Council Direction:

Not applicable

Information:

On March 8, 2012 the Hamilton Paramedic Service in partnership with CityHousing Hamilton initiated another pilot project aimed at controlling the demand for emergency paramedic services while contributing to healthy living in neighborhoods.

In this pilot up to two paramedics that are on temporary modified duties are assigned to spend one day per week at 120 Strathcona Avenue with the support of CityHousing Hamilton. The paramedics have been performing health screening assessments, helping residents identify and correct fall risks in their apartments, and assisting residents to document their medical and medication history in case of emergencies. This project is building on the success of the Community Referrals by EMS (CREMS) that the Hamilton Paramedic Service started in late 2010.

The Hamilton Paramedic Service has been invited to enter into a partnership with McMaster Department of Family Medicine and the City of Hamilton Public Health Services on an expanded research project entitled CHAP (Cardiovascular Health Assessment Program).
Assessment Program) EMS and pursue research grant funding through Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR).

The purpose of this report is to notify City Council that the Hamilton Paramedic Service is participating in submitting an expression of interest that was due the first week of June 2012. This does not commit the City of Hamilton to anything. If the expression of interest for this project is accepted at the end of June it will require the submission of a proposal for consideration. That work will occur over this summer and that submission would be considered in the fall and the research would start in 2013.

At this time there is no commitment of the division or City Council and if the consortium is invited to provide a proposal more information will be provided.

At this stage there is no financial impact to the City and no change in staffing complement. If a proposal was approved it is expected that during the research the Hamilton Paramedic Service would consider having the assigned paramedics on modified duty providing the health assessments in each the Council identified areas of the City-wide neighbourhood strategy.