

## Report to Civic Works Committee

**To:** Chair and Members  
Civic Works Committee

**From:** Kelly Scherr, P.Eng., MBA, FEC  
Deputy City Manager, Environment & Infrastructure

**Subject:** Public Participation Meeting – Amendments to Consolidated Fees and Charges By-law

**Date:** May 10, 2022

## Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, the attached proposed by-law (Appendix “A”) **BE INTRODUCED** at the Municipal Council meeting to be held on May 24, 2022 to amend By-law A-57, being “A by-law to provide for Various Fees and Charges” to remove the Bike Locker Pilot Project Fees timeframe.

## Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to remove the timeframe for the Pilot Project fees in the City of London’s Fees and Charges By-law related to the Bike Locker Pilot Project to align with the extension of the pilot project timeframe.

## Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

Municipal Council’s 2019-2023 Strategic Plan for the City of London continues to recognize the importance of active transportation, cycling, and the need for a more sustainable and resilient city.

On April 23, 2019, the following was approved by Municipal Council with respect to climate change:

*Therefore, a climate emergency be declared by the City of London for the purposes of naming, framing, and deepening our commitment to protecting our economy, our eco systems, and our community from climate change.*

Personal transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in London. Cycling to replace vehicle trips has been a priority action for London’s community energy planning activities since the mid-2000s and is a key part of London’s Climate Emergency Action Plan. Testing higher-order bike parking is an important component of encouraging more trips to be made by bike.

## Analysis

### 1.0 Background Information

#### 1.1 Previous Report Related to this Matter

- Public Participation Meeting - Amendments to Consolidated Fees and Charges By-law (April 20, 2021 meeting of the Civic Works Committee - CWC, Agenda Item #3.2)
- Fees and Charges By-law A-57: <https://london.ca/by-laws/fees-charges-law-57>

#### 1.2 Bike Locker Pilot Project

In the summer of 2021, the City of London launched a Pilot Project to provide secure bike parking in three locations downtown. There are 18 lockers in total. A bike locker is a large box in which up to two bicycles can be locked separately. They provide a higher

level of security and convenience for Londoners riding a bike. Bike lockers help prevent theft, provide weather protection, and deter casual vandalism.

Two types of rental lockers are available: hourly and monthly. The fees for the Pilot Project (August 2021 – December 31, 2022) are based on approximately half the price of vehicle parking rates.

#### Hourly Rental Rate

- Free for the first 2 hours; then \$0.50/ per hour
- Maximum 24 hours. Then resets for new rental period.

Payment is available through the Bluetooth-based Movatic application on a smartphone, available through the Apple App Store and Google Play.

#### Monthly Rental Rate

- \$20 per month
- \$100 deposit to obtain key; refundable upon return.

Rental applications and payments are processed through the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 300 Dufferin Avenue.

## **2.0 Discussion and Considerations**

### **2.1 Locker Usage**

The lockers became operational in late August 2021. The lockers were promoted when they first launched through social media and partners. However, because the pilot started late summer during the pandemic, promotion of their availability and locations was not fully implemented.

Due to the changes in work activities and the encouragement (often a requirement) to work from home, City staff anticipated that bike locker usage would be light until pandemic restrictions were reduced/removed and that the pilot project would need the equivalent of a re-launch. Usage information between late August 2021 through March 31, 2022 indicates:

- Dundas/Wellington location - Lockers were rented at this location 42 times;
- Clarence Street north location - Lockers were rented at this location 10 times; and
- Covent Garden Market (underground parking garage) - Lockers were rented at this location 48 times.

Informal, unsolicited feedback received to date (emails from Londoners) has been positive and has included some suggestions for service improvements.

### **2.2 Next Steps**

This Spring, a campaign will be launched to promote the lockers and remind cyclists about them throughout the rest of the pilot. The campaign will include social media, posters, and messaging through partner organizations.

A feedback form will also be launched this summer to seek cyclists' experiences using the lockers. In addition, signage will be added to the locations to make it easier for cyclists to find the lockers.

An analysis of the Pilot Project will be completed in early Fall to determine how the lockers were used, if the locations were accessible, if the fees were a barrier to use, if the costs were sufficient to cover some of the locker purchase and maintenance costs, and if the program should be expanded to other locations outside downtown.

Pilot Project results will also help inform the City's Bike Parking Plan, currently under development.

### 3.0 Financial Impact/Considerations

To provide the Movatic App to cyclists, the City pays both a Movatic fee per transaction and a Stripe fee per transaction. Stripe is the credit card processor company.

A full assessment of the financial impact of the bike locker pilot will be included in the pilot project evaluation.

### Conclusion

The Bike Locker Pilot Project has already brought about many learnings. Removing the approved rental fees timeframe allows cyclists to continue to expect and pay the same fees. It also allows City staff to promote the service over the remainder of the pilot project period and gauge their usefulness and future opportunities. After the Bike Locker Pilot Project is complete, City staff will assess the fee structure.

**Prepared by:** Allison Miller, MCP, MCIP, RPP, Senior Coordinator,  
Transportation Demand Management

**Submitted by:** Jay Stanford, M.A., M.P.A.  
Director, Climate Change, Environment, & Waste Management

**Recommended by:** Kelly Scherr, P.Eng., MBA, FEC, Deputy City Manager,  
Environment & Infrastructure

Appendix A A by-law to amend By-law A-57 being "A by-law to provide for Various Fees and Charges" to remove the Bike Locker Pilot Project Fees timeframe.

## Appendix A

Bill No.  
2022

By-law No. A-\_\_\_\_\_

A by-law to amend By-law A-57 being “A by-law to provide for Various Fees and Charges” to remove the Bike Locker Pilot Project Fees timeframe.

WHEREAS subsection 5(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, provides that a municipal power shall be exercised by by-law;

AND WHEREAS section 9 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other Act;

AND WHEREAS section 10(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may provide any service or thing that the municipality considers necessary or desirable for the public;

AND WHEREAS section 10(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may pass by-laws respecting: in paragraph 7, Services and things that the municipality is authorized to provide under subsection (1);

AND WHEREAS section 391(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may impose fees or charges on persons:

- (a) for services and activities provided or done by or on behalf of it;
- (b) for costs payable by it for services and activities provided or done by or on behalf of any other municipality or any local board; and
- (c) for the use of its property including property under its control;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed expedient to pass this by-law;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

1. That “Schedule 1, 2022 Fees and Charges – Environmental Services: Services Grouping: Environmental Action Programs and Reporting – Pilot Project Ends April 30, 2022” of By-law A-57 be replaced with the attached “Schedule 1, 2022 Fees and Charges – Environmental Services: Services Grouping: Environmental Action Programs and Reporting”.
2. This by-law comes into force and effect on the day it is passed.

PASSED in Open Council on May 24, 2022.

Ed Holder  
Mayor

Michael Schulthess  
City Clerk

First Reading – May 24, 2022  
Second Reading – May 24, 2022  
Third Reading – May 24, 2022

## Schedule 1, 2022 Fees and Charges – Environmental Services

Service Grouping: Environmental Action Programs and Reporting – Pilot Project

Service/Activity	Unit of Measure	Status	2022 Proposed Effective Date	2022 Proposed Fee
London Hefty® EnergyBag® Pilot Project (purchase of bags ended April 20, 2022)	Roll of 20	Unchanged	Jan. 1/22	\$4.43
Bike Lockers Pilot Project - Hourly Rental Rate - First 2 hours are free for every 24-hour rental period	Hour	Unchanged	Jan. 1/22	\$0.50
Bike Lockers Pilot Project - Monthly Rental Rate	Month	Unchanged	Jan. 1/22	\$20.00
Bike Lockers Pilot Project - Deposit to obtain key; refundable upon return	Each	Unchanged	Jan. 1/22	\$100.00