

October 6, 2006

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:

City Council on September 25, 26 and 27, 2006, referred the following Motion to the Community Development and Recreation Committee:

J(2) Ensuring Parents are Provided with Assistance in Properly Installing Child Safety Car Restraints

Moved by Councillor Moscoe, seconded by Councillor Augimeri

“WHEREAS every year over 10,000 children, 12 or under, are injured, some of them fatally, in traffic collisions; and

WHEREAS surveys show that as many as 80 percent of Canadian children are not properly restrained when travelling in motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS seatbelts are required by law for everyone, including infants and toddlers; and

WHEREAS all child restraint systems (infant and toddler seats) sold in Canada must meet Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standards set by Transport Canada; and

WHEREAS the installation of these seats, as a result of new safety standards, has become more complex and difficult; and

WHEREAS the improper installation of a child restraint seat is as much a safety hazard as an unsafe seat; and

WHEREAS assistance for parents is sporadic and unco-ordinated; and

WHEREAS in New York City, residents can go to their local fire hall for assistance in properly installing child safety restraint systems or to check if a car seat is properly installed; and

WHEREAS Toronto Fire Services has a long-standing tradition of promoting proactive public safety;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Toronto provide assistance in safely installing child car restraint systems and that it be done through local fire halls;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Fire Chief incorporate, into all training and refresher training courses for Toronto firefighters, a program to teach them how to properly install infant and toddler car seats;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT by the end of 2008, each fire hall have on duty at least one firefighter, so that residents can attend any fire hall and have someone available that can assist with the safe installation of a child car seat or who can check an installation to ensure that it has been properly done;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this matter be referred to the Fire Chief for a report to the Community Development and Recreation Committee.”

for City Clerk

M. Toft/cd