



CITY COUNCIL REFERRAL OF MEMBER MOTION

Utility Locate Services for Business Improvement Areas as Required by Ontario One Call (ON1Call)

Date: June 5, 2017
To: Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
From: City Council
Wards: All

CITY COUNCIL DECISION

City Council on May 24, 25 and 26, 2017, referred Motion MM29.11 to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Councillor Janet Davis, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Deputy City Manager, Cluster B to report to the September 19, 2017 meeting of the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee on options and implications for the City coordinating and/or performing Business Improvement Area utility locate services under the City's utility locate services contracts.

SUMMARY

Ontario One Call (ON1Call) was established by Provincial legislation to operate a 24/7 call centre that receives notification of plans to perform any construction that involves underground excavation. ON1Call issues compulsory requests to registered owners of underground infrastructure in the vicinity of proposed construction to inform them of their obligation to provide visual notification of underground infrastructure, or written clearance that no infrastructure will be impacted by proposed excavation. The infrastructure locates or written confirmation that no infrastructure will be impacted, must be performed within a prescribed period of time.

The legislation applies to Business Improvement Areas that own or operate underground infrastructure that crosses or is in the vicinity of a public right of way. Several Business Improvement Areas have experienced a significant increase in administrative and financial costs to meet the compulsory reporting requirements, or they face the prospect of legal action by ON1Call if they fail to do so.

There are many good reasons why the City should consider taking on some responsibility for this work: the City already has two utility locate service providers under contract to identify the City's underground infrastructure and fulfill the City's reporting requirements to ON1Call. Business Improvement Area underground infrastructure is in the same vicinity as City infrastructure and is within the public right of way. The City has made a significant financial investment in Business Improvement Area infrastructure and has an interest in protecting it. In order to look at possible options for coordinating and supporting Business Improvement Area's with this obligation, we propose the following Motion.