




CITY OF HAMILTON
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Transportation Planning and Parking Division

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| TO: | Chair and Members Planning Committee |
| COMMITTEE DATE: | March 22, 2022 |
| SUBJECT/REPORT NO: | Mohawk Dedicated Officer (PED18220(c)) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) |
| WARD(S) AFFECTED: | City Wide |
| PREPARED BY: | James Buffett (905) 546-2424 Ext. 3177 |
| SUBMITTED BY: | Brian Hollingworth Director, Transportation Planning and Parking Planning and Economic Development Department |
| SIGNATURE: |  |

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the temporary Parking Control Officer (PCO) position approved by Council in September 2019 as part of the Mohawk Dedicated Officer Pilot be converted to a permanent Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff position with a net cost of \$0;
- (b) Staff continue to maintain increased efforts in the Mohawk College Precinct while enabling greater flexibility for enhanced service provision across the City;
- (c) That the matter respecting Item 21G, that staff report back with results and recommendations following the 12-months at the end of Q1 2022 be identified as complete and removed from the Planning Committee Outstanding Business List.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September 2019, Council approved a pilot project to create a temporary Parking Control Officer (PCO) position to address the significant number of parking enforcement requests in the Mohawk College Precinct. This Pilot Project was approved for a 12-month extension in February 2020 just prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The extension was approved on the basis that the pilot project achieved positive results and enforcement revenues substantially offset staff costs. The Recommendation approved in February 2020 also enabled greater flexibility for this PCO to be deployed to other

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areas of the City, a change that proved to be useful and cost effective during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Despite, the fact that, parking activity in the Mohawk College Precinct has varied over the past two years due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, there has been a demonstrated benefit of the additional staffing resource. Benefits include having a continued presence in the high demand Mohawk College Precinct, as well as increased service provision in other areas of need, additional flexibility for absence management, and positive revenue generation.

Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 4

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: \$98,470 Gross Cost and a \$0 Net Cost to Transportation Planning and Parking Operating Budget. Revenue collected from FTE issued penalties would result in a net positive impact.

Staffing: Enhancement of one permanent FTE Parking Control Officer.

Legal: N/A

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

At the Council Meeting of May 23, 2018, Council passed a Motion from the Ward Councillor “that staff look at the feasibility of a dedicated PCO in the Mohawk College Precinct”.

At the Planning Committee Meeting on September 18, 2018, staff submitted Recommendation Report PED18220 outlining the feasibility of the Pilot Program. Staff indicated that a dedicated PCO in the Mohawk College Area could provide a heightened level of enforcement and at a ‘net zero’ cost.

At the Council meeting of September 26, 2018, Council approved a one-year pilot program using one temporary FTE PCO for the Mohawk College Precinct at an estimated gross annual cost of \$84 K and net cost of \$0; and that staff report back with results and recommendations following the one-year pilot program.

The Pilot Program was amended by Council at its meeting of June 26, 2019, where it approved Item 7.1, which read as follows: “That the one (1) Temporary FTE Parking Enforcement Officer assigned to the one (1) year pilot program for Mohawk College Precinct, be reassigned over the summer months, to other areas to cover vacation/sick time.”

At the Council Meeting of February 26/27, 2020, Council approved the following:

- (a) A 12-month extension to the Pilot Program;
- (b) The temporary PCO Supplement City-wide parking enforcement in addition to the Mohawk College Precinct;
- (c) That staff report back with results and recommendations at the end of Q1 2021; and,
- (d) The item respecting staff report back with results and recommendations following the one-year Pilot Program respecting the temporary Dedicated Mohawk College PCO be identified as complete and removed from the Planning Committee Outstanding Business List.

At the Council Meeting of April 28, 2021, Council received and approved Planning Committee Report 21-005 which outlined:

- (a) That a 12-month extension of the temporary PCO for the Mohawk College Precinct be approved;
- (b) That the estimated gross annual cost of \$86,900 and a net cost of \$0 continue to be funded from the Tax Stabilization Reserve; and,
- (c) That staff report back with results and recommendations following the 12-months at the end of Q1 2022.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

N/A

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Staff had regular interaction and communication over the course of the Pilot Program and leading up to this Report with the Ward 8 Councillor.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The 12-month extension that was approved in April 2021 was meant to serve as another window of observation and analysis.

Since April 2021, parking enforcement demands in the Mohawk College Precinct and entire City continue to evolve. Education Institutions at all levels had continued closures and continued with online learning. For these reasons, combined with an increased

presence in the Mohawk College Precinct, each year of the pilot saw reduced issuance from the previous. However, despite the reduced need within the Mohawk College Precinct, other pressures, such as short-term absences relating to COVID-19 Screening Protocols, and altered staff scheduling, were alleviated with this additional staffing resource. Additionally, the temporary position was able to be deployed to other areas of need across the City, responding to growing requests for service.

An analysis of revenue issuance per FTE for 2021 shows that each PCO, despite atypical issuance rates, still had a net positive impact (Revenue Issuance vs Staffing Cost) of approximately \$40 K. This is based on total issuance, not specific to issuance within the Mohawk College Precinct.

Leading up to the onset of COVID-19 and its impact, Parking Enforcement Staffing has been stagnant despite double digit percentage increases year after year for calls for service. This coupled with expansion of service areas, the service provision potential has not been reached. From 2015 to 2019, there was an increase of 57% of calls for service in relation to Parking Enforcement. Analysis of Pre-COVID issuance per FTE was approximately a net positive impact of \$60 K.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

- (a) Staff could be directed to add additional FTE PCOs, to enforce the regulations in the Mohawk College Precinct and enhance overall City of Hamilton service provision, and increased complement of FTEs be referred to in the finalization of the 2022 budget process; and,
- (b) Staff could be directed to immediately end the Pilot Program and revert to regular routine enforcement and calls for service.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

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APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

N/A

JB:cr