

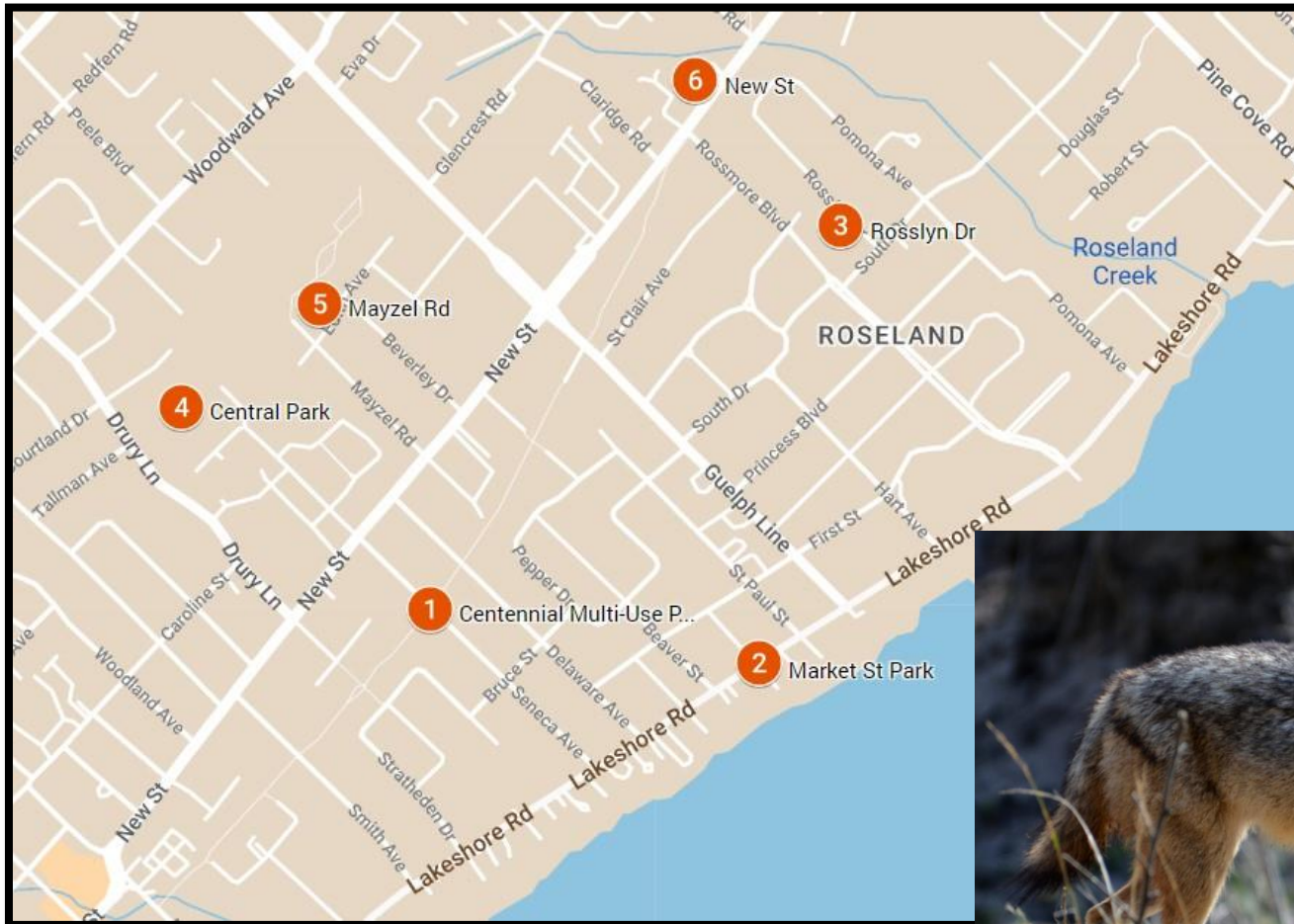
Coyote Incident Management Update

as of September 14, 2022

Corporate Services, Strategy, Risk &
Accountability Committee

September 14, 2022

City of Burlington – Locations of Physical Attacks



**Aggressive coyotes
present in this area**

**Visit burlington.ca/coyote
for more information**
**Report attacks to Animal Services
905-335-3030**



Situational Update

Attack Information and Follow up

- Attacks confirmed and reported by victim to Animal Control and disposition of coyote
 - #1 - July 30 early morning – Centennial Multi-Use Trail (between Seneca and Smith) – scratches – coyote #1 located and eliminated on August 24
 - #2 - August 6 night – Park near/around Lakeshore Road and Market Street – bite - coyote #1 located and eliminated on August 24
 - #3 – August 20 morning - Rosslyn Drive – bite - coyote #1 located and eliminated on August 24
 - #4 - August 24 early morning – Central Park – Roseland Plaza area – Bite - coyote #2 still at large yet still being sought by Animal Services and Certified Wildlife Professional for elimination. There have been sightings, but this particular animal seems to be mobile and not lingering in the area
 - #6 – September 10 early morning – New Street – bite – coyote #3 currently being sought through Animal Service and Certified Wildlife Professional for elimination.
- Attack confirmed and not reported by victim to Animal Control
 - #5 August 24 night - Mayzel Road area – Bite – unable to confirm coyote identity as unable to speak to victim.
- Mayor and members of Council have connected with victims to offer comfort and provide support.

Situational Update (continued)

Immediate and On-going Actions

- Incident response approach taken immediately upon notification of reported attacks. With escalating situation, the City has activated its crisis management team (CMT) for City staff to make decisions about resourcing, follow up with staff actions and provide updates to Council.
- Staff report CM-26-22, on today's committee and special council meeting agendas, seeking approval for changes to operations specifically to address City's coyote management response
- Animal Services staff are working with a Certified Wildlife Professional (CWP) in locating, trapping and eliminating coyotes as required by City's coyote response strategy protocols.
 - Specific operations targeted to denning areas
- Animal Services and CWP also patrolling through attack area to assess for probable cause of attraction to the area (i.e. food source, other attractions)
- Staff are utilizing online reporting data, as well as tools, such as trail cams and drones, to help scope areas and to investigate potential locations of dens and to remove intentional food sources
- By-law enforcement are prioritizing the investigation of derelict properties to have owners comply with property standards and minimize potential denning sites.

Situational Update (continued)

Communications

- Enhanced signage with notice of aggressive coyote behaviour has been placed at the intersections:
 - Drury Lane and New Street,
 - Guelph Line and Woodward,
 - Guelph Line and Lakeshore and
 - New Street and Dynes.
- Larger signs have been put in place and will remain in place until the threat is reduced.
- Media releases and social media blasts were posted on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter and will continue until the threat is reduced.
- Seasonal awareness campaigns exist, and staff is seeking additional specific funding to enhance these campaigns.
- Whistle distribution campaign is underway to provide a whistle and brochure, as a public safety measure, so residents have a means to make noise as part of the hazing techniques and learning to co-exist with coyotes. Whistles are available through Burlington Public Library locations and City of Burlington Community Centers.

Situational Update (continued)

Coordination with Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry (MNRF)

- The Mayor contacted and spoke directly with the Minister of Natural Resources & Forestry on Saturday, September 10
- Through these efforts, City staff has connected with Ministry staff for further work to assist the City in dealing with this increasing threat by coyotes
- Based on Ministry expertise, the working theory is the attacks are the work of one family of coyotes – who tend to operate up to a 15km range, and all attacks have occurred in this range.
 - It is likely the first coyote eliminated was responsible for the first three attacks, and members of his family are for the remaining three
 - Animal Services is working with MNRF and the CWP to locate and eliminate the coyotes
- The working theory also suggests these attacks are the result of intentional feeding of wildlife; creating an environment where wildfeed is conditioned with direct human interaction, crossing the boundary into a conditioned relationship with humans and not being able to distinguish between humans. Such food conditioning creates a high-risk scenario when food is removed or not offered by another human.
 - People are attacked, and coyotes are being exterminated for a situation they did not create.

Decisions Recap

In accordance with established governance and decision-making guidelines (refer slide 7), CM-26-22 is seeking approval and endorsement of the decisions of Council and Management as summarized:

Committee/Council

- Single source a Certified Wildlife Professional (CWP) for a multi-year agreement for the remainder of 2022 and the duration of 2023, with renewal options
- Immediate implementation of a new two-year Coyote Action and Awareness Program specifically directed at delivering enhanced coyote response services as defined in the report
- Reporting back in City Council's 2023 Budget consideration on the establishment of the proposed new By-Law Compliance Department inclusive of an enhanced coyote response model as part of the Animal Services function and a full review and update of the current City of Burlington Animal Services By-law (By-law #60-2005) and Coyote Response Strategy
- Implementation of agreed upon recommendations from the Burlington & Oakville Coyote Management (BOCM) and initiation of joint discussions with Town of Oakville and City of Burlington to develop and implement a coordinated workplan where feasible.

Burlington Leadership Team/CMT/Service Leads

Prioritization of Building & By-law Resources

- By-law Enforcement - locating derelict properties for immediate follow-up
- Building Inspectors – review of active construction sites for proper containment of garbage including food scraps
- By-law Enforcement & Building Inspectors - inactive construction sites are to be leveled and cleared for any potential denning sites
- Animal Services - focus placed on denning sites and possible illegal feeding of wildlife
- Roads, Parks & Forestry – removal of located food sources on public property

Governance and Decision-Making

The extent of the re-design in service delivery will direct the decision-making process and ultimately, where the decision is made. The following are guidelines for decisions.

Committee/Council

- Service Level impacts (each stage)
 - Increase and/or decrease of service levels – longer-term
 - Commission and/or decommission of services
- Financial Impacts
 - 2020 operating and capital budget implications
- Corporate policy impacts
- Community Impacts
- Reputation and other risks

How:

Approval of Council based on separate motion tied to specific criteria (as indicated above) for service program changes.

Burlington Leadership Team/ECG/Service Leads

- Tactical and operational impacts on City services delivered within the limits of Council approved service levels and budgets;
- Human resource deployment
- Health & safety issues
- Immediate operational response related to COVID-19 and other emergencies (e.g. weather events)

How:

Endorsement of Council of service modifications decisions made by staff.