

**City Council, Standing Committee and Commission  
Conseil, comités permanents et commission**

**Motion**

**Notice of Motion / Avis de**

**Council / Conseil**

Report / Agenda: City Council Agenda 41

Item / Article: **Notice of Motion**

Re: Mental Health Response

Moved by / Motion de: **Councillor S. Menard**  
Seconded by / Appuyée par: **Councillor C. McKenney**

**WHEREAS our city, province and country are currently dealing with continued instances of anti-Black racism and systemic racism, including in our Police Services; and**

**WHEREAS new models of first response have been studied and implemented with the reallocation of resources towards frontline, unarmed mental health civilian response teams for de-escalation;**

**WHEREAS civilian non-police led community response mechanism could supplement Ottawa Police Services and could mitigate budgetary pressures experienced by Ottawa Police Services;**

**WHEREAS such a response mechanism could save Ottawa Police Services from doing work that they sometimes undertake currently as a result of there being no alternative established, and as a result of Ottawa Police Services filling such gaps as a last resort; and**

**WHEREAS Toronto, Victoria and many other cities are currently considering mental-health workers to replace law enforcement in civilian-led model for crises response**

**WHEREAS such a response mechanism could ultimately save lives;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That City Council encourage the Ottawa Police Services Board to undertake a public consultation and report outlining potential alternative models of community safety response that could:**

- a. Involve the creation of non-police led response to calls which do not involve weapons or violence, such as those involving individuals experiencing mental health crises or drug addiction and where a police response is not necessary;**
- b. Reflect the City's commitment to reconciliation;**