

















Memorandum

To: Mayor Lott and City Council
From: Chief Hebert, Chief Audy, Ray Coffey, Elaine Wang
Date: January 18, 2023
Re: 2022-2023 Policy Priorities and Strategies Update: SHCP

Per the Council adopted 2022-2023 Policy Priorities and Strategies and the accompanying monitoring plan, we present the next goal update on Safe, Healthy, and Connected People. Below you will find a chart of the adopted strategies, a narrative of the updates.

Key

-  = proceeding as planned
-  = proceeding but slower than planned
-  = started but not proceeding well
-  = not started yet

| Policy Goal | Priority | Strategies | Status |
|---|--------------------|---|---|
| Foster relationships across generations and cultures by providing safe, healthy environments and opportunities to connect and engage. | Must Do | Develop plan for tenancy at/community accessibility of O'Brien Community Center OR negotiate for community uses with new owner*** |  |
| | | Increase Recreational Program offerings, including through ESSER funds contracted with Winooski School District. - Ongoing** |  |
| | | School Resource Officer model - Planning for Strategy Post School Construction Project** |  |
| | | Regional Dispatch - Ongoing* |  |
| | | Tower/Ladder Replacement Research and Financial Planning - Bid docs June, financial planning ongoing* |  |
| | | Fire/EMS Delivery Model (including potential building improvements) -ongoing |  |
| | | Adopt Statewide Policing Policies - Ongoing |  |
| | | Police Department Recruitment, Hiring, Internal Promotions, and Retention -Ongoing |  |
| | Recommended | Continue work to bring increased child care options to Winooski residents -ongoing** |  |
| | | PD K9 Program** |  |
| | | Develop Plan for management of Memorial Park in response to Parks and Open Space Master Plan - ongoing* |  |
| | | Continue Public Health "Huddle" with statewide and regional partners -Ongoing |  |

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| | | Improve Service Delivery Through Technology -Digital Onboarding via HR | |
| | New Ideas Pending Resource Availability (human and dollars) | Plan & develop additional volunteer opportunities for youth (Recreation, Library, etc.) -ongoing* | |

Must Dos

Develop plan for tenancy at/community accessibility of O'Brien Community Center OR negotiate for community uses with new owner***

- City staff have had multiple meetings with representatives from Champlain Housing Trust, and continue to work to formulate a plan that would lead to a sale of the O'Brien Center while preserving functions at that location important to the City: medical offices, the library, the Community Services Department offices, and community gathering space.

Increase Recreational Program offerings, including through ESSER funds contracted with Winooski School District. - Ongoing**

- Over the course of the ESSER Contracts we have experienced well over 2,500 enrollments across our programs
- For programs with registration required, we've filled ~86% of our available capacity across ESSER funded programs

School Resource Officer model - Planning for Strategy Post School Construction Project**

- The WSD Superintendent has had preliminary conversations with staff about pivoting from an SRO to a public safety liaison plus an on-school-staff safety officer model. The timing is still to be determined.

Regional Dispatch - Ongoing*

- Recent departure of the Town of Colchester has created challenges that the regional dispatch board is reviewing. Still hopeful that a version of regional dispatch can still happen.

Tower/Ladder Replacement Research and Financial Planning -Bid docs June, financial planning ongoing*

- Bond approved
- Bid, design, and pre-build done.
- Anticipated delivery April of 2024

Fire/EMS Delivery Model (including potential building improvements) -ongoing

- Conversation with St. Michael's College (SMC) continues. SMC Fire has been doing 24/7 response into Winooski and this is working well.
- FY24 operating budget reflects appropriations to further support services received from SMC
- Recruitment and retention of paid on-call part-time firefighters continues to be very difficult. Currently have 10 and experiencing times that we are unable to cover the 6pm-6am hours Mon-Fri. Please note this is NOT Winooski specific, this is a national trend/concern.

Adopt Statewide Policing Policies - Ongoing

Police Department Recruitment, Hiring, Internal Promotions, and Retention -Ongoing

Recommended

Continue work to bring increased child care options to Winooski residents -ongoing**

- The City is not actively or directly working to increase child care options. It is, however in discussions with the Winooski Parents and Students Project (WPS) about how the City may support them, and one eventual goal of the WPS is to form a daycare co-op, in addition to other mutual aid services.

PD K9 Program**

- This is on Council's January 23, 2023 meeting agenda for approval.

Develop Plan for management of Memorial Park in response to Parks and Open Space Master Plan - ongoing*

- RFP to be issued in first quarter of 2023.

Continue Public Health "Huddle" with statewide and regional partners -Ongoing

- At the advice of community partners on the COVID Huddle, an effort was made to re-center voices of color, and leaders from non-governmental agencies. The regular Huddle meetings (as facilitated by the City) ended in late May 2022, and City staff have since been working with community partners to determine next steps as led by community members. At the time of this report, there are no immediate plans to reconvene the Huddle, though conversations with partner agencies are ongoing.

Improve Service Delivery Through Technology -Digital Onboarding via HR

- HR Manager is in the process of researching options for Digital HR platforms.

New Ideas

Plan & develop additional volunteer opportunities for youth (Recreation, Library, etc.) -ongoing*

- This quarter has seen the Community Services team regrouping to resume a more normalized, pre-COVID volunteer program. This has included meeting with the new HR Manager to review documents and processes; reviewing and updating position descriptions; developing position descriptions for newly developed roles; and developing a new volunteer tracking tool that will better help us to track hours served.