

NOTICE OF MOTION**City Council Endorse Provincial Bill 118: An Act to Amend the Highway Traffic Act to Prohibit the Use of Devices With Display Screens and Hand-Held Communication and Entertainment Devices**

Moved by: Councillor Nunziata

Seconded by: Councillor Ootes

SUMMARY:

On October 28, 2008, the government of Ontario introduced a Bill proposing the ban of hand-held devices to talk, text or e-mail while driving. Under the Bill, the police would be able to charge drivers who use a hand-held cell phone, send e-mail or text messages, or use other hand-held electronic devices while driving. The use of hands-free devices would be permitted. Emergency calls would not be affected under the proposal.

Transport Canada estimates that in approximately 20 percent of all motor vehicle collisions, driver distraction is a contributing factor. Moreover, drivers who use cell phones are four times more likely to be in an accident than drivers who do not use cell phones.

Similar legislation exists in Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Nova Scotia.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That City Council endorse Provincial Bill 118.
2. That City Council direct the Clerk to convey City Council's endorsement of Bill 118 to the Province of Ontario.

December 1, 2008

According to Chapter 27, Council Procedures:

Notice given	(v)
Fiscal Impact Statement provided	
Should have Fiscal Impact Statement prior to debate Requires two-thirds to waive requirement if Council wishes to debate	*
Should be referred to Executive Committee Requires two-thirds vote to consider at this meeting	(v)
Motion Recommendations are Urgent	

* Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer to advise.