

CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

Council Date: May 24, 2017

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR S. MERULLA.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR.....

HEAT RESPONSE PLAN INITIATIVE

WHEREAS the City of Hamilton has developed a Heat Response Plan in recognition of the risks of heat-related illnesses, and identifies that going to an air-conditioned place can help reduce the risk of heat-related illnesses;

WHEREAS the City of Hamilton experienced nine (9) Heat Alert days in 2016;

WHEREAS seniors, children and people with chronic medical conditions are at the greatest risk during extreme heat days;

WHEREAS in Hamilton approximately 22% of people under the age of 18, and approximately 19% of people over the age of 65, live in poverty;

WHEREAS the City of Hamilton is committed to anti-poverty, public health and affordable housing initiatives through a funding allocation of 50 million dollars; and

WHEREAS the provision of air-conditioners to low-income residents with problematic health ailments would help alleviate the health risks caused by extreme heat days and potentially reduce the number of heat-related illnesses and deaths.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That staff in Community and Emergency Services, in consultation with Public Health Services, be directed to investigate the feasibility and evidence associated with providing identified low-income citizens in the city of Hamilton with air-conditioners and report back to the Emergency & Community Services Committee detailing the implications of such an initiative.