



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency & Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	August 10, 2016
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Disposal of Obsolete Gear (CES16032) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
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SIGNATURE:	

Council Direction:

On April 25, 2016, Council approved Emergency & Community Services Committee Report CES16004 which included the donation of a vehicle by the Hamilton Paramedic Service to St. John Ambulance, and directed that the General Manager of the Community and Emergency Services Department report back to the Emergency & Community Services Committee regarding opportunities (both domestic and international, and including all associated costs) when dispossessing 'end-of-life cycle' vehicle assets that belong to the City of Hamilton.

The intent of this information report is to highlight, as per the direction of Council, one of the opportunities available when disposing of vehicles and/or equipment, pursuant to Procurement Policy #16, Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Goods, subject to execution of the customary release and Letter of Acknowledgement.

Information

The Hamilton Fire Department has worked with Procurement on the disposal of end-of-life (based on NFPA and Section 21 Health and Safety Standards) firefighting and accessory equipment that has been taken out of service. The items have no value given that they are at end of life. As an example, the bunker gear used for structural firefighting has a 10-year maximum life based on NFPA 1971 standards, after which the gear needs to be taken out of service. The gear had no resale value, nor could it be used by another fire service in North America based on the standard.

During the Policy #16 disposal process discussion with Procurement, we were asked if we were aware of options to dispose of the gear other than utilizing a waste disposal company at a cost to the City. We advised that we were aware of Firefighters Without

Borders (FWB), a non-profit, volunteer-based organization that would take the gear and distribute it at no cost to other countries that have little to no firefighting equipment.

Procurement Policy #16, Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Goods, Section 4.16 (2) (d) authorizes the disposal of surplus or obsolete goods by donation to a non-profit agency. As FWB is such an agency, donation of fire related equipment is consistent with the policy. Staff has been granted approval through the Policy #16 to donate 318 helmets, 58 sets of bunker gear and 12 medical bags to FWB.

The volunteer Board of Directors and volunteers worldwide from FWB will be using the equipment in countries such as Peru and Honduras. This equipment will allow professional training, support, education, and resources to be provided, and will enhance the delivery of public safety in places where it may not have been previously present.