

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council

FROM: Maureen Van Ravens, Manager of Transportation

DATE: March 20, 2019

MEMORANDUM NO.: MEM-TPW-2019-0009

RE: Cameras on School Buses

PURPOSE OF THE MEMORANDUM:

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform Council of a proposed pilot project to install cameras on school buses to reduce the traffic violations with the travelling motorists not stopping for school buses when the stop arm is deployed. Town of Halton Hills staff has been working with Halton Regional Police Services on this initiative to promote road safety. A motion will be before Council on March 25, 2019 to support Halton Regional Police Services with this initiative.

BACKGROUND:

Town of Halton Hills staff along with Halton Regional Police Services receives numerous complaints from the community of vehicles that continuously disobey the stop arm deployment on school buses. Halton Regional Police Services has been reviewing automatic enforcement technology that can be used on school buses to confirm if violations are occurring. In 2017, Halton Region Police Services arranged a meeting with the local municipalities, Halton District and Catholic School Boards, and Halton Student Transportation Services to provide a demonstration with a vendor that specializes in video cameras on school buses to detect violations of drivers disobeying the stop arm deployment. The videos can be used to quantify the amount of violations, educate the public, and ultimately provide enforcement.

In addition, Mayor Bonnette provided a letter of support to Chief Tanner at Halton Region Police Services to apply for grant funding to pursue a pilot program for the implementation of the cameras.

COMMENTS:

Halton Regional Police Services has been working with a vendor and the Privacy Commission to have a pilot program implemented. It is anticipated that the pilot program will have a camera installed on a minimum of one school bus with the goal to have it implemented at the beginning of the 2019/2020 school year.

During the pilot, the camera will collect data to quantify the amount of violations. It will also determine the complexity to review the data to determine the amount of resources to implement the program. The enforcement would be established in a future phase of the program. As part of the Halton Regional Police Services Road Safety Strategy for the Town of Milton and the Town of Halton Hills, project "Bus Guard" is one of the many programs that is planned to be implemented.

CONCLUSION:

The Town of Halton Hills promotes road safety and works in partnership with Halton Regional Police Services. The implementation of a pilot program for the installation of cameras on school buses will confirm that drivers are disobeying the stop arm when deployed. It is anticipated that the pilot program will be implemented at the beginning of the 2019/2020 school year. A motion will be before Council on March 25, 2019 to support Halton Regional Police Services with this initiative.

Reviewed and approved by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maureen Van Ravens". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Maureen Van Ravens, Manager of Transportation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Mills". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "C" and a horizontal line across the middle.

Chris Mills, Commissioner of Transportation and Public Works

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Marshall". The signature is cursive and fluid, with the first name being more prominent.

Brent Marshall, Chief Administrative Officer