



CITY OF KINGSTON
REPORT TO COUNCIL

Report No.: 12-248

TO: Mayor and Members of Council
FROM: Denis Leger, Commissioner of Transportation, Properties & Emergency Services
RESOURCE STAFF: Sheila Kidd, Director of Transportation Services
DATE OF MEETING: July 17, 2012
SUBJECT: Licensing Opportunity to Support Car-Sharing in Kingston

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval, in principle, to license a limited number of parking spaces to car-share program promoters, in support of the City's Transportation Demand Management Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council approve, in principle, to license a limited number of parking spaces in prime downtown locations to support the implementation of a car-share program in Kingston and in the event a service provider decides to proceed, direct staff to report back with details on a program which would include guidelines, criteria and timelines for its consideration.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES:

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER _____ Denis Leger, Commissioner of Transportation, Properties & Emergency Services
ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER _____ Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer

CONSULTATION WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMISSIONERS:

Cynthia Beach, <i>Sustainability & Growth</i>	√
Lanie Hurdle, <i>Community Services</i>	N/R
Jim Keech, <i>President and CEO, Utilities Kingston</i>	N/R

July 17, 2012

- Page 2 -

OPTIONS/DISCUSSION:

Options for Homes is currently developing Anna Lane, a contemporary 115-unit condominium building at the northwest corner of Queen and Bagot Streets. The anticipated occupancy date is the end of 2013.

Options for Cars is a non-profit car-share cooperative program that has been developed successfully in tandem with Options for Homes developments, offered to homeowners as well as the surrounding community. The Anna Lane Condominium Development is incorporating such a car-share cooperative in the design of the building by allocating two spots in the parking garage. The car-share program for Anna Lane will allow condominium owners to opt out of owning a parking space. Owners who do not require a parking space can save on the total purchase price of their unit because the parking costs are unbundled from the condominiums costs. Options for Cars memberships are free for Anna Lane condominium owners however participation is open to residential, commercial, and institutional members for a fee. For more information on membership, costing and infrastructure, please visit <http://www.optionsforcars.ca/>.

A representative of Options for Homes recently approached staff to explore the option of launching the car-sharing program in the fall of 2012 by offering the program to a broader membership of non-owners. They would like to explore the potential market for a car-share program in Kingston, either through Options for Cars or in partnership with other non-profit service delivery agents. They have also expressed an interest in exploring other ideas on how best to launch and implement the car-share, including corporate/business participation from the City of Kingston and integrating membership fees with a Kingston Transit Pass.

Options for Cars hope to launch a marketing campaign in July 2012 to evaluate the level of interest in the broader community. Typically, a report of this nature would be presented to the Environment, Transportation and Infrastructure Policy Committee (EITP) however to meet the timelines indicated by Options for Cars, staff is presenting directly to Council. They have asked City staff to consider licensing two dedicated parking spaces - one in the Springer Lot on Queen Street (across the street from their development) and a second space in another downtown location such as the King/Queen Lot - to allow them to explore, and potentially launch the program. The Springer Lot has 65 parking spaces of which 35 are assigned for monthly permits, and the remaining 30 spaces are used for hourly parking. The King/Queen Lot has 130 spaces, all of which are for short-term parking. There is currently a waiting list for monthly permits at the Springer lot. The occupancy study that was conducted in August 2011 as part of the North Block review, indicated the peak occupancy for the Springer lot was 92%, representing 60 of the total 65 spaces being occupied at peak. Occupancy at the King/Queen lot was also over 90%.

Staff supports the request to license two spaces for a car-share program. If we proceed, these spaces will be allocated from the short-term parking inventory and, if necessary, will be recovered for monthly use through attrition of monthly permit holders. The North Block Study also indicated that there is capacity to absorb the two short-term spaces in other lots in the vicinity.

July 17, 2012**- Page 3 -**

Promoting car-sharing programs is identified as a strategy in the City's Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Strategy. Staff recently participated in a presentation from another car-share company who is also interested in launching a program in Kingston. The City can support a car-share program by licensing the required parking spaces in prime locations and by partnering to market the program in conjunction with other sustainable transportation programs and options. The City has several other licensing agreements for the use of parking spaces both on-street and in lots, including the Angrove Lot, McKee Lot, 27 Place D'Armes, and the laneway at the bottom of Princess Street, etc.

At this time, staff is seeking Council approval, in principle, to enter into an agreement with Options for Cars or any other car-share program provider, to license a limited number of parking spaces in prime downtown locations to support the implementation of a car-share program in Kingston. In the event a service provider decides to proceed, staff will report to EITP or Council, depending on the timelines, with full details, including guidelines and criteria, for consideration and final approval. The licensing costs would be based on the Fees & Charges Bylaw and equivalent to the fees generated by short term parking.

EXISTING POLICY/BY LAW:

The recommendation in the report is supported by the City's Transportation Demand Management Strategy.

NOTICE PROVISIONS: N/A**ACCESSIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS:** N/A**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

Revenue generated through the license of parking spaces is expected to be revenue neutral as the spaces would otherwise be utilized for short term parking.

CONTACTS:

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OTHER CITY OF KINGSTON STAFF CONSULTED:

Paula Nichols, Parking Manager

Jeremy DaCosta, Transit Manager

Darin Ramsay, Senior Transportation Planner

Kathy Gray, Property Specialist

EXHIBITS ATTACHED: N/A