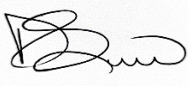




COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members of Council
DATE:	April 16, 2025
SUBJECT:	Monitoring Events at Pier 4 Park and Associated Impacts
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 2
SUBMITTED BY:	Dan Smith Acting Director, Licensing and By-law Services Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

Purpose:

The purpose of this Communication Update is to provide Council with information on a review of the impact of events at Pier 4 Park, including the results of trial noise monitoring at Pier 4 events and festivals during the summer of 2024.

Background:

In the summer of 2024, Municipal Law Enforcement Officers attended several events to monitor, investigate and respond to complaints and violations under the City's Noise By-Law No. 11-285. This trial program was funded through the Ward 2 office and paid for Municipal Law Enforcement Officers to patrol area festivals as an enhancement to their regular schedule and duties. During the events, staff monitored noise decibel levels and investigated noise related complaints from the public.

Results of the 2024 Pier 4 Events Dates:

1. Because Beer - July 11-13th, 2024 (Friday through Sunday)

- Attendance estimated at 10,000 persons.
- Noise Meter readings – 50.
- Noise By-law Complaints received – 1.
- Noise By-Law violations x 6 (*Fine \$100 each*).
- Municipal Law Enforcement Officers in attendance:
 - 5 Paid Duty Officers. Total hours of work – 54 hours.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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2. Electric Shore - July 27th, 2024 (Saturday)
 - Attendance estimated at 250 persons.
 - Noise Meter readings – 7.
 - Noise By-law Complaints received – 0.
 - Noise By-Law violations x 0.
 - Municipal Law Enforcement Officers in attendance:
 - 4 Paid Duty Officers. Total hours of work – 28 hours.
3. Sunday Dubby Sunday - July 28th, 2024 (Sunday)
 - Attendance estimated at 100 persons.
 - Noise Meter readings - 11
 - Noise By-law Complaints received – 0.
 - Noise By-Law violations – 0.
 - Municipal Law Enforcement Officers in attendance:
 - 4 Paid Duty Officers. Total hours of work – 21 hours.
4. Pride - August 8-10th, 2024 (Sunday)
 - Attendance estimated at 15, 000 persons.
 - Noise Meter readings – 14.
 - Noise By-law Complaints received – 0.
 - Noise By-Law violations – 0.
 - Municipal Law Enforcement Officers in attendance:
 - 4 Paid Duty Officers. Total hours of work – 24 hours.
5. Crossfire Car Show - September 14th, 2024 (Saturday)
 - Attendance estimated at 500 persons.
 - Noise Meter readings – 0.
 - Noise By-law Complaints received – Not applicable.
 - Noise By-Law violations – 0.
 - Municipal Law Enforcement Officers did not have the resources to staff this event.

Special Events often require dedicated and skilled personnel to ensure monitoring and/or complaint investigations are done by trained staff. Municipal Law Enforcement staff have consistently been challenged by the need for additional staff to support the by-law enforcement portion of these approved events. Due to the staffing and resourcing required for current operational workloads, staffing Special Events has become increasingly difficult.

As of April 1st, 2025, Municipal Law Enforcement Officers have extended their operating hours until 4:00 am from Tuesday to Saturday and until 12:00 am (midnight) on Sundays. These extended hours may allow staff to attend and investigate noise complaints at area festivals, reducing the need for Paid Duty Staff to handle noise

concerns during these times. It should be noted these extended hours will be for city wide service and will not include dedicated staff to support Special Event programs but will allow for enhanced opportunity to respond to noise complaints at Special Events when no service was previously provided.

Park Impacts

Pier 4 Park is a smaller space along the Hamilton Harbour Waterfront, between Bayfront Park and the Harbour West Marina. It is regularly booked in the summer for festivals and events. Given the nature of the infill soils under the park and the constant use of the parkland, it can be challenging to ensure quality park maintenance can take place (including aeration to offset compaction). The waterfront trail passes this park, with an asphalt loop and secondary granular loop that is well used by residents and visitors to get close to the water. It is a desirable place for festivals because of the views to the water, the adjacent parking area at Bayfront, ready services to support events, and the design of the space that creates a cordoned-off feeling for the festival.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Not applicable.