



**MAYOR'S OFFICE
MEMORANDUM**

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TO: MAYOR J. LEHMAN AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: JEFF LEHMAN, MAYOR EXT. 7900

NOTED: M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: CONNECTED CORE PILOT PROGRAM

DATE: MAY 6, 2019

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information to members of General Committee concerning Connected Core Pilot Program.

This Pilot is inspired by and based on a successful program that was undertaken in the City of Guelph's downtown core. This Pilot Program consists of hiring an individual, with lived experience of opioids, addiction and/or homelessness preferably, to assist with getting marginalized individuals connected with relevant existing organizations in our community that provide services such as housing and/or mental health support. It also aims at assisting businesses by providing them with tools and education to help them better understand and interact with the marginalized population. This initiative seeks to improve the local business climate, reduce calls to emergency services through de-escalation, as well as assist individuals in need. This Pilot Program is anticipated to be undertaken from July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019.

Program Methodology / Logistics

The Pilot Program will be a collaboration between stakeholders, including, but not limited to, Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre, Barrie Police Service, Downtown Barrie BIA, The Gilbert Centre, Simcoe County Alliance to End Homelessness (SCATEH) and David Busby Centre. Each of the stakeholders will determine and report on respective success metrics. This will help with the overall assessment of the program as well as highlight areas of improvement for the future. The metrics will be specific, measurable, and trackable such as: reduced number of police calls, impact on public and business complaints, and number of individuals connected with services.

The Program will cover the geographical area as delineated by the Downtown Barrie BIA (see Appendix A). The Coordinator will look to service one street per week on average, which includes supporting the individuals at risk through partnering with specific outreach providers, as well as connecting with individual businesses.

The Mayor's Office staff have met with downtown stakeholders including: David Busby Centre, The Gilbert Centre, Downtown Barrie BIA, Barrie Police Service, Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre's Rapid Access Addiction Medicine (RAAM) Clinic, Community Connection 211, Simcoe County Alliance to End Homelessness (SCATEH) Barrie Chapter, and residents and business owners in the downtown. There is widespread support for the initiative.

Program Funding

The funding required for this Pilot Program is \$40,000. This funding would be divided between the proposed four funding partners of the City of Barrie, Barrie Police Service, Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre, and Downtown Barrie BIA with a proposed in-kind support.



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Pilot Resources and Governance

The Pilot Program Worker will be hired by a Community Agency and will report to a Committee comprised of the funding partners and stakeholders with regards to their activities, progress and outcomes. The Program design and evaluation will be led by the Shift_Government Project. The Pilot Program Coordinator will report to the funding partners at the three month and six month points in the pilot project.

Project Timelines

March 2019	Initial framework and proposal completed
April/May 2019	Proposal refinement Seek funding approval from partners Develop pilot curriculum and collateral materials
May/June, 2019	Hire Program Worker Develop metrics for project outcomes Establish reporting guidelines
June, 2019	Develop communications strategy
July 1, 2019	Launch Pilot Program
October, 2019	Mid-Program report
January, 2020	Final report to committee comprised of funding partners and stakeholders
First Quarter, 2020	Report findings to City Council

If Members of Council have any additional questions regarding the project or would like more information, please contact the Mayor's Office at ext. 7900 or officeofthemayor@barrie.ca.