

CITY OF HAMILTON

NOTICE OF MOTION

General Issues Committee Date: July 8, 2024

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR N. NANN.....

City Parks with Active Construction Projects as it Relates to the Encampment Protocol

WHEREAS, in 2019 the Federal government has enshrined housing as a human right in legislation under the National Housing Strategy Act, and in 2023, the Ontario Superior Court of Justice ruled that municipalities need to have places for people experiencing homelessness to go – such as shelters or other housing solutions – before asking individuals to leave encampments.

WHEREAS, Hamilton’s active homeless population has consistently remained over 1,500 since December 2021 and currently sits at 1,615 as of April 2023.

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton remains committed to the long-term goal of permanent housing for all, and protecting the dignity of unsheltered individuals, ensuring homeless and unhoused individuals receive the supports they need in the short-term, acknowledging that the long-term solution – safe and supportive housing – is one which Hamilton, and cities across Canada, cannot respond to quickly enough given the growing, immediate needs of the unhoused in our community.

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton developed and enacted an Encampment Protocol to help manage and provide a framework of where unhoused people could stay in the event that they have no other shelter option.

WHEREAS, several City of Hamilton parks and otherwise compliant encampment locations are scheduled for construction or reconstruction projects as municipal capital investments that benefit the whole city.

WHEREAS, several projects have been or are near tender with detailed project scope.

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED:

That staff be directed report back to the August General Issues Committee on City Parks that have bonafide and active construction projects with a list of recommendations including but not limited to distancing, safety, and/or exemptions due to nature of the construction scope and tendered schedules to be considered for further amendments to the Encampment Protocol.

CITY OF HAMILTON

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General Issues Committee Date: July 8, 2024

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR N. NANN.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR

Motion to Waive The Rules

That the rules of order be waived to introduce a motion respecting City Parks with Active Construction Projects as it Relates to the Encampment Protocol.

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