. Furthermore, the City of Beaumont heard from survey participants that the enforcement of clearing ice and snow from sidewalks, as well as the need for animal owners to clean up after their pets, is a serious concern within the community.

Beaumont Municipal Enforcement endeavors to use education when seeking compliance with local bylaws or Provincial Acts. Building off this direction, and in spirit of promoting communication with residents, the following steps may be employed to aid addressing the enforcement of Municipal Bylaws:

- Host a *Responsible Pet Ownership Program* for residents which focuses on animal control and handling
- Launch on-line education campaigns for residents, targeted at seasonal topics such as snow and ice removal
- Develop promotional materials such as door-knockers, providing recipients guidance on the requirements of specific bylaws
- Collaborate with internal departments seeking expertise on other citizen engagement opportunities
- Review bylaws as necessary for clarity



New key initiatives may include the development of a joint force compliance team that can be proactive on issues and concerns before they become a larger problem within the community.

### Summary

Municipal Enforcement is committed to working with all local and regional protective services agencies and partners. The 2021 Priorities Plan aids in the endeavor to promote a safe community for both residents and visitors to Beaumont. To ensure the necessary steps are taken to address survey priorities, individual action plans may be drafted in efforts to assist in the implementation of the steps identified for each. Some steps may already be planned or be in progress.

In conclusion, this plan will be reviewed regularly to ensure its accuracy and relevance, to changing and emerging trends within our community.