

CITY OF HAMILTON

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Parking and By-law Services Division

TO: Chair and Members Planning Committee	WARD(S) AFFECTED: CITY WIDE
COMMITTEE DATE: February 19, 2013	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Accessible Taxicab Licensing Consultation Staff Resources (PED10063(f)) (City Wide)	
SUBMITTED BY: Tim McCabe General Manager Planning and Economic Development Department	PREPARED BY: Al Fletcher (905) 546-2424 Ext. 1358 Shawn De Jager (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4721
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

That, in accordance with the direction to hire a consultant to conduct a review of the regulation of the taxicab industry to be completed before January 2015, including an assessment of accessible taxicab service in Hamilton, approval be given to hire one (1) temporary, full-time Project Manager for 12 months (at an estimated cost of \$95,000 to be financed from the Parking Reserve Account No. 108021).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On October 30, 2012, Council passed Planning Committee Report 12-016 which included the approval of Report PED10063(e) , with the direction “to prepare a Request For Proposals (RFP) to hire a consultant to conduct a review of the taxicab industry to be completed before January 2015, including an assessment of accessible taxicab service in Hamilton and recommended options on:

- delivering this service in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 and its regulations;

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- *issuing taxicab plates in 2015 and subsequent years when the current requirement under Schedule 25 of Licensing By-law 07-170 to issue three plates per year expires; and,*
- *conducting a comprehensive stakeholder engagement and consultation piece.”*

After a full review of the scope of the study, staff is recommending hiring one (1) temporary, full-time Project Manager for 12 months at an estimated cost of \$95,000 to be financed from the Parking Reserve Account No. 108021.

Staff will be reporting back to the Planning Committee with recommendations based on the receipt and review of the consultant’s work in late 2014.

Alternatives for Consideration – N/A

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (for Recommendation(s) only)

Financial/Staffing: The required/recommended temporary (12 months) full-time Project Manager position is estimated to cost \$95,000, and can be funded from the Parking Reserve with no levy impact.

Legal: N/A

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Chronology of events)

The current taxicab plate program was established in December 2004, with the implementation of the recommendations of Report PD01120(c). This program commenced on January 1, 2005, for a ten (10) year period expiring on January 1, 2015, with 30 plates to be issued at a rate of three (3) plates per year to individuals on the priority list.

Report PED10063(e), dated September 18, 2012, responds to the completion of the current program and changes in accessible transportation as stipulated by the Accessibility for Ontarians with a Disability Act, 2005 and its regulations with respect to accessible taxicabs. To achieve this, Report PED10063(e) also recommended “to prepare a Request For Proposals (RFP) to hire a consultant to conduct a review of the taxicab industry to be completed before January 2015, including an assessment of accessible taxicab service in Hamilton and recommended options on:

- *delivering this service in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 and its regulations;*

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- *issuing taxicab plates in 2015 and subsequent years when the current requirement under Schedule 25 of Licensing By-law 07-170 to issue three plates per year expires; and,*
- *conducting a comprehensive stakeholder engagement and consultation piece.”*

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Finance was consulted in the preparation of this Report.

ANALYSIS / RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

(include Performance Measurement/Benchmarking Data, if applicable)

Due to the significant amount of work that needs to be completed prior to January 2015, the sensitivity and complex nature of the taxi industry and managing the successful consultant, it is staff's opinion that one temporary, full-time Project Manager, dedicated to this project, is required for 12 months. The addition of this position will allow current management staff to focus on the existing day-to-day operations and management of the Division's work plan without negatively impacting current customer service level expectations.

The temporary, full-time Project Manager position for 12 months is required for the following reasons:

- time sensitivity of completing this study prior to January 2015;
- complex history of the existing industry;
- multiple stakeholders – required consultation;
- multiple external regulations influence i.e.) Accessibility for Ontarians with a Disability Act, 2005 and The Highway Traffic Act, 1992;
- staffing consistency and availability throughout the project.

A critical component of the study and consultant's work revolves around the organization and facilitation of the public and private stakeholder consultation pieces. This consultation work needs to be done efficiently and comprehensively in order for the study to be completed on time and obtain the desired results. The addition of the Project Manger position is critical for the successful completion of this component of the study, providing the successful consultant a single point of contact with the City to organize, develop and complete this work.

Another major piece of work that will require significant attention is the organization and consultation of the internal stakeholders within the City. This includes ATS/DARTS the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities and the Seniors Advisory Committee, to name a few. The Project Manager Position will be primarily responsible for facilitating this work and other study-related tasks.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

(include Financial, Staffing, Legal and Policy Implications and pros and cons for each alternative)

N/A

CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN (Linkage to Desired End Results)

Focus Areas: 1. Skilled, Innovative and Respectful Organization, 2. Financial Sustainability, 3. Intergovernmental Relationships, 4. Growing Our Economy, 5. Social Development, 6. Environmental Stewardship, 7. Healthy Community

Healthy Community

- Introducing accessible taxi services strengthens the mobility of all residents of the City. The successful completion of this Study is necessary in support of this result and the regulation of the taxi industry moving beyond 2015.

APPENDICES / SCHEDULES

N/A

SDJ/dt