

TTC Security Statistical Report - 2007

Meeting Date: July 10, 2008

Subject: TTC Security Statistical Report - 2007

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission receive the attached report for information.

Discussion

This report includes statistics for the following categories:

1. Criminal Code Offences (Chart 1)
2. TTC Annual Crime Rate (Chart 2)
3. Crimes Against Customers (Chart 3)
4. TTC Annual Crimes Against Customers Rate (Chart 4)
5. Emergency/Security Calls Attended by TTC Special Constables (Chart 5)
6. Arrests by TTC Special Constables (Chart 6)
7. Criminal Charges and Cautions (Chart 7)
8. Provincial Statutes & TTC By-Law No. 1 Charges by TTC Special Constables (Chart 8)

Reports of TTC crime, received from members of the public and employees, are submitted by Toronto Police Officers and TTC Special Constables on Toronto Police Service (TPS) report forms and processed by the Toronto Police Service. Once processed, the information is forwarded to TTC Special Constable Services, System Security Section, for further processing and analysis. Statistical information is managed by the TTC in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding between the TTC and TPS.

The criminal statistics in Charts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 count all TTC criminal offences reported to and processed by the Toronto Police Service. It is important to note that a single criminal incident occurring on the TTC may generate more than one criminal offence due to the nature of the incident and/or apprehension of suspects.

The total number of TTC criminal incidents increased 4% in 2007 with ridership increasing at almost the same rate at 3.4%.

In 2007, the number of reported criminal offences increased 13% as compared to 2006 (Chart 1). The TTC crime rate per 100,000 riders increased from 0.77 in 2006 to 0.84 in 2007 (Chart 2).

Close examination of the statistical information is required to understand the trends. Continued rollout of subway station CCTV cameras in combination with the deployment of additional TTC Special Constables has resulted in increased enforcement and investigative capabilities. This has resulted in the identification of more suspects resulting in a 19% increase in criminal charges and cautions as compared to 2006 (Chart 7), and has contributed to the increase in reported criminal offences (Chart 1).

As customers become more familiar with the role of a TTC Special Constable through their increased presence in the subway, the number of reported criminal incidents will likely increase. Also, with full execution of the TTC Special Constable Subway Deployment Review Plan in 2011, and with complete installation of subway station CCTV cameras in 2011, future increases in the number of reported criminal offences and criminal charges/cautions is anticipated.

Criminal activity on the TTC is being addressed through the continued execution of the TTC Special Constable Subway Deployment Review Plan which will ensure an effective and visible transit law enforcement presence in the subway. In 2006 and 2007, a total of 22 Special Constable Services employees were hired in support of this plan. Another 22 employees will be hired by the end of 2008. The plan also calls for the hiring of 20 employees in each year between 2009-2011 for a total of 104 new Special Constable Services employees over a six year period (2006-2011). Currently, there are 95 TTC Special Constables. By the end of 2011, there will be 176 Special Constables.

In addition to planned increases in TTC special constable staffing levels, subway station camera installation is ongoing. At this time, there are approximately 1,450 subway station cameras in place with a total of 2,300 cameras planned by the end of 2011. Also, 300 surface vehicles have been equipped with on-board cameras with the remainder to be installed by the end of 2009.

These security initiatives supplement the following security measures already in place:

- Security Information on TTC Website – includes content of pamphlets titled “Safety and Security on the TTC – A Rider’s Guide”, “Transit Security Tips” and “TTC Special Constable Services – Your Community and Safety Partners”
- Designated Waiting Areas – located on all train platforms and are equipped with prominent lights, intercom to Station Collector, CCTV camera and public telephone
- Passenger Assistance Alarms – an audible alarm located on all trains used by customers to alert the train crew of safety and security incidents
- Request Stop Program – allows women travelling alone on buses between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. to alight their bus at a location closest to their destination
- Transit Community Watch Program – a program that encourages and recognizes safety and security incident reporting by employees

- Security Awareness Training for Frontline Employees – delivered to all frontline employees to enhance awareness of their role and responsibilities relative to security matters
- Security Mirrors - strategically placed throughout the subway system to extend sightlines
- Station Intercoms - located at Designated Waiting Areas, unstaffed station entrances, elevator cabs and landings, to permit customer communication with the Station Collector
- Ongoing Partnership with the Toronto Police Service – reliance on Toronto Police Officers to respond to major security and emergency calls and investigate serious criminal incidents

The TTC is one of the safest public transit systems in the world. Transit Special Constables are highly trained peace officers charged with ensuring employee and customer safety, as well as asset protection. Through routine foot patrols, mobile patrols, criminal investigations and ongoing collaboration with the Toronto Police Service, staff remain confident in the public's safety while using the TTC.

July 3, 2008

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Attachments