



The Regional Municipality of Halton

Report To:	Regional Chair and Members of Regional Council
From:	Jane MacCaskill, Chief Administrative Officer
Date:	February 17, 2021
Report No:	CA-03-21
Re:	COVID-19 Enforcement Funding

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Regional Council approve payments to support the enforcement of COVID-19 as described in Report No. CA-03-21, re: "COVID-19 Enforcement Funding".
2. THAT the Commissioner of Legislative and Planning Services and Corporate Counsel be authorized to negotiate and execute a COVID-19 Enforcement Funding Memorandum of Understanding.
3. THAT Report No. CA-03-21 be forwarded to the City of Burlington, the Town of Halton Hills, the Town of Milton, and the Town of Oakville for their information.

REPORT

Executive Summary

- The Halton COVID-19 Joint Enforcement Task Force has been coordinating and tracking pandemic related by-laws and order enforcement and includes representatives from the Local Municipalities, Halton Region and the Halton Regional Police Service.
- COVID-19 has had an impact on the demand for service from Regional and Local Municipal enforcement staff across the Region. Enforcement which includes education and progressive enforcement measures will require additional resources for the Local Municipalities to support COVID-19 enforcement demands in 2021.
- Halton Region's approved 2021 Budget and Business Plan included a one-time provision of \$800,000 to support COVID-19 enforcement activities in 2021. This provision was financed from the COVID-19 reserve which is funded from the Provincial Safe Restart funding.

- It is recommended that Halton Region and the Local Municipalities enter into a Memorandum of Understanding related to the funding.
- Authorization is required for the Commissioner of Legal and Planning Services to negotiate and execute a COVID-19 Enforcement Funding Memorandum of Understanding.

Background

Halton Region's 2021 Budget and Business Plan included one-time funding to provide support for COVID-19 related by-law enforcement. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Local Municipalities to support COVID-19 by-law enforcement resources.

On March 27, 2020 the provincial government signed a ministerial designation under the *Provincial Offences Act* to authorize municipal by-law enforcement officers, among others to enforce *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* COVID-19 orders. In addition, Halton Region and in some cases Local Municipalities, have approved by-laws in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The provincial government encouraged municipalities to manage the impact of the pandemic in communities by implementing a proactive approach to awareness, compliance, and enforcement of public health restrictions and emergency orders.

Halton's Joint Enforcement Task Force, comprised of representatives from each of the local municipalities, the Halton Regional Police Service, and staff of Halton Region, are currently coordinating and tracking pandemic related by-laws and order enforcement. Weekly enforcement data is available to the Joint Enforcement Task Force and the Ministry of the Solicitor General is requesting reporting of enforcement activity to ensure compliance. The Joint Enforcement Task Force has been effective at coordinating COVID-19 enforcement efforts.

Discussion

Enforcement of COVID-19 orders, regulation and by-laws is an important measure to assist in reducing the spread of COVID-19 in the community. Demands related to COVID-19 enforcement activities are expected to continue in 2021. While the vaccination program has been initiated, it is expected to be later in the year before a majority of the population will be vaccinated.

In response to the continued demand on enforcement resources related to COVID-19, the Halton Region 2021 Budget and Business Plan includes a one-time provision of \$800,000 to support by-law enforcement activities. It is recommended that Halton Region and the Local Municipalities enter into a Memorandum of Understanding for this funding. The terms of the Memorandum of Understanding would confirm on-going coordination of the enforcement activities through the Joint Enforcement Task Force, identification of opportunities for coordinated, targeted enforcement, and sharing of best practices. The

Memorandum of Understanding would also establish common reporting standards to the Task Force.

It is recommended that the \$800,000 be distributed to the Local Municipalities based on weighted assessment as shown in the table below.

Local Municipality	Weighted Taxable CVA		Fund Allocation
	\$	%	
Burlington	51,702,172,206	30.9%	247,000
Halton Hills	15,383,644,635	9.2%	73,000
Milton	28,618,882,089	17.1%	137,000
Oakville	71,778,174,218	42.9%	343,000
	167,482,873,148	100.0%	800,000

FINANCIAL/PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

The \$800,000 to support COVID-19 enforcement was included in the approved 2021 Budget and Business Plan as a one-time expense financed from the COVID-19 reserve. These funds are from the Provincial Safe Restart funding received in 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Ralph Blauel
Acting Director, Business Planning
and Corporate Initiatives



Tony Oliveri
Acting Commissioner, Strategic
Transformation

Approved by



Jane MacCaskill
Chief Administrative Officer

If you have any questions on the content of this report,
please contact:

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Attachments: None