

HAMILTON POLICE SERVICES BOARD

- RECOMMENDATION -

DATE: 2020 June 11
REPORT TO: Chair and Members
Hamilton Police Services Board
FROM: Eric Girt
Chief of Police
SUBJECT: *Police Station 40 – Waterdown
PSB 20-052*

RECOMMENDATION:

- a) That the Hamilton Police Service Board (HPSB) approve the construction of a new Police Station 40 in partnership with Hamilton Fire Department (HFD) for a combined Police and Fire facility.
- b) That the Board request the City of Hamilton (City) to confirm and include the construction of a new Police Station 40, as part of and in partnership with the HFD approved Waterdown Fire station, in the 2021 Capital Budget.
- c) That the funding of the Police portion of the proposed combined facility, estimated to be \$8M, be funded from the City's Police Development Charges (DC) reserve.
- d) That the Hamilton Police Service (HPS) review and analyze the annual operating budget impact for station 40 and report back to the Board for review and approval.



Eric Girt
Chief of Police

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

FINANCIAL – The HPS portion of construction of a joint Police and Fire facility is estimated at \$8M including construction contingency.

The Station 40 project has been included in the City’s DC background study as it is 100% growth related capital. Therefore, total funding for the construction project will be from the City’s Police DC reserve and will have zero (\$0) impact on HPS annual operating and capital budgets related to the construction of the new station.

HPS is to review and examine the future annual operating budget impacts and will report back to the Board.

STAFFING – n/a

LEGAL – n/a

BACKGROUND:

In 2014, the HPS identified the need for a new Police Station (Station 40) in the rural areas of the Hamilton Escarpment due to current and anticipated population growth in Binbrook, Hamilton Airport/Mount Hope, Ancaster, Dundas, Waterdown and Flamborough.

Station 30 (Mountain Station), which currently covers and patrols this area, has the largest geographic area in the City. It stretches from the borders of Halton Region, Wellington County, Brant County, Haldimand Region to Stoney Creek mountain. This wide geographical area makes the requests and demands for calls for service a tremendous challenge to meet acceptable response time and ensure quality of service.

A proposed Police Station 40 has been included in the City’s DC background studies since 2014, as a separate stand-alone facility (\$25M estimate) planned for 2025. In addition, HPS has identified this project in its annual Ten (10) Year Capital Plan report to the Board (and the City) since 2015.

The HFD has identified a Waterdown Fire Station project since 2007 as part of the City’s annual Capital Budget process and has received Council approval of \$5.7M for construction and land acquisition. An additional \$3.724M for fire equipment and an apparatus for the new Fire station has been identified for approval as part of the 2021 Capital Budget process, bringing the total project cost to \$9.424M.

The HFD has stated once the City's Real Estate department is able to confirm the land purchase (which is expected by mid-summer), they will be working to complete the design phase and initiate the construction phase of the project as soon as possible given the immediate and significant operational need that exists in Waterdown. .

In efforts to be efficient and cost effective, the HPS approached HFD for a potential partnership in a combined Police and Fire facility. Both Services identified operational needs in Waterdown that would result in efficiencies and cost savings to the City relative to a shared location and in partnership similar to what has been experienced with the Multi-Agency Training Academy (MATA).

As a result, a joint working committee was struck to examine the feasibility of a combined Police and Fire facility. HPS and HFD are engaged with the City's Energy, Fleet & Facilities Management team to examine facility requirements, operational needs and preliminary budgets. In addition, HPS has visited 2 detachments of the Niagara Regional Police Service, a stand-alone station and one combined facility with the Niagara Emergency Medical Services, to examine size and scope as well as the feasibility of co-location with another emergency service provider.

The City's Energy, Fleet and Facilities Management division has provided preliminary space programming, high level construction estimates and a preliminary block plan for the HPS portion of the construction project. The proposed square footage is 9,250 ^{sq}ft with a construction estimate of \$8M including contingency. This is a very high level estimate and a consultant will need to be hired to complete the schematic design and feasibility for a class B estimate.

Since this construction project is growth related, future debt charges will be fully recovered from the City's Police DC reserve and a net zero (\$0) impact to the annual police operating budget. The City has confirmed from a DC financing perspective, the project is affordable with the current 10 year HPS capital plan, with the proposed \$8M cost and the anticipated completion in 2021/2022.

HPS has struck its own working committee within the Service to examine the feasibility of a much smaller scale and cost efficient station rather than the full stand-alone station as originally planned. HPS is examining and reviewing buildings, operational deliverables, size and needs, realigning of existing patrol/divisional boundaries, workload analysis for staffing requirement including redeployment of existing staff, calls for service, response times, population densities, growth rates, traffic patterns and all other operating impacts.

With the continuing efforts of meeting the demands for calls for service, for both the HPS and HFD, a combined facility will meet the needs of our community, and allow for

the efficient and effective delivery of both services. It would result in potential efficiencies and costs savings to the City, rather than going with a separate stand-alone police station as originally planned. The potential partnership with the HFD will ensure the best use of the budgetary resources.

EG: J. Randazzo

cc: Frank Bergen, Deputy Chief – Operations
Ryan Diodati, Deputy – Support
Anna Filice, Chief Administrative Officer