

# **CITY OF HAMILTON** PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT Transportation Planning and Parking Division

то:	Chair and Members Planning Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	December 11, 2018
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Adjustments to School Crossing Guard Locations (PED18227) (Wards 3, 7, 9, 10, 12, and 15)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Wards 3, 7, 9, 10, 12, and 15
PREPARED BY:	James Buffett (905) 546-2424 Ext. 3177
SUBMITTED BY:	Brian Hollingworth Director, Transportation Planning and Parking Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

#### RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the revised list of school crossing guard locations resulting from school closures, openings, construction projects, walking patterns and lunch program changes in Wards 3, 7, 9, 10, 12, and 15 as outlined in Appendix "A" attached to Report PED18227, be approved;
- (b) That staff be authorized and directed to consult with the affected Ward Councillors and to use delegated authority for adding and/or removing school crossing guards prior to City Council approval for any proposed changes by the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board (HWCDSB) for the 2019/2020 school year.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Staff undertakes an annual review of school crossing and potential school crossing locations to ensure the safe crossing of school-aged children on public highways. City Council has delegated authority to staff to assign temporary school crossing guards in emergency situations, until such time as Council approvals can be obtained. In addition, in areas where schools were closed/opened, or where boundaries or lunch programs

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have been adjusted, it was necessary to use staff's delegated authority and to have new guards in place during the beginning of the 2018/2019 school year.

This comprehensive review has identified the need to:

- Remove two locations due to school closures;
- Remove the second guard from two double guard locations; and,
- Add five locations due to an ongoing construction project, new child walking patterns, and a new school opening.

Staff monitored the locations contained in Appendix "A" to Report PED18227 during the last half of the 2017/2018 school year and the beginning of the 2018/2019 school year, and consulted with all affected Ward Councillors prior to making the recommended changes under delegated authority. While staff is confident that the recommended changes are appropriate, on-going monitoring will continue for some time.

### Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 3

### FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial/Staffing: The recommended changes will result in a net neutral of crossing guard FTE's and expenditures within the past and current operating budget.

Legal: N/A

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Throughout the 2017/2018 school year, and at the beginning of the 2018/2019 school year, a comprehensive review of school crossing guard locations across the City was undertaken, as a result of school closures/re-openings, walking patterns, boundary changes, and lunch program changes initiated by the HWDSB and the HWCDSB. The purpose of this review was to assess the feasibility of each school crossing location and potential new locations with respect to changes in child walking patterns and to ensure appropriately situated school crossing guards for the safe crossing of children on public highways.

Appendix "A" to Report PED18227 contains a detailed list of the proposed changes to school crossing guard locations in Wards 3, 7, 9, 10, 12, and 15 recommended for the 2018/2019 school year. Staff analysis, prior to the commencement of, and at the beginning of, the 2018/2019 school year confirms that the revised crossing guard locations adequately service the current child walking patterns. However, staff will

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continue to monitor during the 2018/2019 school year, in the event that any conditions change.

# POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

N/A

## **RELEVANT CONSULTATION**

Staff of the HWDSB and the HWCDSB, including various elementary school officials and Parent Councils, were consulted, as well as each affected Ward Councillor.

## ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Prior to a school crossing location being recommended, staff undertakes a comprehensive review, and, in the event that there are no regular gaps in traffic or where unsafe crossing conditions exist, a school crossing guard may be assigned to a location to provide safe crossing opportunities for elementary school children. Conversely, in utilizing staff in the most effective and fiscally responsible manner, in the event that a comprehensive review determines a guard is no longer warranted, a location may be removed and the guard may be re-assigned to another location.

## ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

Failure to relocate school crossing guards in accordance with the school closing/reopenings, boundary changes, and lunch program changes, would result in an ineffective school crossing program and could place the safety of elementary school children crossing public highways in jeopardy.

## ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

#### Healthy and Safe Communities

*Hamilton is* a safe and supportive city where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

## APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" – 2018/2019 Adjustments to School Crossing Guard Locations

JB:cr

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