

Best Practices for Mitigating Theft and Vandalism on Construction Sites

Key Protocols for Builders and Trades:

1. Secure Perimeter:

Establish a secure perimeter around the construction site using fencing, barriers, or gates to control access points. Regularly inspect and repair any damaged sections to maintain the integrity of the perimeter. Include messaging on signage to indicate that sites are monitored.

2. Surveillance Systems:

Install surveillance cameras strategically across the site to monitor activity. Ensure proper lighting to enhance visibility during nighttime; lighting itself also acts as a deterrent and can be used with motion sensors or to illuminate the site during certain hours. Alarms may also deter potential intruders.

3. Controlled Access:

Limit access to authorized personnel only. Employ keycard systems or lockboxes to control the distribution and use of keys. Implement strict protocols for key management and regularly change access codes.

4. Inventory Control:

Maintain an accurate inventory of tools, equipment, and materials on-site. Use tagging, labeling, or tracking systems to easily identify and trace items. Store valuable materials in secure, locked containers or areas; ensure employees take their personal tools off-site with them.

5. Collaboration with Law Enforcement:

Establish a relationship with local law enforcement agencies. Report any suspicious activity or incidents immediately. Share details of theft or vandalism with authorities, providing evidence from surveillance systems if available.

6. Employee Awareness and Training:

Educate all employees and subcontractors about security protocols and the importance of vigilance. Encourage reporting of any security concerns or breaches they may observe.

7. Regular Site Inspections:

Conduct routine inspections of the site to identify vulnerabilities or weak points in security measures. Address any issues promptly and make necessary adjustments to enhance security, including on site patrols.

Importance of Reporting to Police:

Reporting theft and vandalism incidents to the police is crucial for several reasons:

Legal Action: Reporting incidents establishes a record and enables law enforcement to take appropriate legal action against perpetrators. They can also track trends in illegal activity and assign more resources where needed.

Community Safety: Prompt reporting helps protect the surrounding community by addressing potential criminal activities in the area.

Insurance Purposes: Documentation of incidents assists in insurance claims, ensuring coverage for losses incurred due to theft or vandalism.

Preventative Measures: Reporting incidents allows law enforcement to gather intelligence and potentially prevent future occurrences through increased patrols or targeted actions.

To report incidents please contact:

Crimestoppers: 1-800-222-8477 or submit information and tips via this online form:
<https://www.p3tips.com/tipform.aspx?ID=250#>

Edmonton Police Service (Non-Emergency): 780-423-4567 or #377 or report online at
<https://www.edmontonpolice.ca/ContactEPS/OnlinePropertyCrime>

The Alberta RCMP App: Alberta RCMP have launched a new mobile app to access police information quickly and conveniently. Please contact RCMP for incidents outside of the City of Edmonton.

The Alberta RCMP App available for download on iOS and Android devices, is a one-stop-shop for detachment locations, news releases, crime mapping and statistics, information on organizational initiatives, and provides a link to the service's online crime reporting portal.