



City of Hamilton Report for Consideration

To: Chair and Members
Planning Committee

Date: April 29, 2025

Report No: PED25137

Subject/Title: Adjustment to School Crossing Guard Locations

Ward(s) Affected: City Wide

Recommendations

- 1) That the revised list of school crossing guard locations resulting from school closures, openings, construction projects, walking patterns, and lunch program changes in Wards 2, 5, 7, and 8, as outlined in Appendix A attached to Report PED25137, **BE APPROVED**;
- 2) That an increase of 0.19 FTE **BE APPROVED** and funded within the existing Transportation Planning and Parking budget;
- 3) That staff **BE AUTHORIZED** and **BE DIRECTED** to consult with the affected Ward Councillors and to use delegated authority for adding and/or removing school crossing guards prior to City Council approval for any proposed changes by the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board for the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 school year.

Key Facts

- Staff undertakes an annual review of school crossing and potential school crossing locations to ensure the safe crossing of school aged children on public highways.
- City Council has delegated authority to staff to assign temporary school crossing guards in emergency situations until such time as Council approvals can be obtained.
- In addition, in areas where schools were closed/opened or where boundaries or lunch programs have been adjusted, it was necessary to use staff's delegated authority and to have amend crossing locations in place during the 2023/2024 school year.

- This review has identified the need to remove three Lunch Crossings and add one New Location.

Financial Considerations

The recommended changes will result in an increase in 0.19 of Crossing Guard Full-Time Employees and an associated increase to operating costs of \$8,626.39 to be funded within the existing Transportation Planning and Parking budget.

Background

Throughout the 2023/2024 school year and at the beginning of the 2024/2025 school year a review of school crossing guard locations across the City was undertaken as a result of school closures/re-openings, walking patterns, boundary changes, and lunch program changes initiated by the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board. The purpose of these reviews was to assess the feasibility of each school crossing location and potential new locations with respect to changes in child walking patterns and to ensure appropriately situated school crossing guards to ensure the safe crossing of children on public highways.

To provide safe crossing opportunities, staff used their delegated authority to make these necessary changes as outlined in Appendix A attached to Report PED25137. This contains a detailed list of the changes to school crossing guard locations in Wards 2, 5, 7, and 8 recommended for the 2024/2025 school year. Staff analysis prior to the commencement of and at the beginning of the 2024/2025 school year confirms that the revised crossing guard locations adequately service the current child walking patterns. However, staff will continue to monitor during the school year if any conditions change.

Analysis

Prior to a school crossing location being recommended, staff undertakes a comprehensive review, and if unsafe crossing conditions exist, a school crossing guard may be assigned to a location to provide safe crossing opportunities for elementary school children. Conversely, in utilizing staff in the most effective and fiscally responsible manner if a comprehensive review determines a guard is no longer warranted, a location may be removed, and the guard may be re-assigned to another location.

The three locations that the lunch crossing is being removed is a result of the area schools removing the lunch period and moving to nutrition breaks as well as zero children crossing. The new location that was implemented met the exposure index warrant which utilizes pedestrian volume and conflicting vehicle volume.

Alternatives

Not Applicable.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

2. Safe & Thriving Neighbourhoods
 - 2.2. Make sure people can safely and efficiently move around by foot, bike, transit or car

Previous Reports Submitted

- [PED23196](#) Adjustment to School Crossing Guard Locations (Wards 7, 10 and 15)

Consultation

- Liesl Thomas, Administrative Assistant II, Ward 2 Office, City Council
- Councillor Matt Francis; David Ronald, Constituency Assistant, Ward 5 Office, City Council
- Councillor Esther Pauls; Zora Milovanov, Administrative Assistant I, Ward 7 Office, City Council
- Councillor John-Paul Danko; Nikola Wojewoda, Administrative Assistant I, Ward 8 Office, City Council
- Hui Zhang, Financial Assistant I, Corporate Services

Appendices and Schedules Attached

Appendix A: 2024/2025 Adjustments to School Crossing Guard Locations

Prepared by: James Buffett, Manager of Parking Enforcement and School Safety, Hamilton Municipal Parking Service
Planning and Economic Development, Transportation Planning and Parking,

Submitted and recommended by: Brian Hollingworth, Director
Planning and Economic Development, Transportation Planning and Parking