

POLICY RECOMMENDATION

DATE: November 8, 2006

TITLE/SUBJECT: Support for Closed Circuit Television Cameras in Hamilton

COMMITTEE: Business Development

ACTION REQUIRED:

Letter to be sent to Mayor and Members of City Council, with c.c. to Chief Brian Mullan, Hamilton Police Services

BACKGROUND OF ISSUE:

After 2 years of study, a test model of 5 cameras in Downtown Hamilton and a trial time period of 2 more years with a community based evaluation task force monitoring the results of the program, the Hamilton Police Services Board are reviewing the status of the CCTV program for Hamilton with a view to recommending the continuation and expansion of the program. The CCTV Task Force reviewed the program and the results and recommended that the program should be supported as one of the tools of policing that should be expanded in Hamilton. The results have been a positive experience for Downtown. Crime stats in all areas have decreased and more areas are calling for the installation of cameras to protect our citizens.

The Hamilton Police Services Board have met earlier this month and are recommending to council that the CCTV program be continued and expanded and will be seeking council's approval to do so early in the new year as they go through budget deliberations. The cost estimate is approx. \$15,000 per unit and does not include the cost of monitoring which has yet to be determined.

Other cities in Ontario indeed in North America and Great Britain have implemented the CCTV program including Sudbury, Ottawa and Windsor.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce support the continuation and expansion of the CCTV program in Hamilton