TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING ON FEBRUARY 20, 2019

FROM: G. KOTSIFAS, P. ENG.
MANAGING DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT & COMPLIANCE SERVICES & CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL

SUBJECT: BY-LAW MONITORING AND MODERNIZATION

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Development and Compliance Services and Chief Building Official, the report on By-law Monitoring and Modernization BE RECEIVED for information purposes.

BACKGROUND

Over the past number of years, Civic Administration has reviewed a number of by-laws in an effort to streamline and consolidate regulations and approval processes, address emerging issues and repeal archaic unnecessary regulations. The largest review involved a complete revamp of the Business Licensing By-law, which had not been fully reviewed and/or revised for at least three decades. Emerging issues such as car sharing initiated a review of the former Taxicab By-law.

DISCUSSION

Generally, all Community By-laws can be categorized by one or more of the following municipal purposes:

- Consumer protection
- Nuisance control
- Health and safety
- Crime prevention

London’s By-laws vary in the level of complexity, length and degree of enforcement required to achieve compliance.

Civic Administration is continually monitoring emerging issues, consulting with industry advocates, and discussing issues with the general public in an effort to efficiently and effectively administer and enforce Council approved By-laws.

In recent comprehensive by-law reviews, Council approved Civic Administration utilizing section 23 of the Municipal Act, authorizing the delegation of legislative powers. The intent of this section is to streamline City Council’s decision-making process and enable it to focus on larger community issues in a more strategic manner. This process has been used in the Vehicle for Hire By-law and Business Licensing By-law. The process is efficient as it allows for the development and implementation of operational regulations by Civic Administration, which otherwise would be required to be approved by Council by way of By-law amendments. The process allows for prompt decision making and alternative solutions without having to report out to Council on operational matters. From a resource perspective, preparing numerous reports and amendments to a current By-law, is far more time-consuming than addressing operational matters administratively.
CONCLUSION

As the continuous process of By-law modernization unfolds, Civic Administration plan to amend two bundles of By-laws yearly. This will involve a full municipal scan, industry meetings and a public participation process to ensure full public transparency. The two proposed bundles for the 2019 calendar year are:

- The Pool Fence By-law and the Fence By-law
- Property Standards

In addition to these two bundles, Civic Administration will continue to prepare By-law amendments as emerging issues arise.

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<td>O. Katolyk, MLEO (c)</td>
<td>GEORGE KOTSIFAS, P. ENG. MANAGING DIRECTOR, DEVELOPMENT &amp; AND COMPLIANCE SERVICES &amp; CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL</td>
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<td>CHIEF MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER</td>
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