



Hamilton

# INFORMATION REPORT

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members Public Works Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	September 17, 2018
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Clean and Green Hamilton Strategy 2017 Year-End Update (PW11052l) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Diedre Rozema 905-546-2424, Extension 5089
<b>SUBMITTED BY &amp; SIGNATURES:</b>	Edward Soldo, P.Eng. Director, Roads and Traffic Public Works Department  Craig Murdoch, B.Sc. Director, Environmental Services Public Works Department

## Council Direction:

Report PW11052/PED11127 concerning “Illegal Dumping, Litter and Escaped Waste” was approved by Council on July 7, 2011, as part of General Issues Committee Report 11-024, and included the following recommendation:

That the General Manager of Public Works be directed to:

- (ii) Provide a semi-annual Clean City Strategy progress report to the General Issues Committee.

Report PW11052k was approved by Council on April 12, 2017, as part of General Issues Committee Report 17-008, and included the following recommendation:

That progress updates on the Clean and Green Strategy be revised to annual from semi-annual reporting to General Issues Committee for their information.

Report PW17078/PED17198 was approved by Council on November 22, 2017, as part of Public Works Committee Report 17-013, and included the following recommendation:

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That staff provide updates on the progress of the Graffiti Management Strategy and its various components as part of the Clean and Green Strategy annual reporting;

This report aims to fulfil Council's direction identified in the recommendations above and presents the 2017 Clean and Green Strategy year-end progress report, and 2018 Graffiti Management Strategy progress report.

**Information:**

This report reflects progress in each of the 5 pillars of the Clean and Green Hamilton Strategy (litter, illegal dumping, graffiti, beautification and environmental stewardship). It also highlights initiatives undertaken by local citizens, organizations and community groups whose work supports the goals of the Clean and Green Hamilton Strategy.

**Pillar #1 – Litter**

**Citizen Engagement Litter Remediation Programs**

Citizen engagement litter remediation activities included in this report are a combination of City-coordinated and significant community-led initiatives. The results of all volunteer programs and initiatives is shown in Table 1.

Team Up to Clean Up and Adopt-A-Park, the City of Hamilton's two volunteer-driven programs, each have individual focus areas, but are linked by the goal of litter remediation.

In previous reports, the metrics of community-led groups of all sizes were combined with the City of Hamilton's program results. Beginning in 2017, the results of three notable community-led groups is reported separate from City of Hamilton program results to highlight and celebrate their substantial efforts. The three groups are: Beautiful Alleys; The Escarpment Project; and, the Stewards of Cootes Watershed and Stewards of Red Hill Watershed. Each group has used unique approaches to make significant contributions towards litter reduction in Hamilton and has prepared their own appendix to this report to describe their 2017 activities.

The result of 2016 litter remediation efforts is also shown in Table 1. In 2017, staff implemented process changes to increase data accuracy by encouraging volunteers to self-report their clean-up results. This initiative resulted in an increase in reports submitted by volunteers from 23% to 78%. The 2017 results reflect the actual volunteer contributions but are not comparable to historic program results which relied on estimates. Increased data accuracy will allow staff to determine appropriate key performance indicators for Citizen Engagement Litter Remediation Programs going forward.

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The work completed by volunteers in 2017 from all City-coordinated and community-led initiatives have a value of more than **\$1,506,940**, enhancing the litter remediation and beautification services provided by City of Hamilton staff.

Table 1 – Citizen Engagement Litter Remediation Programs 2017 Results

<b>Program</b>	<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>Garbage (bags)</b>	<b>Recycling (bags)</b>	<b>Volunteer hours</b>	<b>Value of volunteer hours (\$)<sup>1</sup></b>
Team Up to Clean Up	20,695	2,846	1,468	53,824	\$1,302,002
Adopt-A-Park	445	125	45	3,500	\$84,665
Beautiful Alleys	325	373	159	650	\$15,723
The Escarpment Project	400	566 <sup>2</sup>	0	800	\$19,352
Stewards of Cootes Watershed	949	3,377 <sup>5</sup>	1,249 <sup>6</sup>	2,643	\$63,934
Stewards of Red Hill Watershed	295	1,835 <sup>7</sup>	3,977 <sup>8</sup>	879	\$21,263
<b>2017 TOTAL</b>	<b>23,109</b>	<b>8,556</b>	<b>6,898</b>	<b>62,296</b>	<b>\$1,506,940</b>
<i>2016 TOTAL</i>	<i>33,578</i>	<i>6,645</i>	<i>2,791</i>	<i>45,164</i>	<i>\$1,008,060<sup>3</sup></i>

Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-Up

On July 14, 2017, Council approved a motion to enter into a national partnership with the Great Canadian Shoreline initiative. Locally, this initiative involved more than 570 volunteers in 13 litter clean-up events along Hamilton area shorelines during 2017. Volunteers cleaned more than 40 km of Hamilton shorelines and removed

<sup>1</sup> Value based on hourly staff rate for a 'Labourer (Waste)' position (\$24.19/hour)

<sup>2-8</sup> The Escarpment Project and Stewards of Cootes Watershed and Stewards of Red Hill Watershed track overall weight of litter collected annually rather than number of bags. Both groups predominately collect heavier, bulk items that cannot be placed in bags. The total weight of litter collected by the group has been converted into an estimated number of bags based on a rate of 1 bag = 5kg of litter.

<sup>3</sup> Value based on 2016 average hourly staff rate for a 'Labourer (Parks)' position (\$22.32/hour)

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approximately 923 kilograms of litter in 2017. Reported data indicated that cigarette butts and food wrappers were the most prevalent litter items along Hamilton shorelines.

#### Clean Canada Together

In 2017, Canada celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Confederation. To recognize this milestone year, 10 communities — Brockville, Edmonton, Hamilton, Mississauga, Oakville, Toronto, Vancouver, Vaughan, Winnipeg and the Province of Nova Scotia — participated in a nation-wide clean-up challenge dubbed Clean Canada Together. Close to 285,000 people across Canada, including Hamilton's Team Up to Clean Up participants, volunteered their time at Clean Canada Together events held in the spring. Litter remediation statistics were posted weekly to show the impact of these events.

Participation in the program will continue in 2018 with the goal of increasing the number of communities participating from 10 to 25.

#### Pillar #2 – Illegal Dumping

Following restructuring in the Municipal Law Enforcement (MLE) Division in 2017, Municipal Law Enforcement Officers ceased to have specific job titles and positions for Property Standards and Environmental. The Illegal Dumping Team included three Officers assigned to investigate dumping on private and city property throughout 2017 as part of the Trash Talk program.

Officers worked closely with staff in Parks and Waste Management to investigate and pursue violations under the Parks By-law 01-219, Solid Waste Management By-law 09-067 and the Yard Maintenance By-law 10-118. The team continued to work with property owners and property managers to locate repeat offenders. This included regular site visits, action strategies (marking bags, reviewing property security footage, and surveillance) and communication. In 2017, MLE staff investigated 2,800+ calls directly related to the above By-laws, issued 16 Provincial Offences Notices (charges) and issued over 100 Notices to Comply (Orders).

The Illegal Dumping team continued to assist the King Street Alleyway project through investigation, education and regular monitoring throughout 2017. This program ended in April 2018.

Coordination continued with Canadian National (CN) and Canadian Pacific (CP) Rail Police in 2017. Officers connected at regular intervals with CN and CP staff and remediated areas of concern. Staff did not participate in organized clean-ups on CN affected properties in 2017.

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Following the approval of Report PW18033/PED18092 - Staffing Changes to Address Solid Waste Management By-law Enforcement and Illegal Dumping, in September 2018 the three Officers supporting the Trash Talk program are anticipated to transition into the Public Works Department. Following that transition, Public Works will assume illegal dumping investigations on City property, and enforcement of the Parks and Solid Waste Management By-law for waste related violations. MLE staff will continue to enforce violations on private property through a revised version of the Illegal Dumping Team.

**Pillar #3 – Graffiti**

Due to the complexity of the strategy, depth of research, and consultation with a number of stakeholders, staff have provided a separate update, noted as Appendices D and E to Report PW11052I.

**Pillar #4 – Beautification**

**Adopt-A-Park**

Adopt-a-Park groups contributed to year-round maintenance and care for trees, flowerbeds and shrubbery in 67 municipal parks across Hamilton. In addition to remediating litter in adopted parks, Adopt-a-Park volunteers reported removing 5 bulk items and 32 graffiti tags in 2017, while filling 81 leaf and yard waste bags, weeding 46 shrub beds and laying woodchips at 27 trees. This program continues to engage park users and community groups in creating and preserving clean and safe parks for their neighbourhood, while taking pride and ownership of their community.

**Extreme Park Makeover**

The Extreme Park Makeover program promotes community involvement, attracts private donations, leverages municipal funds and empowers neighbourhoods to take ownership of their local parks. The Environmental Services Division coordinated an Extreme Park Makeover at North Central Park. Community members, the Adopt-A-Park group, members of the Rotary Club of Hamilton, and local youth helped to beautify North Central Park over three days in July 2017. Funds for a new play structure were donated by the Elly4Kids Foundation through the support of Ryan Ellis of the Nashville Predators.

**Hamilton in Bloom**

The Hamilton in Bloom traffic island sponsorship program continued to be a popular corporate sponsorship program in 2017. This year, 45 traffic islands were sponsored through the program. Total revenues from the program were approximately \$46,000 which aided in offsetting costs.

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## Trillium Awards

Instituted in 1956, the Hamilton Trillium Awards Program is one of the oldest and largest beautification programs in North America. The Trillium Awards recognizes those residents who, by landscaping and property maintenance, contribute to a more attractive neighbourhood and community. The program is operated by a volunteer committee and supported by City staff and over 100 volunteers, who spend long days each June to visit hundreds of properties city-wide to select the Trillium winners.

Each fall, the Public Works Department hosts a celebration event to showcase and recognize the beautification efforts of residents and the accomplishments of the Horticulture section. The celebration event highlights the annual Hamilton Fall Garden & Mum Show, Hamilton in Bloom sponsors and the Trillium Award recipients.

The 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Hamilton Fall Garden & Mum Show was held October 20-29, 2017 with the theme, Under the Big Top. Over 13,400 residents and visitors attended the Mum Show in 2017 to view floral displays, attend gardening demonstrations and participate in workshops hosted by the City's Horticulture experts.

## Pillar #5 – Environmental Stewardship

### Forestry Outreach and Education

Environmental Services, Forestry section staff delivered 15 presentations to Grade 3 students on the benefits and care of trees. Approximately 400 students participated in this outreach program in 2017. This program also contributes to increasing Hamilton's urban forest as each school that participated also received a tree planted in their schoolyard.

Forestry staff participated in St. Marguerite D'Youville Catholic Elementary School's annual Eco Fair and shared information about the value of trees with approximately 500 people who attended the event. Forestry staff also hosted tree planting events at Johnson Tew Park and Windemere Park. Approximately 120 volunteers participated in Forestry's tree planting events and planted 650 trees in total at both parks.

### Waste Outreach and Education

Environmental Services, Business Programs section staff delivered seven waste presentations to community groups and 28 presentations at school events. Staff led 28 tours of the Central Composting Facility. A total of 2,326 students and community members participated in these outreach programs.

### Festival Waste Management

Public Works staff continued Put Waste in the Right Place festival waste management in 2017 in coordination with the City's Special Events Advisory Team (SEAT). Seven events participated in the program with 5 events participating in the City's full diversion program collecting recyclables, organics and waste. Two events collected recyclables and garbage. Two additional events offered waste diversion programs managed through a private contractor. The Festival Waste Management program resulted in 3,740kg of cardboard, 6,150kg of recyclable containers and 8,310kg of organics diverted from the landfill in 2017.

### Clean & Green Neighbourhood Grants

The Keep Hamilton Clean and Green Committee supports community-led initiatives by awarding small grants to individuals or community groups which have developed a project plan to keep their neighbourhood clean and green. \$3,880 in grant funding was distributed by the committee in 2017 to 6 community groups to support environmental stewardship initiatives and special projects.

### **Appendices and Schedules Attached**

- Appendix A – Beautiful Alleys
- Appendix B – The Escarpment Project
- Appendix C – Stewards of Cootes Watershed and Stewards of Red Hill Watershed
- Appendix D – Graffiti Management Strategy Update
- Appendix E – Graffiti Management Strategy Progress Report