



# The Regional Municipality of Durham

## COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

### May 8, 2020

#### **Information Reports**

**2020-INFO-41** Commissioner of Works – re: Bloor Street East (Regional Road 22) Road Closure from Ritson Road South (Regional Road 16) to Wilson Road South (Regional Road 35) for Feedermain Construction and Replacement of the Local Watermain and Sanitary Sewer, in the City of Oshawa

**2020-INFO-42** Commissioner of Finance – re: Economic Update – Updated Risks and Uncertainty as of May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

#### **Early Release Reports**

There are no Early Release Reports

#### **Staff Correspondence**

There is no Staff Correspondence

#### **Durham Municipalities Correspondence**

1. **Township of Brock** – re: Resolution passed at their Committee of the Whole meeting held on April 27, 2020, and ratified by Council on April 27, 2020 to endorse Township of Scugog’s resolution with respect to Bill 156: Enforcement for Safety on Family Farms
2. **Municipality of Clarington** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on May 4, 2020, endorsing the Town of Whitby’s request that the Provincial Government re-establish an electric vehicle rebate program to encourage consumers to purchase zero emissions vehicles
3. **Township of Brock** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on May 4, 2020, endorsing the Town of Whitby’s request that the Provincial Government re-establish an electric vehicle rebate program to encourage consumers to purchase zero emissions vehicles

4. **Township of Brock** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on May 4, 2020, endorsing the resolution adopted by the Town of Ajax in support of the Conservation Authorities
5. **Township of Brock** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on May 4, 2020, endorsing the resolution adopted by the Township of Scugog in support of the Conservation Authorities

### **Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions**

1. **Township of Montague** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on April 21, 2020, in support of the proposal in principle from the Town of Midland, for the federal government to provide grant funding to municipalities to forgive tax payments
2. **City of Hamilton** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on April 22, 2020, requesting the Province to Regulate and Enforce Odour and Lighting Nuisances Related to the Cultivation of Cannabis Plants

### **Miscellaneous Correspondence**

There are no Miscellaneous Correspondence

### **Advisory Committee Minutes**

There are no Advisory Committee Minutes

Members of Council – Please advise the Regional Clerk at [clerks@durham.ca](mailto:clerks@durham.ca), if you wish to pull an item from this CIP and include on the next regular agenda of the appropriate Standing Committee. Items will be added to the agenda if the Regional Clerk is advised by Wednesday noon the week prior to the meeting, otherwise the item will be included on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the applicable Committee.

Notice regarding collection, use and disclosure of personal information:

Written information (either paper or electronic) that you send to Durham Regional Council or Committees, including home address, phone numbers and email addresses, will become part of the public record. If you have any questions about the collection of information, please contact the Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services.

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 3540.



# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Commissioner of Works  
Report: #2020-INFO-41  
Date: May 8, 2020

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**Subject:**

Bloor Street East (Regional Road 22) Road Closure from Ritson Road South (Regional Road 16) to Wilson Road South (Regional Road 35) for Feedermain Construction and Replacement of the Local Watermain and Sanitary Sewer, in the City of Oshawa

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**Recommendation:**

Receive for information.

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**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) Council of a Regional Road closure planned for the 2020 and 2021 construction seasons.

**2. Background**

2.1 Commencing in early summer 2020, the Region is proceeding with Phase 3 of the Bloor Street Feedermain, which connects the existing 1050 millimetre (mm) diameter feedermain at Ritson Road South with the existing 1050 mm diameter feedermain at Wilson Road South. This critical main will provide additional capacity and system security across the Zone 1 water service area of the Region's water supply network for Whitby / Oshawa / Courtice. As part of this construction contract, the deteriorating local watermain and sanitary sewer will be replaced including service connections to property line, new traffic signals will be installed at the Bloor Street East and Wilson Road intersection, and asphalt will be removed and replaced from curb to curb throughout the limits of construction. Restoration

- works at the intersection of Wilson Road and Bloor Street East also include improvements to sidewalks and crosswalks for Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) compliance and safety. The City of Oshawa has been engaged on the sidewalk reconfiguration and their comments have been incorporated into the design.
- 2.2 Due to the nature of the proposed works and the narrow right-of-way, this contract will require a full closure of Bloor Street East (Regional Road 22) from Ritson Road South (Regional Road 16) to Wilson Road South (Regional Road 35) for the work to be completed safely and as quickly as possible.
  - 2.3 There will also be several full closures (four (4) estimated) of the Bloor Street East and Wilson Road intersection to accommodate construction of the proposed watermain and sanitary sewer, as well as the connection of the proposed feedermain to the existing feedermain at Wilson Road. Advanced notice will be provided to area residents and motorists.
  - 2.4 While the work zone will be generally closed to through traffic for the duration of construction, local traffic and emergency vehicles will be permitted at all times, including access to and from the Region of Durham Paramedic Services (RDPS) building located west of Wilson Road. In consultation with Durham Regional Transit (DRT), buses will be detoured to accommodate ridership.
  - 2.5 Construction traffic for private redevelopments must also be accommodated as they are expected to be concurrent at times. Servicing needs for ongoing redevelopments were coordinated between the Region's Environmental Services Design and Development Approvals Divisions.
  - 2.6 The work zone is largely comprised of residential homes on both sides of Bloor Street East, including several low-rise apartment buildings. Bloor Railing, Residential Auto, and D&T Auto are the only known operating businesses within the project limits. Their management staff were consulted by Regional staff during the design stage. Signage will be provided to advise that their businesses are open and accessible throughout the duration of construction.
- 3. Construction Staging**
- 3.1 It is expected that the local watermain and sanitary sewer will be constructed first in order to make way for the proposed feedermain. Construction is expected to last approximately one (1) year, commencing early summer 2020, with the potential for

a brief shutdown of construction operations and temporary re-opening of Bloor Street East during the winter.

#### **4. Proposed Road Closure and Detour**

- 4.1 Regional staff have thoroughly reviewed the road closure and detour route requirements. Detouring will be along Wentworth (Regional Road 60) and / or Olive Avenue (Regional Road 59) via Ritson Road (Regional Road 16), Wilson Road South and / or Farewell Avenue (Regional Road 56). Refer to Attachment #1.

#### **5. Project Financing**

- 5.1 Construction funding for the watermain and sanitary sewer works is approved in the 2020 capital budget.

#### **6. Conclusion**

- 6.1 This project includes several major components and strict scheduling requirements to mitigate impacts to local residents, businesses, Region of Durham Paramedic Services, and Durham Regional Transit.
- 6.2 In order to complete this work in a safe and timely manner, a closure of Bloor Street East (Regional Road 22) from Ritson Road South (Regional Road 16) to Wilson Road South (Regional Road 35) is required.
- 6.3 For additional information, contact: Nathaniel Andres, Project Engineer, at 905-668-7711, extension 3170.

#### **7. Attachments**

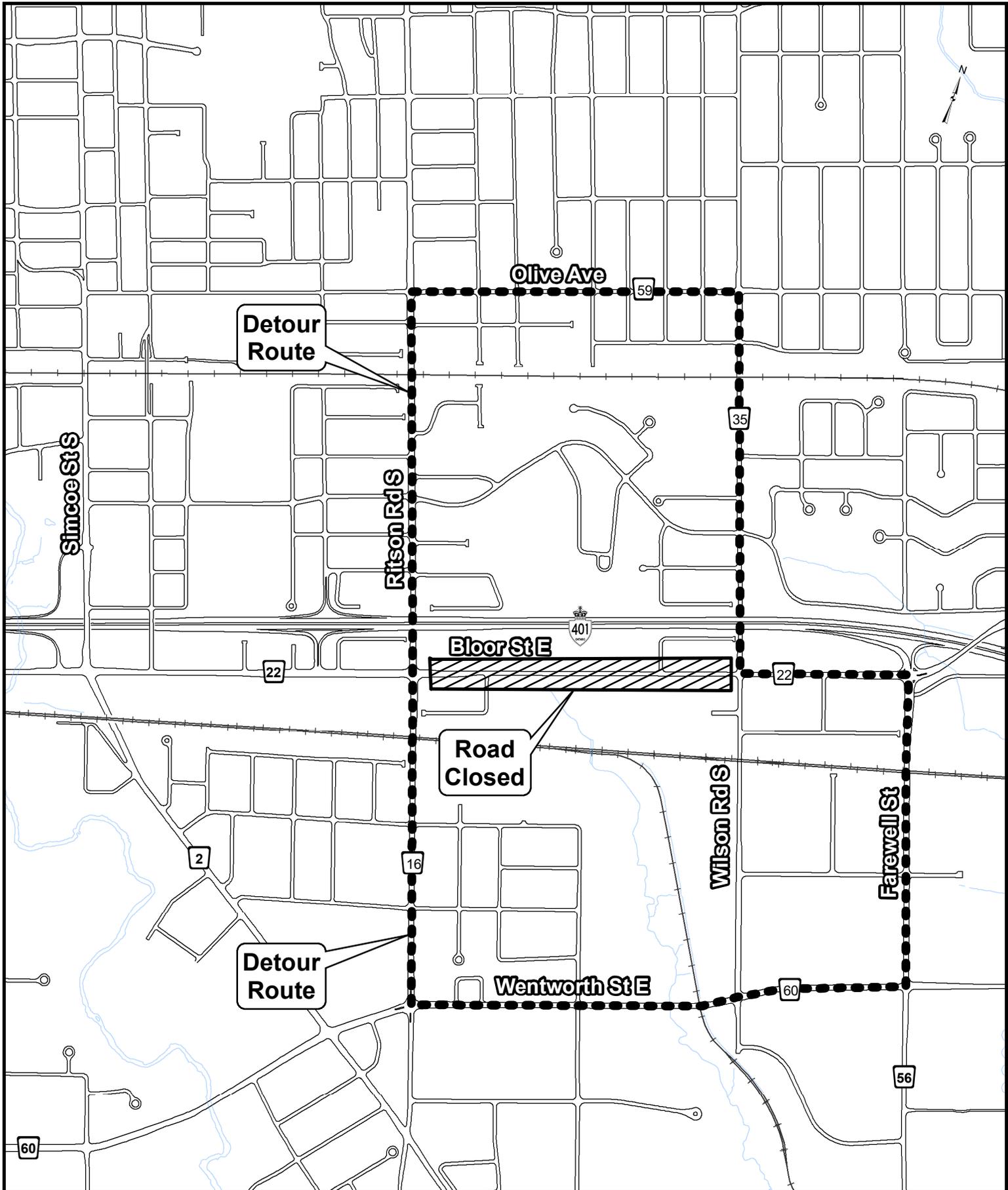
Attachment #1: Detour Plan

Respectfully submitted,

#### **Original signed by:**

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Susan Siopis, P.Eng.  
Commissioner of Works



**Detour Route**

**Road Closed**

**Detour Route**



The Regional Municipality of Durham  
Works Department

This map has been produced from a variety of sources. The Region of Durham does not make any representations concerning the accuracy, likely results, or reliability of the use of the materials. The Region hereby disclaims all representations and warranties.

Map Date: May 4, 2020

 Road Closed  
 Detour Routes



## Bloor St Feedermain Phase 3 Detour Plan

FIGURE 1



# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Commissioner of Finance  
Report: #2020-INFO-42  
Date: May 8, 2020

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**Subject:**

Economic Update – Updated Risks and Uncertainty as of May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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**Recommendation:**

Receive for information.

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**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 The Regional Finance Department monitors economic conditions on an ongoing basis and prepares periodic summary reports to Regional Council. The economy is undergoing a time of significant uncertainty with economic conditions and policies changing on a daily basis. The following summarizes the changes that have occurred over the period of April 30 – May 6, 2020.

**2. Federal Government**

2.1 On May 3, the federal government announced an investment of \$240.5 million to develop, expand and launch virtual care and mental health tools. Funding will be used to create digital platforms and applications, improve access to virtual mental health supports, and expand capacity to deliver virtual health care via telephone or videoconferencing.

2.2 Also on May 3, the government announced the creation of a COVID-19 Supply Council comprised of seventeen public and private sector leaders. The Council will provide advice on building innovative and agile supply chains for goods in wide use, such as masks, gloves and disinfectants, including production, sourcing, shipping and distribution strategies as the situation surrounding COVID-19 continues to evolve.

2.3 On May 4, Canada partnered with a number of other countries to launch Coronavirus Global Response, an international pledging conference, to ensure the development of COVID-19 diagnostics, treatments and a vaccine. Canada's \$850 million pledge towards the US\$8 billion target is composed of previously announced federal initiatives.

- 2.4 In a further effort to develop a vaccine, the federal government is providing \$175 million to AbCellera Biologics Inc., a Vancouver based bio-tech company, to accelerate its research on identifying antibodies that could be used create a treatment for COVID-19.
- 2.5 On May 5, the federal government announced \$252 million in supports for farmers, food processors and agribusinesses, as well as \$200 million in increased borrowing capacity. The new measures include:
- \$77.5 million in an Emergency Processing Fund to help food producers access more personal protective equipment, adapt to health protocols, automate or modernize their facilities, processes, and operations;
  - \$125 million in an AgriRecovery initiative to help producers faced with additional costs such as managing livestock backed-up on farms due to the temporary closure of food processing plants;
  - \$50 million in a Surplus Food Purchase Program to help redistribute existing and unsold inventories to local food organizations;
  - Working with provinces and territories to increase interim payments from 50
  - Intention to introduce legislation to increase the Canadian Dairy Commission's borrowing limit by \$200 million to support costs associated with the temporary storage of cheese and butter.

### **3. Ontario Government**

- 3.1 On May 1, the provincial government announced that, effective May 4, certain Ontario businesses would be allowed to reopen under strict health and safety guidelines. The announcement applies to certain seasonal businesses, such as garden centres, as well as auto dealerships. Marinas and golf courses can start preparing for the coming season, but are not allowed to open to the public at this time.
- 3.2 Also allowed to resume activity on May 4 are essential construction projects, including municipal projects. Essential construction projects also include site preparation, excavation, and servicing for institutional, commercial, industrial and residential development.
- 3.3 The province also released sector-specific operating guidelines for employers in manufacturing, food manufacturing and processing, restaurant and food service, and the agricultural sector. Adaptations include eliminating pay-at-the-door options, staggering shifts, holding team meetings outdoors, physical barriers and workplace sanitation, and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

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- 3.4 On May 1, the provincial government announced an emergency order to defer a portion of Global Adjustment (GA) charges for industrial and commercial electricity consumers, that do not participate in the Regulated Price Plan, for the period starting from April 2020. Preliminary indications suggest that electricity costs, through the Global Adjustment, were set to rise significantly due to the recent significant decline in electricity demand and the continued need to recover electricity generator contract costs.
  - 3.5 On May 6, the government announced further electricity rate relief by extending its previously announced emergency order that reduces all time-of-use rates to the current off-peak overnight and weekend charge of 10.1 cents per kilowatt hour. The order was originally announced on March 24 and was set to expire after 45 days. The order has now been extended to May 31.
  - 3.6 In recognition of the childcare needs of front-line workers, the Province expanded the list of workers eligible for emergency childcare. This list was expanded to include people who work in the food supply chain, retirement homes, grocery stores and pharmacies, and certain federal employees, including the military.
  - 3.7 In order to ensure the efficient and steady movement of goods, the province launched a 511 app for truck drivers that provides information on highway conditions, open rest areas, and locations throughout the province that offer food and fuel in an easily accessible format.

#### **4. Canadian Economy**

- 4.1 As expansionary fiscal policy measures continue to be rolled out by senior levels of government, recent economic statistics are providing insights on the severe impact to economic activity resulting from the pandemic.
- 4.2 Restrictions on international activity have led to a significant decline in international trade. According to Statistics Canada, Canadian merchandise exports declined 4.7 per cent in March, with merchandise imports declining by 3.5 per cent. Canada's trade deficit widened from \$894 million in February to \$1.4 billion in March, meaning the dollar value of imports were \$1.4 billion higher than the dollar value of exports.
- 4.3 In terms of international trade in services, Canada's exports decreased 7.2 per cent while imports decreased 11.5 per cent. The greater decrease in service trade provides more evidence that the current economic downturn is having a greater impact on the service sector than the manufacturing sector. Trade in travel services saw the biggest decline with travel service exports declining 21.2 per cent and imports of travel services declining 32.6 per cent.
- 4.4 According to a joint survey conducted over the period of April 3 – 24 by Statistics Canada and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, approximately one-third of businesses reported that revenues for the first quarter of 2020 were down by 40 per cent or more from the first quarter of 2019. Due to lost revenue, over 28 per cent of businesses said they requested credit from financial institutions to cover operating costs.

- 4.5 The survey also looked at employment changes resulting from COVID-19. Approximately 38 per cent of businesses reported a reduction in staff hours, while over 40 per cent reported staff layoffs. Approximately 18 per cent of all businesses reported laying off at least 80 per cent of their workforce, whereas 70 per cent of the businesses reporting layoffs in the accommodation and food service industry reported laying off at least 80 per cent of staff.
- 4.6 On April 30, Statistics Canada released monthly GDP estimates for February 2020 that showed a monthly growth rate of zero per cent. Although the estimates are from February, it provides evidence of a weakening economy prior to the lockdowns associated with COVID-19. The weakness in economic activity was largely the result of labour disruptions in the educational sector and blockades impacting rail transportation. Production in educational services fell 1.8 per cent while rail transportation was down 5.1 per cent.
- 4.7 Statistics Canada used the February monthly GDP release to reiterate its advanced monthly GDP estimate for March 2020 and its advanced quarterly GDP estimate for the first quarter of 2020. Statistics Canada reaffirmed its prior estimate of a 9 per cent monthly decline and a 2.6 per cent (approximately 10 per cent annualized) quarterly decline. The official GDP estimates March and the first quarter of 2020 will be released on May 29.
- 4.8 Canada's largest commercial banks continue to revise their GDP estimates as the impacts of COVID-19 continue to work their way through the economy. Table 1 provides the most recent quarterly and annual GDP estimates from Canada's five major commercial banks. The consensus among the banks is that the economy will experience a large contraction during the first half of the year, followed by a large recovery in the second half. It is important to note that these estimates are frequently being revised as the pandemic situation continuously changes over time.

**Table 1: Commercial Bank Canadian GDP Estimates**

Annualized GDP Growth (%)						
	Quarterly				Annual	Estimate as of
	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	2020	
CIBC	-10.2	-40.5	33.4	18.5	-6.9	April 16, 2020
RBC	-10.0	-32.0	20.0	8.0	-6.4	April, 2020
BMO	-10.0	-44.0	62.5	11.0	-6.0	May 4, 2020
Scotia	-10.1	-43.9	21.3	17.8	-9.1	April 17, 2020
TD	-9.7	-42.0	32.6	15.8	-7.5	April 20, 2020

- 4.9 The fiscal stimulus provided by the federal and provincial governments should help alleviate some of the economic hardship anticipated over the next couple months. However, as a result of the increased spending, the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) expects the federal deficit to hit \$252.1 billion for fiscal year 2020-21. This would be the largest budgetary deficit on record. This would also increase the deficit from 1.1 per cent of GDP in 2019-20 to 12.7 per cent of GDP in 2020-21. The PBO expects the federal debt-to-GDP ratio to increase from 30.8 per cent to 48.4 per cent in 2020-21.
- 4.10 The Bank of Canada continues to play a central role in the economy by maintaining low interest rates and ensuring financial institutions have the necessary liquidity for continuous lending. On May 1, the federal government announced Tiff Macklem would be appointed the new Bank of Canada Governor, effective June 3, when the term of the current Governor, Stephen Poloz, expires. Governor Macklem is a former Deputy Governor of the Bank of Canada and is currently the Dean of the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto.

## **5. Financial Markets**

- 5.1 Equities markets in the United States continue to recover from the lows experienced in March. The S&P 500 index ended April up 12.7 per cent, which is the largest monthly gain since 1987 and the third largest monthly gain since the second world war. The Dow Jones Industrial Average ended April up 11.1 per cent while the Nasdaq Composite rose 15.5 per cent in April, its largest monthly gain since 2000.
- 5.2 Canadian equities also had a big month with the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX) rising 10.5 per cent in April after losing 17.7 per cent in March. The TSX ended the month of April down 17.8 per cent from its record high on February 20.
- 5.3 The price of oil is beginning to show signs of stabilizing as the price of West Texas Intermediate (WTI) rose as high as 29 per cent on April 30 to close around US\$20 per barrel. The sudden spike was largely due to the fact that the previously negotiated production cuts by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its allied states were set to take effect on May 1. The price of WTI oil has since rose even further to open at US\$25.38 on May 6.
- 5.4 Alberta's Western Canadian Select (WCS) oil also bounced back on April 30, with the price of WCS increasing 54 per cent to trade at US\$11.32 per barrel. The price of WCS oil continued its rise during the early part of May, opening at US\$19.79 on May 6.
- 5.5 As oil prices begin to stabilize, so too does the Canadian dollar. The Loonie has been consistently trading between US\$0.70 and US\$0.72 since the end of March, closing at US\$0.71 on May 5.

5.6 Despite the recent rise in equities and oil prices, the housing market continues to suffer from the impact of social distancing and depressed economic activity. According to numbers released on May 5 by the Toronto Region Real Estate Board (TRREB), residential transactions in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) fell 67 per cent in April on a year over year basis. Active listings in April fell over 40 per cent, year over year, while new listings fell over 64 per cent.

5.7 Although year over year GTA real estate activity declined in April, the average selling price remained stable, increasing 0.1 per cent to \$821,392. However, on a monthly basis, the average selling price declined 9 per cent from \$902,680 in March.

## **6. Global Economy**

6.1 The United States got its first glimpse of the impact of COVID-19 on economic production through the release of first quarter GDP estimates on April 29. The estimates suggest the American economy declined 4.8 per cent since the fourth quarter of 2019. This marks the first quarterly decline since 2014 and the largest quarterly GDP contraction since the fourth quarter of 2008 (-8.4 per cent).

6.2 The American economy experienced declines in just about every measure of economic activity. Consumer spending declined 7.6 per cent, non-residential investment declined 8.6 per cent, exports declined 8.7 per cent, and imports declined 15.3 per cent. One of the lone bright spots was the 21 per cent increase in residential construction. The U.S Bureau of Economic Analysis acknowledges that the estimates are based on incomplete data and will be subject to further revisions in the future.

6.3 In addition to the quarterly economic contraction, the U.S Department of Labor announced another 3.84 million people filed initial jobless claims for the week ending April 25. This brings the six-week total to over 30 million, or 19 per cent of the labour force.

6.4 In a continued effort to stabilize the economy, the U.S Federal Reserve decided, at its Federal Open Market Committee meetings on April 28 – 29, to leave the key interest rate at 0 – 0.25 per cent. The Federal Reserve said it “expects to maintain this target range until it is confident that the economy has weathered recent events and is on track to achieve its maximum employment and price stability goals”.

6.5 The European economy also experienced a contraction resulting from COVID-19 with euro zone GDP declining 3.8 per cent in the first quarter of 2020. This marks the lowest preliminary reading since records began in 1995. France saw a 5.8 per cent contraction in the first quarter of 2020, while Spain and Italy saw a 5.2 and 4.7 per cent contraction respectively.

- 6.6 Despite not imposing a lockdown on businesses or social activity, the Swedish economy is still expected to experience significant contraction resulting from COVID-19. According to Sweden's central bank, the Riksbank, the Swedish economy is expected to decline anywhere between 6.9 and 9.7 per cent in 2020. The central bank is also predicting unemployment to hit anywhere between 8.8 and 10.1 per cent.
- 6.7 Germany saw retail sales plunge 5.6 per cent in March, which is the worst reading since 2007. Germany has since partially reopened some retail establishments in an effort to reduce declining sales. Japan also saw a 4.6 per cent decline in retail sales for March and announced an extension of its state of emergency to May 31.

## **7. Conclusions**

- 7.1 The economy is experiencing increasing volatility with uncertainty around the spread of COVID-19. Economic conditions are changing on a daily basis as policy makers continue to navigate this uncharted territory.
- 7.2 The Regional Finance Department will continue to monitor economic conditions and provide timely updates as required.

Respectfully submitted,

Original Signed by Nancy Taylor

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Nancy Taylor, BBA, CPA, CA  
Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer



The Corporation of  
The Township of Brock  
1 Cameron St. E., P.O. Box 10  
Cannington, ON L0E 1E0  
705-432-2355

April 30, 2020

The Honourable Ernie Hardeman  
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
Sent via email: [minister.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.omafra@ontario.ca)

Dear Sir:

Re: Township of Scugog Resolution – Enforcement for Safety on Family Farms

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Please be advised that the Township of Brock's Committee of the Whole adopted a resolution to endorse Scugog's resolution with respect to Bill 156, a copy of which is attached, which was ratified by Council on April 27, 2020.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

THE TOWNSHIP OF BROCK

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Becky Jamieson'.

Becky Jamieson  
Municipal Clerk

BJ:dh

cc. J.P. Newman, Municipal Clerk, Scugog  
Durham Region municipalities

February 12, 2020

The Honourable Ernie Hardeman  
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
Sent via email to: [minister.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.omafra@ontario.ca)

Date:	21/02/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	March 2, 2020
Action:	Not Applicable
Notes:	COW-BPED-consent
Copies to:	

**Re: Resolution Regarding Enforcement for Safety on Family Farms**

Dear Honourable Sir:

At the last regular meeting of the Council of the Township of Scugog held February 10, 2020, the above captioned matter was discussed and the following resolution was passed:

**“WHEREAS** the Provincial Government has introduced Bill 156 – Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2019; and

**WHEREAS** Scugog farms are places of business where we grow and produce food, raise animals and make our living; and

**WHEREAS** Scugog farms are also private homes, where private citizens have the expectation that people cannot enter their homes without permission; and

**WHEREAS** Ontario farms have come under increasing threat from trespassers and activists who illegally enter property, barn and buildings, trespassing under false pretenses to gain entry, seizing private property, threatening the health and safety of farms, employees, livestock and crops; and

**WHEREAS** existing laws are not doing enough to protect farms and homes from the risk of unwarranted trespassers and activists; and

**WHEREAS** all animal production is governed by strict codes of practice, and Ontario livestock farmers are required to satisfy standards of care requirements outlined under national codes of practice which ensure animal health, safety, and welfare are promoted and maintained; and

/2...

**WHEREAS** Bill 156 – Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act strikes a balance to protect farms while also recognizing a citizen's right to protest;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

**THAT** the Township of Scugog supports Bill 156 – Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act; and

**THAT** a copy of this resolution be sent to the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Hon. Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the Hon. Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General of Ontario, the Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario, Lindsey Park, Member of Provincial Parliament, Durham, Randy Pettapiece and Toby Barrett, Parliamentary Assistants to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, John Vanthof, Deputy Leader, Official Opposition, Critic, Agriculture and Food, Rural Development, Sarah Singh, Deputy Leader, Official Opposition, the Region of Durham and all municipalities within Durham Region."

Should you require anything further in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours Sincerely,



John Paul Newman  
Director of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk

cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario  
The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General of Ontario  
Lindsey Park, MPP Durham  
Randy Pettapiece and Toby Barrett, Parliamentary Assistants to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
John Vanthof, Deputy Leader, Official Opposition, Critic, Agriculture and Food, Rural Development  
Sarah Singh, Deputy Leader, Official Opposition  
Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services, Durham Region  
Nicole Cooper, Director of Legislative & Information Services, Town of Ajax  
Becky Jamieson, Municipal Clerk, Township of Brock  
Anne Greentree, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Clarington  
Mary Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa  
Susan Cassel, City Clerk, City of Pickering  
Chris Harris, Town Clerk, Town of Whitby  
Debbie Leroux, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk, Township of Uxbridge

# Clarington

If this information is required in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Co-ordinator at 905-623-3379 ext. 2131

May 5, 2020

The Honourable Doug Ford, M.P.P.  
Premier of Ontario  
Via E-Mail: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Dear Premier:

**Re:** Provincial Electric Vehicle Rebate Program

**File Number:** PG.25.06

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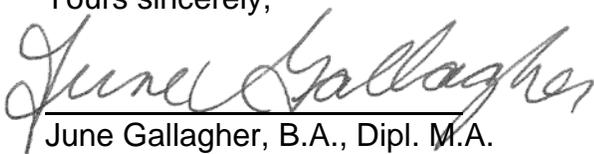
At a meeting held on May 4, 2020, the Council of the Municipality of Clarington approved the following Resolution #JC-052-20:

That the following resolution from Town of Whitby, regarding Provincial Electric Vehicle Rebate Program, be endorsed by the Municipality of Clarington:

That the Council of the Town of Whitby requests that the Provincial Government re-establish an electric vehicle rebate program to encourage consumers to purchase zero emissions vehicles; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Transportation, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Finance, the local MPPs, the local MPs, and Durham Region municipalities.

Yours sincerely,



June Gallagher, B.A., Dipl. M.A.  
Deputy Clerk

JG/cm

- c. **See Attached List of Interested Parties**  
D. Hoge, Climate Change Response Co-Ordinator

**CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CLARINGTON**

40 TEMPERANCE STREET, BOWMANVILLE, ONTARIO L1C 3A6 905-623-3379 [www.clarington.net](http://www.clarington.net)

**Interested Parties List**

The Honourable Caroline Mulroney, M.P.P., Minister of Transportation  
The Honourable Jeff Yurek, M.P.P., Minister of the Environment, Conservation and  
Parks  
The Honourable Rod Phillips, M.P.P., Minister of Finance  
The Honourable Philip Lawrence, M.P.  
The Honourable Erin O'Toole, M.P.  
The Honourable Lindsey Park, M.P.P.  
The Honourable David Piccini, M.P.P.  
Susan Cassel, City Clerk, City of Pickering  
Nicole Cooper, Director of Legislative & Information Services, Town of Ajax  
Christopher Harris/Town Clerk, Town of Whitby  
Becky Jamieson, Clerk, Township of Brock  
Debbie Leroux, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk, Township of Uxbridge  
Mary Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa  
Kevin Narraway, Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk, Town of Whitby  
JP Newman, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk, Township of Scugog  
Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of Durham



The Corporation of  
The Township of Brock  
1 Cameron St. E., P.O. Box 10  
Cannington, ON L0E 1E0  
705-432-2355

May 5, 2020

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Sir:

Re: Provincial Electric Vehicle Rebate Program

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Please be advised that the Council of the Township of Brock has endorsed the resolution adopted by the Town of Whitby in support of a Provincial Electric Vehicle Rebate Program. I have attached a copy of Whitby's resolution for your consideration.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

THE TOWNSHIP OF BROCK

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Becky Jamieson".

Becky Jamieson  
Municipal Clerk

BJ:dh

cc. Director of Public Works, Paul Lagrandeur  
Kevin Narraway, Deputy Clerk, Town of Whitby  
The Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation  
The Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance,  
The Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock  
Jamie Schmale, MP Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock  
N. Cooper, Director of Legislative & Information Services, Town of Ajax  
A. Greentree, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Clarington  
M. Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa  
S. Cassel, City Clerk, City of Pickering  
J.P. Newman, Municipal Clerk, Township of Scugog  
D. Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge

**Town of Whitby**  
 575 Rossland Road East  
 Whitby, ON L1N 2M8  
 905.430.4300  
[whitby.ca](http://whitby.ca)



March 13, 2020

Via Email:

Honourable Doug Ford  
 Premier of Ontario  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Date:	18/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	
Action:	null
Notes:	COW - FI - Consent
Copies to:	

Re: Provincial Electric Vehicle Rebate Program

Please be advised that at a meeting held on March 9, 2020, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 41-20:

1. That the Council of the Town of Whitby requests that the Provincial Government re-establish an electric vehicle rebate program to encourage consumers to purchase zero emissions vehicles; and,
2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Transportation, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Finance, the local M.P.P., the local M.P., and Durham Region municipalities.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Public Works Department at 905.430.4307.

  
 Kevin Narraway  
 Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: S. Beale, Commissioner of Public Works – [beales@whitby.ca](mailto:beales@whitby.ca)  
 S. Klein, Director of Strategic Initiatives – [klein@whitby.ca](mailto:klein@whitby.ca)

Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation -  
[caroline.mulroney@pc.ola.org](mailto:caroline.mulroney@pc.ola.org)

Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks -  
[jeff.yurek@pc.ola.org](mailto:jeff.yurek@pc.ola.org)

Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance - [rod.phillips@pc.ola.org](mailto:rod.phillips@pc.ola.org)  
 Lorne Coe, M.P.P. - [lorne.coe@pc.ola.org](mailto:lorne.coe@pc.ola.org)

Res 30-6 COW Apr 6

Ryan Turnbull, M.P. - [Ryan.Turnbull@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Turnbull@parl.gc.ca)

N. Cooper, Director of Legislative and Information services, Town of Ajax –  
[clerks@ajax.ca](mailto:clerks@ajax.ca)

B. Jamieson, Township of Brock - [bjamieson@townshipofbrock.ca](mailto:bjamieson@townshipofbrock.ca)

A. Greentree, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Clarington - [clerks@clarington.net](mailto:clerks@clarington.net)

M. Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa - [mmedeiros@oshawa.ca](mailto:mmedeiros@oshawa.ca)

S. Cassel, City Clerk, City of Pickering – [clerks@pickering.ca](mailto:clerks@pickering.ca)

J. Newman, Municipal Clerk, Township of Scugog - [jnewman@scugog.ca](mailto:jnewman@scugog.ca)

D. Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge - [dleroux@town.uxbridge.on.ca](mailto:dleroux@town.uxbridge.on.ca)



The Corporation of  
The Township of Brock  
1 Cameron St. E., P.O. Box 10  
Cannington, ON L0E 1E0  
705-432-2355

May 5, 2020

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Honourable Sir:

Re: Support for Conservation Authorities

---

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of Brock has endorsed the resolution adopted by the Town of Ajax in support of the Conservation Authorities. I have attached a copy of Ajax's correspondence and would ask that you take their resolution into consideration.

Should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned

Yours truly,

THE TOWNSHIP OF BROCK

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Becky Jamieson'.

Becky Jamieson  
Municipal Clerk

BJ: dh

cc. Sarah Moore, Deputy Clerk, Town of Ajax  
The Honourable Laurie Scott, MPP Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton-Brock  
The Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority  
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority  
Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority  
Conservation Ontario  
AMO  
All Ontario Municipalities



**TOWN OF AJAX**  
 65 Harwood Avenue South  
 Ajax ON L1S 3S9  
[www.ajax.ca](http://www.ajax.ca)

Honourable Doug Ford  
 Premier of Ontario  
 Room 281  
 Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
 Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

March 5, 2020

Re: **Supporting Conservation Authorities**

Date:	06/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	March 16, 2020
Action:	null
Notes:	COW - BPED - Consent
Copies to:	

Please be advised that the following resolution was endorsed by Ajax Town Council at its Meeting held February 24, 2020:

WHEREAS, the Town of Ajax is committed to planning for a sustainable future, protecting human life and property from natural hazards, and promoting environmental education and stewardship;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Ajax is located within the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) jurisdiction and has representatives on both Board of Directors;

AND WHEREAS each respective Board of Directors determine the policies, priorities and budget of the TRCA and CLOCA;

AND WHEREAS the TRCA and CLOCA provide valuable non-mandatory programs and services including expert advice on the environmental impacts associated with land use planning and source water protection, environmental restoration services, educational and recreational opportunities, and community engagement programs, in an efficient manner delivered at a watershed scale;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Ajax supports the continuation of both mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services provided by the TRCA and CLOCA, and that no programs or services of the TRCA or CLOCA, or the other Conservation Authorities in Ontario be "wound down" at this time;

AND THAT the Province engage in early consultations with the TRCA, CLOCA, and other Conservation Authorities, and member municipalities including the Region of Durham, to fully understand the funding structure and local benefits of programs delivered by the Conservation Authorities;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks; Rod Philips, MPP Ajax; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority; Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority; Conservation Ontario; and all Ontario Municipalities.

*Res 16-6 COW April  
 endorsed*

If you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact Sean McCullough, Senior Planner, at 905-619-2529 ext. 3234 or [sean.mccullough@ajax.ca](mailto:sean.mccullough@ajax.ca)

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Moore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "S" and the name "Moore" written in a smaller, more legible cursive script.

Sarah Moore  
Acting Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Rod Philips, MPP Ajax  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority  
Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority  
Conservation Ontario; and  
S. McCullough, Senior Planner,  
all Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of  
The Township of Brock  
1 Cameron St. E., P.O. Box 10  
Cannington, ON L0E 1E0  
705-432-2355

May 5, 2020

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
premier@ontario.ca

Dear Honourable Sir:

Re: Support for Conservation Authorities

---

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of Brock has endorsed the resolution adopted by the Township of Scugog in support of the Conservation Authorities, a copy of which is attached.

Should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned

Yours truly,

THE TOWNSHIP OF BROCK

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Becky Jamieson'.

Becky Jamieson  
Municipal Clerk

BJ: dh

cc. The Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
The Honourable John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
John Paul Newman, Clerk, Township of Scugog  
all Durham Region MPP's  
Kawartha Region Conservation Authority  
Conservation Ontario  
AMO  
Durham Region Municipalities



March 11, 2020

Jannette Amini, Dipl.M.M., M.A. CMO  
 Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk  
 County of Frontenac  
 Sent via email to: [jamini@frontenacounty.ca](mailto:jamini@frontenacounty.ca)

Date:	12/03/2020
Refer to:	Not Applicable
Meeting Date:	April 6, 2020
Action:	null
Notes:	COW - BPED - Consent
Copies to:	

**Re: Support for Conservation Authorities (57-20)**

Dear Ms. Amini:

At the last regular Planning and Community Affairs Committee meeting of the Township of Scugog held March 9, 2020 your correspondence (No. 57-20) regarding the above captioned matter was discussed.

I wish to advise that the following resolution was passed:

**“WHEREAS** the Township of Scugog has been well served by the Kawartha, Lake Simcoe, and Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authorities; and

**WHEREAS** the Township of Scugog is committed to planning for a sustainable future for its resources and environment; and

**WHEREAS** the Township of Scugog relies on the efforts of the Conservation Authorities:

- 1) to monitor floods, manage source water protection, protect Lake Scugog, ensure the integrity of the watersheds within our municipality and to conserve our natural environment;
- 2) in the protection of our residents from natural events, the critical support for building sustainable communities and in ensuring the integrity of Lake Scugog and watersheds we depend on as a community; and

**WHEREAS** the Provincial Government is reviewing mandated programs and services and potential funding to Conservation Authorities; and

**WHEREAS** smaller municipalities do not have the capacity or the financial resource to employ staff with the technical expertise that conservation authorities provide; and

.../2

Township of Scugog, 181 Perry St., PO Box 780, Port Perry, ON L9L 1A7

Telephone: 905-985-7346 Fax: 905-985-9914

[www.scugog.ca](http://www.scugog.ca)

Res 18-6 Caw April  
 endorsed

**WHEREAS** Conservation Authorities will be important partners in securing sustainable communities for future generations and adapting to changing environmental pressures and a changing climate; and

**WHEREAS** Conservation Authorities will be important partners in concrete and cost effective initiatives to address climate change;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Township of Scugog request that the Provincial Government improve their funding of Conservation Authorities to provide a more stable funding base that would prevent any downloading of costs to municipalities; and

**THAT** the Provincial Government maintain and not diminish the core mandate of Conservation Authorities and to continue to support the principle of planning on a watershed basis in the ongoing review and prioritize the allocation of adequate funding to support the core mandate of conservation authorities; and

**THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Premier, the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, all Durham Region MPPs, all Township of Scugog Conservation Authorities, Durham Region municipalities and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and Conservation Ontario."

Please note that all recommendations made by the Committee are subject to ratification at the next Council meeting of the Township of Scugog, scheduled to take place on March 23, 2020.

Should you require anything further in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

John Paul Newman  
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
The Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
The Honourable John Yakubski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry  
Durham Region MPPs  
Township of Scugog Conservation Authorities  
Durham Region Municipalities  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Conservation Ontario



**Therefore Be It Resolved That** the County of Frontenac encourages the province to continue to support the principle of planning on a watershed basis in the ongoing review and prioritize the allocation of adequate funding to support the core mandate of conservation authorities;

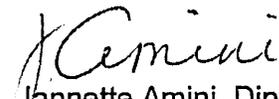
**And Further That** the provincial government will maintain and not diminish the core mandate of conservation authorities;

**And Further That** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Honourable John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Conservation Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all Ontario municipalities.

**Carried**

I trust you will find this in order; however should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 613-548-9400, ext. 302 or via email at [jamini@frontenacounty.ca](mailto:jamini@frontenacounty.ca).

Yours Truly,

  
Jannette Amini, Dipl.M.M., M.A. CMO  
Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk

Copy: File





April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau via email  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Langevin Block  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A2

Re: Federal Assistance for Municipalities

Dear Prime Minister:

Municipalities across Canada are working hard to respond to the ongoing international crisis. On a day-to-day level, Canadians depend on municipal services including fire and emergency services, essential road maintenance, garbage and recycling, bylaw enforcement, and building permits. However, municipalities need help from our federal partners to deliver these services while also supporting their residents.

At the Regular Meeting of April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020, the Council of the Township of Montague passed the following motion:

MOVED BY: J. Carroll  
SECONDED BY: I. Streight

RESOLUTION NO: 88-2020  
DATE: April 21, 2020

That the Township of Montague supports the proposal in principle from the Town of Midland, for the federal government to provide grant funding municipalities to forgive tax payments.

And that the motion be sent to all municipalities across Ontario; local MPs and MPPs and AMO

CARRIED

Please find the attached letter from the Town of Midland detailing a potential funding arrangement. The Township of Montague supports this, or the proposed funding arrangement recommended by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities through the Gas Tax Fund, also attached.

Thank you,

Jasmin Ralph  
Clerk Administrator

Cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Cc: All Ontario Municipalities



FEDERATION  
OF CANADIAN  
MUNICIPALITIES

FÉDÉRATION  
CANADIENNE DES  
MUNICIPALITÉS

# Protecting vital municipal services

Urgent federal recommendations to  
address the financial crisis in our cities  
and communities due to COVID-19

**April 23, 2020**

# Contents

This is a crisis  
**1**

Local leaders  
on the  
front lines  
**2**

Anatomy of our  
financial crisis  
**4**

Fiscal impacts  
of COVID-19  
**6**

Summary of  
recommendations  
**8**

Proposed  
funding model  
**10**

Eyes on  
the future  
**12**



# This is a crisis

## A message from FCM's president

In a matter of weeks, the COVID-19 pandemic has turned life upside down. We now face a public health and economic challenge unlike anything we've seen in our lifetime. As municipalities across the country work to support frontline action and ready essential response services, the financial impact to our operations has created a crisis—and threatens to put the Canadians we serve at further risk.

Across Canada, cities and communities are seeing their finances drift toward collapse. This crisis exposes the cracks in an outdated model that is fundamentally misaligned with the modern reality of the role of local governments. Revenues are plummeting. Unanticipated costs are rising. With few fiscal tools available—and no legal ability to run operating deficits—local leaders face stark choices. Protecting essential services now requires support from other orders of government.

**Today, FCM is making that urgent request on behalf of cities and communities across the country. We are calling for emergency operating funding for municipalities—to keep essential services running and Canadians safe and protected.**

Canadians are depending on the vital services their local leaders provide, from ensuring tap water is clean to sending paramedics to help the sick to safely sheltering our most vulnerable residents. Cutting back services in the middle of a pandemic would put Canadians at further risk. Instead, municipal leaders must continue to help lead the way, supporting people and businesses through this public health and economic storm. To ensure this work continues with the urgency required—on the ground, where Canadians live—direct emergency federal funding is the only option.

Our federal-municipal partnership has delivered remarkable results. Deepening that partnership now will protect Canadians through this pandemic. And when the time comes, local leaders will be ready to help lead Canada's recovery, so this country can prosper and thrive once again.

**Bill Karsten**  
FCM President

# Local leaders on the front lines

Our cities and communities are the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. These are the places where Canadians go to work, buy homes, start families, launch businesses, and build the future of this country. As the governments closest to daily life, municipal leaders are mobilizing urgently to keep Canadians safe, and to help people and businesses weather the economic storm.

**Municipalities of all sizes are taking extraordinary measures to support Canadians—including our most vulnerable—through this unprecedented public health and economic challenge.** They're turning arenas into shelters for the homeless. They're setting up portable hygiene stations. They're deferring property taxes and utility bills for struggling families.

Municipalities are also working day and night to keep essential services running. Bus drivers, paramedics, firefighters, social workers and countless other frontline staff are putting themselves at risk every day to keep Canadians safe and to provide the services people rely on.

In the face of this challenge, essential workers and local leaders are stepping up together as champions for their communities, and this country.

**As the national voice for local governments, FCM is fully engaged in this nationwide crisis.** We're bringing together communities across the country to help protect people and businesses. Through regular touchpoints with our members—from FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus and Rural Forum to our provincial-territorial municipal association partners and others—we're convening local expertise, sharing resources and coordinating frontline response efforts.

We're also working directly with federal departments, agencies and decision-makers to help inform Canada's pandemic response. That includes regular scheduled calls with the deputy prime minister and key ministers. This unprecedented engagement is bringing local realities to new federal initiatives—from the Canada Emergency Response Benefit to the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy—to ensure they meet the needs of Canadians on the ground.

## Municipalities in action

The **City of Edmonton, AB** has waived transit fares on all routes and has deployed larger buses to encourage physical distancing, while ensuring essential workers have a safe and reliable way to get to work.

The public library in the **Town of Halton Hills, ON** is using 3D printers to make face shield parts for frontline health care workers. It's also left its Wi-Fi on—despite being closed—so residents without Internet access can apply for provincial and federal resources.

The municipality of **Canton De Gore, QC** has set up a home delivery service for seniors and vulnerable residents—staffed by volunteers—to bring groceries and prescriptions to people confined to their homes.

For more examples of municipal action during the pandemic, go to [fcm.ca/COVID19](https://fcm.ca/COVID19).

## Vital municipal services at a glance

COVID-19 is shining a spotlight on the vital role municipalities play in daily life. Now more than ever, Canadians are depending on their local leaders to keep essential services running—to keep people safe and secure through this pandemic. That includes:

- ▶ Local police, ambulance and fire services
- ▶ Maintenance of roads, bridges and other essential infrastructure
- ▶ Safe public transit for essential workers
- ▶ Clean water and wastewater services
- ▶ Garbage collection and recycling
- ▶ Local social services and housing for vulnerable residents
- ▶ Local public health agencies
- ▶ Sustainability and environmental initiatives



Paramedics are on the frontlines providing life-saving services including emergency and non-emergency pre-hospital care to residents. *Photo: City of Toronto*

When the time comes, municipalities will also be ready to lead Canada's recovery, along with our federal partners. Local leaders are already delivering frontline results for Canadians. And they are exceptionally well-placed to deliver stimulus funding quickly—to create jobs and get the economy going. Deepening the federal-municipal partnership even further will help Canada thrive and prosper once again.

# Anatomy of our financial crisis

At the best of times, Canada's municipal governments manage a razor-thin fiscal balance to deliver for residents. On the revenue side, they have scant ground to till beyond property taxes and user fees. On the expense side, operating and capital, they must be tremendously cost-efficient with every dollar available. With no legal standing to carry operating deficits, they diligently maintain reserves to carry our communities through cyclical shifts and disruptions.

But these are *historically challenging times*. Municipalities are incurring deep losses due to COVID-19—a combination of foregone revenues (from property taxes and user/utility fees) and unanticipated costs (including public safety measures and support for vulnerable populations). This is not limited to a cash flow challenge; this is a crisis of non-recoverable losses. To continue delivering essential services, many are drawing down limited reserves that were not designed for a crisis of this scale or duration.

Today's crisis exposes cracks in the fundamentally outdated fiscal framework in which municipalities are still forced to operate. And as we now approach a tipping point, our next steps will reverberate

through the lives of Canadians. Insolvency is not an option. Bridge loans cannot address this crisis of permanent losses. Cutting essential services is not an acceptable option, not when Canadians need us most. This is why we are turning to our federal partners for emergency operating funding—to sustain municipal operations and essential services through these extraordinary times.



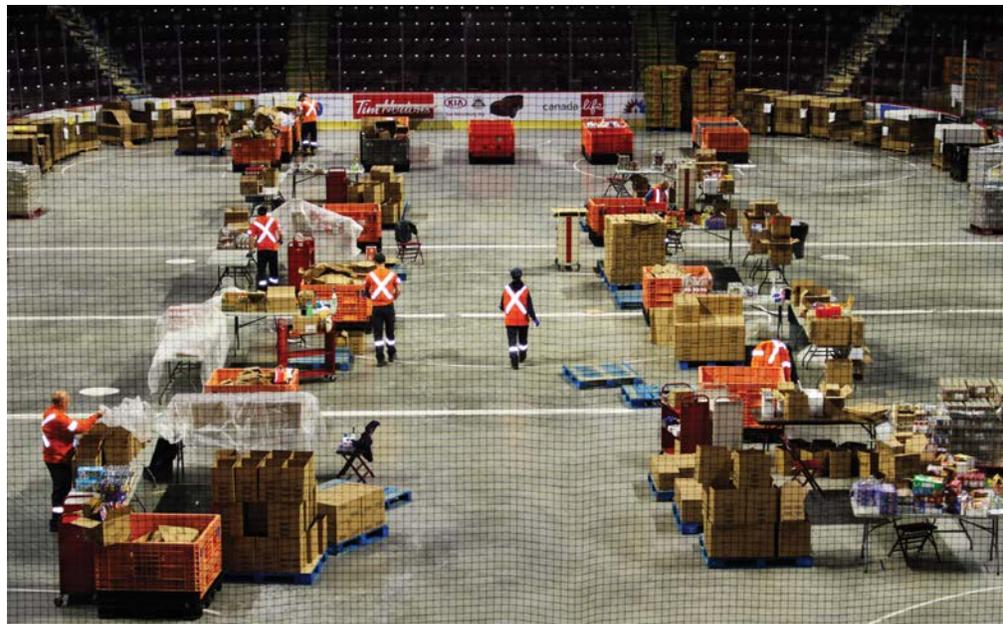
Municipal waste collection operators are keeping municipalities clean and green, while delivering essential services so residents can stay at home.

*Photo: City of Toronto*

***This action will protect essential services Canadians rely on.*** No one should have to worry if their tap water is clean, whether their garbage will stay on the curb, or when a fire truck or ambulance will arrive.



To keep drivers and riders safe, the City of Selkirk, MB, installed Plexiglas shields and closed off alternating rows inside the buses to encourage physical distancing. *Photo: City of Selkirk*



The City of Windsor's WFCU Centre, home of the Windsor Spitfires Junior-A hockey club, has been transformed into a make-shift foodbank to help those in need during the pandemic. *Photo: City of Windsor*

***This action will protect the most vulnerable among us.*** We must continue deploying extraordinary measures to protect people who face enormous challenges staying safe—in our shelters, on our streets.

***This action will support Canada's economic recovery.*** Municipalities will need to hit the ground running to turn stimulus funds into outcomes—and not be cancelling even *existing* capital projects.

Like never before, our municipal-federal partnership has been building better lives for Canadians. Our partnership is grounded in our respective strengths—local leaders are delivery experts closest to people's real needs, the federal government has the fiscal heft to drive nationwide progress. Today, right now, this partnership is the key to carrying Canadians through this pandemic into better days ahead.

## Protecting property taxpayers

Covering municipal losses through a one-time property tax levy is not a viable alternative to federal emergency funding given the significant impact it would have on households trying to weather the economic downturn. Bridging municipalities' 2020 fiscal shortfalls without cutting services—assuming six months of physical distancing—would require dramatic residential property tax levies:

Toronto	56%
Calgary	23%
Vancouver	22%
Montreal	18%
Mississauga	17%

# Fiscal impacts of COVID-19

The fiscal impacts of COVID-19 have been swift and dramatic. Non-recoverable municipal losses driven by falling revenues and rising costs have led to an unprecedented financial crisis. To absorb this staggering hit in the near term, we are calling for a federal operating infusion of \$10–15 billion over the next six months. This crisis may compound as physical distancing measures continue, and depending on the timing and pace of future economic recovery.

FCM continues to develop insight on the scale of losses that municipalities may face on the road ahead. The extent and nature of losses vary widely by community, depending on multiple factors:

- ▶ Municipalities with **public transit systems** face significant revenue losses at the fare box—estimated at \$400 million per month nationwide. This accounts for 30–50 percent of monthly net losses for these municipalities. In Metro Vancouver, Translink is losing \$75 million monthly. The Toronto Transit Commission reports a \$23.5 million weekly burn rate—with an 85 percent revenue drop in April alone. Critically, transit is an essential service for frontline workers in this pandemic, but with limited ability to reduce operating expenditures, many transit systems are already scaling back service to ensure solvency.
- ▶ Municipalities are deferring **property taxes, utility and other fees** to support struggling residents in the near-term—another major revenue hit. Even after these deferral programs end, there remains a significant risk of property tax delinquency. With even a 10 percent increase in property tax and utility bill delinquencies, the cities of Vancouver and Toronto estimate revenue losses in 2020 of \$130 million and \$684 million, respectively.
- ▶ Municipalities reliant on **hard-hit industries** face compounding pressures. In tourism-driven Banff, Alberta, 85 percent of workers have been laid off. Tourism Calgary has temporarily laid off more than half of its staff, and the city could lose the \$540 million economic impact of the Calgary Stampede. Agriculture: meat plants in High River, Alberta, and in Montreal have closed temporarily, impacting a third of Canada's beef processing capacity and most pork exports. Natural resources: Western Canadian Select is trading at negative prices, and sawmill closures have put thousands out of work, jeopardizing pulp mill jobs in northern and remote communities.



Like many municipalities, the City of Yorkton has converted one of their public rinks into a temporary site run by public health to help alleviate the impact on local hospitals and emergency rooms. *Photo: City of Yorkton*

- ▶ The loss of **user fees from parking and community, culture, and recreation facilities** is another source of foregone revenue. Many municipalities have already temporarily laid off staff at these facilities to reduce costs. The City of Mississauga estimates lost revenue from recreation facilities to reach \$23.3 million by the end of June. The City of Toronto is losing almost \$17 million monthly from foregone parking fees alone. Smaller communities, at relative scale, stand to take a significant hit as well. Prince George, B.C., estimates a monthly loss of \$15-20 per capita.
- ▶ Without emergency operating funding, municipalities will need to reduce planned **capital expenditures** in 2020 to make up for lost revenues. This will further slow economic activity across the country and increase future repair costs. And this scaling-back is enormously counter-productive to the coming need to drive Canada's economic recovery through new capital investment in municipal assets, including core infrastructure and housing.



The Gatineau Police Department controls movement at the entrance to the territory. *Photo: City of Gatineau*

- ▶ **Rural and small communities** face their own unique economic challenges. The agriculture sector has been hit hard. Some municipalities have begun laying off staff—despite having so few to begin with. With limited access to broadband Internet, many rural Canadians are unable to work from home. New Brunswick's Francophone municipalities are facing a total monthly loss of \$10.5 million. Even before the pandemic hit, eight percent of Atlantic Canada's workforce was already depending on Employment Insurance benefits.

# Summary of recommendations

With plummeting revenues, rising expenses and a legal proscription against running operating deficits, municipalities are at imminent risk of having to cut essential services to Canadians to remain solvent. The acceptable alternative is emergency operating funding for municipalities, provided by our stable, trusted, national partner: the Government of Canada.

This section summarizes FCM's urgent recommendation. This is based on the best available data on the projected financial impact of COVID-19—amounting to a near-term gap of \$10–15 billion for municipalities nationwide. It assumes that physical distancing directives substantially persist for six months, with direct municipal revenue impacts continuing through the end of 2020 and possibly into 2021 depending on the pace of economic recovery.

The core of our recommendation is an allocation-based formula to deliver a base level of support to all local governments. This is supplemented by targeted measures to meet distinct needs of municipalities as they continue to keep Canadians fully served and protected.

## Immediate action

1. **Deliver at least \$10 billion in targeted emergency operating funding to all local governments as direct allocations—with a new hybrid formula modelled on both the proven federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF) and a ridership-based allocation for municipalities that operate transit systems.**
  - ▶ Specifically, allocate at least \$7.6 billion of the fund using a GTF-style allocation formula for all local governments, and \$2.4 billion based 100% on transit ridership.
  - ▶ For municipalities that operate transit systems, provide a single blended transfer.
  - ▶ Immediately provide advance payments to municipalities facing urgent liquidity issues.
  - ▶ Leverage the administrative infrastructure of the federal Gas Tax Fund, where possible, to expedite the rollout of dedicated emergency operating grants.



Municipal road maintenance staff are working around the clock to keep roads safe and accessible for those delivering essential services. *Photo: City of Toronto*

**2. Deliver additional emergency operating funding to individual local governments facing unique financial pressures related to COVID-19 that are not fully met by the hybrid formula above.** Our largest urban centres face distinct challenges supporting self-isolation, sanitation and good health among populations struggling with homelessness and mental health challenges. Smaller communities face unique challenges, starting with access to health care services that can support isolation requirements and urgent care. These and other unique cost drivers will continue to require targeted supports for the full duration of this crisis.



Selkirk, MB Mayor Larry Johansson stopped at a resident's window to admire children's drawings showing their appreciation for essential workers. *Photo: City of Selkirk*

## Medium-term action

- 3. Commit to revisit the need for additional operating funding within four months.**
  - ▶ Monitor trends in property tax delinquencies and consider additional supports for individuals and businesses that may not be able to pay property taxes after the expiry of short-term municipal deferral programs.
  - ▶ Depending on the duration and severity of the COVID-19 crisis, prepare for possible additional operating funding assistance in both 2020 and 2021.
- 4. Provide local governments with the ability to transfer unused allocations** to the federal Gas Tax Fund program for capital expenditures as part of Canada's COVID-19 economic recovery plan.

# Proposed funding model

This section presents additional guidance for the emergency operating funding outlined in recommendation #1. Our proposed model features two components: a base allocation for all municipalities, and a supplementary allocation for municipalities that own and operate transit systems. To function—efficiently and nationwide—its design must be straightforward, direct and flexible.

## **Base allocation** *(for all municipalities)*

- ▶ At least \$7.6 billion based on the federal Gas Tax Fund formula.
- ▶ Assumes average of \$35 per capita per month, and six months of physical distancing (starting March 2020).

## **Supplementary allocation** *(for municipalities that own and operate transit systems)*

- ▶ \$2.4 billion based entirely on 2019 transit ridership (population not included in formula).
- ▶ Based on Canadian Urban Transit Association needs assessment (\$400 million/month for six months) and validated through individual city estimates.

## **Design considerations**

- ▶ Municipalities should receive a single transfer that combines the base and supplementary allocation (except in the case of provincially-owned transit systems, such as BC Transit and Metrolinx).
- ▶ This single transfer should provide maximum flexibility to local governments to apply funds towards all operating impacts (foregone revenue and/or unanticipated costs) related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- ▶ No provincial or municipal matching funds should be required.
- ▶ Requiring provincial matching could cause delays given the varied fiscal capacities of provincial/territorial governments. However, provinces and territories continue to have an important role to play in providing targeted supports for local governments including, but not limited to:
  - ▷ direct support for COVID-19 emergency response and support for vulnerable populations;
  - ▷ expansion or backstop of property tax deferral programs (especially long-term deferment programs that will delay taxes beyond a single fiscal year);
  - ▷ block operating grants for local governments.
- ▶ Given significant downside risks—including the likelihood of future pandemic waves that require physical distancing, and the potential for property tax delinquencies—it is likely that the full allocation under an emergency operating grant will be fully utilized by local governments.



The Vulnerable Person's Registry is a critical program where the elderly and people with special needs are contacted daily, making sure that they are safe and their needs are being met. *Photo: Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo*

- ▶ Any limited unused funding could be reserved for additional COVID-19-related operating shortfalls in 2020 or 2021, or transferred to the federal Gas Tax Fund to be used for incremental capital expenditures as part of Canada's COVID-19 recovery plan.

## Potential impact *(all numbers rounded and approximate):*

Municipality	Preliminary net losses*	Base allocation (GTF formula)	Supplementary allocation (transit)	Total allocation
City of Toronto	\$1.690B	\$575M	\$575M	\$1.150B
Metro Vancouver**	\$900M	\$510M	\$290M	\$795M
City of Calgary	\$400M	\$255M	\$115M	\$370M

\* preliminary estimates assuming full year impact of six months of physical distancing

\*\* extrapolation of data provided by City of Vancouver (local government not including transit) and TransLink (transit)

# Eyes on the future

Right now our focus is on tackling the public health and economic crisis in our cities and communities—and ensuring local leaders can continue to deliver the essential services Canadians rely on. But we're also keeping an eye on the future—for when Canada is ready to move from response to recovery.

Across the country, municipalities have already begun taking steps to help drive the massive nation-building effort that will be required when the pandemic ends—from getting local businesses back on their feet to implementing job-creating stimulus projects. FCM is supporting this work by collecting and analyzing on-the-ground data that will inform recommendations for Canada's recovery. From housing, to infrastructure, to green, sustainable and resilient projects, cities and communities have a long track-record of delivering results efficiently and effectively. Municipalities will be essential partners in rebuilding the economy we want for the future.

But as with any crisis, it will be just as important to learn lessons from this pandemic. We will honour and celebrate how Canadians and their governments came together in common cause. We will also need to take a critical look at the foundational cracks that have been more harshly exposed in how we approach the role of local governments. In clear view are the outdated tools and authorities granted to municipal leaders, and how they simply do not match the modern role cities and communities play in supporting Canadians and driving our economy. When the time is right, FCM and local leaders will be ready to have that conversation.

In the immediate, we will continue working flat-out, as partners on the front lines, to keep Canadians as safe as possible, and ready our economy for the comeback we're confident we can collectively drive. We're all in this together.





**FCM**

FCM.ca



March 23, 2020

By Fax to: 613.941.6900 & Twitter @CanadianPM, @JustinTrudeau

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Langevin Block,  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

**Re: Direct Payment of Federal Funds to Municipalities to Waive Property Taxes for the Year 2020 - Financial help to alleviate the suffering from COVID-19 Pandemic**

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It is trite to repeat the human and financial toll of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Similarly, the commitment of the federal, provincial and municipal governments toward alleviating the suffering of Canadians does not require repeating.

We, at the Town of Midland, in the Province of Ontario, are proposing what we believe to be a simple but effective solution to facilitate the delivery of our common and shared commitment to the financial and psychological well-being of all Canadians.

**Proposal:**

**1. Residential Properties (primary residence only)**

- a. Waive 100% of the 2020 property taxes for all residential properties currently assessed at or below \$ 500,000.00 by each governing provincial property assessment body; and
- b. Waive 50% of the 2020 property taxes for all residential properties currently assessed below \$ 1,000,000.00; and
- c. Waive 25% of the 2020 property taxes for all residential properties currently assessed above \$1,000,000.00.

**2. Industrial, Commercial and Farm Properties**

- a. Waive 100% of the 2020 property taxes for all; industrial, commercial and farm properties currently assessed at under \$ 10,000,000.00; and
- b. Waive 50% of the property taxes for the year 2020 for all industrial, commercial and farm properties currently assessed between \$10,000,000.00 and \$ 50,000,000.00; and
- c. Waive 25% of the property taxes for the year 2020 for all industrial, commercial and farm properties assessed above \$50,000,000.00.

### 3. Federal Transfer Payment to Canadian Municipalities

- a. In lieu of the annual municipal property taxes, the Federal Government transfers funds to municipalities across Canada, as a one-time grant.

an homeowners and the business community;  
ns who although may be solvent, are unable to easily meet the  
id their personal capacity due to COVID-19;  
equired to assess individual need and delivery of the relief;  
s for the disbursement of the relief. In fact, it may cut-down on some  
staff; and  
eived from the federal government will come into circulation  
in the community.

irect and indirect financial and non-financial benefits that will result  
roposal. The biggest non-financial impact is that Canadians will see  
ecting the pressures to make their property tax payments and be  
r essential needs. In turn, removing this added stress will provide  
d financial and health systems.

ne entering this time of crisis with a very high amount of house-hold  
fragility. Taking this simple step should alleviate some of those  
ill keep your municipal governments, and school boards primed for  
rd momentum to address the fallout from COVID-19.

favourable response.

#### f Midland

Stewart Strathearn,  
Mayor  
[sstrathearn@midland.ca](mailto:sstrathearn@midland.ca)

Amanpreet Singh Sidhu,  
Chief Administrative Officer  
[asidhu@midland.ca](mailto:asidhu@midland.ca)

c: Town of Midland Council  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Province of Ontario



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF HAMILTON

April 23, 2020

The Honourable David Lametti  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada  
284 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H8

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

The Honourable Doug Downey  
Attorney General  
McMurtry-Scott Building, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
720 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2S9

**Subject: Request to Regulate and Enforce Odour and Lighting Nuisances  
Related to the Cultivation of Cannabis Plants**

Dear Minister/Attorney General Lametti, Premier Ford and Attorney General Downey:

At its meeting of April 22, 2020, Hamilton City Council approved Item 5.4(d), which reads as follows:

**5.4 (d) Repeal and Replace Public Nuisance By-law 09-110 and Amend  
Administrative Penalty By-law 17-225 (PED20076) (City Wide)**

- (a) That the draft by-law, attached as Appendix "A" to Report PED20076, which repeals and replaces By-law 09-110, being a By-law to Prohibit and Regulate Certain Public Nuisances within the City of Hamilton, and amends the Administrative Penalties By-law 17-225 which has been prepared in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, be approved and enacted by Council;
- (b) That the Mayor be directed, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, to write to the relevant federal and provincial governments to regulate

.../2

and enforce odour and lighting nuisances related to the cultivation of cannabis plants;

- (c) That the Mayor contact the Premier of Ontario, Minister of the Attorney General, and local Members of Parliament to request that the Province extend authority to Municipalities to enforce odor and lighting nuisance complaints stemming from licensed and unlicensed cannabis cultivations within the its jurisdiction; and,
- (d) That the request be sent to other municipalities in Ontario, including the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for their endorsement.

We respectfully request your consideration with regard to this request and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fred Eisenberger', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Fred Eisenberger  
Mayor

Copied:

The Honourable Filomena Tassi, M.P., Hamilton West, Ancaster, Dundas  
Scott Duvall, M.P., Hamilton Mountain  
Bob Bratina, M.P., Hamilton East-Stoney Creek  
David Sweet, M.P., Flamborough – Glanbrook  
Matthew Green, M.P. , Hamilton Centre  
Andrea Horwath, Opposition Party Leader, NDP of Ontario, M.P.P Hamilton Centre  
Monique Taylor, M.P.P., Hamilton Mountain  
Paul Miller, M.P.P., Hamilton East-Stoney Creek  
Donna Skelly, M.P.P., Flamborough-Glanbrook  
Sandy Shaw, M.P.P. Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Municipalities of Ontario