



INFORMATION REPORT

TO: Chair and Members Emergency & Community Services Committee	WARD(S) AFFECTED: WARD 2
COMMITTEE DATE: June 2, 2010	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Hamilton Farmers' Market - Proposed Two Hour Free Parking (CS10062) (Ward 2) (Outstanding Business List Item "R")	
SUBMITTED BY: Joe-Anne Priel General Manager, Community Services Department	PREPARED BY: Anna M. Bradford (905) 546-2424 ext. 3967
SIGNATURE:	

Council Direction:

The Emergency and Community Services Committee (E&CS) at its meeting of March 3, 2010, received and referred the presentation by Shane Coleman, regarding proposed two-hour free parking at the Hamilton Farmers' Market, to staff, with a copy to the Ward 2 Councillor, for review and a report back to the Emergency & Community Services Committee.

Information:

At the March 3, 2010 E&CS Committee, Shane Coleman, the son of a stallholder at the Hamilton Farmers' Market, made a presentation to Committee respecting his idea to fund proposed two hour free parking at the Hamilton Farmers' Market during renovations.

Mr. Coleman's comments included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Proposal is to transfer the budgeted funds allotted for garbage removal and have them used to purchase free parking for the markets customers;
- Currently the garbage collection is costing \$70,000 per annum;
- 10 years ago the garbage collection was not a cost covered by the budget;

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- Other markets do not offer garbage services;
- Majority of the businesses at the Hamilton Farmers' Market do not use garbage services;
- Flowers, bread, crafts and farmers do not use this service;
- Asking for basic service of one black garbage bag per business per day;
- Remainder of waste –cardboard, plastic and organic will be removed by vendors;
- Savings of removal, savings in cleaning supplies and man power;
- By not subsidizing garbage this will clean up the quality on the market; and
- Asking for the City of Hamilton to extend the free parking to the market by freeing up the budget currently used for garbage service and using that money to purchase free parking for the Hamilton Farmers' Market's valued customers.

Analysis

- On April 14, 2010, Council passed the City of Hamilton 2010 Budget. This approved budget included eliminating the one hour free parking for customers of the Hamilton Farmers' Market.
- All the costs for garbage disposal, at the temporary Hamilton Farmers' Market (Jackson Square), form part of the lease agreement with Yale Properties.
- Staff does not agree that stallholders will voluntarily remove their garbage and transfer to another location. All stallholders use the garbage service, although some do use it more than others.
- Elimination of the garbage service would quickly result in a Health & Safety issue.
- Upon return, to the renovated Hamilton Farmers' Market (York Blvd), an aggressive recycling and garbage management program will be in place. Hamilton Farmers' Market staff has worked closely with the Operations and Waste Management Division, Public Works to develop this program. The program will result in garbage costs being reduced to approximately \$28,000 from approximately \$80,000 annually in the York Blvd. location