

Guelph City Council Information Items

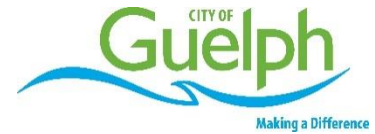


April 9, 2020

Items for information is a weekly publication for the public and members of City Council. Members of City Council may request that any item appearing on this publication be placed onto the next available Committee of the Whole meeting for discussion.

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None	
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Provincial and Federal Consultation Alert



Proposed regulatory changes under the Aggregate Resources Act

Ministry

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Consultation Deadline

Originally March 30, 2020; extended to May 15, 2020

Summary

The Province is proposing changes to the way extraction of aggregate resources is regulated in Ontario. This includes proposed changes for new pits and quarries, including how site plans are created and implemented; for existing pits and quarries, including operating and reporting requirements; and allowing minor extraction for personal or farm use.

Proposed Form of Input

Submit comment to the [Environmental Registry posting](#) and participate in technical briefing as invited by the Ministry.

Rationale

Aggregate extraction operations could potentially affect Guelph's drinking water supply. Guelph is one of the largest cities in Canada to rely almost exclusively on groundwater for its drinking water.

Lead

Water Services

Link to Ministry Website

<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-1303>

Contact Information

Intergovernmental Services

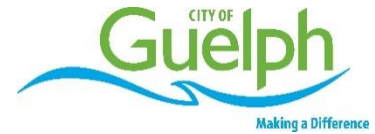
Chief Administrative Office

City Hall, 1 Carden Street, Guelph ON N1H 3A1

519-37-5602

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Provincial and Federal Consultation Alert



Community Benefit Charge/ Development Charge regulatory proposal

Ministry

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Consultation Deadline

Originally March 30, 2020; extended until April 20, 2020

Summary

The Province has released the second regulatory proposal for public feedback on the proposed components of a new community benefits charge (CBC) authority. The changes made by the *More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019* will mean that municipalities will have two primary funding streams (down from three previously) to pay for the increased need for services due to growth.

This regulatory proposal tables significant changes compared to the first regulatory proposal in June 2019. Notably, it proposes to add a number of services back into the Development Charge (DC) authority, including public libraries, long-term care, park development (but not land acquisition), public health, and recreation facilities. It also proposes a structure for the CBC.

Proposed Form of Input

A letter to be submitted through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) site.

Rationale

The proposed regulations will have implications for Guelph's capacity to pay for growth-related services and capital facilities.

Lead

General Manager of Finance/ City Treasurer with input from Parks and Recreation, Engineering, Legal Services and Planning.

Link to Ministry Website

<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-1406>

Contact Information

Intergovernmental Services

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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

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.

Advantages of the Proposal:

1. Quick and timely relief;
2. Direct relief to all Canadian homeowners and the business community;
3. Directly protects Canadians who although may be solvent, are unable to easily meet the financial pressures beyond their personal capacity due to COVID-19;
4. No additional resources required to assess individual need and delivery of the relief;
5. Negligible overhead costs for the disbursement of the relief. In fact, it may cut-down on some of the work for municipal staff; and
6. The financial stimulus received from the federal government will come into circulation immediately and will stay in the community.

There are a multitude of other direct and indirect financial and non-financial benefits that will result from the implementation of this proposal. The biggest non-financial impact is that Canadians will see an immediate financial relief respecting the pressures to make their property tax payments and be better positioned to address other essential needs. In turn, removing this added stress will provide some relief to the already strained financial and health systems.

As you are aware, Canadians are entering this time of crisis with a very high amount of house-hold debt and a great deal of financial fragility. Taking this simple step should alleviate some of those pressures. At the same time, it will keep your municipal governments, and school boards primed for continued productivity and forward momentum to address the fallout from COVID-19.

Thanking you in anticipation of a favourable response.

Sincerely,

The Corporation of the Town of Midland



Stewart Strathearn,
Mayor
ssrathearn@midland.ca



Amanpreet Singh Sidhu,
Chief Administrative Officer
asidhu@midland.ca

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