City Council

Notice of Motion

MM6.7	ACTION			Ward: All
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Recommitting to taking action on impaired driving in Toronto - by Councillor Jaye Robinson, seconded by Mike Colle

Recommendations

Councillor Jaye Robinson, seconded by Mike Colle, recommends that:

- 1. City Council direct the General Manager, Transportation Services, in consultation with Toronto Police Service, to report back to City Council in the fourth quarter of 2023 with an update on City Council's 2022 direction for a report on impaired driving in Toronto, including:
 - a. statistics on traffic collisions involving impaired drivers from 2018-2023 including the observed impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and pandemic recovery on impaired driving trends;
 - b. an update on efforts underway to address this issue as well as additional measures that can be taken, including a jurisdictional scan for best practices in other municipalities; and
 - c. details on actions taken to-date following City Council's 2019 direction to develop a campaign to stop impaired driving in collaboration with Mothers Against Drunk Driving Canada, Arrive Alive and other relevant stakeholders with the funding allocated for Vision Zero education and engagement programming.
- 2. City Council direct the General Manager, Transportation Services, in consultation with the Toronto Police Service, to review and enhance public education and prevention strategies pertaining to impaired driving.
- 3. City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services, in consultation with Mothers Against Drunk Driving Canada, Arrive Alive, and other stakeholders, to develop a new public education campaign on the dangers of impaired driving as part of ongoing Vision Zero education and engagement programming, and report back on progress as part of the report cited in Recommendation 1 above.

Summary

Based on police-reported data from Statistics Canada, impaired driving kills or injures more Canadians than any other crime. It also remains the single most important factor contributing to serious road crashes.

^{*} Notice of this Motion has been given.

^{*} This Motion is subject to referral to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.

According to Mothers Against Drunk Driving, there is a lack of current and comprehensive national data on the number of Canadians killed or injured in impaired driving collisions annually. The organization lists the timely collection and publication of impaired driving statistics as a key policy recommendation in their Top Ten Report - Federal Measures to Minimize Impaired Driving and Support Victims. Much of the data that is available predates both the COVID-19 pandemic and the legalization of regulated cannabis in Canada, which have undoubtedly impacted trends.

Through our Vision Zero Road Safety Plan, the City of Toronto has committed to reducing traffic-related deaths and injuries to zero. According to Toronto Police Services data, those most victimized by impaired driving incidents in 2022 were some of our most vulnerable road users: pedestrians. Impaired driving is preventable, as are the tragic injuries and deaths it causes. The City can recommit to reducing impaired driving fatalities and injuries in Toronto to zero by employing a data-driven strategy that leverages the expertise of key stakeholders.

On July 19, 2022, City Council adopted MM47.36 - Taking Action on Impaired Driving in Toronto, requesting a report back to City Council in the first quarter of 2023 on impaired driving in Toronto and for a review of public education and enforcement strategies. https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2022.MM47.36

On July 16, 2019, City Council adopted 2019.IE6.8 - Vision Zero 2.0 Road Safety Plan Update, which included an amendment moved by Councillor Jaye Robinson, requesting a campaign to stop impaired driving in collaboration with relevant stakeholders and using funding allocated for Vision Zero education and engagement programming. https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2019.IE6.8

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM6.7