

Motion – Government Management Committee – March 11, 2010

Item: Action Ward: All

Report Request on utilizing the Car Share industry for City of Toronto - Fleet Services (Ward All)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Councillor Saunderson recommends that:

1. The Government Management Committee request the Director of Fleet Services to submit a report to the May 20, 2010 meeting of the Government Management Committee providing the results of a preliminary review of the car share industry in Toronto to determine if the City of Toronto can benefit from the implementation of car share vehicles to supplement and/or replace the existing City fleet, as well as the technology used in order to efficiently manage the fleet and attain cost savings.

SUMMARY:

On September 30, 2009, Toronto City Council approved a report entitled Reserved on-street parking for use by car share vehicles – Pilot Program in Downtown Area (Sustainable Transportation Initiative) – PW26.3. The report concluded that the car share industry “has the potential to reduce transportation costs by reducing the dependency on private vehicle ownership”, thereby increasing the use of public transit, cycling and walking. The report also confirmed, among other details that the support of the City of Toronto for the car share industry:

- has the potential to reduce air pollution from vehicle emissions thereby contributing towards the City achieving the goals of the “Climate Change, Clean Air and Sustainable Energy Action Plan” approved by City Council;
- has the potential to reduce the number of cars in private ownership and on the road, thereby reducing demands on parking and wear-and-tear on/maintenance costs of road infrastructure;
- addresses one of the Sustainable Transportation Initiative: Short-term Proposals adopted by City Council;

The report described the car-share concept as “a program that offers vehicles for short-term rental to registered members of a car-share organization/company. Vehicles are located geographically throughout the City to serve members and are rented on an hourly basis. All vehicle costs (gas, maintenance, insurance, etc.) are included in the rental fee. Vehicles are assigned by the company to a specific location, checked out by the member for a specified time period, and returned to the same location at the end of the rental period.”

The City of Toronto currently owns and operates over 2,000 cars and trucks across several divisions. Opportunities exist for the City of Toronto to utilize the technology and services of the Car Share industry to maximize fleet efficiency, reduce the number of fleet vehicles required, and supplement a smaller, more efficient city fleet with car sharing solutions.

(Submitted to the Government Management Committee March 11, 2010)