

STAFF REPORT

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBOURG



Report to:	Mayor and Council Members	Priority:	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low
Submitted by:	Laurie Wills Director, Public Works lwills@cobourg.ca	Meeting Type: Open Session <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed Session <input type="checkbox"/>	
Meeting Date:	January 25, 2021		
Report No.:	Public Works-004-21		
Submit comments to Council			

Subject/Title: Provincial Gas Tax Funding

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council Authorize the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk to prepare and sign a supporting bylaw (attached) to ensure that the Town of Cobourg receives its payment for Gas Tax funding and that funds are used to continue supporting local transportation services.

1. STRATEGIC PLAN

NA

2. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

NA

3. PURPOSE

By-law required to ensure receipt of Provincial Gas Tax funding.

4. ORIGIN AND LEGISLATION

The Province of Ontario's Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program

5. BACKGROUND

Ontario's Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation (Gas Tax) Program was launched in 2004 to provide a long-term, sustainable source of funding for Ontario municipalities to contribute towards a local public transit system.

In the 2019 Budget, the province committed to reviewing the current program, in consultation with municipalities, to identify opportunities for improvement. Following a careful consideration of municipal and transit stakeholder feedback, the ministry implemented two changes that were identified as areas for improvement to the 2019-20 program:

- The baseline spending requirement was removed; and
- Municipalities were permitted to submit a scanned copy of the municipal by-law instead of a certified copy.

A review of the Gas Tax program has been completed and no additional changes are being considered for the 2020-21 program.

6. ANALYSIS

The Ontario Government is committed to working with municipalities to improve Ontario's transportation network and support economic growth.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/BUDGET IMPACTS

2018/2019 Dedicated Gas Tax Funds to be received by the Town of Cobourg is in the amount of \$203,868.00.

8. CONCLUSION

That Council Authorize the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk to prepare and sign a supporting bylaw (attached) to ensure that the Town of Cobourg receives its payment for Gas Tax funding and that funds are used to continue supporting local transportation services.

A scanned PDF copy of the Letter of Agreement and the Authorizing by law will be accepted by email to MTO-PGT@ontario.ca.