

CITY OF HAMILTON

NOTICE OF MOTION

Council: September 27, 2017

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR S. MERULLA.....

Amazon.com, Inc. – RFP for the Second Corporate Headquarters

WHEREAS, Amazon.com, Inc. (Amazon) has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to determine the ideal location of its second Corporate Headquarters (HQ2) within North America;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton meets the bid criteria set out in the Amazon RFP and is a major urban center within the Greater Toronto-Hamilton area, with significant assets and services to offer;

WHEREAS, the Amazon HQ2 would grow our taxable, non-residential assessment base by 8 million square feet and increase the number of living-wage jobs in the City of Hamilton by 50,000 in the first ten years; and, likely more considering the required support services;

WHEREAS, the City's Amazon HQ2 bid submission will also be prepared in a way to leverage other future, large scale economic development opportunities;

WHEREAS, staff have assessed the scope and complexity of Amazon's HQ2 RFP needs and are assembling the internal/external resources to mount a competitive bid;

WHEREAS, the cost of that bid will not exceed \$500K; of which the City Manager has the authority to allocate \$250K of City funding;

WHEREAS, staff are actively securing financial support from other private and institutional partners to fund the remaining \$250K required for the bid;

WHEREAS, staff are establishing a steering committee of community leaders from the private and public sector to work with all levels of government to advocate on behalf of Hamilton's Amazon HQ2 bid; and,

WHEREAS, the deadline to submit the Amazon HQ2 bid is October 19, 2017;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to work with provincial and federal governments to obtain their financial commitment to the Hamilton Amazon HQ2 bid submission to include, but not be limited to, the bid incentives as well as commitments related to re-

investing revenues from a successful Hamilton bid into housing programs; small business support programs; and, other such programs that will ensure that a successful bid benefits all Hamiltonians;

- (b) That staff be directed to continue to work with private sector and institutional partners to supplement and offset the costs of the Amazon HQ2 bid submission, with any such funds to be added to the available budget for bid preparation
- (c) That By-Law 17-064, Procurement Policy, be waived in order to allow the City Manager to expediently engage the consultants required for the successful completion of the Amazon HQ2 bid, without exceeding the City's funding commitment; and,
- (d) That staff be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee with a breakdown on the total amount spent on the Amazon HQ2 bid, shortly after its submission.