

# CITY OF HAMILTON

## NOTICE OF MOTION

General Issues Committee: May 16, 2018

**MOVED BY COUNCILLOR S. MERULLA.....**

### **Request to Reactivate the “Who Does What” Working Group**

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton hosted a very successful Hamilton Summit 2018 event on April 13, 2018 in Council Chambers;

WHEREAS, the objective of the Summit was to educate, build awareness, and solicit solutions for four major growing priorities as related to provincial downloading and its impact on the City of Hamilton: local healthcare and the impact on emergency medical services, preserving the existing infrastructure and increasing the supply of social and affordable housing, increased financial support for existing and new infrastructure, and changes to municipal financial tools such as levy restrictions, taxation changes and more support for provincially-shared programs;

WHEREAS, only 52% or \$2,039 of the total average residential tax bill of \$3,928 in 2017 was contributing directly to City controlled services;

WHEREAS, many of the provincially shared services and Boards and Agency costs are increasing well beyond the rate of inflation;

WHEREAS, some of the provincially shared services are in dire service and financial circumstances including Paramedics, where code zero instances continue to occur; and, social housing, where wait lists continue to grow and capital requirements far exceed funding capabilities; and,

WHEREAS, existing Federal and Provincial funding initiatives do not adequately address the aforementioned concerns;

WHEREAS, municipal governments own most public infrastructure and deliver critical services that we all depend on every day, and they do it with the smallest share of tax dollars. Municipal governments own almost two-thirds of all public infrastructure and also have a growing list of responsibilities;

WHEREAS, province-wide, municipal governments collect less than 10% of each household tax dollar, Cities should have a greater local say in how services are delivered and paid for and receive a greater local share of revenue; and,

WHEREAS, the City's overall 'ask' from the Province is a combination of policy changes to municipal financial tools such as levy restrictions, taxation changes and more support for provincially downloaded and shared programs in the range of \$169 million to \$215 million annually;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Mayor be directed to send the Hamilton Summit Policy Brochure to all of the newly appointed Provincial Ministers after the June 7, 2018 Provincial Election;
- (b) That the Mayor be directed to send the Hamilton Summit Policy Brochure to all of the newly elected Hamilton Members of Provincial Parliament after the June 7, 2018 Provincial Election;
- (c) That the Mayor meet with all of the newly elected Hamilton Members of Provincial Parliament after the June 7, 2018 Provincial Election; and,
- (d) That the Mayor submit a formal request to the Premier's Office and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to reactivate the "Who Does What" working group to begin discussions on how to best support municipal governments in Ontario.