



Subject: Funding Agreement with Ministry of Transportation

To: Council

From: Corporate Services Department

Report Number: 2021-107

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Recommendation:

That Corporate Services Department Report 2021-107 be received; and

That the draft by-law attached as Appendix A of Corporate Services Report 2021-107 be approved.

Purpose:

To obtain approval to enter into a funding agreement with the Ministry of Transportation.

Background:

The Ministry of Transportation has introduced a Safe Restart Program to support transit systems during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the funding is to support additional costs and/or lost revenue as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Attached as Appendix A is a by-law to approve Phase 2 and potential future phases of funding.

Initially there was a Phase 1 that staff investigated but ultimately identified the City of Port Colborne (the "City") was not eligible for since transit costs in the City initially declined as the system was temporarily shut down.

Discussion:

The agreement attached in Appendix A identifies the maximum available funding in Phase 2 as \$53,017 for the period of October 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021.

Staff anticipate eligible funding for the City will likely be limited to lost revenue due to ridership, if any. Staff identify the cost paid to the City of Welland has not changed as a result of COVID-19.

At the time of writing this report, staff report revenue remained constant at approximately \$5,000 between October 2019 to December 2019 and October 2020 to December 2020.

Financial Implications:

This grant will help ensure the City transit budget remains whole should additional costs be incurred, or revenue loss be experienced. The City's net levy budget is \$165,700.

Conclusion:

That the draft by-law attached as Appendix A to Corporate Services Department Report 2021-107 be approved

Appendices:

- a. Draft By-law

Respectfully submitted,

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Report Approval:

All reports reviewed and approved by the Department Director and also the City Treasurer when relevant. Final approval is by the Chief Administrative Officer.