

## **Request for Amendment to the Provincial Offences Act**

*(City Council on December 14, 15 and 16, 1999, adopted the following recommendation:*

*“It is recommended that the City of Toronto immediately take whatever legal action that may be necessary to stop the issuance of ‘phoney’ lookalike parking tickets and the City Solicitor be requested to provide progress reports thereon, every six months, to the Administration Committee.”)*

**The Administration Committee reports having directed that the following communication (November 8, 1999) from Mr. Murray Segal, Assistant Deputy Attorney General, Criminal Law Division, Province of Ontario, be forwarded to Council for consideration:**

Thank you for your letter to the Attorney General, the Honourable James Flaherty, regarding the request of the Administration Committee and the City of Toronto Council for an amendment to the *Provincial Offences Act* to make it an offence to use phony or look-a-like parking tickets. I have been asked to respond on behalf of the Attorney General.

Correspondence has also been received from Novina Wong, City Clerk, regarding the use of injunctions to prevent look-a-like parking tickets. As you have copied Ms. Wong on your letter, and as similar correspondence has been received from Ms. Wong, I am copying her on this response.

I have asked Sheilagh Stewart, counsel, to liaise with other offices within the ministry, including the POA Transfer Project, to review the proposed offence, the legislative agenda and civil remedies, such as the proposed injunction. Subsequent to the correspondence in 1998, there has not been an opportunity to put forth an amendment to the *Provincial Offences Act*. While I appreciate your concerns with regard to the issue of look-a-like tickets, the creation of an offence would be unlikely to completely address the issue. Given the apparent monetary value associated with the issuance of phony tickets, it is unlikely that a sufficient level of deterrence will be achieved and other avenues will also need to be explored by the City.

Thank you for taking the time to make the ongoing concerns of the City of Toronto and the Administration Committee known.