

# CITY OF HAMILTON M O T I O N

**Committee Date: March 17, 2014**

**MOVED BY COUNCILLOR S. Merulla.....**

**SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR .....**

## **ACTIVE & SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION (ASST) CHARTER**

Whereas, schools are now the second biggest car trip generator for the morning commute in the GTHA;

And whereas, a number of Hamilton schools are being considered for closure resulting in larger amalgamated schools with impacts on transportation choice, community cohesion and health, and the environment;

And whereas, reducing vehicle trips to and from school by promoting more walkable and bikeable neighbourhoods improves pedestrian and cyclist safety, and reduces air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions;

And whereas, making a community and school grounds more walkable and bikeable contributes to total daily physical activity for better health and student performance;

And whereas, the City of Hamilton Public Health Services has been dedicated to the Active and Safe Routes to School initiatives since 2000;

And whereas, the City of Hamilton's Urban Official Plan and Metrolinx's Regional Transportation Plan, The Big Move, includes policy goals for the achievement of an integrated transportation network that impacts health and quality of life;

And whereas, a number of Ontario municipalities and school boards have recently developed and signed their own ASST charters recognizing the value of ASST and demonstrating commitment to take action in support of ASST including Toronto, Ottawa, York, and Waterloo

Therefore be it resolved:

- (a) That the Joint City/Board Relations Committee be directed to develop an Active and Sustainable School Transportation Charter to support the long-term commitment to active and sustainable school transportation.
- (b) That staff from Public Health Services and Public Works, through the existing Active and Safe Routes to School Steering Committee, be directed to assist the Committee with their deliberations and the development of the Charter.