

Community Standards Bylaw Policy Review

The City is developing a Community Standards Bylaw (CSB). The CSB will serve to regulate and enable activities that pertain to the safety, health, and welfare of residents on private and public property.

To inform a policy discussion on each of the topics, information has been assembled in the template below on what the current local context is, what other comparator municipalities have done, Administration's recommendations concerning minimum standards, as well as potential financial and operational implications.

TOPIC NAME: Causing a Disturbance

1. CURRENT SPRUCE GROVE BYLAW

No Person shall disturb others by fighting, using insulting or obscene language or commit any disorderly or lascivious conduct of any kind while in any Open Space Area or engage in any Activity which is likely to lead to a breach of the peace or disrupt the peaceful use and enjoyment of other Persons using the Open Space Area. ([Spruce Grove Open Space Bylaw](#), s. 11.2)

2. SPRUCE GROVE CONTEXT

The City currently deals with this as part of the Open Space Bylaw. As per other examples of CSBs in other municipalities, this deals with disturbances in public spaces. Private property disturbances are strictly enforced by the RCMP, as they relate to Criminal Code violations.

3. OTHER JURISDICTIONS

Presently, the City of Spruce Grove's Open Space Bylaw has combined wording on disturbance and fighting. Consideration can be given to separating them out, as some other jurisdictions have done.

Edmonton

- A person shall not cause or permit any noise that disturbs the peace of another individual.
- A person shall not cause or permit property they own or occupy to be used so that noise from the property disturbs the peace of any other individual.
([Edmonton CSB](#), ss, 14(1)(2))
- A person shall not participate in a fight or other similar physical confrontation in a public place.
([Edmonton Public Places Bylaw](#), s.7)¹

¹ Although "fighting" is a separate topic that is NOT a focus under CSB 1.0, references to public fighting are included in the jurisdictional analysis because the existing COSG language on "causing a disturbance" references fighting.

Beaumont

- A Person shall not cause or permit any Noise that annoys or disturbs the peace of any other Person.
- A Person shall not cause or permit Property they Own or Occupy to be used so that Noise from the Property annoys or disturbs the peace of any other Person between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. ([Beaumont CSB](#), ss. 47-48).
- A Person shall not participate in a fight or other similar physical confrontation in a Public Place; this prohibition does not apply to participants of an event held under the authority of a sporting commission established pursuant to ss. 535.1 of the MGA to the extent that such event is in full compliance with any regulations or requirements established by the sporting commission. ([Beaumont CSB](#), s. 13)

Strathcona County

- Strathcona does not directly reference causing a disturbance, but intent is captured in the noise restriction/minimal noise sections ([Strathcona County CSB](#), ss. 6-10)

St. Albert

- No Person shall cause a disturbance in or near a Public Place.
- For the purpose of greater certainty, causing a disturbance as referred to in subsection (1) means, in the opinion of a Peace Officer, the activity has or is likely to interrupt a settled and peaceful public condition, some examples which include but are not limited to the following:
 - (a) swearing or use of obscene, offensive language;
 - (b) loitering in any way that obstructs others;
 - (c) fighting; or
 - (d) screaming or shouting ([St. Albert Protection of Persons and Property Bylaw](#), s. 3(1)(2))

4. ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Optional standard criteria (case study test St. Albert's and Beaumont's criteria against the skateboard park and the community hub).

Administration recommends keeping the existing City of Spruce Grove legislation.

5. FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

n/a