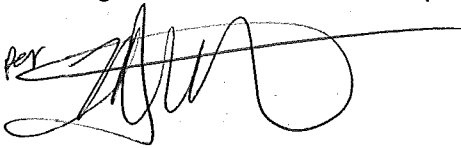




Hamilton

INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Mayor and Members General Issues Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	March 4, 2020
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Graffiti Enforcement Program Update (PED20079) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Robert Ustrzycki (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4721
SUBMITTED BY:	Ken Leendertse Director, Licensing and By-law Services Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

On March 2, 2020, the General Issues Committee requested additional information on the 2018-2019 Graffiti Enforcement Program.

INFORMATION

This Report provides additional information as requested at the General Issues Committee meeting on March 2, 2020 regarding the Graffiti Enforcement Program.

Since January 2018, Licensing and By-law Services have employed two co-op students as Municipal Law Enforcement Officers (MLEO) as part of the two-year Graffiti Enforcement Program pilot that Council approved on November 22, 2017. The MLEOs provide a proactive, solution focused, graffiti enforcement strategy by working with property owners to obtain compliance with the Yard Maintenance By-law.

Understanding that the property owners are victims of crime when graffiti is on their property, MLEOs implement a soft enforcement approach and as a result, the MLEOs have had positive responses from the public. Furthermore, since June 2018, MLEOs have been providing \$25 gift cards to assist property owners who have been affected by graffiti more than once or those who are self-identified as low income. The gift card assists by offsetting the cost to purchase paint or products to remove the graffiti. The

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

gift cards for the victim assistance program was funded through the Keep Hamilton Clean and Green Committee, and Licensing and By-law Services has provided funds as well. This demonstrates the City's continued dedication to work with the community by helping to ease the burden of graffiti removal costs to private property owners.

The MLEO co-op student wage of \$20.09 is based on 55% of a step 1 MLEO position at \$36.52. The annualized cost for two students, including wages, benefits, overhead and vehicle costs is \$97,556. With a May 1, 2020 implementation date, the prorated cost on the 2020 Operating Budget would be \$65,037.

	Total Annual Costs (2 students)	Prorated 8 months
Wages	\$73,409	\$48,939
Benefits	\$7,740	\$5,160
Cell Phone	\$1,000	\$667
Computer	\$1,480	\$987
Uniforms (safety gear, hat, shoes, pant/shorts, shirts, rain gear, utility belt)	\$1,600	\$1067
Fleet Chargebacks	\$6,670	\$4,447
Accommodation Cost	\$5,657	\$3,771
Total	\$97,556	\$65,037

In 2017 the Graffiti Enforcement Program, MLEOs enforced graffiti mainly on a reactive complaint basis with occasional proactive enforcement. In 2017, Licensing and By-law Services received 236 complaints for private property.

During the two-year Graffiti Enforcement Program 361 private property complaints were received and investigated by the students in 2018, and 322 complaints were received and investigated in 2019. In addition, the students proactively identified 1,362 incidents of graffiti that normally would not be reported or identified to the City. In total, the students issued 1,276 orders that required a second or third inspection totalling 3,898 site visits with a voluntary compliance rate of 97% for the total of graffiti incidents in the City.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

None