



City of Hamilton Memorandum

To: Chair and Members of
the Downtown Sub-Committee

Date: April 9, 2026

Report No: PW26049

Subject/Title: 2026 International Village Pride Event Support

Ward(s) Affected: Ward 2

Information

At its March 2, 2026, meeting, the Downtown Sub-Committee passed a Motion (Item 9.2) directing staff to report back on two key items:

1. An update on what the City will do to ensure the success of the 2026 International Village Pride Performances including information about a cleaning and graffiti removal program and the potential for security and other City staff to be present or on call during the events.
2. Details about plans to remediate the garden beds to remove the presence and odour of feces and urine.

This memo provides a summary of services, service levels and next steps related to the Downtown Sub-Committee direction.

Graffiti

The City of Hamilton operates a proactive and reactive graffiti management program supported by year-round inspections and community reporting. While inspections occur throughout the year, graffiti removal is completed during the warmer months to ensure effective cleaning. This work is already underway and will continue as part of the City's routine program.

Specific services for June 9, 2026, International Village Pride event will include targeted inspections and coordinated graffiti removal completed in advance of the event.

Cleanliness

The City of Hamilton maintains a consistent cleanliness standard across the downtown and its Business Improvement Areas (BIAs), including street sweeping twice per week, sidewalk litter cleaning and sweeping seven days per week, and daily collection of public-space litter containers.

Specific services for June 9, 2026, International Village Pride event will build on the City's regular service levels. These services will continue as usual, with cleanliness activities throughout the International Village BIA and at City-owned properties, such as Ferguson Station, completed both before and after the event. As part of event preparation, Ferguson Station will be power washed to ensure a welcoming environment for attendees.

City staff will be available to assist with any cleanliness concerns that may arise before and during the event. However, given the event schedule and the established service levels, overtime may be required to respond to requests outside standard operating hours of 7:00a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Security

The City's Corporate Safety and Security team will continue its current service level of providing proactive mobile patrols throughout the downtown, 24 hours per day. Patrol frequency may vary depending on factors such as road closures, but Ferguson Station receives one scheduled patrol every four hours.

The City does not provide dedicated event security services. If the International Village BIA requires security for the Pride event, they will need to hire a licensed provider directly. City staff also recommend that the BIA prepare a comprehensive event safety plan, including clear emergency communication procedures and key contact information for effective coordination.

Ferguson Station Garden Bed Rehabilitation

In preparation for the International Village Pride event and in response to the presence and odour of feces and urine in the garden beds, Forestry and Horticulture will clean the garden beds and apply additional mulch. Staff will also investigate the use of a soil-treatment compound designed to neutralize odours in the garden beds, and should it be deemed feasible, this compound will be applied prior to event. As an optional enhancement, and contingent on full cost recovery, the City can create and install four temporary floral planters at Ferguson Station for the duration of the event.

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.

City staff across all relevant divisions will continue coordinating efforts to support the International Village Pride event through established service levels, targeted pre-event preparation, and responsive operations. These actions demonstrate the City's commitment to maintaining a clean, safe, and welcoming environment downtown and at Ferguson Station, while addressing concerns raised by the Downtown Sub-Committee. Staff will remain available to respond to issues as they arise and will continue working with the International Village BIA to help ensure the success of the 2026 International Village Pride Performances.

Consultation

Roadway Maintenance, Public Works
Parks, Public Works
Forestry and Horticulture, Public Works
Corporate Safety and Security, Public Works

Appendices and Schedules Attached

NA

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