

## Report to Council

**Report Title:** Noise By-law Amendments

**Prepared By:** Fiona Hamilton, Clerk

**Department:** Clerk's

**Date:** December 17, 2019

**Report Number:** CLK2019-45                      **File Number:** C11CL

**Attachments:** Draft By-law Amending the Noise Control By-law

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### Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby accepts Report Number CLK2019-45 - Noise By-law Amendments prepared by Fiona Hamilton, Clerk, for information purposes and further approves a by-law coming forward to amend By-law 2014-024, the Noise Control By-law.

### Report:

#### Background:

By-law 2014-024 regulates noise within the Municipality of Brockton. The most prevalent noise complaint received by the Municipality of Brockton relates to barking dogs. By-law 2014-024 prohibited dogs (or any domestic pet) barking persistently for a prolonged or excessive period of time, but specified that this prohibition was only between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Monday to Sunday.

Unfortunately, staff have been noticing that many of the complaints (which have been confirmed through investigation by the By-law Enforcement Officer) about persistent barking do not fall within these prohibited hours. There have been complaints about dogs barking for several hours continuously, but staff have not been able to start formal enforcement proceedings because of this time limitation.

#### Analysis:

Given that the by-law is limited to persistent barking for a prolonged or excessive period of time, staff do not believe that it is necessary to include the time restriction listed above and recommend that it be removed from the by-law.

Furthermore, there have been concerns brought forward from many farmers that this provision could restrict the use of their Working Agricultural Livestock Guardian Dogs, which may bark persistently at night to protect livestock from predator animals (such as coyotes and ravens). Staff are recommending that a specific

exemption be included in the amended by-law for Working Agricultural Livestock Guardian Dogs to support the use of these animals by local farmers.

**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? Yes

There are no implications for the budget associated with this report.

**Reviewed By:**



**Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer**

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**Respectfully Submitted by:**



Fiona Hamilton, Clerk

**Reviewed By:**



**Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer**