TO: Chair and Members
Economic Development and Planning Committee

WARD(S) AFFECTED: WARDS 2, 4, 6, 7 and 10

COMMITTEE DATE: September 21, 2010

SUBJECT/REPORT NO:
Adjustments to School Crossing Guard Locations (PED10215) (Wards 2, 4, 6, 7 and 10)

SUBMITTED BY:
Tim McCabe
General Manager
Planning & Economic Development Department

PREPARED BY:
Pam Carver (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5110

SIGNATURE:

RECOMMENDATION

(a) That the revised list of school crossing guard locations resulting from school re-openings, boundary changes and lunch program changes in Wards 2, 4, 6, 7 and 10 as attached in Appendix “A” to Report PED10215, be approved,

(b) That staff be authorized and directed to consult with the affected Ward Councillors and to use delegated authority for adding/removing school crossing guards prior to City Council approval for the proposed changes by the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic School Board for the 2011/2012 school year.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of a comprehensive review to ensure safe crossings on public highways for school aged children, it was necessary to use staff’s delegated authority respecting the assignment of school crossing guards in emergency situations, and to have new guards in place during the beginning of the 2010/2011 school year in areas where schools were
re-opened or boundaries or lunch programs were adjusted. This comprehensive review identified the need to:

- remove four lunch hour crossing guard locations,
- re-instate two crossing guard locations due to the re-opening of Dr. Davey School (Ward 2),
- add one new crossing guard location.

Staff has consulted with all of the affected Ward Councillors prior to making these changes and monitored these locations during the 2009-2010 school year and are confident that the recommended changes are appropriate. However, staff will continue to monitor in September 2010.

**Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 3**

**FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS** (for Recommendation(s) only)

**Financial:** The net result is an increased annual expenditure in the order of $5,000 which can be absorbed in the current budget.

**Staffing/Legal:** N/A

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND** (Chronology of events)

As a result of school re-openings, boundary changes and lunch program changes initiated by the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board, at the beginning of the 2010/2011 school year, a comprehensive review of all the school crossing guard locations in the affected Wards was undertaken. The purpose of this review was to assess the viability of each school crossing location in the affected Wards with respect to changes in child walking patterns, and to ensure that school crossing guards are appropriately located to ensure safe crossings of public highways by school children.

Appendix “A” to this report contains a detailed list of the proposed changes to school crossing guard locations in Wards 2, 4, 6, 7 and 10 for the 2010/2011 school year. Staff has been monitoring these additions and deletions during the 2009-2010 school year and is satisfied that the revised locations adequately service the current child walking patterns. However, staff will continue to monitor in September 2010 in the event that any conditions change since being implemented.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Staff has delegated authority to assign school crossing guards under emergency circumstances and last year’s report authorized removals for the 2010/2011 school year, subject to extensive monitoring and consultation with the affected Ward Councillors and School Boards.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Extensive consultation took place with staff of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic School Board including various elementary school officials and Parent Councils. Staff consulted with each Ward Councillor in the affected Wards prior to making any changes to the school crossing locations in their Wards.

ANALYSIS / RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

(include Performance Measurement/Benchmarking Data, if applicable)

Prior to a school crossing location being approved, staff undertakes a comprehensive review to determine walking and traffic patterns. In the event that there are no regular gaps in traffic or 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, in the event that 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.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

(include Financial, Staffing, Legal and Policy Implications and pros and cons for each alternative)

Failure to relocate school crossing guards in accordance with the school re-openings/boundary changes and lunch program changes would result in an ineffective school crossing program and could place the safety of elementary school children crossing public highways in jeopardy.

CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN (Linkage to Desired End Results)

Skilled, Innovative & Respectful Organization

- An efficient and effective school crossing guard program contributes directly to the health, safety and well-being of the community.

APPENDICES / SCHEDULES

Appendix “A” to Report PED10215 – Adjustments to School Crossing Locations Chart

MH/PC/dt
Attach. 1
# Adjustments to School Crossing Guard Locations

**Resulting from School Re-openings/Boundary Changes and Lunch Program Changes for the 2010 - 2011 School Year**

## Ward 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crossing Locations Re-instated</th>
<th>Crossing Locations Suspended</th>
<th>Lunch Crossing Locations Removed</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cannon at Elgin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-School re-opens Sept 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferguson at Wilson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-School re-opens Sept 2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Ward 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crossing Locations Removed</th>
<th>Crossing Locations Added</th>
<th>Lunch Crossing Locations Removed</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barton St E at Brunswick St</td>
<td></td>
<td>-No children crossing -Principal in agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barton St E at Weir St N</td>
<td></td>
<td>-No children crossing -Principal in agreement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Ward 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crossing Locations Removed</th>
<th>Crossing Locations Added</th>
<th>Lunch Crossing Locations Removed</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quinn Ave at Stonechurch Rd E</td>
<td></td>
<td>-No children crossing -Principal in agreement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Ward 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crossing Locations Removed</th>
<th>Crossing Locations Added</th>
<th>Lunch Crossing Locations Removed</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inverness Ave at Upper Wellington</td>
<td></td>
<td>Middle school boundary changes resulted in adding a crossing guard at this location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 10</td>
<td>Crossing Locations Removed</td>
<td>Crossing Locations Added</td>
<td>Lunch Crossing Locations Removed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>----------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|         |                            |                          | Highway 8 at Green Rd           | -No children crossing  
|         |                            |                          |                                 | -Principal in agreement |