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POLICE LINE — DO NOT CROSS

Peel Regional Police say a man in his 40s is undergoing an assessment under the Mental Health Act after he was publicly apprehended on Friday near the intersection of Queen and Main Sts.

Video shows Peel police subduing man with Taser

Peel Regional Police say a man in his 40s is undergoing an assessment under the Mental Health Act after he was publicly apprehended on Friday near the intersection of Queen and Main Sts.

Police responded to the scene following reports of a man causing a disturbance in traffic just after 1 p.m.

Const. Thomas Ruttan, a Peel Police spokesperson, said officers talked him off the roadway and onto the sidewalk.

While officers continued to try and calm the man down, someone began filming the confrontation and published the video on YouTube (warning: this clip includes swearing).

The video starts with an officer pointing what appears to be a Taser at a man, who is kneeling on the sidewalk with his hands up, while some onlookers are visible in the frame.

Though the conversation between the two is mostly drowned out by background noise, the man gets up and runs off while screaming, “No!”

The somewhat shaky footage then shows three officers chasing after the man up Main St.

By the time the footage catches up, four officers have the man subdued on the road beside a car that’s parked in front of a CIBC.

Ruttan said officers did use a Taser on the man at least once during the confrontation and the man did not sustain any injuries.

The officers, however, received minor injuries during the incident, Ruttan said.

The man is not facing any charges, but is being assessed under the Mental Health Act.

While noting he wasn’t on the scene at the time of the incident and so wasn’t an eyewitness to events, Ruttan said he watched the video and says he it’s impossible to assess a situation based on a clip that begins mid-way through the event.

However, “I don’t think that we can change (where the YouTube video starts) — unless there is someone else with video of the entire event,” said Ruttan, who has watched the video in question.

“Unfortunately, I can’t speculate on what took place. All I have is what I have to go by and the people who were on the scene have an interpretation of what has taken place also.”

Ruttan said he is not aware of anyone filing a complaint with the police regarding the incident.

With most people equipped with the capability to shoot video on their phone, Ruttan said being filmed in public is not just an issue for police.

“One of things we have to be constantly cognizant of as people is that we’re being filmed all the time,” he said.

- Jason Spencer