



CITY OF HAMILTON
HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT
Hamilton Fire Department

TO:	Chair and Members Healthy and Safe Communities Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	August 11, 2022
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Automatic Aid Agreement with City of Burlington (HSC22044) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	David Cunliffe (905) 546-2424 Ext. 3343
SUBMITTED BY:	Angela Burden General Manager Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

That the Fire Chief, or their designate, be authorized to negotiate and execute the agreement(s) and any ancillary documents required to give effect to an automatic aid agreement with the City of Burlington, all in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, based on the general scope and terms outlined in this report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Hamilton and the City of Burlington have had an automatic aid agreement in place since March 2003 for the joint response of both the Hamilton Fire Department (HFD) and Burlington Fire Department (BFD) to several identified locations within both municipality's boundaries. The general purpose of the automatic aid agreement is to:

- (a) To ensure the provision of an initial timely response to fires, rescues and emergencies irrespective of existing municipal boundaries.
- (b) To supplement the response, ensuring adequate resources are available to initiate and/or complete the required tasks.

In June of this year a request was received from the City of Burlington Fire Chief to complete a review of the existing agreement, along with a request to add two additional

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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.

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areas within the City of Burlington where an automatic aid response is now required due to challenges in the transportation network.

This review is now under way and an update listing of the areas to be included for an automatic aid response has been attached to this report as Appendix "A".

Given the timing of this request, Council is being asked to authorize the City of Hamilton Fire Chief and/or designate the ability to negotiate and execute the agreement(s) and any ancillary documents required to give effect to an automatic aid agreement with the City of Burlington.

Alternatives for Consideration

Not Applicable

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: None

Staffing: None

Legal: The Agreement is being developed in conjunction with Legal

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Subsection 2 (6) of the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997*, S.O. 1997, c. 4, as amended (the "Act") provides the authority to municipalities to enter into "Automatic Aid Agreements" to provide or receive the initial or supplemental response to fire, rescues and emergencies.

Subsection 1 (4) of the Act further states that for the purpose of this Act, an automatic aid agreement means any agreement under which,

- (a) A municipality agrees to ensure the provision of an initial response to fires, rescues and emergencies that may occur in a part of another municipality where a fire department in the municipality is capable of responding more quickly than any fire department situated in the other municipality; or
- (b) A municipality agrees to ensure the provision of a supplemental response to fires, rescues and emergencies that may occur in a part of another municipality where a fire department situated in the municipality is capable of providing the quickest supplemental response to fires, rescues and emergencies occurring in the part of the other municipality.

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Since March of 2003, The City of Hamilton and the City of Burlington have had an automatic aid agreement in place for the joint response of both the Hamilton Fire Department (HFD) and Burlington Fire Department (BFD) to several identified locations within each municipality's boundaries. Automatic aid responses are done on a reciprocal cost basis between the municipalities.

In June of this year a request was received from the City of Burlington Fire Chief to complete a review of the existing agreement, along with a request to add two additional areas within the City of Burlington where an automatic aid response is now required due to challenges in the transportation network.

This review is now under way and the list of the proposed response areas currently under consideration for an updated Automatic Aid Agreement has been attached to this report as Appendix "A". The HFD is working collectively with the City of Hamilton Legal Services Division and the City of Burlington on the review and development of the updated agreement.

Given the timing of this request, Council is being asked to authorize the City of Hamilton Fire Chief and/or designate the ability to negotiate and execute the agreement(s) and any ancillary documents required to give effect to an automatic aid agreement with the City of Burlington.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

The Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997, S.O. 1997, c. 4, as amended

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

City of Hamilton Legal Services
City of Burlington Fire Department
City of Burlington Legal Department

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

N/A

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

N/A

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.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” to Report HSC22044 - Proposed response areas currently under consideration for an updated Automatic Aid Agreement.