



Support to Toronto Police Service Vehicle Mitigation Program

Date: July 10, 2019
To: TTC Board
From: Deputy Chief Executive Officer - Operations

Summary

At its meeting on May 8, 2019, the Board directed the Chief Executive Officer to report to the Board at its July 10, 2019 meeting on the financial impact to support the Toronto Police Service Vehicle Mitigation Program on the TTC's Operating Budget and on the feasibility of cost sharing with Toronto Police Service (TPS).

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. The Board authorize the TTC to continue providing these buses in support of the TPS and the ongoing partnership in public safety.

Financial Summary

The cost to deploy the buses to 60 events per year is approximately \$60,000. Funds are available within the existing City Council approved TTC operating budget.

The Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Issue Background

The TTC's Transit Enforcement Unit coordinates the deployment and use of six decommissioned TTC buses to assist the TPS in enhancing public safety at large scale events. To support the program, the Transit Enforcement Unit has trained eight Special Constables to operate these buses through the three-week Operator Initial Training and Licensing program.

The TTC has a longstanding relationship of mutual support with the TPS. The TTC regularly deploys vehicles and operators to assist in various public safety situations, e.g. fires, evacuations, floods (shelter buses) and major events and parades. As a result of this relationship, there are opportunities for sharing resources.

As part of the TPS Vehicle Mitigation Program, decommissioned buses have been repainted and co-branded with TPS at minimal cost. The vehicles are operated by trained and licensed Special Constables, who are trained to deal with difficult and potentially dangerous situations.

Comments

As of June 1, 2019 the TTC has spent \$29,378 in support of the TPS and public safety initiatives at events including the annual Pride Parade, Remembrance Day ceremonies, the Santa Claus Parade, Maple Leafs and Raptors playoff games at the Scotiabank Arena, Blue Jays games, the one-year memorial of the “Van Attack” and the Ontario Police memorial parade. These deployments have no impact to the day-to-day operation of the TTC, and the TTC considers the deployment as one part of our long-standing partnership with TPS.

We continue to work with TPS by having a desk at the TPS Major Incident Command Centre to ensure timely communication between the two services during major events in the city. The TTC offers training to TPS officers in Subway Track Safety and the TPS offer training opportunities at the Toronto Police College.

Given the minimal impact to the TTC’s Operating Budget, continuing to provide the buses for TPS event support would be in keeping with the ongoing partnership and would serve in the interest of the mutually beneficial relationship.

Contact

Alan Cakebread, Head – Transit Enforcement Unit
416-346-9711
Alan.cakebread@ttc.ca

Signature

Kirsten Watson
Deputy Chief Executive Officer - Operations