




CITY OF HAMILTON
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Transit Division

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| TO: | Chair and Members Public Works Committee |
| COMMITTEE DATE: | August 12, 2020 |
| SUBJECT/REPORT NO: | DARTS 2019 Variance Funding (PW20052) (City Wide) |
| WARD(S) AFFECTED: | City Wide |
| PREPARED BY: | Jason Vander Heide (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2390 |
| SUBMITTED BY: | Debbie Dalle Vedove Director, Transit Public Works Department |
| SIGNATURE: |  |

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the General Manager of Public Works, or their designate, be authorized and directed to pay DARTS an additional \$795,992 from account 12607-006100 for 56,781 additional trips provided for the year 2019, over and above those funds approved within the 2019 Transit Division budget.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) Transportation Standard, Specialized Transit providers cannot limit availability to service by restricting the number of trips a person is able to request.

In 2019 DARTS provided an additional 56,781 customer trips over and above the 787,226 customers trips forecasted in the 2019 budget.

DARTS is a not-for-profit, charitable organization that provides the City's specialized door-to-door transportation services to persons with disabilities who are unable to use conventional transit service, under an agreement with the City.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

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.

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial:

The 2019 approved budget was \$21,749,000 based on 787,226 forecasted trips.

The overall 2019 financial position for the Transit Division includes the DARTS variance of \$795,992 resulting from 56,781 additional trips being delivered. A liability payable to DARTS is accrued for 2019 year-end, and approval of this recommendation will allow the City to reimburse DARTS.

The recommendation has no 2020 cost implications, as the expenditure and associated liability was recorded in the 2019 year-end financial statements of the City.

Staffing: N/A

Legal:

Approval of the recommendation has no legal implications, although failure to approve funding of the variance may be cause for cancellation of the agreement with the City and DARTS.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Under the terms of the contract between the City and DARTS, Council has the authority over budget and service levels.

DARTS is accountable for delivering the agreed upon and forecasted level of service within the approved budget. City staff monitor DARTS performance, tracking service delivery and variances to forecasted trips and budget.

In 2019 DARTS provided an additional 56,781 customer trips over and above the forecasted number of trips that were approved.

An annual budget variance report is prepared by City staff when budget variances result from actual trip delivery exceeding forecasted trips or when expenditures exceed the approved budget.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

As a Specialized Transit provider, the City of Hamilton, under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) Transportation Standard, cannot limit availability

to service by restricting the number of trips a person is able to request. Compliance with this legislated standard was required effective January 1, 2014.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Consultation has been undertaken with the Finance and Administration Division of Corporate Services.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

The overall 2019 financial position for the Transit Division includes the DARTS variance of \$795,992 as a result of 56,781 additional trips being delivered. A liability payable to DARTS is accrued for 2019 year-end, and approval of this recommendation will allow the City to reimburse DARTS.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

There are no alternatives to this recommendation.

DARTS is a not-for-profit, charitable organization and maintains no reserves to deal with a net expenditure variance, and as DARTS has remained compliant with AODA legislated requirements by not restricting the number of trips delivered to requesting customers and by delivering additional trips over and above the trips forecasted in the 2019 budget.

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.

Built Environment and Infrastructure

Hamilton is supported by state of the art infrastructure, transportation options, buildings and public spaces that create a dynamic City.

Our People and Performance

Hamiltonians have a high level of trust and confidence in their City government.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

None