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Subject: Proposal for Determining the Feasibility of Increasing Security Measures at Local Condominium

**Introduction**

A surprising fact: burglary is the most common threat to households. Home invasions are rarely planned but can take place in less than 10 minutes. In Canada, there are an average of 161,000 home burglaries per year.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, crime rates have spiked upwards with property crimes following this same trend. Shortly after the pandemic hit Canada in around March 2020, there was an increase of about 15% in residential breaking and entering incidents, compared to the previous year. For my own condominium building, in the past two months, there were 3 reported incidents of robberies and breaking and entering. This rise in residential crime is very concerning and if it continues, will lead to increased danger for all residents in the strata lot.

**Intended Reader**

The intended reader for my report will be the condominium’s strata council and Rancho Property Management, the management service for our strata. These two entities work together to maintain the wellbeing of the community, make decisions to allow the strata corporation to operate smoothly, and ensure everyone is complying with the bylaws. As a resident in the building, I can voice my concerns to these groups, and they will act to make changes.

**Statement of Problem**

One of the most common targets for burglars are condominiums, especially for ground-floor units where the foot traffic is high. There are also instances where burglars are accidentally let into the lobby, unbeknownst to residents who think they are holding the door open for a resident in the building.

As outlined above, there have been 3 reported incidents of crime in the past two months: 1) theft from breaking and entering the mail/package room; 2) breaking, entering, and attempted robbery of a ground floor unit; and 3) theft from breaking and entering a storage locker. Unfortunately, in all 3 cases, the culprits were never caught, and no significant changes were made to security measures. Being proactive is key to ensuring the safety of all residents so it is crucial that security measures are increased to prevent future crimes.

**Proposed Solution**

One possible solution to increase security measures is to install more security cameras around the condominium. Currently, we are lacking any type of security cameras in key areas such as the mail/package room and the large ground-floor courtyard which can be easily accessed by non-residents.

Another possible solution is to increase security patrols during times when crime has occurred the most around the condominium.

**Scope**

To assess the feasibility of improving security measures in the condominium, I plan to pursue seven areas of inquiry:

1. How worried are residents about the increased incidents of crime in the condominium?
2. What are the most common time frames in which crime has occurred in the condominium?
3. Are there any common aspects between all the crimes that have taken place in the condominium in the past 3 years?
4. What are some security measures that are in place for other condominiums?
5. What is our current budget in term of security measure?
6. How much money can we afford to spend from our strata pool?
7. What are the costs associated with implementing more security cameras and increasing patrol from security guards?

**Methods**

My primary sources of data will include a survey that canvasses all residents of in the strata lot, gathering information about their concerns on security and outline areas of improvement.

Secondary sources will include publications that highlight crime in residential units and how this can be prevented.

**My Qualifications**

As a resident in the condominium for the past 2 years, I am very familiar with the lay-out of the building, foot traffic in the surrounding area, and reported incidents of crime. Additionally, my work in the research field provides me with direct experience in creating ethically approved surveys, collecting data, and analyzing it. I can draw from all these experiences to collect data and assess the feasibility of the increasing security measures in the condominium.

**Conclusion**

Increasing residential crime rates are a concern for many residents in the condominium as our safety is being jeopardized. It is crucial that preventative measures are established so that we can live peacefully in our household. Thus, I am aiming to improve security measures for all residents and prevent future crimes from occurring. With your approval, I will begin the research at once.