



REPORT FOR ACTION

Grab Some Good: TTC Pop Up Market Program - Amendment and Extension of Purchase of Service Agreement

Date: January 6, 2017
To: Board of Health
From: Acting Medical Officer of Health
Wards: All

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to obtain City Council authority to amend and extend the service agreement between the City and FoodShare Toronto to operate pop up healthier food kiosks at select Toronto Transit Commission Subway Stations under the Grab Some Good: TTC Pop-Up Market Program.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. City Council authorize an extension and amendment to the existing purchase of service agreement (the "Agreement") between the City and FoodShare Toronto ("FoodShare") to continue operating pop up healthier food kiosks at various Toronto Transit Commission Subway Stations under the Grab Some Good: TTC Pop Up Market Program (the "Program") for a term ending on October 31, 2018, on the terms and conditions contained in Appendix "A" attached hereto and on such other terms as deemed acceptable to the Acting Medical Officer of Health, the Chief Corporate Officer (CCO) and the TTC and in a form acceptable to the City Solicitor; and,
2. City Council authorize the Acting Medical Officer of Health, or her designate and the CCO, or her designate to administer and manage the Agreement, including the provision of amendments, waivers, consents, notices, and notices of termination provided that the Acting Medical Officer of Health may, at any time, refer consideration of such matters to City Council for its determination and direction.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact related to the extension and amendment of this service agreement.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on October 31st 2016, the Board of Health received a report from the Acting Medical Officer of Health "Toronto Food Strategy: 2016 Update" (the "Report") (<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2016/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-97432.pdf>)
Appendix 1: Toronto Food Strategy - 2016 Update
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2016/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-97433.pdf>).

The Report provides an update on the Toronto Food Strategy and an overview of current food strategy initiatives. It also states that the Toronto Food Strategy will "continue to champion and support a healthy and sustainable food system for all by working in partnership with other levels of government, public and private sector organisations and multiple stakeholders...[and] will build on integrating food into current City wide initiatives".

At the October 31, 2016 meeting, the Board of Health also approved a motion that the Acting Medical Officer of Health be directed to extend the Program until October 2018 at current and additional locations, subject to funding availability, and in consultation with relevant City staff, stakeholders and the TTC and that the Acting Medical Officer of Health, in consultation with the TTC and relevant stakeholders, report back to the Board of Health by December 2018 on the efficacy of this model and recommendations for options to provide good food for TTC commuters.

COMMENTS

Healthy food retail interventions have been identified as an important strategy to improve access to and increase consumption of healthy foods, thereby preventing chronic disease and obesity. Food Access Mapping research by Toronto Public Health revealed that Toronto's food retail environments are dominated by establishments that promote calorie-dense, nutrient-poor food choices. Several interventions are underway to help shift the environment within which Torontonians make food choices, into a food environment that promotes health.

One of the solutions is to promote innovative food access options with new market models that will help at-risk communities in Toronto. The Program is one such solution. The evaluation from this pilot project will be provided to the TTC to assist them with future retail food strategies on their property that would help promote access for commuters to healthier food choices. The TTC subway system is a key venue for intervention since more than 1.6 million passengers use the TTC each day, and existing food retail generally focuses on unhealthy food sales revenue. FoodShare currently

operates the Program at three subway locations to enable commuters to have access to affordable fresh food options.

This project builds on the past successes of FoodShare's Mobile Good Food Market (MGFM), which uses a retrofitted Wheel-Trans bus to sell high-quality fresh produce across Toronto's low-income communities. FoodShare, as the only not-for-profit produce provider in the City of Toronto, was an ideal partner and has a long track record of promoting access to good food for all Torontonians.

Pursuant to a purchase of service agreement dated November 5, 2015 between Foodshare and the City (the "Agreement"), the City retained the services of FoodShare to operate the Program. Authority for the Agreement was obtained under City of Municipal Code Chapters 71 and 195. The Agreement, permitted Foodshare to operate out of prescribed TTC Subway Stations (being Downsview, Kipping and Victoria Park Subway Station) at nominal value for a period of 12 months expiring on February 15, 2017 and authority for the same was obtained under delegated authority authorized by Executive Committee, Item No. # EX 43.7 adopted by the City of Toronto on May 11 and 12, 2010, as amended (DAF Tracking No. 2015-249). This delegated authority for the use of City space at nominal value can only be used for a maximum term of 12 months, which is to expire on February 15, 2017.

Early indications demonstrate that commuters from all walks of life appreciate the opportunity to purchase high quality, culturally diverse fresh produce at good prices. There have been no operational concerns. Preliminary evaluative research was conducted by University of Toronto students in summer 2016. Of the 42 customers who were surveyed, 80% said their access to healthy food has improved; 89% were satisfied with the quality of produce and 70% felt that the prices were affordable.

A full evaluation of the pilot will be completed by October 2018. The evaluation report will be provided to the Board of Health and the TTC and will enable the TTC to determine whether to integrate the sale of fresh produce into their ongoing retail strategy. TTC has been consulted and is agreeable to the extension and amendment of the Program and the Agreement as set out in Appendix "A".

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Dr. Barbara Yaffe,
Acting Medical Officer of Health

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: Major Terms and Conditions

APPENDIX "A"

Major Terms and Conditions

Term/Condition	Summary
Licensee/Service Provider	FoodShare Toronto
Licensor	City of Toronto
Licence/Service	Non-exclusive licence from the City to the Licensee to operate pop up healthier food kiosks at the Program Locations during the Term.
Program Locations	Downsview, Kipling and Victoria Park Subway Stations and such other TTC Subway locations determined by Toronto Public Health and the TTC in consultation with FoodShare.
Term	February 16, 2017 to October 31, 2018.