

CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

Council: August 13, 2021

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR J. FARR.....

SECONDED BY MAYOR F. EISENBERGER.....

Block Party Assistance Program

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has taken its toll on citizens to various degrees, which for so many includes an absence in socializing safely with friends and neighbours;

WHEREAS, there is an interest from some residents during phase three of reopening to safely hold block parties on streets where they live and within the parameters and guidelines of Ontario's Roadmap to Reopen;

WHEREAS, Council has been a leader in ensuring that the safe return to events in Hamilton is incentivized with many incentives and supports derived from the unprecedented work of the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery, which included approving amendments to previous policies and fee reductions where applicable in an effort to bring our communities back to life in both work and play;

WHEREAS, the costs to host a block party can far exceed \$2,000.00, which includes but is not limited to, a street closure permit at approximately \$700 and contracting of a 3rd party company to close the street at approximately \$1,000, in addition to the current requirement for the these types of street closures to go through a Special Events Advisory Team process, which creates the potential for delays and further restrictions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the appropriate staff be requested to report back to the next Emergency and Community Services Committee meeting with options for residents wishing to hold safe block parties that are less costly and more efficiently approved.