

RCMP 2026/2027 COMMUNITY POLICING PRIORITIES WHAT WE HEARD

May 2026



The Town of Crossfield thanks all community members who participated in the survey or attended the Open House. Community feedback plays an important role in helping ensure the RCMP's 2026–2027 Community Policing Priorities reflect local needs, concerns, and expectations.

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BACKGROUND

Many small municipalities throughout Alberta operate under the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) contract policing model, where municipal policing services are delivered through a partnership between the RCMP and the local municipal government. As a growing community of approximately 4,200 residents, Crossfield works closely with the RCMP to support local policing and safety initiatives. The RCMP also works alongside the Town's Bylaw and Community Peace Officers to support enforcement, education, and compliance activities. While municipal enforcement staff primarily focus on enforcing provincial statutes and municipal bylaws, the RCMP is responsible for criminal matters and broader policing services within the community.

To help ensure policing efforts reflect local needs and concerns, the Town of Crossfield works collaboratively with the RCMP to support the development of community policing priorities that help guide enforcement activities, public education, outreach initiatives, and broader safety efforts. These priorities help focus policing resources on the issues most important to residents, businesses, and the community as a whole.

In May 2026, the Town of Crossfield undertook public engagement activities to help inform the development of the 2026–2027 RCMP Community Policing Priorities. Residents, business owners, and individuals who work in Crossfield were invited to share their perceptions of community safety, identify local safety concerns, provide input on policing priorities, and highlight locations where they have experienced or observed public safety-related issues. Participants were also encouraged to provide feedback on opportunities to improve community safety, address local concerns, support prevention and enforcement efforts, and enhance overall community wellbeing.

ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

PROMOTION & OUTREACH

To gather community input regarding local safety concerns and policing priorities, the Town of Crossfield conducted an online survey and an in-person Open House at the local Fire Station.

Both engagement opportunities were supported by a comprehensive public awareness campaign that included the Town of Crossfield's website, social media channels, printed materials, and postcard-sized mailouts distributed throughout the community. Information promoting the survey and Open House was displayed at key community locations, including the Crossfield Community Centre, Pete Knight Memorial Arena, Crossfield Municipal Library, Town Administration Office, a local grocery store, and W.G. Murdoch School (Grades 7–12). Promotional materials included details regarding both engagement opportunities and a QR code providing direct access to the online survey.

SURVEY

An online survey was conducted from April 22 to May 9, 2026, to gather community input regarding local safety concerns, policing priorities, traffic and enforcement issues, and opportunities to enhance community safety and wellbeing.

The survey was open to residents, business owners, and individuals who work in Crossfield. Participants were asked a series of questions regarding their perceptions of community safety, local safety concerns, policing priorities, and opportunities to improve safety and wellbeing within the community.

To encourage participation from older adults, paper copies of the survey were distributed to residents of Rocky View Lodge and Dr. Whillans Manor, as well as the Golden Key Club. Completed paper surveys were manually entered and incorporated into the overall survey results.

A total of 249 survey responses were collected.

OPEN HOUSE

The in-person Open House was held on May 27, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Crossfield Fire Hall. The event provided residents with an opportunity to discuss local safety concerns, and share feedback directly with representatives from the RCMP, Municipal Enforcement, and Town Administrative staff.

The Open House featured several engagement stations:

- **Welcome Board**

The Welcome Board introduced the purpose of the engagement and explained that community feedback would be used to help identify local safety concerns and inform the RCMP's 2026–2027 Community Policing Priorities for the Town of Crossfield. Participants were encouraged to visit each engagement station and share their experiences, concerns, and ideas related to community safety in Crossfield.

- **Community Safety Concerns Board**

Participants were invited to identify specific community safety concerns, policing issues, and enforcement priorities by recording their feedback on individual sticky notes. Residents were encouraged to be as specific as possible, and include details such as locations, times of day, or recurring issues.

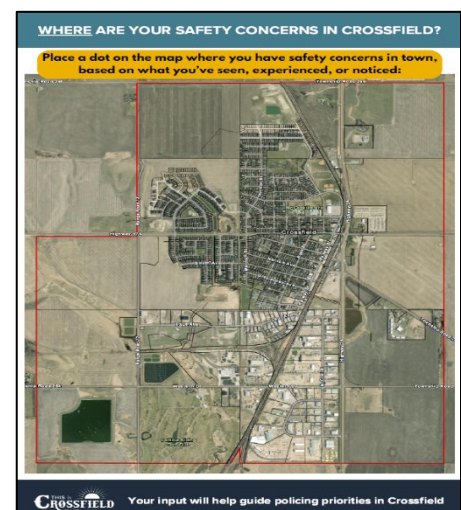
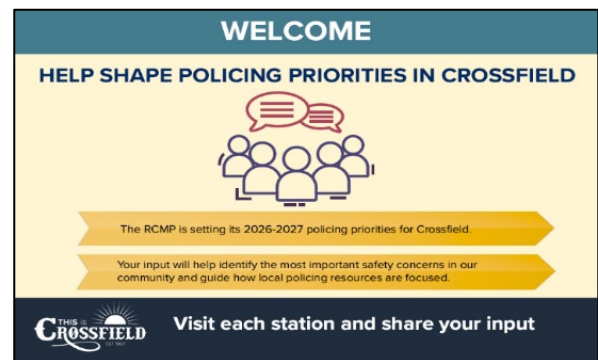
- **Community Safety Mapping Board**

Participants were asked to identify locations within Crossfield where they had experienced, witnessed, or observed safety concerns. Residents placed markers directly on an aerial map of the community, helping to identify geographic areas where safety concerns were concentrated.

A survey station was available at the Open House, where seven (7) completed paper surveys were collected, manually entered, and incorporated into the overall survey results.

A total of 21 community members attended the Open House.

(Attendance figures exclude members of Town Council, Administration, and Fire Department staff who attended in support of the event).



WHAT WE HEARD AT A GLANCE



249
SURVEY
RESPONSES



21
OPEN HOUSE
PARTICIPANTS



25
MAP LOCATIONS
IDENTIFIED



43
OPEN-ENDED
RESPONSES

KEY THEMES IDENTIFIED



ENFORCEMENT VISIBILITY & PATROL PRESENCE
Residents consistently expressed a desire for increased enforcement visibility throughout the community.



TRAFFIC SAFETY & SPEEDING
Speeding, dangerous driving behaviors, distracted driving, and school-area safety were frequently identified concerns.



PROPERTY CRIME & THEFT
Concerns included theft from vehicles, break-ins, vandalism, suspicious activity, and crimes of opportunity.



PEDESTRIAN SAFETY
Crosswalk compliance, pedestrian awareness, and intersection safety were recurring concerns.



E-BIKE & E-SCOOTER SAFETY
Participants identified concerns regarding the safe operation of e-bikes and e-scooters.



YOUTH BEHAVIOR & COMMUNITY SAFETY
Concerns included vandalism, loitering, littering, and unsafe behaviors involving youth.

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS



93%
of respondents reported feeling safe during daytime hours.



While most respondents continue to feel safe at night, perceptions of safety decrease during evening and overnight hours.



More than half of respondents indicated they may be willing to participate in community safety initiatives, depending on the opportunity available.



KEY OBSERVATION

Residents generally identified concerns based on their impact to community safety rather than the agency responsible for addressing them. As a result, the feedback reflects issues that fall under the responsibilities of the RCMP and town Municipal Enforcement.

MOST FREQUENTLY IDENTIFIED LOCATIONS

1

Vista Crossing / Knight Avenue Area

2

North of Iron Landing Subdivision

3

McCaskill Drive near Veterans Park

4

Alley east of Harrison Street and north of Whitfield

5

Saskatchewan Street & Mountain Avenue

6

Limit Avenue & Railway Street



HOW THE INFORMATION WILL BE USED

The engagement findings will be provided to the RCMP for consideration in the development of the 2026-2027 Community Priorities Plan. Once developed, the proposed priorities will be presented by the RCMP to Council for review and discussion.



ENGAGEMENT RESULTS

SURVEY RESULTS

Q1: HOW SAFE DO YOU FEEL IN THE TOWN OF CROSSFIELD DURING THE DAY?

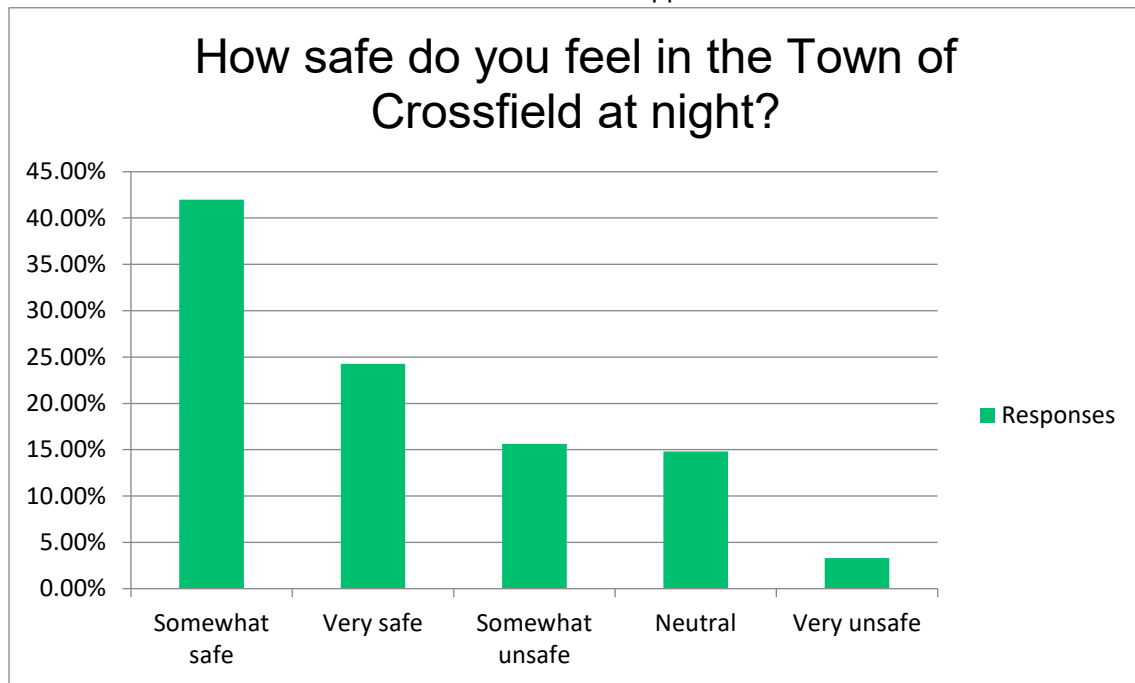
Answered: 243 Skipped:6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very safe	67.08%	163
Somewhat safe	26.34%	64
Neutral	4.53%	11
Somewhat unsafe	1.23%	3
Very unsafe	0.82%	2
TOTAL		243

Q2: HOW SAFE DO YOU FEEL IN THE TOWN OF CROSSFIELD AT NIGHT?

Answered: 243 Skipped:6



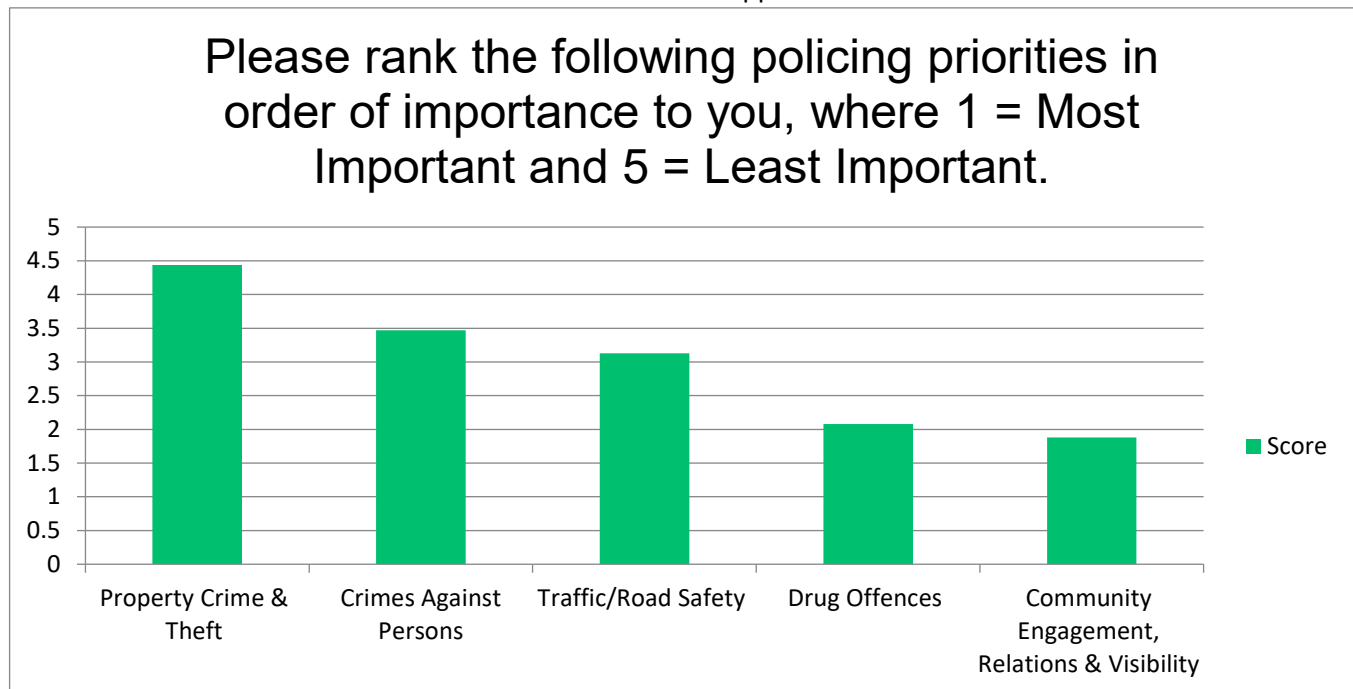
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Somewhat safe	41.98%	102
Very safe	24.28%	59
Somewhat unsafe	15.64%	38
Neutral	14.81%	36
Very unsafe	3.29%	8
TOTAL		243

Q3: PLEASE RANK THE FOLLOWING POLICING PRIORITIES IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE TO YOU.

(1 = most important, and 5 = least important.)

Property Crime & Theft	Vehicle theft, theft from a vehicle, break & enter, vandalism, mischief theft, possession of stolen property, property damage, cyber security breaches
Crimes Against Persons	Assault, domestic violence, fraud, identity theft, uttering threats, homicide, human trafficking, kidnapping, firearms/weapons, etc.
Traffic/Road Safety	Impaired driving, speeding, distracted driving
Drug Offences	Possession of controlled substances, drug trafficking, drug production.
Community Engagement, Relations & Visibility	Crime prevention education, community patrols, school presentations/visits, collaboration with other community partners/organizations – e.g. seniors' groups, minor sport groups, etc.

Answered: 234 Skipped:15



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES				
	1 (Highest Priority)	2	3	4	5 (Lowest Priority)
Property Crime & Theft	58.97%	29.95%	10.14%	0.92%	0.46%
Crimes Against Persons	23.50%	29.06%	26.73%	16.13%	4.15%
Traffic/Road Safety	14.29%	24.42%	26.50%	24.88%	10.60%
Drug Offences	0.92%	7.83%	22.12%	38.89%	31.34%
Community Engagement, Relations & Visibility	2.76%	8.29%	15.21%	20.28%	54.27%

Q4: DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER POLICING PRIORITIES OR CONCERNS THAT DO NOT FIT WITHIN THE CATEGORIES LISTED ABOVE?

Answered: 47 Skipped:202

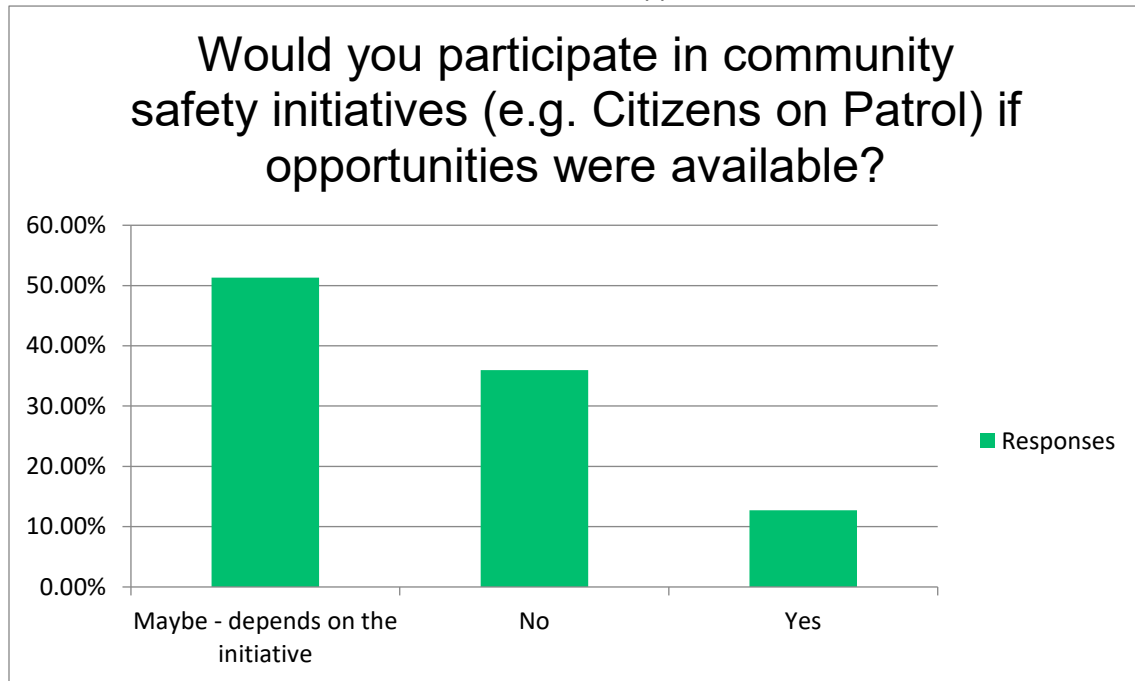
Top Five Recurring Themes Identified in Open-Ended Responses:	
Increased Visibility & Patrols	<i>Residents frequently requested a more visible enforcement presence throughout the community, particularly during evening and overnight hours. Many respondents indicated that regular patrols would help deter crime, speeding, vandalism, and other undesirable behaviours.</i>
Traffic Safety & Enforcement	<i>Concerns included speeding, failure to stop at stop signs, distracted driving, impaired driving, unsafe driving near schools and playgrounds, and the need for increased traffic enforcement and radar enforcement.</i>
Property Crime, Theft & Vandalism	<i>Residents identified concerns regarding vehicle thefts, theft from vehicles, break-ins, vandalism, suspicious activity, and crimes of opportunity, particularly during overnight hours.</i>
Community Safety & Crime Prevention	<i>Respondents expressed concerns regarding general criminal activity, drug-related activity, disorderly behaviour, suspicious persons, and maintaining a sense of safety within the community.</i>
Bylaw Compliance	<i>Residents identified concerns related to animal control, noise violations, littering, property maintenance.</i>
Other Recurring Themes Identified in Open-Ended Responses:	
Youth Behaviour and Youth Safety	<i>Vandalism, littering, smoking, loitering, unsafe operation of bicycles, e-bikes, and scooters, and lack of helmet use.</i>
Community Engagement, Education and Prevention Programs	<i>Requests for more officer interaction with residents, foot patrols, and greater familiarity between officers and the community, including an interest in public education related to traffic safety, crime prevention, youth safety, and responsible use of community infrastructure.</i>
Pedestrian and Crosswalk Safety	<i>Crosswalk compliance, pedestrian awareness, school-area safety, and public education regarding pedestrian crossings.</i>
Neighbourhood-Specific Traffic Concerns	<i>Concerns regarding speeding and unsafe driving in residential areas, specifically Iron Landing Way, Limit Avenue, Murdoch Street, and Whitfield Avenue.</i>
Signage and Traffic Control Infrastructure	<i>Requests for improved signage, traffic controls, and intersection safety measures.</i>

Key Observation

A recurring theme throughout the responses was the desire for increased police visibility. Many respondents associated concerns related to traffic safety, property crime, vandalism, impaired driving, and youth behaviour with a perceived lack of visible patrols, particularly during evening and overnight hours. This suggests that residents view increased police presence as a key factor in improving community safety.

Q5: WOULD YOU PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES (e.g. Citizens on Patrol) IF OPPORTUNITIES WERE AVAILABLE?

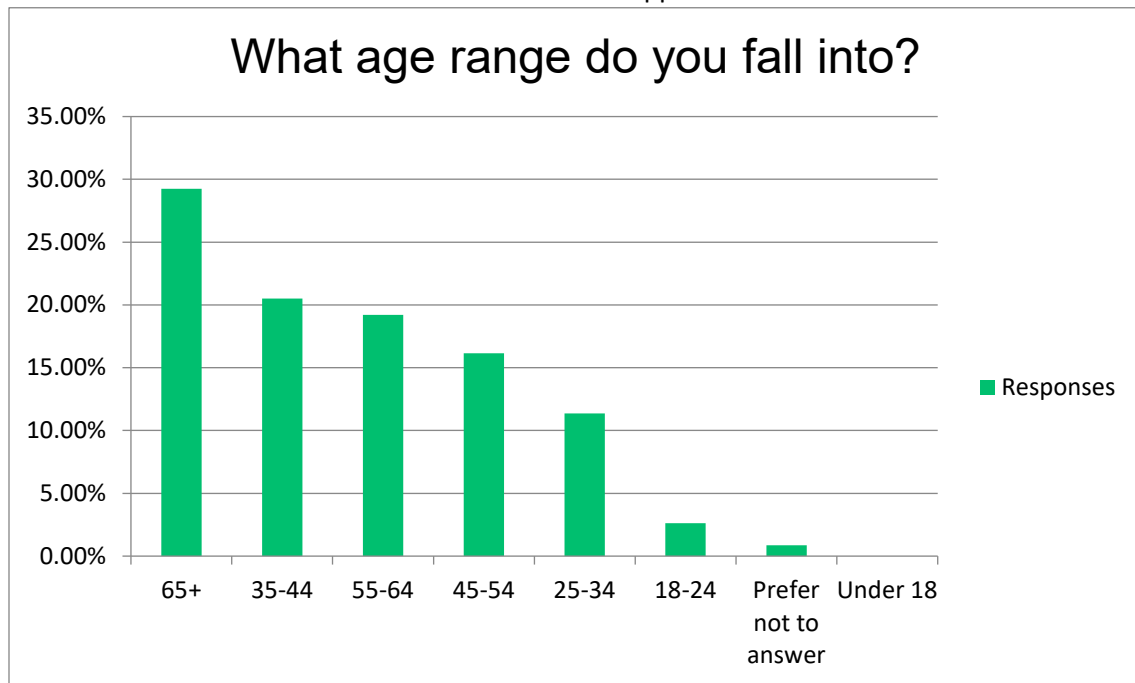
Answered: 228 Skipped:21



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Maybe - depends on the initiative	51.32%	117
No	35.96%	82
Yes	12.72%	29
TOTAL		228

Q6: WHAT AGE RANGE DO YOU FALL INTO?

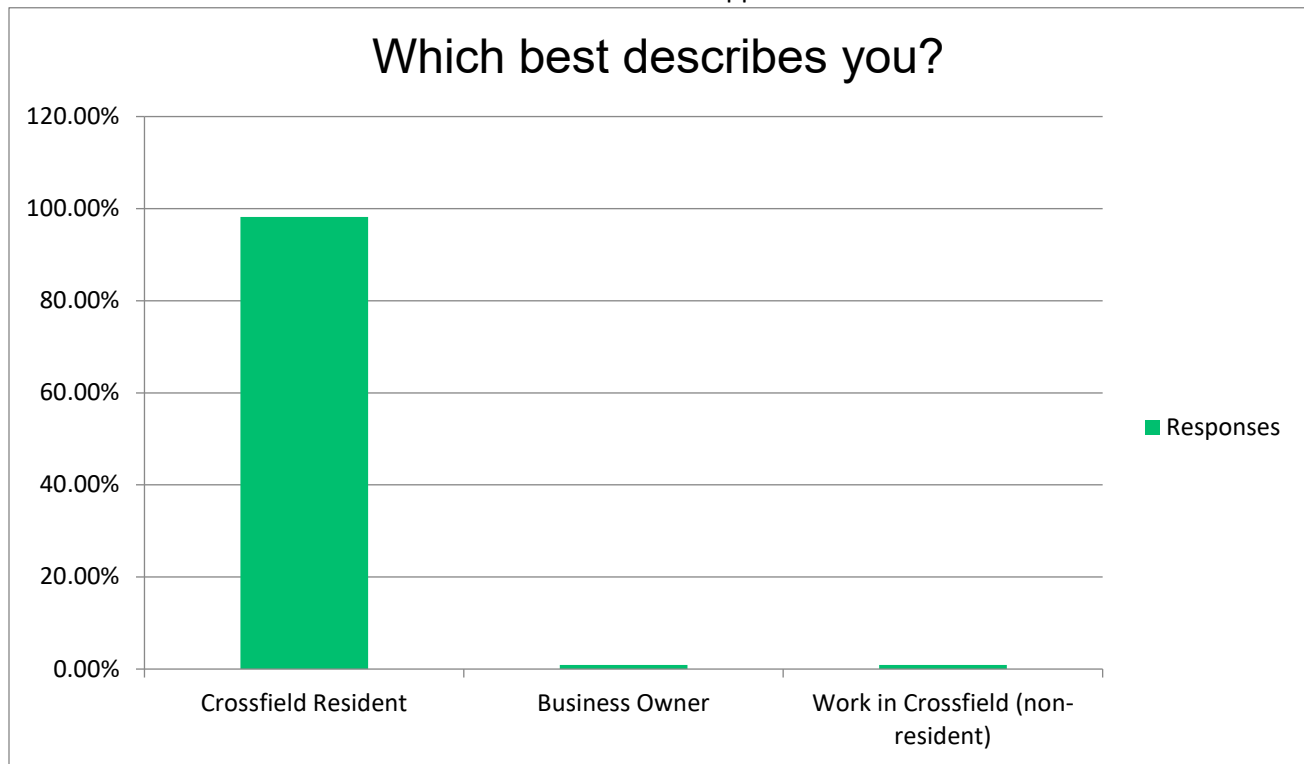
Answered: 229 Skipped:20



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
65+	29.26%	67
35-44	20.52%	47
55-64	19.21%	44
45-54	16.16%	37
25-34	11.35%	26
18-24	2.62%	6
Prefer not to answer	0.87%	2
Under 18	0.00%	0
TOTAL		229

Q7: WHICH BEST DESCRIBES YOU?

Answered: 225 Skipped:24



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Crossfield Resident	98.08%	221
Business Owner	0.96%	2
Work in Crossfield (non-resident)	0.96%	2
TOTAL		225

OPEN HOUSE FEEDBACK SUMMARY

Feedback collected at the May 27, 2026 Open House sought insights to complement the survey questions. Input was gathered through two interactive boards focused on identifying community safety concerns and location-specific areas of concern within the community.



Understanding Community Safety Responsibilities

The feedback received through the Open House highlighted a broad range of community safety concerns. Participants generally identified issues based on their impact to the community rather than the specific agency responsible for addressing them. As a result, the feedback includes concerns that fall under the responsibilities of the RCMP and Municipal Enforcement (Peace Officers/Bylaw Officer), as well as matters that may require a coordinated response between agencies.

Concerns relating to criminal activity, property crime, theft, vandalism, suspicious activity, generally fall within the RCMP's mandate. Issues such as parking violations, animal control, property maintenance, sidewalk compliance, and other bylaw-related matters are typically addressed through municipal enforcement staff.

Several concerns identified by participants, including speeding, traffic safety, pedestrian safety, and the operation of e-bikes and e-scooters, involve overlapping responsibilities and may require a combination of enforcement, education, and community awareness initiatives involving both agencies.

The illustration below provides a general overview of the primary areas of responsibility associated with the concerns identified during the Open House.



While not all concerns raised through the Open House fall within the RCMP's direct mandate, the feedback provides valuable insight into residents' overall perceptions of community safety, and highlights opportunities for collaboration between enforcement agencies and municipal services.

Board #1 – Community Safety Concerns

The first interactive board, "What Are Your Community Safety Concerns?", invited participants to identify safety issues affecting Crossfield. The comments received reflected a broad range of concerns, including traffic safety, police visibility, property crime, animal control, youth-related issues, and the growing use of e-bikes and e-scooters.

Key themes identified:

- Police Visibility and Patrol Presence
- Traffic Safety, Speeding and Driver Behaviour
- Property Crime and Theft
- E-Bike and E-Scooter Safety
- Animal Control Concerns
- Youth Behaviour and Community Safety



Board #2: Community Safety Mapping Board

The second interactive board, "**Where Are Your Safety Concerns in Crossfield?**", invited participants to identify specific locations within the community where they had experienced, witnessed, or observed safety concerns. Participants placed sticky dots on a map of Crossfield, helping to identify geographic areas where concerns were concentrated. This mapping exercise provided valuable context by identifying *where* residents perceive safety issues to occur, complementing the broader concerns identified through the survey Board #1.

Map Findings:

A total of twenty-five (25) locations were identified through the mapping exercise. The identified locations represent areas where participants reported experiencing or observing safety concerns. While concerns were distributed throughout the community, several recurring locations emerged as areas where participants most frequently experienced or observed safety-related issues. All identified locations were situated within residential neighbourhoods or adjacent to parks, schools, pathways, and community gathering spaces. No locations were identified within commercial or industrial areas. Identified locations include:

- **Vista Crossing / Knight Avenue Area**
The highest concentration of responses was identified in the area surrounding the undeveloped parcel of land located between the Vista Crossing neighbourhood and Knight Avenue. This location received the greatest number of dots (five) and emerged as the most frequently identified area of concern.
- **North of Iron Landing Subdivision**
The second highest concentration of responses was located north of the Iron Landing subdivision, west of the railway tracks and south of Township Road 290. This area received three (3) dots.
- **McCaskill Drive near Veterans Park**
Several participants identified concerns along McCaskill Drive adjacent to Veterans Park and the surrounding residential area, making it another notable location of concern.
- **Alley East of Harrison Street and North of Whitfield Avenue**
A section of alleyway running south from Veterans Park, and east of Harrison Street, received multiple markers and was identified as a recurring area of concern.
- **Saskatchewan Street and Mountain Avenue Intersection**
The intersection near the elementary school at Saskatchewan Street and Mountain Avenue was identified by multiple participants as a location where safety concerns have been observed.
- **Limit Avenue and Railway Street Intersection**
The intersection of Limit Avenue and Railway Street was also identified by multiple participants. This location



was further highlighted through comments submitted on the Community Safety Concerns Board, particularly regarding pedestrian safety and requests for enhanced crossing infrastructure.

General Observations

The locations identified through the mapping exercise align closely with the key themes raised through the Board #1, particularly issues such as traffic safety, speeding, pedestrian safety, youth activity, and concerns associated with parks, schools, and community gathering spaces.

Overall, the identified locations were concentrated within the northern and central portions of Crossfield, and all were situated within residential areas. No concerns were identified east of Highway 2A or within the industrial areas. However, this finding may be partially attributable to lower participation rates from local businesses and industrial stakeholders, resulting in fewer opportunities for concerns in those areas to be identified through this engagement process.

A detailed summary of all Open House feedback is included in Appendix A.

OVERALL INSIGHT

The engagement results indicate that residents generally view Crossfield as a safe community, with most respondents reporting that they feel safe during both daytime and nighttime hours. However, the feedback also identified opportunities to strengthen both actual and perceived community safety as the community continues to grow.

A consistent theme throughout both the survey and Open House was the desire for a more visible enforcement presence within the community. Residents frequently identified increased patrols and officer visibility as important factors in addressing concerns related to traffic safety, property crime, vandalism, suspicious activity, and youth-related behaviours.

The engagement also demonstrated that community safety concerns extend beyond traditional policing. Participants identified concerns spanning RCMP policing responsibilities, municipal enforcement functions, and broader community livability matters. Several issues reflected areas of overlap where enforcement, education, awareness, and community engagement may collectively contribute to improved outcomes. As a result, addressing many of the concerns raised will require ongoing collaboration between enforcement agencies, Town Administration, community organizations, and residents.

Overall, the findings suggest that residents support a balanced approach to community safety that combines enforcement, visibility, prevention, education, and community engagement. The results provide valuable direction for the development of the 2026–2027 RCMP Community Policing Priorities and broader community safety initiatives.

KEY FINDINGS

1. Residents Generally Feel Safe

- More than 93% of respondents reported feeling either very safe or somewhat safe during daytime hours.
- While most respondents also reported feeling safe at night, perceptions of safety decline during evening and overnight hours.

2. Increased Enforcement Visibility is a Key Community Expectation

- Increased patrol presence and officer visibility emerged as the most consistent theme throughout both the survey and Open House.
- Residents frequently linked visible enforcement presence to improvements in traffic safety, crime prevention, vandalism reduction, and overall community confidence.

3. Property Crime and Theft Remain Important Policing Concerns

- Property Crime & Theft was ranked as the highest policing priority by survey respondents.
- Concerns included theft from vehicles, break-ins, vandalism, suspicious activity, and crimes of opportunity.

4. Traffic Safety is a Significant Community Concern

- Speeding, dangerous driving behaviours, distracted driving, impaired driving, and pedestrian safety were frequently identified concerns.
- Residents expressed a desire for increased enforcement and education initiatives, particularly within residential neighbourhoods and near schools and parks.

5. Community Safety Extend Beyond Traditional Policing

- Participants identified concerns relating to criminal activity, traffic safety, bylaw compliance, animal control, youth behaviour, property maintenance compliance, and e-bike/e-scooter use.
- Many concerns involve shared responsibilities between the RCMP and municipal enforcement.

6. Residential Areas are the Primary Locations of Concern

- Safety concerns were predominantly identified within residential neighbourhoods and near parks, schools, pathways, and community gathering spaces.
- No concerns were identified within commercial or industrial areas, however, limited participation from industrial businesses and stakeholders may have contributed to the absence of identified concerns.

7. Residents Demonstrated Interest in Community-Based Safety Initiatives

- More than half of respondents (51%) indicated they may be willing to participate in community safety initiatives depending on the opportunities available.
- The results suggest potential support for future crime prevention, neighbourhood watch, public education, and community-based safety programs.

NEXT STEPS

This report, including the findings from both the community survey and Open House, will be provided to the RCMP for consideration as they develop their 2026–2027 Community Policing Priorities.

The RCMP will review the engagement results alongside crime and calls-for-service data, enforcement activities, crime analysis, emerging trends, and other local policing considerations to identify proposed priorities for the upcoming planning period.

Once developed, the proposed Community Priorities Plan will be presented to Council by the RCMP for review and discussion. The plan will help guide local policing efforts, community engagement activities, crime prevention initiatives, and enforcement focus areas over the 2026–2027 period.

APPENDIX A: OPEN HOUSE FEEDBACK RESULTS

Date: Wednesday May 27, 2026

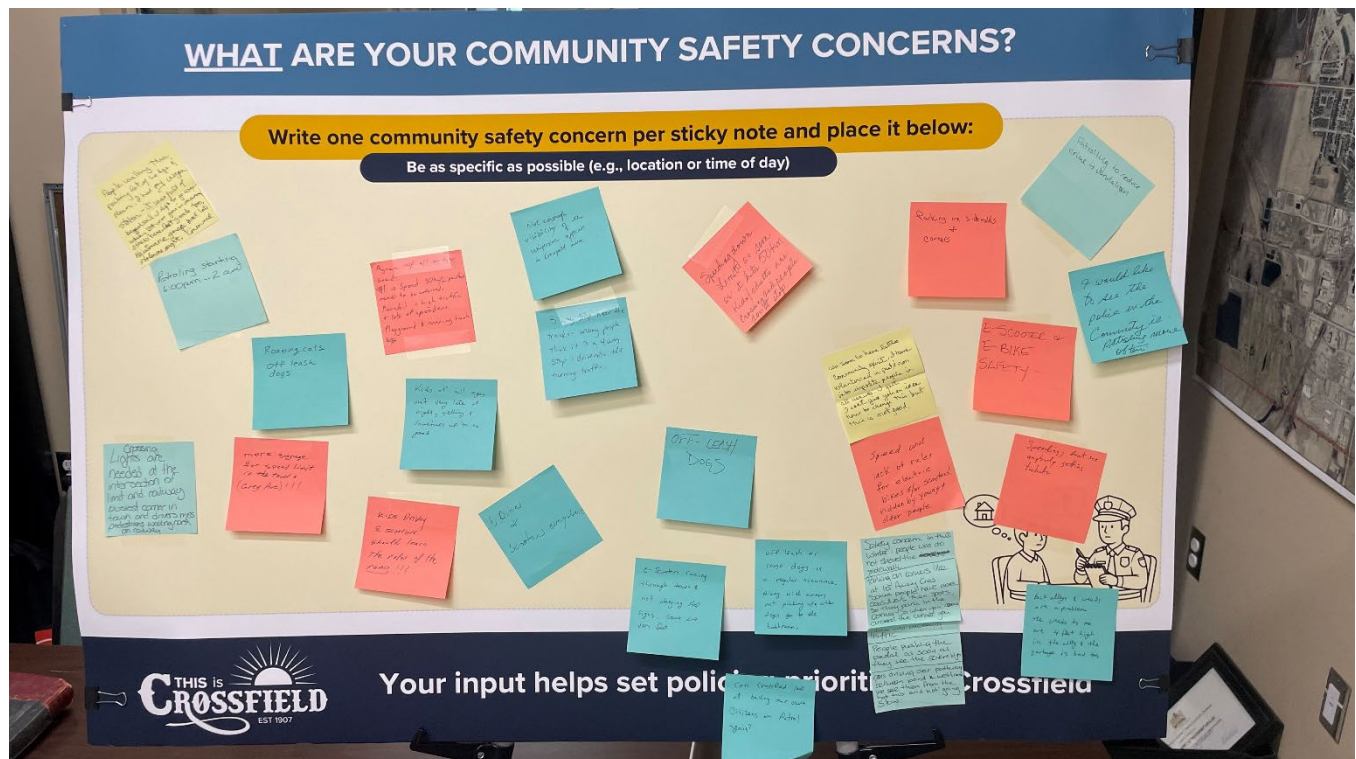
Time: 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Town of Crossfield Fire Hall (1601 Railway Street)

Residents were invited to provide input through two interactive engagement boards. Feedback was collected through written comments and location markers and has been grouped by common themes below.

Board #1: Community Safety Concerns

Prompt: What are your community safety concerns?



Participant Comments (Verbatim):

Note:

The following comments were submitted by participants during the May 27, 2026 Open House and are presented substantially as received. Inclusion of a comment does not constitute validation or endorsement by the Town, RCMP, or Municipal Enforcement.

- People walking through parking lot of the Lodge & Manor. I had my wagon stolen – it was full of bagged soil. I left to go somewhere. It was gone in the morning. Others have lost goods too. Maintenance garage had lots stolen one night. Concerned.
- Patrolling starting 6pm-2am.
- Roaming cats, off-leash dogs.
- Crossing lights are needed at the intersection of limit and railway – busiest corner in town and drivers miss pedestrians walking north on railway.
- More signage for speed limit in the town, particularly Grey Ave!
- Agree with all on the board. The #1 is speed, 30km/hr perfect, but needs to be enforced. McCaskill is high traffic with lots of speeders. Playground & running track are nearby.
- Kids of all ages out very late at night yelling and sometimes up to no good.
- Kids driving e-scooters should learn the rules of the road!!!
- Not enough visibility of the uniform officers in Crossfield area.
- 3-way stop near the train track – many people think it's a 4 way stop and drive into the turning traffic.
- E-bikes and e-scooters everywhere.
- Off-leash dogs.
- Speeding down Limit Ave as soon as it hits 50km/hour, meanwhile kids/adults are crossing there and people don't stop.
- E-scooters racing through town and not obeying stop signs. Some are very fast.
- Off-leash or loose dogs is a regular occurrence. Along with owners not picking up after dogs.
- Can Crossfield look in to having our own Citizens on Patrol again?
- Parking on sidewalks and corners.
- Patrolling to reduce crime and vandalism.
- We seem to have little community spirit; I have volunteered in the past and ran into impolite people in all venues. I quit. I can't give you an idea how to change this, but this is not good.
- Speed and lack of rules for electric bikes/s-scooter! Ridden by young and older people.
- Safety concern in the winter: people who do not shovel their sidewalk.
- Parking on corners like on Amery Cres. Some people have more cars and R.V.s then spots, so they park on the corner, so when you come around the corner you have to drive into oncoming traffic.
- People pushing the gas pedal as soon as they see the 50km sign.
- Cars driving over pathway between pond & wetland, and they are not going slow.
- E-scooter and e-bike safety
- I would like to see the police in the community, i.e. more patrolling more often.
- Speeding – don't see anybody getting tickets.

- Back alleys and weeds are a problem. The weeds by me are 4 feet high in the alley and the garbage is bad too.

Board #2: Community Safety Mapping Exercise

Prompt: *Where are your safety concerns in Crossfield?*

