

Report to Council

Report Title:	Animal Control/By-Law Enforcement Year End Activity Update		
Prepared By:	Lisa MacDonald, Animal Control/By-Law Enforcement Officer and Dieter Weltz, Building and Planning Manager/CBO		
Department:	By-Law Enforcement		
Date:	January 14, 2025		
Report Number:	BL2025-01	File Number:	C11BY

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number BL2025-01 Animal Control/By-Law Enforcement Year End Activity Update, prepared by Lisa MacDonald, Animal Control/By-Law Enforcement Officer and Dieter Weltz, Building and Planning Manager/CBO for information purposes.

Report:

Background:

The following report provides an annual overview of By-Law Enforcement Activity providing insight into accomplishments and initiatives. The By-Law Department had a productive year, with the following operational highlights from 2024:

- Staff responded to, investigated and resolved a significant volume of complaints.
- Responded to inquiries, provided guidance on municipal by-laws and made connections to outside agencies.
- Assisted with the administration of the animal licensing database.
- Administered the False Alarm By-Law and the collection of fees.
- Issued kennel licenses, sign permits, and swimming pool permits.
- Completed Municipal Law Enforcement Law Enforcement Canine Behaviour & Self Defence, Catchpole and Apprehension Training.
- Reviewed existing by-laws and continuing to prepare for upcoming amendments.

Overall, the By-Law Department demonstrated its commitment to maintaining a safe, enjoyable community for all residents.

Complaints

The Municipality of Brockton received a total of 125 complaints related to by-law matters, which required staff investigation. Notably, multiple complaints about the same matter are consolidated into one case. We do not track informal inquires or information requests about municipal by-laws.

Of the 125 complaints received, staff has successfully resolved 116 with resolutions ranging from compliance to enforcement measures. Municipal staff are currently working to address and resolve the remaining 9 outstanding matters. Please note that closed complaint files may be reopened if subsequent inspections or investigations reveal recurring by-law investigations, ensuring continuous compliance and community standards.

False Alarm By-Law

Following the Brockton Police Service Board's dissolution in April, municipal staff have continued to effectively administer the False Alarm By-Law. Key statistics from January to December include:

- Total false alarms: 52
- 48% decrease in false alarms since by-law implementation
- 10.34% decrease in false alarms compared to 2023

These statistics clearly demonstrate the effectiveness of the by-law in reducing false alarms. However, higher collected fee amounts indicate non-compliance with one or more alarm holders.

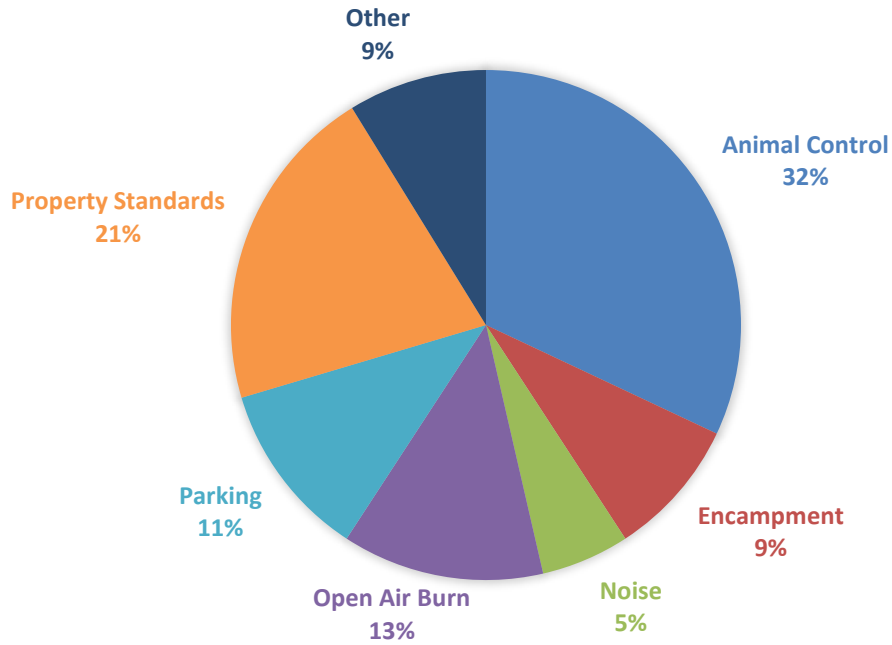
Analysis:

The following charts provide an overview of By-law enforcement activity related to formal complaint matters and false alarms within the Municipality of Brockton.

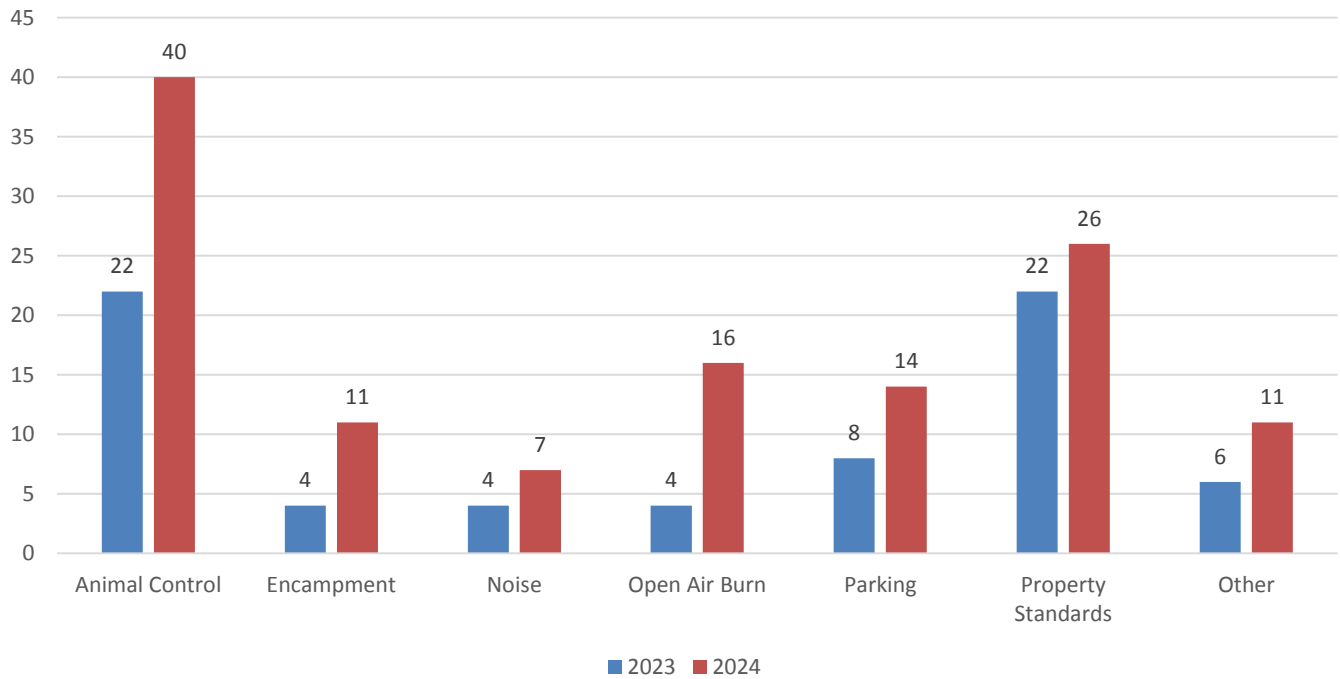
By-Law Complaints January 1st, 2024-December 31st, 2024

Municipal By-Law	Complaints Received	Active	Inactive
Animal Control	40	1	39
Encampment	11	0	11
Noise	7	0	7
Open Air Burn	16	0	16
Parking	14	3	8
Property Standards	26	4	22
Other	11	1	10

BY-LAW COMPLAINTS 2024



By-Law Complaints 2023-2024 Comparison



False Alarm Comparison 2023-2024				
	2023		2024	
Month	No. of Alarms	Fees Invoiced	No. of Alarms	Fees Invoiced
January	2	\$600.00	5	\$1,600
February	4	\$200.00	4	\$1,000.00
March	4	\$1,200.00	2	\$500.00
April	2	\$1,100.00	5	\$300.00
May	9	\$500.00	6	\$2,700.00
June	3	\$0.00	3	\$3,100.00
July	5	\$2,000.00	4	\$100.00
August	5	\$1,500.00	4	\$0.00
September	8	\$700.00	8	\$400.00
October	9	\$4,100.00	6	\$3,500.00
Novmeber	3	\$2,700.00	4	\$2,300.00
December	4	\$200.00	1	\$300
TOTAL	58	\$14,800.00	52	\$15,800.00

The fees invoiced above reflect charges for occurrences in the previous month.

Strategic Action Plan Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Strategic Action Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- Recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision Yes
- Recommendations contribute to achieving Heritage, Culture, and Community Yes
- Recommendations contribute to achieving Quality of Life Yes
- Recommendations contribute to achieving Land Use Planning and the Natural Environment N/A
- Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development N/A
- Recommendations contribute to achieving Municipal Governance Yes

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective?
N/A

The information contained in this report is for the purposes of providing statistic information to Council. There are no direct financial impacts as a result.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Lisa MacDonald, Animal Control/By-Law Enforcement Officer



Dieter Wetz, Building and Planning Manager/CBO

Reviewed By:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer