



SUBJECT: Trench Rescue Services Agreement

TO: Committee of the Whole

FROM: Fire Department

Report Number: BFD-05-24

Wards Affected: All

Date to Committee: September 9, 2024

Date to Council: September 17, 2024

Recommendation:

Approve the City of Burlington continuing with the agreement with the City of Mississauga for Trench Rescue emergency services as outlined in fire department report BFD-05-24; and

Authorize the Fire Chief to approve and execute the Trench Rescue Agreement, including this amendment and any future amendments in a form satisfactory to the Commissioner, Legal and Legislative Services/City Solicitor.

PURPOSE:

Vision to Focus Alignment:

- Driving organizational performance

Executive Summary:

Technical Trench Rescues are a low frequency occurrence with a high level of risk. The tools, equipment and ongoing training required are extensive. The City of Mississauga has a specialized team and response unit to deal specifically with Technical Trench Rescues.

The Burlington Fire Department has an existing agreement with the City of Mississauga, wherein, they will respond to these types of emergencies, when requested by the Burlington Fire Department. The City of Mississauga has asked that the City of

Burlington agree to amend the existing agreement between the City of Mississauga and the City of Burlington. The Burlington Fire Department would like to continue with this agreement and is agreeable to the changes proposed by the City of Mississauga.

The original agreement was approved/executed in 2017 through report BFD-01-17. The amendments to this agreement (Appendix B) reflect changes to the City of Mississauga's fees and the agreement's termination clause.

Background and Discussion:

The Fire Protection and Prevention Act (FPPA) and its regulations form the governing legislation by which Fire Departments operate. Within that act 2. (1)(b) states: Every municipality shall provide such other fire protection services as it determines may be necessary in accordance with its needs and circumstances. Council is responsible for establishing service levels and then must ensure the Fire Department is provided with appropriate equipment, personnel and training to safely and effectively deliver service.

The Municipal Act, SO 2001, c.25 Section 20 (1) provides that a municipality may enter into an agreement with one or more municipalities or local bodies, as defined in section 19, or a combination of both to jointly provide, for their joint benefit, any matter which all of them have power to provide within their own boundaries.

The Fire Protection and Prevention Act, S.O. 1997, Chapter 4 (hereinafter called the "FPPA") authorizes a municipality to enter into an automatic aid agreement with other municipalities as defined under Section 1 (4) of the Act to provide or receive the initial or supplemental response to fires, rescues and emergencies.

Strategy/process/risk

The amendments to the existing agreement include a change to the fee structure and termination rights. The Burlington Fire Department felt the change in fees is reasonable and comparable to industry standards. The change to termination rights allows the City of Mississauga to terminate if Provincial policies are revised. The original agreement already gave the City of Mississauga the ability to adjust fees and terminate the agreement, if applicable. It is with this understanding that the Burlington Fire Department is agreeable to the changes and recommending to move forward with the amendments.

Continuing with the Technical Trench Rescue Agreement will allow the Burlington Fire Department to take advantage of our neighboring municipalities expertise and better support the residents of Burlington.

Financial Matters:

As laid out within the Technical Trench Rescue agreement, costs will only be incurred when the service is provided by the City of Mississauga.

Costs will be recovered through a bill back to the contractor or insurance provider by the Burlington Fire Department.

Total Financial Impact

Not Applicable.

Source of Funding

Not Applicable.

Other Resource Impacts

Not Applicable.

Climate Implications:

Not Applicable.

Conclusion:

The Burlington Fire Department recommends that the City of Burlington continue with the existing agreement and that it proceed with the amending agreement attached in Appendix B to this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Roche

Fire Chief

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Appendices:

- A. Trench Rescue Agreement – Original
- B. Trench Rescue Agreement – Amendment

Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, the Chief Financial Officer and the Executive Director of Legal Services & Corporation Counsel.