

**AFFECTS WARDS
5, 9, 10, 12 & 15**

CITY OF HAMILTON

**PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Downtown Renewal Division**

Report to: Chairman and Members Planning & Economic Development Committee	Submitted by: Lee Ann Coveyduck General Manager
Date: September 30, 2005	Prepared by: William Young, (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2469

**SUBJECT: Adjustments to School Crossing Guard Locations Resulting from
School Closures/Boundary Changes (PED05141) (Wards, 5, 9, 10, 12 &
15)**

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the revised list of school crossing guard locations resulting from the school closures and boundary changes in Wards 5, 9, 10, 12 and 15, attached hereto as Appendix "A" to Report PED05141, be approved.
- (b) That staff be authorized and directed to consult with the affected Ward Councillors and use staff delegated authority for assigning school crossing guards, prior to City Council approval, for the school closure/boundary changes proposed by the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board for the 2006/2007 school year.

Lee Ann Coveyduck
General Manager
Planning and Economic Development Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Due to the school closures and boundary changes initiated by both the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board, staff undertook a review of affected school crossing guard locations in Wards (Wards 5, 9, 10, 12 and 15). This comprehensive review identified that four (4) school crossing guard locations and three (3) lunch hour crossings are no longer required and that four (4) new locations need to be established to safely cross children for the 2005/2006 school year.

In order to ensure safe crossings for the children, it was necessary to use staff's delegated authority respecting the assignment of school crossing guards in emergency situations, and to have the new guards in place for the 2005/2006 school year, as approved by City Council on November 12, 2004. Staff consulted with all of the affected Ward Councillors prior to making these changes to the crossing guard program.

BACKGROUND:

As a result of school closures and boundary changes in Wards 5, 9, 10, 12 and 15 initiated by the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board effective at the beginning of the 2005/2006 school year, a comprehensive review of all of the school crossing guard locations in the affected Wards was undertaken. The purpose of this review was to assess the viability of each existing location with respect to changes in child walking patterns, and to ensure that school crossing guards were appropriately located to ensure safe child crossings of public highways.

Appendix "A" to this report contains a list of the changes to school crossing guard locations in Wards 5, 9, 10, 12, and 15 as of September 20, 2005. Staff has been monitoring these additions/deletions since the beginning of the school year and are satisfied that the revised locations adequately service current child walking patterns.

Due to delays in construction of the new Dundas public school, the review of Dundas school crossing locations has been deferred until next summer. Accordingly, staff recommends that the same process with respect to consultation with the affected Ward Councillors, and invoking the delegated authority for emergency assignment of guards be followed again next year.

ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES:

Failure to relocate school crossing guards in accordance with the school closure/boundary changes would result in an ineffective school crossing program and place the safety of elementary school children crossing public highways at many locations in jeopardy.

FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications

There was a net reduction of three (3) lunch hour crossing points representing reduced expenditures of approximately \$4,000. However, no budget reduction is recommended at this time, since the current changes are still being assessed, and the implications of the 2006/2007 school closures/boundary changes are not known at this time.

Staffing Implications

There is a net reduction of approximately .20 FTEs.

Legal Implications

N/A

POLICIES AFFECTING PROPOSAL:

N/A

**CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT
DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES:**

Extensive consultation took place with staff of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board, including various elementary school officials. Staff consulted with the Councillors in each of the affected Wards (5, 9, 10, 12, and 15) prior to making changes to the school crossing locations in their Wards.

CITY STRATEGIC COMMITMENT:

Health Impacts

An effective school crossing guard program directly contributes to the health and well being of several thousand children crossing public highways each weekday.

Social Impacts

N/A

Environmental Impacts

N/A

Economic Impacts

N/A

WY

Attach.

**Adjustments to School Crossing Guard Locations Resulting from
School Closures/Boundary Changes for the 2005-2006 School Year**

Crossing Locations Removed

Ambrose & Greenhill, Ward 5
Delawana & Lake, Ward 5
Queenston & Kenora, Ward 5
Hamilton & Highway 5, Ward 15

Lunch Crossing Locations Removed

Quigley & Veevers, Ward 5
Greenhill & Quigley, Ward 5
Grays Rd & King St, Wards 9, 10

Crossing Locations Added

Albright & Harrisford, Ward 5
Gatestone Dr & Gatestone School, Ward 9
Kitty Murray & Stonehenge, Ward 12
Brian Blvd & Guy Brown School, Ward 15