CITY OF HAMILTON
NOTICE OF MOTION

General Issues Committee: December 18, 2020

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR E. PAULS.........................................................

Hamilton Farmers Market Security Enhancements and Infrastructure Replacement (Ward 2)

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton (the “City”) is the owner of the lands and buildings municipally known as 35 York Blvd, Hamilton and which property includes the Hamilton Farmers’ Market Facility, hereinafter collectively referred to as (“The Hamilton Farmers’ Market”);

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Farmers’ Market has a longstanding history in the City of Hamilton dating and was founded in 1837, at the corner of York & James Streets and is one of Hamilton’s oldest and most cherished traditions;

WHEREAS, a 2016 survey of over 700 market shoppers revealed that residents from every ward shop at the Hamilton Farmers’ Market;

WHEREAS, the City is committed to providing both safe and inclusive spaces as well as reliable access for all residents to quality and affordable fresh food products from local vendors at the Hamilton Farmers’ Market by implementing measures that mitigate risks associated with thefts and other security breaches as well as renewing vital infrastructure;

WHEREAS, a 2009 renovation of the Hamilton Farmers’ Market was undertaken; which included stall holder infrastructure such as plumbing and electrical amenities to meet health code standards as well as major improvements to the building façade, washrooms and administrative offices, much of the original (1980) back of house infrastructure including mechanical systems were not renewed due to budget pressures;

WHEREAS, the Hamilton Farmers’ Market does not have annual capital funding allocated towards a reserve for the renewal of infrastructure;

WHEREAS, annual maintenance and repair costs are approaching 1/3 of replacement costs for 3 dock levelers; which were installed more than 40 years ago;

WHEREAS, there have been an increasing number of security incidents (consisting of Criminal Offences and Disturbances) over the past several years at the Hamilton Farmers’ Market, including 25 incidents in 2019 and 15 incidents in 2020, which are difficult to investigate due to lack of CCTV equipment and such incidents undeniably have
caused erosion of stall holders and public shoppers’ trust and confidence in the safety of the Hamilton Farmers’ Market facility;

WHEREAS, there have been 2 documented break and enter incidents in 2020 as well as almost daily discovery of unsecured exterior doors to the facility as the doors and mechanisms are worn beyond repair and require replacement, and,

WHEREAS, the City wishes to proactively address the safety concerns of the vendor community at The Hamilton Farmers’ Marker, as well as, to mitigate future risks of repeated intrusions and thefts and failure of infrastructure which is critical to receive goods for sale;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That the loading dock levelers, which allow for the delivery of goods to the Hamilton Farmers’ Market and are at their end of life; be replaced on a priority basis to ensure limited disruption to operations, at a cost of $33,000.00, to be funded from the Unallocated Capital Reserve (108020);

(b) That Corporate Security Office and staff in the Hamilton Farmers’ Market be directed to work collaboratively to procure and install security enhancing measures at The Hamilton Farmers’ Market including, but not limited to, CCTV cameras, intrusion detection systems, card access components any other security measures as may deemed appropriate by the Corporate Security Specialist working collaboratively with the Manager of The Hamilton Farmers’ Market at a cost of $40,150.00, to be funded from the Unallocated Capital Reserve (108020); and,

(c) That the Energy, Fleet and Facilities Management team and staff in the Hamilton Farmers’ Market be directed to undertake to retrofit, replace and install as necessary exterior doors and security gates at the facility as soon as possible, at a cost of $25,300.00, to be funded from the Unallocated Capital Reserve (108020).