

City of Hamilton CLEANLINESS AND SECURITY IN THE DOWNTOWN CORE TASK **FORCE AGENDA**

Meeting #: 24-001

> Date: February 1, 2024

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: Rooms 192 and 193, 1st Floor (hybrid) (RM)

13

17

71 Main Street West

Jessica Versace, Legislative Assistant (905) 546-2424 Ext. 3993 **Pages** 1. **CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES** 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** 3. 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 3 1. July 13, 2022 5. COMMUNICATIONS 7 1. Correspondence from Laurie Brady respecting Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Recommendation: Be Received 2. Downtown Cleanliness Service Level Enhancements Update Recommendation: Be Received

6. **DELEGATION REQUESTS**

a.

b.

August 8, 2023

October 19, 2023

Members of the public can contact the Clerk's Office to acquire the documents considered at this meeting, in an alternate format.

- 7. DELEGATIONS
- 8. STAFF PRESENTATIONS
- 9. CONSENT ITEMS
 - 1. Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force Terms of Reference

21

Note: Approved by Council on December 13, 2023

- 10. PUBLIC HEARINGS
- 11. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - Priorities in Safety, Security & Cleanliness in the Downtown Core
 No Copy
- 12. MOTIONS
- 13. NOTICES OF MOTION
- 14. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS
- 15. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL
- 16. ADJOURNMENT



CLEANLINESS & SECURITY IN THE DOWNTOWN CORE TASK FORCE MINUTES 22-002

1:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 13, 2022 Room 264 Hamilton City Hall 71 Main Street West

Present: Councillor J. Farr (Chair)

S. Braithwaite (Vice-Chair), International Village BIA

K. Jarvi, Downtown BIA

S. Sutherland, Community Representative P. Trainor, Community Representative

Absent Councillor N. Nann

With Regrets: S. Laurie, Community Representative

T. Potocic, Community Representative A. Stajrer, Community Representative

Also Present: K. Barnett, Manager, Service Delivery, Licensing & By-Law Services

J. Lam, Manager, Commercial Districts and Small Business

D. McKenzie, Staff Sergeant, Hamilton Police Service

A. Ventura, Manager, Waste Collections, Environmental Services

D. Wright, Acting Sergeant, Hamilton Police Service

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO THE GENERAL ISSUES COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force – Terms of Reference (Item 7.1)

(Trainor/Jarvi)

(a) That the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force Terms of Reference, attached as Appendix 'A', be approved, **as amended**.

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FOR INFORMATION:

(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

The Committee Clerk advised that there were no changes to the agenda.

(Braithwaite/Jarvi)

That the agenda for the July 13, 2022 meeting of the Cleanliness & Security in the Downtown Core Task Force be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)

(i) December 9, 2021 (Item 4.1)

(Braithwaite/Trainor)

That the Minutes of the December 9, 2021, meeting of the Cleanliness & Security in the Downtown Core Task Force be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(d) COMMUNICATIONS (Item 5)

(i) Correspondence from Cameron Topp, respecting their resignation from the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force (Item 5.1)

(Trainor/Braithwaite)

That the Correspondence from Cameron Topp, respecting their resignation from the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force, be received.

CARRIED

(e) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 7)

(i) Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force – Terms of Reference (Item 7.1)

(Trainor/Jarvi)

That the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force Terms of Reference, be received.

CARRIED

July 13, 2022 Page 3 of 4

(Trainor/Jarvi)

That the Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force Terms of Reference, be **amended**, by deleting from the Composition section the word "three" and replacing it with the word "four", as follows:

(a) Composition

Downtown BIA International Village BIA
James Street South Business
District James Street North
Business Merchants
Ward 2 Councillor
One Additional Councillor
Three Four Community Representatives

CARRIED

For further disposition refer to Item 1.

(f) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10)

(i) Update Respecting Ongoing Issues at Ferguson Station (Item 10.1)

Judy Lam, Manager, Commercial Districts and Small Business, provided Committee with a verbal update respecting the ongoing issues at Ferguson Station. Members held a general discussion respecting issues including individuals sleeping rough, vandalism, etc.

(Sutherland/Braithwaite)

That the Update Respecting the Ongoing Issues at Ferguson Station, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) Update Respecting Waste Concerns in the Downtown Area (Item 10.2)

Anthony Ventura, Manager, Waste Collections, provided Committee with a verbal update respecting waste concerns in the downtown area. Members held a discussion on waste issues in the downtown core.

(Braithwaite/Sutherland)

That the Update Respecting Waste Concerns in the Downtown Area, be received.

CARRIED

July 13, 2022 Page 4 of 4

(iii) Safety and Security of Businesses in the Downtown Core (Item 10.3)

Susie Braithwaite, International Village BIA, provided Committee with a verbal update respecting the safety and security issues facing businesses in the downtown core. Members held a discussion on safety and security concerns of businesses in the downtown core.

(Sutherland/Trainor)

That the discussion respecting Safety and Security of Businesses in the Downtown Core, be received.

CARRIED

(g) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

(Sutherland/Braithwaite)

That there being no further business, the Cleanliness & Security in the Downtown Core Task Force be adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor J. Farr Chair, Cleanliness & Security in the Downtown Core Task Force

Carrie McIntosh Legislative Coordinator Office of the City Clerk From: Laurie

Sent: Friday, January 5, 2024 12:17 AM

To: Whalen, Aleah <Aleah.Whalen@hamilton.ca>

Cc: Kroetsch, Cameron < Cameron. Kroetsch@hamilton.ca> **Subject:** Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core

To: Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Taskforce

I am writing with a few concerns about Cleanliness & Security Downtown.

Is it called King Street because every few feet you can spot Richard the Turd? (Star of the City's PSA's). Rhetorical question.

1. Cleanliness.

First, thank you for the noticeable improvement in cleanliness in 2023! I appreciate the daily sidewalk sweeping and litter collection. I sincerely hope it will continue past July 2024.

In the fall/winter/spring the garden beds and bases of trees on King Street E, between James and Wellington, are, unfortunately, littered with feces. Especially bad is the otherwise-lovely grove of trees in front of the Royal Connaught. Also, Veterans Place and John-Rebecca Park.

Would additional signage about stooping n scooping/fines, leash laws, a bylaw enforcement blitz, free pet waste bags, and/or weekly clean up year-round be feasible?

Dog feces makes animals and people sick, pollutes our waterways, and is just gross. Vet bills are terribly expensive and I'm worried my own dogs will get sick.

John-Rebecca Park needs another garbage can on the John Street side; which is full of litter. Also, Beasley Park has been beautifully renovated, but it is still full of litter, even in January.

There is a lineup of food delivery drivers, usually 4 - 7 cars, in front of the Sopinka Courthouse most evenings, idling their cars. It stinks. Visitors are attracted by the Xmas tree/nativity scene, but they can't linger for the exhaust smell. It would be great if bylaw would give warnings about idling.

2. Safety.

As far as safety goes, it was great to have many police foot patrols during the Grey Cup Festival. I wish it was like that all of the time!

We truly need it.

A coworker visited Jackson Square from Mississauga. While her teenage son and a friend watched a movie at Jackson Square, she browsed around. In a short time, she saw a woman become aggressive at

the bank and be escorted out, then another woman get high in a clothing shop. Lastly, when leaving the parking garage/lot, they had trouble with multiple aggressive panhandlers.

Then there's the open drug use, the angry people who scream at the world, cyclists and e-scooters on the sidewalk...

My small dog and I were hit by a cyclist on the sidewalk 2 weeks ago. Fortunately, we were unhurt because he swerved, slammed on his brakes, and was almost stopped. He could have seriously hurt my small dogs, never mind me.

In sum, please:

- maintain sidewalk/street cleaning efforts
- clean the precious few green spaces downtown year-round and show our urban trees some love
- have a bylaw blitz: idling cars, littering, dog waste
- more police foot patrols
- as more people call Downtown home, not just a workplace, it's important to create awareness it's a residential area with bylaw signage/enforcement.

Thank you for all you do to make Downtown clean, safe, and a nice place to live/work/play. Attached are some PSAs used by other municipalities around the risks of cigarette butts and dog feces.

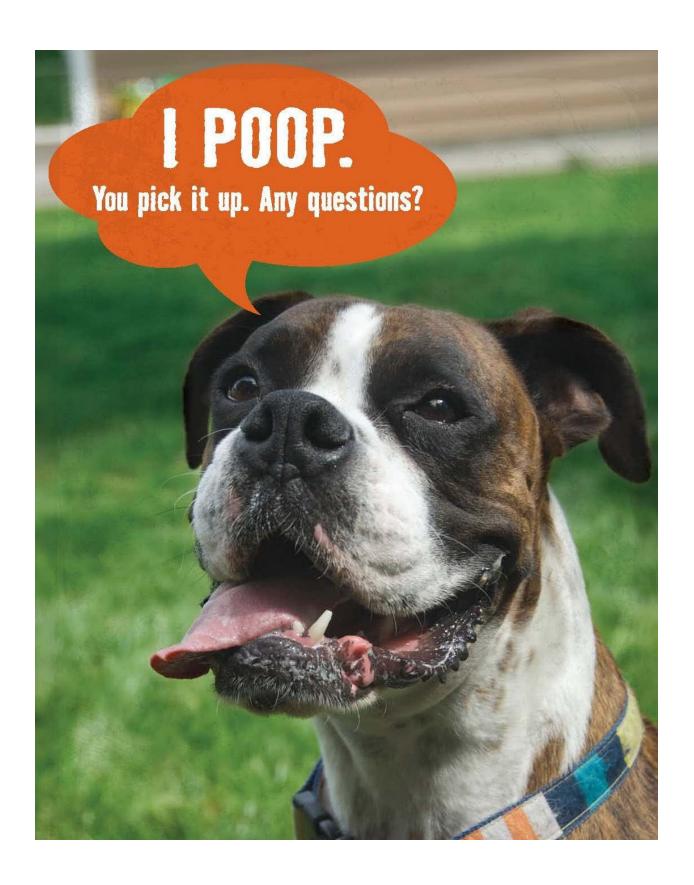
Yours truly,

Laurie Brady

PS

- Maybe signs about scooping & stooping dog waste in the International Village should be in English and other languages? Today (January 21), I saw a young woman not pick up after her small dog on King St E near Mary. In fairness to her, clearly, many people do not pick up after their dogs and bylaw signs are usually only posted in parks.
- My coworker from Mississauga returned to Jackson Square to shop at Dollarama earlier this month (January). She was shocked by the rude and overly-strict manner by which the self-checkout supervisor treated her and other shoppers, as if it was airport security. The employee told her "Welcome to the Bronx!"

Sent from my Galaxy





UP AFTER
YOUR PET



PLEASE KEEP THIS AREA CLEAN

DOGIPOT, 800,364,7681

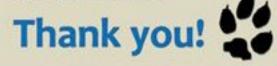
WWW.DOGIPOT.COM



Know what's grosser than picking up dog poop?

Stepping in it. Know what's even grosser than that? Swimming in, fishing from, and drinking water that has dog poop in it! Please pick up after your pooch.

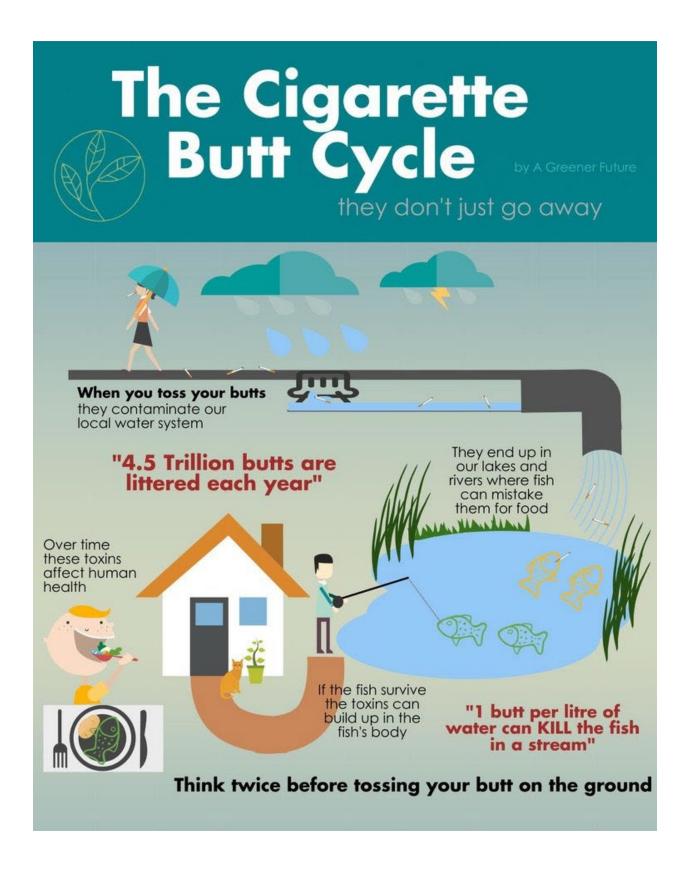
Cleaning up pet waste is good for your health and the environment! Seriously. Pet waste left on the ground gets washed into storm drains and drainage ditches that flow to your local waterway... without being treated! Bacteria, parasites and viruses found in pet waste can be harmful to water quality and human health. Not only is picking up after your pooch the neighborly thing to do it's the healthy thing to do... for you and the environment!



Contact the Town of Holly Springs Stormwater Hotline for more information on how to keep your stream clean or to report a problem.

919-567-4011

stormwater@hollyspringsnc.us





COMMUNICATION UPDATE

ТО:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	August 8, 2023
SUBJECT:	Downtown Cleanliness Service Level Enhancements Update (Ward 2)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 2
SUBMITTED BY:	Jason Thorne General Manager Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	22

The purpose of this Communication Update is to advise Council as to the current status of downtown service level enhancements being implemented by the Public Works Department, in coordination with Planning and Economic Development, in response to the following Council direction that was approved as part of Report PED23081 on June 21, 2023:

"That staff within the Commercial Districts and Small Business Section of the Economic Development Division be directed to work with local Business Improvement Areas and with the appropriate City departments and divisions to identify opportunities to introduce enhanced service levels within the Downtown Core for critical street level issues such as waste collection, street sweeping, graffiti removal and boulevard maintenance, and that the General Manager of Public Works be authorized to introduce temporary increased service levels where warranted, to be funded from the Economic Development Initiatives Capital Project (3621708900)"

Staff from the Planning and Economic Development and Public Works Departments have collaborated to identify opportunities for service level enhancements that could be implemented immediately/in short order to improve the overall cleanliness and appearance of Downtown in response to concerns raised by residents, businesses and property owners. Focus areas for consideration of service level enhancements have included litter collection, sidewalk sweeping, roadway and cycle lane sweeping, weed trimming, debris pickup and graffiti removal in the public right-of-way.

SUBJECT: Downtown Cleanliness Service Level Enhancements Update (Ward 2) - Page 2 of 3

Status of Enhancements To-Date

Litter Collection and Sidewalk Sweeping

As of July 13, 2023, service level enhancements in the Downtown for litter collection and sidewalk sweeping by the Waste Management Division commenced with the addition of three new temporary staff. The addition of these staff has resulted in the following enhanced services being provided Downtown that were not previously being provided:

- Sidewalk litter collection on Sundays; and,
- Sidewalk sweeping on Saturdays and Sundays.

As a result, there is now a consistent seven day a week sidewalk litter and sweeping service occurring within the Downtown service area detailed in Appendix "A" to this Communication Update.

In addition to the above staffing, the following additional equipment has been secured for use Downtown:

- o the interim rental of an additional sidewalk sweeper; and
- o the purchase of a fourth 'Glutton' waste vacuum collector.

The total funding commitment for the above staffing and rental/purchase of equipment is \$280,000, funded from the Economic Development Initiatives Project, which will see these enhanced services provided for a 12-month period through to July 2024.

It is important to note that, notwithstanding any service enhancements now introduced, there may still be instances of what may be perceived to be litter/waste that will not be subject to removal by staff if it is believed that the items may be personal property or should there be a situation where health and safety is compromised.

Roadway/Cycle Lane Sweeping, Weed Trimming, Debris Pickup and Graffiti Removal in Downtown Public Rights-of-Way

Staff in the Transportation Division are currently finalizing details respecting these service enhancements. Similar to the enhancements now being implemented for litter collection and sidewalk sweeping, staff anticipate that these enhancements will be achieved through both additional temporary staffing and equipment

SUBJECT: Downtown Cleanliness Service Level Enhancements Update (Ward 2) - Page 3 of 3

rental/purchase. It is also anticipated that the increased service level will apply within the same geographic area identified in Appendix "A" to this Communication Update.

Preliminary cost estimates for these enhancements, on an interim basis through to July 2024, range between \$400,000 and \$500,000.

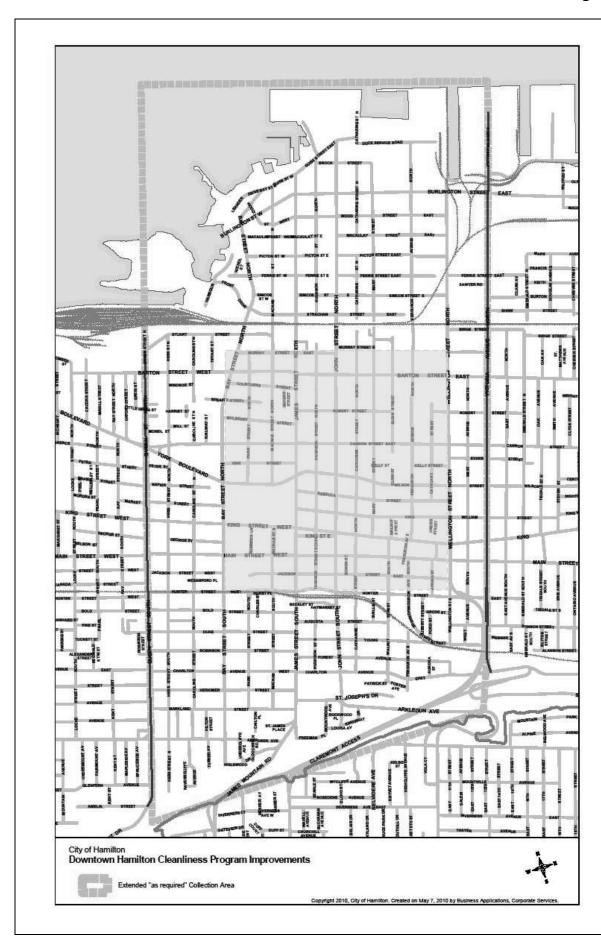
Once these service enhancements have been finalized and have begun to be implemented, staff will provide a further Communication Update to City Council.

If you require any further information on the above matter, please contact Judy Lam, Manager, Commercial Districts and Small Business at (905) 546-2424 x4178 or by email at Judy.Lam@hamilton.ca.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" - Downtown Hamilton Cleanliness Program Improvements Area

Empowered Employees.





COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	October 19, 2023
SUBJECT:	Downtown Cleanliness Service Level Enhancements Update Number 2 (Ward 2)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 2
SUBMITTED BY:	Steve Robichaud Acting General Manager Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	51 Robert

The purpose of this Communication Update is to further advise City Council as to the status of service level enhancements being implemented by the Public Works and Planning and Economic Development Departments to improve the cleanliness and appearance of Downtown Hamilton.

On June 21, 2023 City Council approved the recommendations of Report PED23081 respecting the Downtown Hamilton Office market and general state of Downtown which included the following direction:

"That staff within the Commercial Districts and Small Business Section of the Economic Development Division be directed to work with local Business Improvement Areas and with the appropriate City departments and divisions to identify opportunities to introduce enhanced service levels within the Downtown Core for critical street level issues such as waste collection, street sweeping, graffiti removal and boulevard maintenance, and that the General Manager of Public Works be authorized to introduce temporary increased service levels where warranted, to be funded from the Economic Development Initiatives Capital Project (3621708900)"

Staff from the Planning and Economic Development and Public Works Departments have collaborated to identify opportunities for service level enhancements that could be implemented immediately/in short order to improve the overall cleanliness and appearance of Downtown in response to concerns raised by residents, businesses and property owners. Focus areas for service level enhancements have included litter

SUBJECT: Downtown Cleanliness Service Level Enhancements Update Number 2 (Ward 2) - Page 2 of 3

collection, sidewalk sweeping, roadway and cycle lane sweeping, weed trimming, debris pickup and graffiti removal in the public right-of-way.

Previous Communication Update

On August 8, 2023, a Communication Update was provided to Council advising that:

- As of July 13, 2023, service level enhancements in the Downtown to establish a
 consistent seven day a week litter collection and sidewalk sweeping service by
 the Waste Management Division had commenced. The Planning and Economic
 Development Department committed \$280,000 in funding for the additional
 temporary staffing and equipment rental/purchase required to provide these
 enhanced service levels through to July 2024; and,
- Staff were in the midst of finalizing details respecting further service enhancements for roadway/cycle lane sweeping, weed trimming, debris pickup and graffiti removal in Downtown public rights-of-way in collaboration with the Road Maintenance Division with a further update to be provided once those enhancements were finalized and had begun to be implemented.

Additional Service Enhancements and Implementation To-Date

Since the August 8, 2023 Communication Update, staff have finalized details for additional service enhancements by the Roadway Maintenance Division for roadway/cycle lane sweeping, weed trimming, debris pickup and graffiti removal in Downtown public rights-of-way.

As of October 4, 2023, these service enhancements became operational with the addition of two new temporary staff and the acquisition of additional required equipment. Roadway Maintenance staff are currently working a Wednesday to Sunday schedule from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Up to four additional temporary staff will be hired in the coming weeks from an existing recruitment pool upon confirmation of pending winter operational needs.

The additional staffing and equipment will result in the following enhanced service levels being provided within the Downtown service area detailed in Appendix "A" to this Communication Update:

- 40 additional hours of roadway and cycle lane mechanical sweeping Thursdays through Mondays including the introduction of service on Sundays where none was previously being provided;
- Two dedicated crews for trimming vegetation (weeds) and bulk litter pick-up Monday through Friday; and,

SUBJECT: Downtown Cleanliness Service Level Enhancements Update Number 2 (Ward 2) - Page 3 of 3

 Deploying additional staff to respond to and remove graffiti in the public rights-ofway on an on-going basis in combination with existing contracted graffiti removal services.

The Planning and Economic Development Department has committed approximately \$537,206 to fund the staffing and equipment purchase/rentals required to maintain the above noted service level enhancements through to July 2024. This amount, combined with the already approved funding commitment of \$280,000 for enhanced waste/litter collection and sidewalk sweeping services currently in effect, will result in a total Planning and Economic Development Department funding commitment for enhanced service levels Downtown of \$817,206.

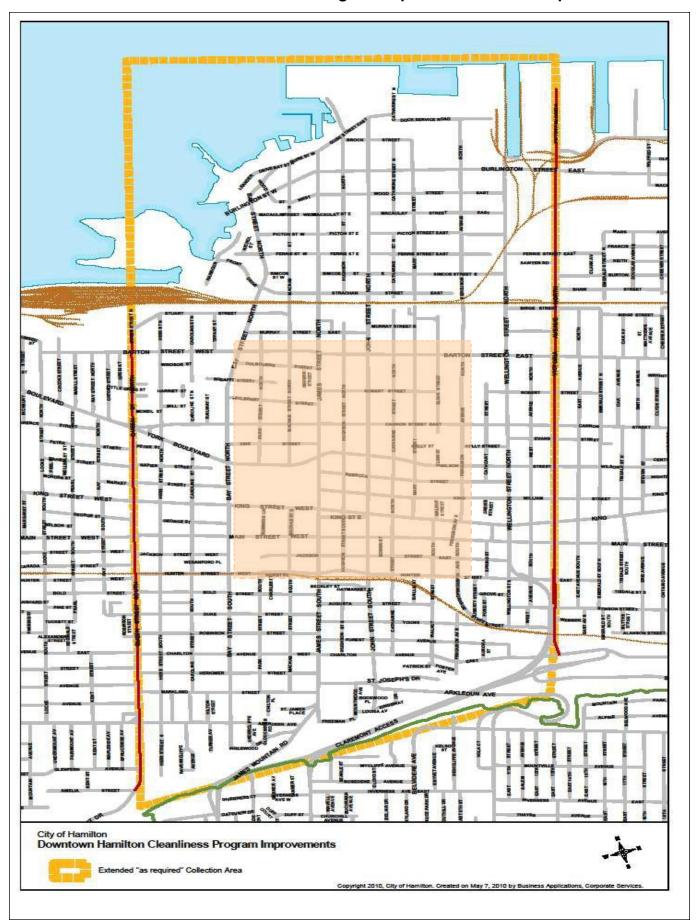
Funding commitments by Planning and Economic Development Department are intended to provide enhancements on an interim basis until such time as permanent funding request to maintain these, or any other alternate service levels, in the Downtown can be determined and submitted by the Public Works Department through the 2024 budget.

If you require any further information on the above matter, please contact Judy Lam, Manager Commercial Districts and Small Business, Economic Development Division at (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4178 or email Judy.Lam@hamilton.ca.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" - Downtown Hamilton Cleanliness Program Improvements Area Map

Downtown Hamilton Cleanliness Program Improvements Area Map



Revised by Council on September 14, 2022 Revised by Council on December 13, 2023

Cleanliness and Security in the Downtown Core Task Force Terms of Reference

Mandate:

To identify issues related to the perception of the cleanliness and security of the Downtown Core and recommend appropriate action and strategies to rectify the perception. To create short-term action plans for immediate implementation and long-term action plans involving partnerships and associated funding implications.

Composition:

Downtown BIA
International Village BIA
James Street South Business District
James Street North Business Merchants
Ward 2 Councillor
One Additional Councillor
Three Four Community Representatives

Geographic Boundary:

Cannon Street (in the North) and Hunter Street (in the South) from Queen Street (in the West) to West Avenue (in the East).

James Street from Charlton Street (in the South) to Strachan Street (in the North).

Supporting Staff:

The Task Force will be provided support by relevant divisions within Public Works, Planning and Development, Police Services, Fire Department and Tourism. Support from Finance, Legal and Social Services will be provided as required.

Reporting:

The Task Force will report in time for the May meeting of the General Issues Committee with short-term actions, and in September with long-term actions including potential budget implications.

Rules and Procedures:

The Task Force will meet at the request of the Chair and the proceedings of the Task Force shall be conducted as set out in Bourinot's Rules of Order.

Key Activities:

Revised by Council on September 14, 2022 Revised by Council on December 13, 2023

- Determine the geographic boundary
- Identify the issues/problem statement
- Identify the existing level of service
- Identify the desired level of service
- Identify alternative solutions to meet desired level of service
- identify costs to implement the alternative solutions
- develop a short-term plan of action by May
- develop a long-term plan of action by September
- Identify budget implications for following year
- Examine the recommendations identified as part of the Mayor's Proudly Hamilton initiative and incorporate these, where applicable, into the shortterm and long-terms plans of action