

CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

Committee Date: April 22, 2014

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR S. Merulla.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR

OTTAWA STREET MOBILE FARMERS' MARKET 2-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM

Whereas low consumption of vegetables and fruit is associated with a poor diet and increased risk of obesity, heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, and some cancers;

And whereas the majority of Hamiltonians do not eat the recommended daily servings of vegetables and fruit, with less than half reporting they eat vegetables and fruit five or more times a day;

And whereas in 2011-12, 11.6% of households in the City of Hamilton reported food insecurity due to income, which impacts their ability to consume fresh vegetables and fruit, and increases the risk of preventable chronic diseases;

And whereas some Hamilton neighbourhoods have limited physical access to healthy food retail, but are surrounded by many unhealthy food retail outlets;

And whereas the City of Hamilton has endorsed the Golden Horseshoe Agriculture & Agri-Food Strategy: Food & Farming Action Plan 2021, which includes goals for public health to increase local food literacy and promote and improve consumers' access to local produce,

And whereas a mobile farmers' market could result in multiple benefits, including improved access to fresh produce in Hamilton neighbourhoods with limited access to healthy food retail, increased support for the economic livelihood of local farmers, and building community resilience.

Therefore be it resolved:

- (a) That Public Health Services assist the Ottawa Street BIA apply for funding from the Local Food Grant for the proposed 2-year pilot mobile farmers' market project and that any shortfall would be funded through the City's Tax Stabilization Reserve.

- (b) That within BY-LAW NO. 07-170, Food Service Vehicles (Schedule 6), Planning and Economic Development explore options, when funding is obtained, to implement the 2-year pilot mobile farmers' market on sites identified by Planning and Economic Development and Public Health Services.
- (c) That Public Health Services and Planning and Economic Development work in collaboration with the Ottawa Street BIA on the operation of the proposed 2-year pilot mobile farmers' market project.