

Added Item 4.1



Hamilton Bike Share Inc.
126 Catharine Street North, Garden Level
Hamilton, Ontario L8R 1J4
289-768-2453 | info@hamiltonbikeshare.ca

City of Hamilton - Mayor and Council
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4Y5

November 11, 2020

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

We are writing to express Hamilton Bike Share Inc.'s support for recommendation (a) (i) in report PED20109(c) - Public Bike Share Program Phased Procurement Process, which will allow for an extension to HBSI's operations contract to run the City of Hamilton's bike share system.

HBSI is in a financial position to continue operating the bike share system for the proposed renewal period of 22 months, to December 31, 2022. We are fortunate through the support of the Hamilton community to have developed a diverse mix of income streams, including user revenues, sponsorship, grants, community fundraising, and philanthropic contributions.

Hamilton's bike share system continues to be an essential transportation service and its continued operation allows our not-for-profit organization to fulfill our mission, which is "to enhance the quality of urban life by improving equitable access to bicycles in Hamilton." Since resuming bike share operations on June 30, 2020, we have successfully maintained the Service Level Agreement as outlined in our current contract, and we will be able to continue to provide those service levels through 2022.

Extending HBSI's operations contract will ensure that thousands of riders will be able to rely on seamless and continued access to Hamilton's bike transit system as they run errands, commute, exercise, and explore Hamilton. We are the city's only transit service which operates 24/7, 365 days a year, and this has been particularly critical during the COVID-19 pandemic as the bike share system serves as an essential and affordable transportation option, where physical distance can be maintained.

In addition, hundreds of Hamiltonians are supported by HBSI's Everyone Rides Initiative (ERI) program, enabling them to use bike share to more easily access housing, employment, social services, food banks, and to reduce social isolation, all of which have been particularly important during the pandemic. ERI is funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation until 2022, and provides marginalized Hamiltonians with subsidized bike share passes, adaptive bikes, and



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programming. We must again highlight, as we did in our last correspondence to council, that our 2019-2022 ERI program funding of \$706,700 is dependent on there being an operational bike share system in Hamilton.

HBSI values its partnership with the City of Hamilton, and we appreciate your consideration of this matter. We are pleased that we continue to be in a position to operate the system for the City of Hamilton and we ask council to ensure that Hamiltonians will have ongoing access to this essential service. HBSI is ready and willing to continue its operational responsibilities into the future.

Sincerely,

Janet MacLeod

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J MacLeod".

Chair, Board of Directors

Chelsea Cox

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chelsea Cox".

Executive Director