



Supplementary Report - Item IE12.7 - Free-Floating Car-Share Pilot - Review

Date: June 24, 2020
To: City Council
From: Barbara Gray, General Manager, Transportation Services
Wards: All

SUMMARY

At its meeting held on March 11, 2020 the Infrastructure and Environment Committee (IEC) adopted, as amended, Item IE12.7 entitled "Free-Floating Car-Share Pilot - Review" and, in so doing, recommended that City Council, at its meeting scheduled to be held on April 1, 2020, authorize that the Free-Floating Car-Share Pilot that was due to expire after April 30, 2020 be made a permanent program effective May 1, 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 crisis the April 1 City Council meeting was cancelled and IEC's recommendations have not yet been adopted by City Council. Given that the pilot expired on April 30, 2020 and that the May 1 date approved by IEC has now passed, an extension of the pilot to June 30, 2020 is required and amendments to the May 1 date in IEC's decision are required.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council extend the Free-Floating Car-Share Pilot up to and including June 30, 2020.
2. City Council amend the Infrastructure and Environment Committee Recommendations by deleting the date "May 1, 2020" and inserting instead the date "July 1, 2020" in Recommendations 1 to 7 and amend in Attachment 1 to the report (February 26, 2020) from the General Manager, Transportation Services, by deleting the date "May 1, 2020" and inserting instead the date "July 1, 2020".

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Adoption of the recommendations in this supplementary report are administrative in nature and will not affect the financial impacts as outlined in the report from the General Manager, Transportation Services dated February 26, 2020, adopted as amended, by Infrastructure and Environment Committee on March 11, 2020 (Item IE12.7).

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council, at its meeting held on September 30 and October 1, 2009 adopted, as amended, Public Works and Infrastructure Committee Item PW26.3 entitled "Reserved On-Street Parking Spaces for Use by Car-Share Vehicles - Pilot Program in the Downtown Area (Sustainable Transportation Initiative)", establishing a pilot program for designating on-street spaces specifically for vehicles displaying car-share vehicle permits.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2009.PW26.3>

Toronto and East York Community Council, at its meeting of September 15th, 2009, established designated car-share vehicle parking areas on certain streets in the downtown area.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2009.TE27.84>

City Council, at its meeting of April 10 and 11, 2012, adopted an expansion of the pilot program to allow car-share parking within the city. This expansion established specified installation criteria, a tiered parking permit structure, and introduced new fees.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2012.PW13.4>

Public Works and Infrastructure Committee, at its meeting of June 18, 2014, considered a communication, "Pilot Project Investigating On-street Parking for Car-share Vehicles" (Item PW32.25) and requested Transportation Services to report in 2015 on a review of the Car-Share Vehicle Parking Area Program and on the feasibility of creating a pilot project allowing car-share vehicles to park in on-street permit parking areas with existing parking capacity.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2014.PW32.25>

Public Works and Infrastructure Committee, at its meeting of November 12, 2015, received a report, "Car-Share Parking in Permit Parking Areas" (Item PW9.10). Transportation Services is responding to a request from the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee regarding the feasibility of creating a pilot project to allow car-share vehicles to park in certain residential on-street permit-parking areas throughout the city where on-street parking exists.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2015.PW9.10>

Public Works and Infrastructure Committee, at its meeting of February 28, 2017, considered a letter from the Chair of the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee,

"Car-sharing On-Street Policy and Pilot Project" (Item PW19.5), and requested that Transportation Services report in 2017 on a review of parking permit allocations, current car-share data, feasibility of a pilot project, impacts to residents and a comprehensive Free-Floating Car-Share Vehicle Policy.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.PW19.5>

City Council, at its meeting of October 2, 3 and 4, 2017, referred Item PW23.8 on "Free-Floating Car-Share Pilot and Interim Policy" to the General Manager, Transportation Services for further consideration and to report back to the January 31, February 1 and 2, 2018 City Council meeting.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.PW23.8>

City Council, at its meeting of January 31 and February 1, 2018, referred Item CC36.14 on "Revised Free-Floating Car-Share Pilot and Interim Policy" to the General Manager, Transportation Services for further consideration and to report back to the April 11, 2018 Public Works and Infrastructure Committee meeting.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2018.CC36.14>

City Council, at its meeting of April 24, 25, 26 and 27, 2018, adopted, as amended, the "Revised Free-Floating Car-Share Pilot and Interim Policy" (Item PW28.11).

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2018.PW28.11>

City Council, at its meeting of May 22, 23, and 24, 2018, through Member Motion 41.54, directed the General Manager, Transportation Services, to further consult with the free-floating car-share industry and to report back directly to City Council if any changes are recommended to improve the pilot.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2018.MM41.54>

City Council, at its meeting of July 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 30, 2018, adopted, as amended, the "Update on Free-Floating Car-Share Pilot and Interim Policy" (Item CC44.33).

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2018.CC44.33>

COMMENTS

Infrastructure and Environment Committee, at its meeting held on March 11, 2020 adopted, as amended, Item IE12.7 and, in so doing, authorized that the Free-Floating Car-Share Pilot due to expire on April 30, 2020 be made a permanent program beginning on May 1, 2020. Item IE12.7 was to be considered by City Council at its meeting scheduled to be held on April 1, 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 crisis, City Council's April 1 meeting was cancelled and emergency measures were implemented.

In the interim, as it is important to maintain transportation services to allow people who must travel to do so in the safest ways possible, Transportation Services made an operational decision to continue the pilot unofficially until such time as Item IE12.7 is considered by City Council.

Communauto FLEX is the only car-share company taking part in the Free-Floating Car-Share Pilot. They have continued to operate during the COVID-19 crisis while putting in place preventive measures and special offers for members. Fleet agents disinfect vehicles using a virucidal product on the most-used vehicle surfaces. Members are instructed not to use car-share vehicles if they have symptoms of COVID-19 or have come into contact with someone who has or may have COVID-19. Members are advised to clean vehicles when they enter them and are encouraged to keep the same vehicle for longer periods, rather than using multiple vehicles for several short trips. If a member reports becoming ill after using a car-share vehicle, that vehicle is blocked for a period of 72 hours and then disinfected before being used by another member. Communauto Flex offers members a free 15-minute credit to allow users to clean vehicles before driving them, and also offers special rates and privileges for health care workers.

Conclusion

The COVID-19 crisis prevented City Council from considering the Free-Floating Car-Share Pilot - Review (Item IE12.7) on April 1, 2020. As the Free-Floating Car-Share program was operationally extended past the pilot expiry date of April 30, 2020, it is recommended that Council extend the pilot to June 30, 2020, inclusive, make the pilot a permanent program effective July 1, 2020, and that the decision of the IEC be amended to reflect this.

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SIGNATURE

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