# City of Mississauga

# **Corporate Report**



Date: June 4, 2020

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Shari Lichterman, CPA, Commissioner of Community
Services

Originator's files:

Meeting date:
June 10, 2020

# **Subject**

**Celebration Square Farmers' Market and Food Trucks Re-opening Plan** 

### Recommendation

That Council approve the re-opening plan for daily food trucks and the Lions' Farmers' Market at Celebration Square as outlined in the Corporate Report entitled "Celebration Square Farmers' Market and Food Trucks Re-opening Plan, dated June 4, 2020 from Commissioner of Community Services.

# **Background**

According to Ontario Regulation 82/20, businesses that "primarily sell food" are considered essential. Although food trucks and markets are not explicitly permitted under Ontario Regulation 82/20, staff have determined (in consultation with Legal Services) that both meet the definition of a food business and can be permitted to re-open.

With the development of a robust operational plan to implement safety measures, City staff is seeking Council's approval to permit the Lions' Farmers' Market and daily food trucks at Celebration Square to re-open.

## **Present Status**

To date, staff has been in discussions with Parks, Forestry and Environment, F&PM, Security Services, Mobile Licensing, Risk Management and Legal Services to develop a plan, in compliance with provincial guidelines, for safely re-opening Farmers' Markets and Food trucks at Celebration Square.

The daily food trucks at Celebration Square are selected through an RFP process, in consultation with Materiel Management. Staff have been in discussion with the food truck vendors, who are in agreement with the new measures to be implemented.

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A plan for hot dog and ice cream vendors within the parks is in development as park amenities are beginning to open. A phased approach may be required as team sports, playgrounds and splash pads remain closed under provincial guidelines and some park parking lots associated with these amenities are currently closed. The plan will include input from Peel Health and the City's Legal Services and Mobile Licensing staff.

As Mobile Licensing public service counters are currently closed, business licenses that have expired since March 1, 2020 will be extended until further notice; new licence applications are suspended until public counters re-open.

Currently, there is only one outdoor Farmers' Market (Celebration Square) that operates at a City facility. Other Farmers' Markets in Mississauga are already permitted to operate under provincial guidelines and fall outside the scope of this plan.

## **Comments**

The proposed re-opening plan was developed in consultation with key stakeholders, including Parks, Forestry and Environment, FPM, Security Services and Risk Management to ensure safety of residents visiting Celebration Square.

The operational requirements to safely re-open include:

- Physical distancing circles painted on the artificial lawn (circles are 10' in diameter and spaced 12' apart, for a total of 48 circles). Eco-friendly water-based paint will be used for the markings and will last up to 2-months on artificial turf (real grass requires more frequent painting/maintenance) upon approval of this report;
- Washrooms will remain open to the public between 11am-8pm;
- Increase in cleaning of washrooms; cleaning will take place prior to opening, and twice between the noted hours.
- Weekly concrete scrubbing and artificial lawn maintenance;
- Hand sanitizer available at vendor locations (all vendors and entry/exit point to the market) provided by vendors;
- Tables, chairs and picnic tables to be removed;
- Informational signage displayed across the Square and on digital screens;
- The wading pool is currently closed under provincial order;
- Daily onsite staffing requirements will be filled by full-time Culture staff as Parks Ambassadors in accordance with the existing program protocols.
- Underground parking access will be closed to the public with the exception of opening the Civic Centre parking lot on Wednesdays from 9am to 5pm to accommodate the Farmers' market. As per Council direction on April 8<sup>th</sup>, the City's paid parking remains in effect and operates as normal.
- Cleaning of the Civic (Jubilee) parking elevators and its buttons will take place prior to opening, and twice between the noted hours.

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#### Daily Food Trucks:

- Food trucks with existing licenses will operate 7-days per week, with reduced hours between 11am-8pm;
- Food sales will be take-away only;
- Mandatory use of a food ordering App by food trucks;
- Food trucks will only accept contactless payment (cash is not permitted);
- Food trucks will be spaced a minimum distance of 12' between trucks;

#### Lions' Farmers' Market:

- The Lions' Farmers' Market will be barricaded, with controlled access limiting the number of customers, managed by Lions' Club members;
- Market vendors will be spaced a minimum distance of 12' between locations;
- Market vendors will accept both cash and contactless payment;
- Within the barricades customers will be strongly encouraged to wear a mask, where distancing is not possible;
- Barricades and 6' markings on the floor will help control the flow of customers in the market and those waiting in line;
- The City's booking contract with the Lions' Club (market organizer) will include terms and conditions to ensure they comply with provincial guidelines and City regulations outlined above.

Staff will seek the advice of Dr. Lawrence Loh, Interim Medical Officer of Health for the Region of Peel to ensure that the plan is a measured approach that incorporates public health recommendations and current conditions in Peel Region.

# **Financial Impact**

The Lions' Farmers' Market will be responsible to cover the cost of the market in compliance with the fees and charges bylaw, totalling \$1,925; the market will run from July 8 to October 16 (15 weeks).

The daily food trucks are selected through an RFP process, and provide revenue to the City through the park permit fee of \$1,043.05 + tax, per vendor.

No additional staffing costs will be incurred as daily onsite staffing requirements will be filled by full-time Culture staff as Parks Ambassadors and turf painting will be done by Parks, Forestry and Environment staff.

# Conclusion

As the warm weather arrives, many residents are looking to be outdoors and Celebration Square is being used regularly. By re-opening with the limited amenities of daily food trucks and

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the Lions' Farmers' Market, and by implementing strategies that promote physical distancing, Celebration Square will provide another safe outdoor space option for residents to enjoy.

Shari Lichterman, CPA, Commissioner of Community Services

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