

# STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

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**DATE:** October 1, 2020

**TO:** MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**NAME AND TITLE:** Ian Wells, Acting Deputy City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Extension of Temporary Expanded Service Area Authorizations (Liquor Primary and Manufacture Establishments)

**ATTACHMENT(S):** Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch - Policy Directive No. 20-26

## RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Council APPROVES the extension of the Temporary Expanded Service Area Authorizations until October 31, 2021, in accordance with Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch Policy Directive No. 20-26.

## PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's support for the extension of the expiration date for Temporary Expanded Service Area Authorizations administered by the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB). The expiration date is being extended from October 31, 2020 to October 31, 2021.

## BACKGROUND:

In the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Provincial Health Officer provided protocols for residents and businesses to consider and/or implement. Physical distancing continues to be recommended and has an effect on the number of patrons an establishment, such as a restaurant or pub, may have. Therefore, the LCRB has provided an opportunity for a licensee to temporarily expand their existing service area under the provisions of a Temporary Expanded Service Area (TESA) authorization.

On June 15, 2020 Council pre-approved the TESA authorization for liquor primary and manufacturing establishments. This allowed the LCRB to facilitate a temporary expansion of licensed service areas directly with the licensee, and alleviate any consultation or approval from local government(s). The TESA authorizations were to expire on October 31, 2020.

## POLICY/REGULATORY ANALYSIS:

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the LCRB has extended the expiration date of the TESA authorizations to October 31, 2021. LCRB Policy Directive No. 20-26 (attached) allows a licensee to continue with the TESA authorization until October 31, 2021 (LCRB will provide letters to licensees regarding the extension); however, it does not allow a licensee to exceed their existing approved person/patron capacities or occupant loads.

The LCRB is requesting local authorities with approved TESAs in their jurisdiction to confirm their support for the extension to the expiration date for TESAs. Administration recommends that Council support the extension of the expiration date for TESA authorizations to October 31, 2021.

It is important to note that an applicant may still need to seek local government approval should the expanded space involve City land (i.e. sidewalks, streets, etc.) or involve a structural alteration.

**SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:**

Administration recommends that Council support the extension to Temporary Expanded Service Area Authorization to October 31, 2021. This will be in accordance with Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch Policy Directive No. 20-26.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

Ian Wells, Acting Deputy City Manager

**PREPARED BY:** Mandy Stanker, Supervisor of Land Use Planning

**APPROVED:**

Walter Babicz, Acting City Manager

Meeting Date: 2020/10/19