

## Report to Council

**Report Title:** Fire Hydrant Obstructions

**Prepared By:** Lisa MacDonald, Animal Control and By-Law Enforcement Officer

**Department:** Fire

**Date:** September 24, 2019

**Report Number:** FIRE2019-03                      **File Number:** C11FIRE

**Attachments:** By-Law 2007-44 – Use of Public Fire Hydrants

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### Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number FIRE2019-03 – Fire Hydrant Obstructions, prepared by Lisa MacDonald, Animal Control and By-Law Enforcement Officer for information purposes.

### Report:

#### Background:

In July 2019, Veolia Water Canada completed inspections and flushing of all fire hydrants. A detailed report indicated that 10 fire hydrants had “obstructions” which violates the Municipality of Brockton’s Use of Public Fire Hydrants By-Law 2007-44. These obstructions impeded Veolia Water Canada’s ability to perform the necessary fire hydrant flushing. By-Law 2007-44 stipulates that the owners of properties where hydrants are located are required to keep the area clear from obstructions.

On August 26, 2019, By-Law Enforcement Officer, Lisa MacDonald contacted residents to inform them about the obligations in By-Law 2007-44. These enforcement conversations generated negative feedback and several questions arose regarding winter maintenance and enforcement of the fire hydrant By-Law.

#### Analysis:

Collaboratively, staff discussed public concerns regarding winter maintenance and enforcement, and recommend the following:

- Updating the Use of Public Fire Hydrants By-Law 2007-44
- Educating the public by distributing the amended By-Law on social media and the Brockton Buzz
- Providing a grace period until spring 2020, allowing the public time to conform to the standards of the amended by-law

Further, Fire Chief, Mike Murphy is ordering additional fire hydrant markers and arranging snow removal for the 2019/2020 winter season. Thereinafter, all fire hydrant maintenance and snow removal will be overseen by the Director of Operations, Gregory Furtney.

### **Sustainability Checklist:**

What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity? N/A

### **Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:**

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective?  
N/A

**Reviewed By:**



**Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer**

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### **Respectfully Submitted by:**

Lisa MacDonald, Animal Control and By-Law Enforcement Officer

**Reviewed By:**



**Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer**