



April 8, 2022

Notice to Cheam Community Members:

The Council would like to express our deep concerns regarding a recent spike in complaints received regarding safety in the community. While we understand the frustration and feelings of these complaints, the Council is equally concerned about the impact this is having on the members of the community. The Council acknowledges the several complaints submitted over the years and apologizes for the lack of meaningful response to date.

Regarding **animal control**, the Council would like to take a moment to remind everyone that all animals on Cheam lands – including but not limited to poultry, small mammals, larger animals, dogs, and cats – are always the responsibility of their owners. The Council will be working with the SPCA on developing a memorandum of understanding (MOU). Additionally, the Council will be working with the Lands Committee to develop a Land Code law for animal control. These steps are to ensure the safety of all.

Regarding **noise complaints**, the Council would like to remind everyone to be respectful and keep noise to a minimum and encourage the community to work together to keep the community a safe and friendly environment. The Council will be looking into ways to enhance noise restrictions in the community with the Housing Policy and Land Code laws.

Regarding **underage youth drinking and drug use**, the Council has heard the sincere concerns and anxiety of our youth engaged in these activities and Members providing alcohol and drugs to underage youth. As a community, we will not tolerate an environment that allows underage drinking or drug use. The Council will not hesitate in taking appropriate action. If we hear of anyone involved with underage drinking or drug use, we will take strong action.

Regarding the **burning of garbage and toxic materials**, all members are reminded that all garbage and recyclable materials must be disposed of properly. Burning garbage and toxic materials creates a serious fire hazard and can be hazardous to our health and the environment. Weekly garbage pick-up is provided for the community to dispose of garbage and recyclable materials. All other materials are to be disposed of during the annual spring-clean up or disposed of at an appropriate facility. The burning of such materials is unacceptable and will be dealt with accordingly.

The Council would like to remind tenants that a breach of the Housing Policy and Tenancy Agreement could result in an eviction. The Council's preference is to take restorative justice approaches to rebuild respectful relationships. However, the Council acknowledges that some breaches of community safety require strong, appropriate action.

On a final note, we would like to thank the Members for their patience and cooperation as we work together to make the Cheam community a better place for all. We would like to encourage Members to join one of the many Council Committees that we have established to keep the community safe and work in the best interests of its members.

Respectfully,
Council