



Date 8 August 2011

City Council Committee Report

To: Mayor Canfield & Members of Council

Fr: Karen Brown

Re: Houseboats at Coney Island

Recommendation:

That Council hereby directs administration to work with the Ontario Provincial Police and the Ministry of Natural Resources to provide notice to the registered owners of the various houseboats currently parked either on or in front of the City's water lot on the North East side of Coney Island to remove their houseboat by August 31, 2011; and further

That Council further direct administration to have the related houseboats removed should the registered owners not comply with the City's direction as provided, with additional consideration being given to proceed with the applicable trespassing charges as appropriate through the Ontario Provincial Police.

Background:

Over the past few months, the City has been reviewing a number of enforcement issues related to City docks and other City facilities on the water. The City's operations department is currently developing a by-law relating to City docks and other related facilities.

In the interim, there are a number of houseboats that have anchored either on or in front of the City's water lot on the North East side of Coney Island. A picture of this lot is attached for your reference. The City has received complaints about these houseboats being anchored in this area. City administration has spoken with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and the City solicitor. The City is within its rights to have these houseboats removed from this area. It is recommended that City administration be directed to work with the OPP and the MNR to send notice to the registered owners of these houseboats that the boats be removed or will be subject the relocation of their houseboat, as well as the possibility of trespassing charges as appropriate.

It is worth noting that there are also two mooring balls owned by the City in front of Bush Island, and there is at least one boat currently moored at these. It is recommended that this issue be dealt with through the City's by-law once approved by Council.

Budget:

n/a – any costs related to relocation would be borne by the registered owners in reclaiming their houseboats.

Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:

Notice of Council's decision will be sent to the registered owners of the houseboats currently located on or in front of the City's water lot on Coney Island through the OPP.