



MOTION REGARDING A FEE INCREASE FOR DRIVESAFE REFERENDUM QUESTION

2023-02-09

Submitted for: 2023-02-09

Submitted to:	SSMU Legislative Council	Document no.:	LEG-PUB-MOT-2023-02-09-011
Moved by:	Hassanatou Koulibaly <i>VP Student Life</i>	Current Status:	<input type="checkbox"/> FOR APPROVAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> POSTPONED <input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTED <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPROVED
Seconded by:	Nadia Dakdouki <i>Clubs Representative</i>		

Issue

The current fee levy that covers the costs of operations of DriveSafe is not sustainable for future years. DriveSafe would like to increase the fee from \$0.60 to \$1.60.

Background and Rationale

DriveSafe is a SSMU service that provides free rides home for students on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

Inflation has greatly affected the costs to rent cars and purchase food for volunteers. DriveSafe is now covering parking costs for volunteers, which increases the cost to operate.

Lastly, although DriveSafe still has a surplus built up due to a lack of operations during COVID-19, the fee increase combined with the surplus will allow DriveSafe to maintain the current level of operations until the fee renewal date in 2026, without the need to increase it again between now and then. However, if we were to wait to increase the fee and use up all the surplus, we would need to increase the fee more the following year. With this amount of increase, we're able to use up our surplus at a sustainable rate from now until 2026.



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Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories.

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Alignment with Mission

In pursuit of protecting the safety of volunteers and making volunteer opportunities more equitable, DriveSafe now reimburses parking costs for volunteers, which increases the cost to operate. In addition, Drivesafe provides an equitable and safe way for all McGill students to get home. We are able to provide a free service for students that protects them, which is something that SSMU values.

Consultations Completed

The VP Finance of DriveSafe has met with the Services Finance Coordinator regarding the fee increase. The Service Finance Coordinator determined upon review of Drivesafe's budget that a significant fee increase was necessary to maintain the current level of service. The VP Student Life and the VP Finance were consulted as well.

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

The fee levy increase will cause the SSMU Safety Fee to increase. This fee is non-opt outable, so all students will have to pay an additional \$1.00 per student, per semester. However, this total increase does not represent a significant risk factor for students. If every student takes DriveSafe once, they will have made their money back, and gotten home safely. Essentially, the benefit of the service provided is significantly greater than the charge incurred.

Sustainability Considerations

Although Drivesafe is a car service, part of the budget goes to offsetting carbon emissions to ensure our service is carbon neutral, despite the carbon emissions from the car. In addition, we combine calls to create a carpool system when driving folks home, which saves on Uber emissions which no longer have a carpool option.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps

The approval of this motion would allow DriveSafe to continue serving the students of the McGill community to its fullest capacity with regular operation hours.

Should this motion be rejected, DriveSafe will be forced to reduce operations by reducing the number of cars available per night and/or the operational days until 2026.



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Motion or Resolution for Approval

Be it resolved that the Legislative Council approve the following question for the Winter 2023 Referendum Period ballot:

Do you agree to the fee increase of DriveSafe from \$0.60 to \$1.60, payable by all undergraduate students who are SSMU Members, starting in Fall 2023, and ending in Winter 2028 (inclusive), at which point it will be brought back to the membership for renewal, with the understanding that a majority “no” will not allow DriveSafe to expand their operations at the current fee collected?

Be it further resolved, that the SSMU Legislative Council adopts the actionable aspects of this question and that any grammatical or legal changes necessary do not need the re-approval of the Legislative Council.

Be it resolved that, the Legislative Council approves, and recommends the ratification to the Board of Directors.

Results of the Vote

In favour (UNANIMOUS)
Opposed ()
Abstain ()



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Appendix A : Relevant Appendix

DriveSafe Overall Budget 2023-2024				*colour is only for visual differentiation
Operating Revenue				
Department Number	Department Name	Amount Budgeted	Explanation	
4900	Student & Administrative Fees	\$79,200.00	Fee levy if increased to \$1.65 (\$39,600 per semester x2)	
4914	Donations / Sponsorship	\$4,000.00	TD Bank sponsorship	
4998	Previous Year Surplus	\$50,000.00	Approximate amount from COVID surplus	
TOTAL:		\$133,200.00		
Annual Operating Expenses				
Department Number	Department Name	Amount Budgeted	Explanation	Amounts
6370	Rental	\$26,450.00	Regular Operation: 10 cars/week; \$70/car 2 vans/week; \$100/van; 27 operating weeks \$70*10*27+\$100*2*27	\$22,410.00
			SafeHome (Exam Season) 5 cars/week; 11 days/semester; 2 semesters \$70*11*2	\$1,540.00
			~4 accidents/year \$500/car accident \$500*4	\$2,000.00
			~2 cleaning issues/year \$250/cleaning issue \$250*2	\$500.00
6111	Food & Beverage	\$11,795.00	Regular Operation: 27 operating weeks; \$30/shift/vehicle 12 cars/week \$30*12*27	\$9,720.00
			SafeHome (Exam Season) \$30/shift/vehicle; 11 days/semester; 2 semesters \$30*11*2	\$660.00
			\$15/dispatcher/night; 3 dispatchers/week \$15*3*27	\$1,215.00
			~\$200 for snacks in the DriveSafe office	\$200.00
6305	Automobile Expenses / Moving	\$5,190.00	Regular Operation: Parking 27 operating weeks; \$15/vehicle/shift; ~12 shifts/week \$15*12*27	\$4,860.00
			SafeHome (Exam Season): \$15/shift/vehicle; 11 days \$15*11*2	\$330.00
6306	Conferences & Travel	\$22,810.00	Regular Operation: \$55 for gas/car/shift; 10 cars/week; \$70 for gas/van/shift; 2 cars/week; 27 operating weeks \$55*12*27+\$70*2*27	\$21,600.00
			SafeHome (Exam Season): \$55/shift/vehicle; 11 days/semester; 2 semesters \$55*11*2	\$1,210.00

APPX



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6610	Telephone	\$1,150.00	Phone upgrade: \$550 (new iPhone SE 64GB) 1 Dispatcher phone @ \$50/month \$50*12	\$550.00 \$600.00
6130	Postage & Courier	\$40.00	~\$40.00 to deliver cheques to appropriate persons (volunteers, companies, etc.)	\$40.00
6160	Membership / Training	\$9,100.00	~1 volunteer appreciation event/semester; 2 semesters \$50/person; Maximum of 60 people/event 2*\$50*60	\$6,000.00
			1 Volunteer training session per semester \$15/volunteer for snacks; 80 volunteers; 2 semesters \$15*80*2	\$2,400.00
			~1 executive event/semester; 2 semester \$50/exec, 7 execs 2*\$50*7	\$700.00
6133	Clothing	\$630.00	executive sweaters, ~\$90/sweater; 7 execs 90*7	\$630.00
6361	Honorarium	\$2,500.00	5 volunteers of the month \$50 gift card/volunteer 8 months of operations. 5*\$50*8	\$2,000.00
			Photographer services for exec headshots \$500	\$500.00
6431	Fines & Penalties	\$300.00	~4 parking tickets: ~\$75/ticket Parking tickets are for exceptional circumstances. \$75*4	\$300.00
6100	Materials & Supplies	\$6,710.00	~\$50 for printer paper	\$50.00
			Box/backpack supplies for shotgun/shift: Emesis bags (5) @ \$0.70/bag = \$3.50 Face masks (5) @\$0.50/mask = \$2.50 Hand sanitizer @ \$11.00/bottle Lysol wipes @ \$5.00/bottle Febreze @ \$3.50/bottle Paper towels @ \$2.00/roll Garbage bags @ \$1.50/bag Latex/rubber gloves @ \$0.75/pair Water bottle @ \$0.75/bottle Granola bar @ \$0.75/bar Replace items as needed (all supplies replaced approx every month) 20 boxes total; 8 months of operation (\$3.50+\$2.50+\$11.00+\$5.00+\$3.50+\$2.00+\$1.50+\$0.75+\$0.75+\$0.75)*20*8	\$5,000.00
			First aid kit @ \$25.00/kit Box itself @ \$9.00 Backpack itself @ \$40.00 DriveSafe magnet @ \$9.00 Replace every year; 20 boxes total (\$25.00+\$9.00+\$40.00+\$9.00)*20	\$1,660.00
6320	Advertising & Promotion	\$2,200.00	\$2000 for promotional material (e.g. stickers, ping pong balls, bottle openers, pens, etc.)	\$2,000.00
			~\$100 for supplies for on-campus tabling (e.g. table cloth, beer pong set)	\$100.00
			~\$100 Shipping	\$100.00
6411	Donations	\$80.98	Carbon Footprint donations 12 vehicles/week ~160km/shift = 1920km/week ~0.287T Carbon = US \$2.24 US \$2.24*27 weeks = US \$60.48 = CAD \$75.98 Administrative fees: ~\$5 \$75.98+\$5	\$80.98
TOTAL:		\$88,955.98		

ADP