



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	April 25, 2024
SUBJECT:	Community Safety and Well-Being Plan: Legislated Revision
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Brenda Bax Acting Director, Children's and Community Services Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	<i>B Bax</i>

This communication update is being sent to advise Council of a new provincial regulation that requires municipalities to review and revise their Community Safety and Well-Being plans every four years.

In 2019, the Ministry of Solicitor General mandated community safety and well-being planning under the Police Services Act. As part of this legislation, municipalities were required to develop and adopt community safety and well-being plans working in partnership with a multi-sectoral advisory committee comprised of representation from the police service board, and other local service providers in health/mental health, education, community/social services and children/youth services.

In June 2021, Hamilton City Council unanimously adopted Hamilton's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan. The plan identifies six priorities focused on addressing local risk factors by: reducing hate incidents, lowering violent crime rates, improving mental health and reducing stigma, mitigating substance use, addressing housing and homelessness, and enhancing access to income.

Effective April 1, 2024, the Community Safety and Well-Being Planning – Review and Revision regulation was enacted under the [Community Safety and Policing Act](#), 2019. This regulation mandates that municipalities review and, if necessary, revise its respective plan every four years from the date of adoption. The revised plan for Hamilton must be submitted to the Ministry of Solicitor General by July 1, 2025.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

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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Planning for this new requirement, and the review and revision of the plan, will be undertaken by Hamilton's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan's system leadership table comprised of senior leaders from more than 20 organizations across the community, including active participation by City Directors in the Children's and Community Services Division, Public Health and Housing Services Division.

Staff will begin work on developing a robust community engagement strategy to ensure community partners and residents inform the review and development of the revised Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, with a focus on underserved equity deserving populations. The annual progress report on the plan will go forward at Emergency and Community Services Committee on May 16, 2024, highlighting key accomplishments of the Hamilton's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan in 2023 and next steps for the upcoming year.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Brenda Bax, Acting Director, Children's and Community Services Division, at Brenda.Bax@hamilton.ca or by telephone at 905-973-4463.