

## Special City Council Revised Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, August 12, 2020, 2:00 p.m. Remote meeting live streamed on guelph.ca/live

Changes to the original agenda are noted with an asterisk "\*".

To contain the spread of COVID-19, City Council meetings are being held electronically and can be live streamed at <u>guelph.ca/live</u>.

For alternate meeting formats, please contact the City Clerk's Office at <u>clerks@guelph.ca</u> or 519-822-1260 extension 5603.

Pages

#### 1. Notice - Electronic Participation

#### 1.1 City Council

This meeting will be held by Electronic Participation in accordance with the City of Guelph Procedural By-law (2020)-20515.

## \*1.2 Delegations to Item 4.1

Members of the public who have an interest in delegating to item 4.1 Managing the Impacts of COVID-19: Update #5 may register up until 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 12, 2020.

You can register as a <u>delegation</u> or <u>submit written comments</u> by contacting the City Clerk's office by email or phone:

519-837-5603 TTY 519-826-9771 <u>clerks@guelph.ca</u> (attachments must not exceed 20 MB)

When we receive your registration or written comments, we will send you a confirmation message and instructions for participating in the meeting.

## 2. Call to Order

## 3. Open Meeting

- 3.1 O Canada
- 3.2 Silent Reflection
- 3.3 First Nations Acknowledgement
- 3.4 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

## 4. Items for Discussion

The following items have been extracted from the Committee of the Whole Consent Report and the Council Consent Agenda and will be considered separately. These items have been extracted either at the request of a member of Council or because they include a presentation and/or delegations.

## \*4.1 Managing the Impacts of COVID-19: Update #5, 2020-122

#### Presentation:

Mayor Guthrie Scott Stewart, Chief Administrative Officer Colleen Clack, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Public Services Kealy Dedman, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise Services Trevor Lee, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Services 1

## Recommendation:

- That report "Managing the Impacts of COVID-19: Update #5" dated August 12, 2020 be forwarded to the local MP and MPP, FCM, AMO, LUMCO and the Federal Minister of Finance and the Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Minister of Finance for the Province of Ontario.
- 2. That staff be directed to communicate the urgency for additional details about the Safe Restart Agreement given the City of Guelph's currently projected COVID-19 deficit impact of \$24.3 million, mitigated through costcontainment measures of \$14.3 million and resulting in a \$10 million overall budget deficit impact for 2020, to the Deputy Prime Minister, the Federal Minister of Finance, Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Ontario's Minister of Finance and the Premier of Ontario.
- 3. That the 2021 City Council and Committee Meeting Schedule, included as Attachment-2 to report "Managing the Impacts of COVID-19: Update #5" dated August 12, 2020, be approved.

## \*5. By-laws

Resolution to adopt the By-laws (Councillor Gibson).

## Recommendation:

That By-law Numbered (2020)-20522 is hereby passed.

## \*5.1 By-law Number (2020)-20522

A by-law to confirm the proceedings of a meeting of Guelph City Council held August 12, 2020.

## 6. Adjournment

78

# Staff Report



То	City Council
Service Area	Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
Date	Wednesday, August 12, 2020
Subject	Managing the Impacts of COVID-19: Update #5

## Recommendation

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- 3. That the 2021 City Council and Committee Meeting Schedule, included as Attachment-2 to report "Managing the Impacts of COVID-19: Update #5" dated August 12, 2020, be approved.

## **Executive Summary**

## **Purpose of Report**

This fifth and final formal report provides Council with an update on the work the City has undertaken in response to COVID-19 in the last four weeks. It highlights how the City continues to manage through the challenging impacts of the pandemic, our current fiscal position, and unexpected opportunities.

## **Key Findings**

- This report presents the City's updated financial position, based in part on the City's Q2 variance and the recent announcement of the Safe Restart Agreement funding.
- Since the last COVID-19 update, Guelph has pursued several opportunities for consultation with other levels of government. Staff continue to comment and advocate on public transit; COVID-19 impacts on municipalities; Bill 197; the 2021 federal budget; and fiscal supports, regulatory changes and funding for supportive housing and infrastructure.

- \$350,000 was re-allocated from the 2020 allocation of Guelph Municipal Holdings Inc. dividend funding that was approved for the new Community Investment Strategy, to the Emergency and Resilience Fund. Staff designed a program for not-for-profit organizations, unincorporated groups and individuals across all sectors to adapt and develop services and programs to strengthen capacity during COVID-19 and meet community needs.
- We have a unique opportunity to rethink transportation, mobility and public space. With a renewed look at our current master plans underway, staff feel Guelph can emerge from COVID-19 with a stronger and safer approach to mobility and improved open space systems.
- City staff have absorbed the work of City tables—struck early in the City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic—across various disciplines as part of day-to-day operations.
- City administration, together with the Emergency Operations Control Group (EOCG) is reflecting and preparing for a second wave of COVID-19, which many experts say is inevitable.

## **Financial Implications**

- Financial impacts projected for 2020 have been updated as part of the quarterly in-depth variance review. Total revenue impacts are now projected to be \$20.7 million, in addition to \$3.6 million of additional costs incurred in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The City has successfully created expenditure savings by halting all discretionary spending; laying off temporary casual, part-time and full-time staff; pausing non-critical hiring; and reducing service levels and program offerings. These savings are estimated to be approximately \$14.3 million by year-end.
- The year-end deficit projection based on the current COVID Public Health guidelines, and without including any announced emergency financial relief funding from the provincial and federal governments is currently estimated at \$10 million.
- Staff are currently assessing these impacts as they develop the 2021-24 budget to ensure appropriate adjustments for permanent revenue impacts and enhanced cleaning and safety requirements are included.

## Report

This fifth and final formal report about managing the impacts of COVID-19 summarizes important work that staff and our partners have advanced over the past four weeks, since the last report to Council on this topic.

While there is no short-term plan to continue these monthly reports, City staff have absorbed the work resulting from COVID-19 as part of the organization's day-to-day operations.

At the same time, the recovery work we are currently actioning is also preparatory, in the event there is a second wave of COVID-19 in the coming months.

## **Financial Recovery**

## Emergency funding for municipalities: the Safe Restart Agreement

The Safe Restart Agreement between the Federal and Provincial governments was announced on July 16.

The federal contribution to the agreement is \$19 billion to support provinces, territories and municipalities. Of that, \$2 billion has been earmarked for municipal governments, to be matched by the provinces for a total of \$4 billion.

The Federal government has also indicated it will match up to \$1.8 billion in new provincial investments in public transit nationwide. This unlocks a total of \$3.6 billion for public transit across Canada.

In total, the Safe Restart Agreement results in \$7.6 billion in funding for municipal governments Canada-wide.

More specifically, Ontario municipalities will receive \$777 million from the federal government for operational costs, and \$1.2 billion from the provincial government. The province and federal government will contribute an equal share of up to \$2B for public transit.

Allocation amounts for the City of Guelph and other individual municipal governments are unknown; staff understand they will be disclosed in the coming weeks. While the formula that will be used to allocate the funds across municipalities remains unknown, a portion of the funding will be application-based.

Under the Agreement, federal and provincial support will address seven priority areas to help the economy safely restart over the next six to eight months, and to prepare for a second wave of COVID-19, including:

- Funding for municipalities to support operational costs, plus investments in public transit.
- Support for increasing COVID-19 testing, contact tracing and collecting public health data.
- Support for health care capacity, including support for mental health and problematic substance abuse challenges.
- Personal protective equipment for health care workers and other essential workers.
- Support for vulnerable populations, including support for long-term care facilities and those who need home care and palliative care.
- Addressing the reduced availability of child care spaces.
- Establish up to 10 days of paid sick leave for workers who don't have access to paid sick leave.

## Advocacy, Consultations and Delegations

## Advocating for Transit

In Guelph, transit continues to be one of the services most affected by COVID-19. Decreased ridership and increased operating costs are expected to impact transit services over a prolonged economic recovery period. The University of Guelph

recognizes the importance of transit for students living in Guelph and traveling to school, work, and social and entertainment destinations in the community. Following the last special meeting of Council on managing the impacts of COVID-19, City Council voted to allow the University of Guelph Student Associations to opt out of its agreements for the U-pass since many students are not returning to Guelph this fall. University of Guelph students represent about 60 per cent of Guelph Transit ridership, which means we estimate \$3.5 million less revenue this semester.

As a result of this significant revenue loss, the City of Guelph and the University of Guelph sent a joint letter to Minister Mulroney, Minister Clark and Minister Romano underscoring the importance of transit for students and calling on all three ministries to work together to provide continued support for transit systems, especially those in communities with large post-secondary student populations.

## **Consultations and Delegations**

During this period, there have been several opportunities for consultation with other levels of government. The CAO on behalf of the City of Guelph and Mayor Guthrie on behalf LUMCO have made <u>written submissions to the Standing Committee on</u> <u>Financial and Economic Affairs</u> as part of public hearings on COVID-19 impacts on municipalities. Additionally, staff have submitted comments on <u>Bill 197, *the*</u> <u>COVID19 Economic Recovery Act</u>, 2020 to advance the City's interests as the province reopens from COVID-19 closures.

Staff will also provide comments to the <u>Federal Government consultation</u> in preparation for its 2021 budget.

Looking ahead, Mayor Guthrie, CAO Scott Stewart, DCAO Trevor Lee and City staff are preparing to attend the virtual AMO Conference and Ministerial Delegations from August 17-19. The City will be advocating for fiscal supports, regulatory changes to reduce red tape, funding for supportive housing and infrastructure, and discussing public transit in light of operational changes, ridership and revenue declines.

## **Economic Recovery**

The City's economic development division is looking at ways to leverage existing committees such as the Guelph Economic Development Advisory Committee and business support partners such as Grow Guelph to carry on with economic development activities as identified through the Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery.

The Economic Development Strategic Plan will identify areas where private industry can continue to be engaged to better inform and support economic development programming.

Any changes to the Council-appointed Economic Development Advisory Committee will come through Council for approval.

## Waiving of lottery licenses for charitable organizations

At the July special meeting of Council on managing the impacts of COVID-19, Council directed staff to investigate the waiver of lottery licensing for charitable organizations, in coordination with the Province's Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO), and report back at August's special meeting. The impacts of waiving the three per cent administrative fee on lottery licences is about \$25,000 annually (the City has collected approximately \$7,000 to date this year). While Council may choose to waive this fee, staff will not be making a recommendation to do so as there is no indication that the AGCO will do the same; waiving fees municipally while fees are still payable provincially would present an inequality for varying sizes of charitable organizations.

## Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery

At the July 15<sup>th</sup> Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery, Mayor Guthrie announced that as the community moves past the emergency response phase of the pandemic and focuses on recovery and resilience initiatives, the Task Force will meet less frequently (on an as-needed basis). This allows the Task Force to respond to issues as they arise, while focusing on the most urgent priority of getting back to business.

The needs raised by the Task Force informed City staff's exploration of economic recovery programs and tactics, outside of departmental and Council-directed work. Given the Task Force will now meet less frequently, the Economic Recovery Working Table will mirror that approach and meet on an as-needed basis moving forward, and critical economic recovery activities will continue through updated departmental work plans.

## **Temporary Patio Program and Dining District**

Following Council's approval of the Temporary Patio Program's Temporary Use Bylaw on July 15, 2020, City staff developed and implemented an application intake, street review and approval process for on-street patios. All patios on-street and in public parking spaces require a dedicated traffic plan that may include closing the road or reduced traffic speeds among a number of other measures to mitigate safety risks. Processing these types of applications continues to be completed as quickly as possible, however, they are more resource- and timeintensive to evaluate than patios on sidewalks, given the associated public safety issues and need for careful, street-by-street review.

As of the end of July, the City had approved numerous applications for temporary patios, many of which have been in place since June 12th to capitalize on the 2020 patio season.

As the Temporary Patio Program continues to evolve for the better, an additional resource has been dedicated to address the need for ongoing compliance through education. A patio ambassador has been assigned, initially for the downtown, to increase adherence to the Temporary Patio Program's guidelines and safety requirements. This enforcement position is a welcome addition to the temporary patio team and serves to increase awareness and understanding of the rules through an educational, customer-first approach.

The City has worked hand-in-hand with the Downtown Guelph Business Association (DGBA) to bring Guelph's first dining district to life. This downtown activation program supports restaurants' and bars' ability to serve as many patrons as legally possible through road closures and temporary patios as a means to increase revenue and contribute to Guelph's economic recovery. This work continues—albeit in a new form as the DGBA, the dining district applicant, explores the re-opening of Macdonell and Wyndham streets to better respond to the needs of its members. City staff will continue to support the DGBA members' revenue generating success

by facilitating temporary patios on public and private property as safely as possible and will bring a report to Council on the dining district program by April 2021.

## **Guelph Shops**

Guelph Shops successfully launched as planned on July 16. Early uptake reveals:

- The dedicated Guelph Shops webpage was among the top five performing pages on guelph.ca from July 16-24, and was our best performing webpage on launch day with 1,209 unique views.
- About 25 per cent of the City's Economic Development Special Bulletin eblast readers opened the Guelph Shops link to learn more.
- More than 45 businesses have asked to be added to Guelph Shops.
- 'Shout outs' of encouragement and promotion continue from partner organizations and others e.g. Guelph Chamber, City of Guelph, Guelph Bugle, University of Guelph, Workforce Planning Board, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph, Guelph Tourism, and The Letter M Marketing.

Next, staff will activate print and digital advertising, a Google AdWords campaign, paid social media, and a Perspective Guelph feature in support of amplifying the campaign. In addition, staff are enhancing site features and organization for greater uptake based on user feedback such as adding "By appointment only" to help communicate businesses' service realities.

## Tourism Regional Relief Recovery Fund

Tourism Services has secured just over \$100,000 to support bringing visitors back into local communities as the economy reopens. This funding was provided by FedDev Ontario and is managed by the Tourism Industry Association of Ontario (TIAO).

Upon receiving funding, staff responded quickly by supporting gift card giveaways for local restaurants, beginning a partnership with Guelph Box to add the Visit Guelph tourist box, and supporting the open air art gallery in a downtown walkway, among other things.

The funding focuses on destination marketing, visitor experiences, place making and tourism business supports.

Destination marketing will start with hyper local marketing campaigns and packages that transition into regional and province-wide campaigns. To facilitate safe community-driven visitation, Tourism Services will create new experiences to encourage locals and visitors to explore Guelph. Hyper local marketing plans will work to gather already existing photos and videos, along with creating a new project to entice the community to become a tourist in their own community.

Tourism Services will support and collaborate with businesses to reignite the local economy while providing immediate and sustained support for opening and reconfiguring operations to attract visitors.

## Grow Back Better: Our Food Future's 10-point Recovery Plan in Response to COVID-19

Following endorsement by Council on May 11, 2019, the Smart Cities Office, Wellington County and other collaborating organizations have been advancing the elements outlined in our ten-point recovery plan, Grow Back Better. The plan refocuses \$1.6 million in Smart City funding to support the economic and social recovery of Guelph-Wellington communities. With Grow Back Better, no elements of the original proposal are being removed—just reprioritized or restructured to respond to the evolving landscape.

Actions to date include:

Increasing Access to Affordable, Nutritious Food

**Emergency Food Relief – The SEED's Emergency Food Home Delivery Program and the Harve\$t Impact Community Donation Platform:** Since the launch, the SEED has delivered more than 12,000 nutritious food baskets to approximately 1,500 participants. The Harve\$t Impact Community Donation Platform has raised approximately \$16,000 in cash donations with Our Food Future matching funds raised for a total thus far of \$32,000. In-kind donations to the program are valued at over \$350,000 with an additional \$600,000 in private and public donations.

**Urban Agriculture Activation:** The next phase of our Urban Agriculture (UA) program will be publicly announced in the coming weeks. In partnership with 10C, the Urban Agriculture Activation grant program will support a wide range of projects to boost food production and build economic and social resilience. Three funding streams include:

- **Transformative Urban Agriculture Stream:** \$70,000 towards implementation costs of an innovative, high impact built-form UA project
- Scaling Out Community Agriculture Stream: \$20,000 for a collaborative UA project that has the potential to scale community-wide
- **Shovel and Fork Fund:** \$2,000 each for six visible community-based food growing projects

**Supporting vulnerable residents** — identifying needs and coordinating action: Our collaborators on the Nutritious Foods Workstream are developing a regional survey that will collect information regarding barriers to accessing affordable, nutritious food during the COVID-19 pandemic. This data will help identify systemic challenges and provide valuable data to support interventions that make an impact for vulnerable residents.

## Supporting New and Existing Food Businesses

**Launch of Seeding Our Food Future Micro Grant Program:** A total of 76 businesses applied for the Seeding Our Food Future Micro Grant program. In addition to the \$5,000 grant, 40 companies will be eligible to receive up to 30 hours of expert advice and up to \$10,000 in interest free loans through the Harve\$t Impact Fund. Recipients of the grant were announced on July 29.

## **Business Tools and Services for Food Sector to Reduce Waste**

The first installment of the Provision Coalition's R-Purpose Micro program, a 12week virtual program with weekly 2-hour intensive sessions, is underway. This program will be offered two more times over the next eighteen months. In August, participating R-Purpose Micro companies will be virtually presenting circular business pitch presentations to showcase their progress.

#### Taking Action to Strengthen Regional Food System Resiliency

**Waste as a Resource – Residential Food Waste Technology Challenge:** Guelph currently operates a leading-edge waste collection system that includes advanced sensors and artificial intelligence-powered camera systems on collection vehicles and radio frequency identification sensors on all collection bins. Under Our Food Future, we are developing an innovation challenge: asking for ideas for how these and other technologies can be used to better understand residential food waste practices and associated interventions. Building on the Municipal Innovation Exchange (MIX) model, we are working with procurement to launch a challenge by mid-August.

**Communications and Engagement Update:** On July 28, staff launched the inaugural edition of "The Scoop", a quarterly newsletter distributed to more than 8,000 community members and collaborators to provide an update on the Our Food Future initiative.

We are also in the process of updating our public record of the initiative. *Launching Our Food Future: Guelph-Wellington's First Steps to Create a Circular Food Economy* is a comprehensive historical record reference of the project's mission and trajectory. The new publication compiles details about the initiative, including approaches we are taking; lessons we've learned; definitions, tools, templates and technology we've developed or adopted; success stories; and our performance to date on key indicators.

In August, Our Food Future will launch The Kitchen Table, a new online collaboration and engagement platform that will help business and community members connect, share ideas, provide input and transform the tremendous community energy around food and sustainability into additional community-led actions. It will also be used to support and promote collaboration on the Urban Agriculture Activation program, as community members view and vote for the ideas they think will make the biggest impact on the region.

## **Guelph Farmers' Market**

On Saturday July 4, the Guelph Farmers' Market reopened the backlot and side street following an almost four-month closure of the building and outdoor lot due to COVID-19. As provincial and local regulations shifted, staff coordinated and mobilized vendors in preparation for reopening. This has resulted in 30 local farmers and primary producers selling local fresh produce and fruits. Customers appear to have steadily grown more comfortable shopping outdoors and by the end of July, each market day saw close to 1,500 customers, which is about 60 per cent of normal attendance.

With the outdoor market opened, the focus has moved to protocols needed to open the indoor portion of the building now that the Province has moved into stage 3 of reopening. Challenges exist inside in connection with physical distancing and design of physical barriers or screens. After a deep clean, some physical improvements and consultation with Public Health, staff expect to open the indoor market and welcome back another 30 to 35 vendors by early September.

## Capital works and construction

The Capital and Construction Table continues to operationalize the delivery of capital and construction projects that are prioritized based on considerations such as finances, staffing resources and capacity, and other COVID-19-related matters. Because this work has been operationalized, the table is transitioning the work to the City's Capital Planning Steering Committee. If a second wave of COVID-19 begins to impact the delivery of capital and construction projects, the table will reconvene and roll out a response using the procedures that it has developed to prioritize work and ensure the health and safety of staff and the community.

## Social and Community Recovery

## **COVID-19 Emergency Funding – Community Investment Strategy Update**

At the June meeting about managing the impacts of COVID-19, staff were directed to adjust the 2020 allocation of Guelph Municipal Holdings Inc. dividend funding that was approved for the new Community Investment Strategy funding programs in the fall of 2019. As a result, \$350,000 was re-allocated to the Emergency and Resilience Fund, and staff designed a program for not-for-profit organizations, unincorporated groups and individuals across all sectors to adapt services or programs, develop new programs, or strengthen capacity during COVID-19 to meet community needs.

The application process opened on July 31. To manage intake and enable quick responses, the first phase of the one-time funding will award at least 50 per cent of the annual amount by August 31, and the remaining funding this October. Successful applicants are expected to start spending awarded funding this year and report in the summer of 2021.

# Community Resilience; adapting how we plan to accommodate physical distancing

The Community Resilience Table has been coordinating the cross-functional short and long term work to plan and implement physical distancing measures in public spaces to support resilience in the community. Like that of other tables, this work is being absorbed by staff as part of day-to-day planning and implementation.

Staff have begun reviewing best practices emerging from the need to physically distance. Physical distance requirements have changed the model of programing and civic spaces as essential infrastructure.

Staff are reviewing master plans underway to determine if they address public spaces and infrastructure through the lens of COVID-19. For example, staff are re-examining updated drafts of the right-of-way cross section designs for the Clair-Maltby Secondary Plan with COVID-19 in mind, including bike lanes and sidewalk widths. We must ensure that the design decisions that shape the next generation of public spaces are not simply reactive, but also responsive in the most equitable way.

What has become clear is that we cannot design spaces with a single function in mind if we need them to be useful in emergencies. In the short term, this starts with reviewing our master plans and current site plans with a renewed public and shared space lens. In the longer term, it involves implementing best practices in the master plans and policy documents. We have a unique opportunity to rethink transportation, mobility and public space. With a renewed look at our current master plans underway, staff feel Guelph can emerge from COVID-19 with a stronger approach to mobility and improved open space systems.

## **Organizational Recovery**

## Supporting our employees

Staff continues to develop the people-focused practices, policies and procedures that support City employees, and allow the organization to respond quickly when impacts from COVID-19 occur in the future.

The HR Table identified a need for employee and leader skill development in the area of working from home effectively. Staff completed a needs analysis to understand the development gaps and designed a learning program for employees and leaders who have short amounts of time for development. Twenty leaders completed "Managing Teams Remotely" training with the Schulich School of Business.

Staff are now updating the City's Alternative Work Arrangement program to be more flexible in meeting organizational and employee needs. Updates include a refreshed Flexible Work Location policy and a Flexible Time Policy. The Flexible Work Location policy provides employees options to work remotely, whether at a hoteling station in a corporate facility, a home office, or any other combination. Creating flexible options for our employees allows the organization to accommodate the needs of the City and employees, while providing new value propositions to attract top talent to the organization. In addition to these policies, staff have committed to communicate the impacts of these adjustments as they relate to matters of the Income Tax Act, specifically the application of the T2200. City staff have a delegation with Minister Phillips to seek clarity and direction on this potential change in our employment relationship with staff.

## **Updating City facilities**

Staff continue to work on updating City facilities to allow for the safe return of employees and the public. Staff have built a prioritized list of facilities, which can be reprioritized based on new government announcements. Facilities that rank high in the prioritization are buildings where staff are currently working and where the public has access. Facilities like the River Run and Sleeman Centre have the materials they need to keep staff safe, but public gatherings in these locations will not happen until much later.

## Supporting good governance

The Governance Table is concluding much of its work. In summary, this included supporting a revised governance and legislative schedule for City Council during the initial period of the COVID-19 pandemic and a summary of <u>projects and bodies of</u> <u>work impacted by COVID-19</u>. In addition, the Governance Table facilitated a transition from in-person to remote meetings of City Council.

As noted in the July 2020 Special City Council COVID Update meeting, included as attachment-2 is a proposed 2021 City Council and Committee meeting schedule. In 2019, for the 2020 calendar year, the proposed City Council and Committee schedule was brought before City Council for consideration in July.

Pursuant to the City of Guelph's <u>Procedural By-law</u>, City Council is required to establish an annual City Council and Committee meeting schedule by way of City Council resolution. To support the legislative process for City Council, and to provide for accountability and transparency to the public, it is recommended that Council approve a regular meeting schedule annually.

The following principles guided the development of the proposed schedule:

- 1. Agendas are published a minimum of ten days prior to a meeting.
- 2. Committee of the Whole meetings are generally scheduled the first Monday of the month.
- 3. City Council Planning meetings are generally scheduled the second Monday of the month.
- 4. City Council meetings are generally scheduled the fourth Monday of the month.
- 5. Committee of the Whole meetings consist of two or three service areas reporting on alternating months with exceptions to be made for matters of a timely nature.
- 6. City Council Planning and Regular Council meetings are generally scheduled two weeks apart.
- 7. Closed City Council and closed Committee of the Whole meetings are scheduled immediately prior to the corresponding open meeting (start times of closed meetings are based on agenda content).
- 8. Changes to the meeting calendar are posted publicly as soon as possible.
- 9. One or two City Council meeting placeholders are generally scheduled per month.
- 10.City Council budget meetings are scheduled in collaboration with the Finance department.

Whenever possible, regular meeting dates and times have been established as follows:

- Committee of the Whole 2:00 p.m. on the first Monday of the month.
- City Council Planning 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month.
- Special City Council and placeholders 6:00 p.m. on the third Monday of the month.
- Regular City Council 6:30 p.m. on the fourth Monday of the month.

Additional scheduling considerations have been made in relation to the following:

- The proposed City Council meeting schedule has been set to take into consideration statutory holidays and various annual conferences that City Council members may attend.
- The proposed 2021 Council meeting schedule includes additional placeholder dates for April, May, June, July and September to accommodate special City

Council meetings as required. All placeholder dates that are not used will be removed from calendars roughly 30 days prior to the meeting date.

- Special City Council meetings include City Council as Shareholder of Guelph Municipal Holdings Inc., City Council as Shareholder of Guelph Junction Railway Limited, budget meetings, or any specific subject matter deemed to require its own meeting. Special City Council meetings may be closed or open depending on subject matter and in accordance with the <u>Municipal Act</u>.
- Budget placeholders for the 2022 budget cycle have been included in November and December.

At this time, staff anticipate that City Council and Committee meetings in 2021 will be held remotely similar to the way they have been throughout the COVID-19 pandemic since March 2020. The Governance Table, City Clerk's Office staff and the Executive Team recommend doing so until advice and recommendations from local, provincial, national and international health agencies support a return to in-person meetings in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The technology in the City Council Chambers limits the ability to support a hybrid model of City Council and Committee meetings where some participants in the meeting could attend in person and others could attend remotely. As a result, staff strongly recommend that meetings in 2021 continue to be held remotely until public health advice and guidance supports a return to in-person meetings.

## Preparing for a second wave of COVID-19

The Emergency Operations Control Group (EOCG) is reflecting and preparing for a second wave of COVID-19, which many experts say is inevitable. Staff are preparing to interview EOCG members to gain insights about what worked well in the first wave of the pandemic, and what lessons we learned that can be applied if and when we need to respond to a second wave. This "mid-action brief" will inform activities that may need to ramp up again in the coming months.

The EOCG continues to meet twice a week, and will do so as long as we are in a state of emergency. While business resumption is a focus, we are also ensuring that we are ready and prepared for a second wave, including scaling down operations and reinstating facility closures as required by the Province and/or Public Health.

## **Financial Implications**

The projected year-end cost of COVID-19, including fiscal relief provided to the community, lost revenues as a result of the provincial emergency closure orders, and additional costs incurred for business continuity, safety and enhanced cleaning now totals \$24.3 million.

This is an increase from past estimates and is the result of staff's ongoing analysis of impacts on businesses including extended revenue impacts for closed facilities and cancelled programs beyond June 30, and revised impacts from reduced transit ridership, and a reduction in the use of services like parking, museums and recreation.

Projected cost of COVID-19 impacts	As at August 12, 2020	As at May 11, 2020
Fiscal relief measures		
Waiver of interest and penalties for user rates including water, wastewater and stormwater	\$50,000	\$50,000
Waiver of transit fares	\$8,082,500	\$3,440,000
Waiver of parking fees and fares	\$2,000,000	\$1,230,000
Waiver of interest and penalties for property taxes	\$781,000	\$400,000
Increased residential yard waste pick in the spring	\$100,000	\$100,000
Sub-total fiscal relief cost	\$11,013,500	\$5,220,000
Lost revenues from COVID-19		
Parks, Recreation and Culture and Library program cancellation and facility closure	\$6,141,100	\$2,000,000
Parking fines	\$410,000	\$390,000
Other user fees and licences including planning, building, water, wastewater, engineering, clerks office, and police services	\$1,267,000	\$845,000
Closure of Public Drop Off for residential use and other Solid Waste fees	\$368,000	\$355,000
Court Services closure	\$533,000	\$1,020,000
Decline in investment portfolio returns	\$500,000	\$500,000
Economy slowing reducing budgeted growth revenues inclusive of property tax supplementary billings, water, wastewater and stormwater rates	\$500,000	\$1,500,000
Sub-total lost revenues from COVID-19	\$9,719,100	\$6,610,000
Increased COVID related expenses	\$3,627,800	\$1,500,000
Total projected cost of COVID-19 impacts	\$24,360,400	\$13,330,000

In response to the significant financial impacts of COVID-19, the City has taken steps to reduce expenditures. These include halting all discretionary spending; temporary casual, part-time and full-time staff lay-offs; halting non-critical hiring; and prioritizing capital projects. Further, service levels have been adjusted in some areas for the remainder of the year, given the forecasted financial losses and/or inability for certain services to operate safely in the current environment. These efforts have resulted in updated expenditure reduction estimates of approximately \$14.3 million. The current year-end projection is an overall city deficit of \$10 million. There are still unknowns and risks to the current year-end financial projection. As a result, staff have provided for an additional \$3 million potential deficit and estimate the year-end operating deficit could be in the range of \$6.5 to \$8 million for tax-supported businesses and \$3.5 to \$5 million for non-tax businesses. These projections continue to be estimates based on best information at the date of the report.

## Emergency federal and provincial financial relief

The recently announced Safe Restart Agreement for municipalities is welcomed relief. The amount Guelph is expecting to receive from this program is currently not known. While the City's reserves are sufficient to manage the current projected deficit for 2020, this impact would have impaired our ability to respond to further impacts of a second wave or other unexpected events. The City is realizing every opportunity to create budget savings in 2020 to offset this mounting impact. However, without further impacting service, there is only so much that can be done. This emergency funding will enable the City to replenish its reserves so that the long-term financial impacts of this pandemic can be managed without significant increases to the tax levy or user rates.

## **Cash flow**

Cash flow remains strong and staff are confident that even if there is a second wave of COVID-19, the temporary financing put in place by Council in April 2020 will not be required.

## Consultations

This report was written in consultation with working table leads and the Executive Team.

## **Strategic Plan Alignment**

Though the journey to recovery is a challenging one for cities, the route is more clear for those with Council-endorsed and community-informed strategic plans that are aligned with other plans and financial strategies that drive the organization. In Guelph's case, our strategic plan—Guelph. Future Ready—and our long-term financial strategy can guide the City's recovery and inform decision-making in our new reality. The recommendations in this report align with the strategic plan. As a whole, the City's response and ongoing work are aligned with each of the priority areas of the strategic plan.

## Attachments

Attachment-1 – Federal and Provincial Advocacy Correspondence Attachment-2 – 2021 City Council and Committee Meeting Schedule

## **Report Authors**

Stacey Dunnigan, Strategic Business Advisor Tara Sprigg, General Manager, Corporate Communications and Customer Service

#### This report was approved and recommended by:

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30 June 2020

The Honourable Steve Clark Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing College Park, 777 Bay St Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Clark,

RE: Proposals to Support Municipal Recovery

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic the City of Guelph has remained focused on providing essential services to the public in ways that are safe, accessible and affordable. As the crisis stabilizes and we transition to the 'new normal,' it is imperative that we continue to work together to identify solutions that make sense for the people of Guelph.

The City of Guelph continues to call on the province of Ontario to immediately provide municipal governments with robust stimulus supports to enable our economic recovery as we emerge from the pandemic. Financial relief from the federal and provincial governments will be necessary to keep cities afloat as our costs balloon and our revenues decline sharply in light of COVID-19. Supporting cities is crucial in making sure our local communities and economies are able to recover quickly from the COVID recession.

The City has also identified other provincial actions for immediate consideration that would support municipal governments as we transition to our new normal in upcoming weeks.

#### **Continue Enabling Electronic Participation in Council Meetings**

The *Municipal Emergencies Act*, 2020, has proven that electronic participation can make municipal government safer and more accessible to the public without compromising the integrity of local democracy and council business. Once the Declaration of Emergency expires, the province should continue to allow local councils and committees to convene electronically to protect against a second wave of infections.

<u>Solution:</u> Amend Section 238 (3.1) and (3.3) of the *Municipal Act* to allow electronic participation to count towards quorum and to allow electronic participation in closed door meetings outside of provincially declared emergencies as deemed necessary by local councils through their procedural bylaws.

**City Hall** 1 Carden St Guelph, ON Canada N1H 3A1

T 519-822-1260 TTY 519-826-9771 The Honourable Steve Clark 30 June 2020 RE: Proposals to Support Municipal Recovery Page 2 of 2

#### Extend the Validity of Marriage Licenses Issued by the City of Guelph

The City of Guelph recommends that the province temporarily waive the 90-day period of validity on outstanding marriage licenses issued by the City that expired during the Declaration of Emergency. This would spare the City from having to fund and process refunds for affected residents, including fees already remitted to the province.

<u>Solution</u>: That Ontario pass a time-limited regulation extending the validity of marriage licenses that expired during COVID-19.

Thank you for considering these policy proposals from the City of Guelph. In the coming weeks, the City will continue to identify solutions that will make municipal governments simpler, faster and better as we transition to the new normal. I look forward to sharing these ideas with you.

If you have any questions or comments, I encourage you to contact Leslie Muñoz, Manager, Policy and Intergovernmental Relations for the City of Guelph, at <u>leslie.munoz@guelph.ca</u>.

Sincerely,

**Scott Stewart,** Chief Administrative Officer City of Guelph

T 519-822-1260 x 2221 E <u>Scott.Stewart@guelph.ca</u>

CC the Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Government and Consumer Services; Jamie McGarvey, AMO President; Trevor Lee, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Services, City of Guelph; and Jodie Sales, General Manager, Strategy, Innovation and Intergovernmental Services, City of Guelph.



3 July, 2020

The Honourable Steve Clark Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing College Park 17th Flr, 777 Bay St Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade 7th Flr, 56 Wellesley St W Toronto, ON M5S 2S3

Dear Minister Clark and Minister Sarkaria,

#### RE: Proposals to Make Municipal Governments Simpler, Faster and Better

Consistently modernizing the way we do business is critical in making sure municipal governments like the City of Guelph continue to grow, adapt and evolve. Focusing on solutions that eliminate red tape and make municipal governments more cost efficient is particularly imperative as we enter the recovery phase of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As you know, municipal governments have been hard hit by the COVID crisis. Locally, the City of Guelph has taken on new expenses to protect the health of our residents and businesses. We have also seen a significant decline in revenues. While economic stimulus supports from the provincial and federal governments will be important to help cities like Guelph on the road to recovery, it is also important that we consider changes that will help local governments operate more cost-efficiently. Below you will find legislative and regulatory proposals for your consideration that aim to do just that.

#### Advance Central Digitalization of the Assessment Roll

Under *the Assessment Act*, the Assessment Roll as returned must be made available by the City of Guelph for public inspection during normal office hours. The current options for doing this are outdated, rely on high contact surfaces and do not allow for proper physical distancing during the COVID pandemic. This provides an opportunity to modernize how members of the public access the Assessment Roll moving forward.

The City of Guelph recommends that full access to the Roll as returned be made available online through AboutMyProperty.ca or a similar online portal so that assessment information can be accessed without attending City Hall in person. This must be done in a way that ensures data mining cannot occur. A digital online portal for the Assessment Roll would also produce savings for the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation by reducing printing and mailing costs.

Solution: Modernize Subsections 39 (1) and (2) of the Assessment Act, 1990, to allow for the electronic delivery of the Assessment Roll, for the public, through

**City Hall** 1 Carden St Guelph, ON Canada N1H 3A1

T 519-822-1260 TTY 519-826-9771 the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's 'Aboutmyproperty.ca' service or a comparable online portal.

#### Digitize the Freedom of Information Request (FOI) Process

Regulations under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, 1990, require modernization to allow municipal governments to digitize the FOI request process. Digitizing FOI requests would improve services for the general public while allowing municipal governments to operate more efficiently and effectively. In particular, the fee structure outlined in O.Reg 823 requires updating to facilitate online transactions, digital disclosures and the collection of fees for these online services.

Solution: Update O.Reg 823 under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, 1990, by allowing online payment transaction fees and the collection of fees for the digital disclosure of requested records.

#### Extend Bylaw Powers Granted during COVID-19

The City of Guelph supports the provincial government's decision to empower bylaw enforcement officers during the COVID-19 crisis. Enabling bylaw officers to request identification and to issue charges for minor provincial offences eliminated key barriers to effective bylaw enforcement. These powers should remain in place beyond the COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency.

<u>Solution</u>: Amend Part XIV of the *Municipal Act*, 1990, by adding a section granting municipal bylaw officers the power to request identification, where appropriate.

#### **Continue Digitizing Reporting Requirements**

The City of Guelph welcomes the provincial government's ongoing efforts to reduce and streamline municipal reporting requirements. Outstanding examples of reporting requirements that could be streamlined through digitization include driver logs and training records.

<u>Solution</u>: Introduce necessary legislative and regulatory changes under the *Highway Traffic Act*, 1990, to allow for the digitalization of driver logs and training records.

The City of Guelph welcomes your consideration of these legislative and regulatory proposals. If implemented they will help municipal governments run more efficiently, allowing us to better serve our communities as we all adapt to the 'new normal' under COVID-19.

If you have any questions or comments, I encourage you to contact Leslie Muñoz, Manager, Policy and Intergovernmental Relations for the City of Guelph, at <u>leslie.munoz@guelph.ca</u>. The Honourable Steve Clark and the Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria 3 July 2020 Page 3 of 3

Sincerely,

**Scott Stewart,** Chief Administrative Officer City of Guelph

T 519-822-1260 x 2221 E <u>Scott.Stewart@guelph.ca</u>

C: The Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance; The Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Government and Consumer Services; The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General of Ontario; Mayor Jamie McGarvey, AMO President; Trevor Lee, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Services, City of Guelph; Colleen Clack, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Public Services, City of Guelph; Kealy Dedman, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise, City of Guelph; and Jodie Sales, General Manager, Strategy, Innovation and Intergovernmental Services, City of Guelph.



Wednesday, July 22, 2020

Amarjot Sandhu Member of Provincial Parliament, Brampton West Chair, Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs Ontario Legislative Assembly Room 261, Legislative Building, Queen's Park Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A8

Julia Douglas Committee Clerk, Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs Ontario Legislative Assembly 99 Wellesley Street West Room 1405, Whitney Block, Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A2

Dear Mr. Sandhu and Ms. Douglas,

## **RE: Standing Committee Hearings on COVID-19 Impacts on Municipalities and the Construction and Building Sectors**

I am pleased to submit comments to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs on how COVID19 has impacted the City of Guelph.

Throughout the pandemic the City of Guelph has been quick to do what is necessary to keep our community healthy. To do our part in reducing the spread of the virus, the City took extensive measures early on to continue providing essential frontline services to the public with enhanced cleaning and PPE protocols. We also paused non-essential services, converted our facilities into testing centres, installed Plexiglas barriers, provided emergency supports to those experiencing homelessness and launched *Grow Back Better*, our 10-point plan to ensure an inclusive and green recovery. The City has also delayed property tax payments, made public transit and parking free and made critical investments to advance active transportation and to keep our local businesses afloat. Today, we have a thriving new outdoor Dining District, City Hall services and our Farmer's Market have reopened, and the people of Guelph can once again access many recreational facilities in the community.

Despite these successes as Guelph reopens, emergency measures have led to new and unplanned costs at a time when we are facing a steep decline in revenues. We have had to make tough choices. Like many municipal governments, emergency staff leaves, service reductions and capital project delays have been implemented to mitigate our COVID-19 impacts. We are currently facing a projected in-year deficit of \$8 million and climbing. To date, the City has seen a decline in revenues



of \$12 million and we have spent more than \$1.3 million in unbudgeted COVID-response related costs.

Without adequate supports from the provincial and federal governments, further service level changes, staff impacts, and capital project delays may be necessary, as well as property tax and user fee increases. This difficult conversation is occurring not only in Guelph but in council chambers across the province. The City faces great uncertainty as we adapt to new fiscal realities and begin budgeting for 2021.

#### **Need for Sufficient Emergency Fiscal Relief for Municipal Governments**

The City of Guelph has joined cities and towns across Canada to call on the federal and provincial governments to immediately provide adequate levels of emergency fiscal operating relief to municipal governments, followed by stimulus supports to revive local economies. On July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020, City of Guelph Mayor Cam Guthrie issued a statement outlining the need for immediate provincial and federal support to cover lost revenue and additional costs caused by the COVID-19 crisis. Mayor Guthrie's call for action is part of a national effort, led by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, to secure at least \$10 billion dollars in flexible emergency relief for municipalities, to be funded 100% by the federal and provincial governments. The Canadian Urban Transit Association has also called for an additional \$2.4B in funding to sustain hard-hit public transit systems until the end of 2020.

#### Speed, Equity and Flexibility in Safe Restart Agreement Funds

For these reasons, the City was pleased to hear the Prime Minister's July 16 announcement of the Safe Restart Agreement, which will provide \$19B in Federal funding to the provinces for use across 7 priority areas, including municipal governments. It is the City's understanding that the provinces will match federal funding for municipal governments for a total of \$4B Canada-wide for operating costs and \$3.6B for public transit. Premier Ford has also indicated that the total funding envelope for Ontario is \$7B although it remains unclear how much of this funding will go directly to municipal governments and their public transit systems.

The City of Guelph welcomes the Safe Restart Agreement. While it may be insufficient to address the full municipal need, it will go a long way to support municipal governments as we navigate these challenging times. The City is also pleased to hear that it is only intended to cover the next 6-8 months – it is positive to see federal and provincial acknowledgement that funding above the \$19B will be necessary.

We continue to wait for details on how much the City of Guelph will receive from Ontario's portion of the Safe Restart Agreement. The City encourages the province to proceed quickly in releasing the funds and to recognize both population levels



and ridership when it is determining how to equitably spread the funding across Ontario's municipalities. It is important the funding flow to municipal governments without additional strings attached. Given the current fiscal reality, municipal governments are not in a position to cost-share or match federal and provincial funding. It is also important that the City retain the flexibility to invest any funding it receives based on local priorities and needs.

#### **Ongoing Need for Stimulus Investments in Critical Municipal Infrastructure**

Our community will also need stimulus supports over and above emergency operating relief funding to get our local economy back on track. The City of Guelph shares the provincial priority of safely reopening Ontario for business to support economic recovery. To do this, the provincial and federal governments should inject stimulus funding into critical municipal infrastructure projects. Doing so will have a positive impact on our local economic recovery and encourage businesses and developers to stay and grow in Guelph. Alongside emergency operating relief funding, stimulus supports will reduce COVID related risks to essential service delivery and enable the City to avoid higher capital costs in the long term.

## **COVID19 Stream under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program** (ICIP)

When it comes to stimulus supports, the City is pleased to hear that a new COVID19 stream has been proposed by the federal government under ICIP. We anxiously await additional details and have prepared a priority list of shovel-worthy projects for provincial and federal consideration. The City has a robust, industry leading asset management strategy that, combined with comprehensive Master Plans, drive our decision making on infrastructure investment and sustainability. We are ready to recommend key projects for provincial and federal funding that will stimulate recovery in Guelph. We encourage the province and federal government to move quickly on the new COVID19 stream and other existing streams under ICIP. The sooner municipal governments have access to and information about stimulus funding, the better.

When it comes to finalizing stimulus program details, I encourage the Standing Committee to consider Guelph's Principles for a COVID19 Stimulus Package:

- 1. Recovery and stimulus programs should support the priorities identified by municipal governments in their strategic plans
- Infrastructure programs aimed at stimulating economic recovery should consider the full range of municipal asset needs, as identified through local asset management programs, and focus on sustainable, shovel worthy projects that aim to boost connectivity
- 3. Programs should consider municipal financial pressures, and be designed to make municipalities less dependent on other levels of government over time



- 4. Further enhance long-term recovery and resilience by encouraging collaboration with businesses, community organizations and other municipalities with a focus on mission-oriented innovation
- 5. Invest in enabling municipalities to be "future ready" as we make changes to respond to the new normal and include needs identification and implementation costs into program design
- 6. Programs should strive to increase environmental sustainability and community resilience to prepare and protect against future challenges
- 7. Simplify the application and reporting processes to allow municipalities to focus on recovery, service delivery and program execution
- 8. Avoid overlap or duplication of programs between levels of government; and
- 9. Programs should encourage capacity building and help scale smaller seed funded programs that prove successful.

It is my hope that the Standing Committee will recognize and respond to the pressing challenges facing municipalities during COVID19. Municipal governments will be at the heart of economic recovery in local communities. The City of Guelph would welcome expedited action from the province so that we can safely continue to help our businesses and residents during this period of recovery.

If you have any questions or comments about this submission, I encourage you to contact Leslie Muñoz, Manager, Policy and Intergovernmental Relations, for the City of Guelph at <u>leslie.munoz@guelph.ca</u>.

Sincerely,

Scott Stewart, Chief Administrative Officer
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TTY 519-826-9771
E scott.stewart@guelph.ca

CC The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; The Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance; Mike Schreiner, Member of Provincial Parliament for Guelph; Mayor Jamie McGarvey, AMO President; Kealy Dedman, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise, City of Guelph; Trevor Lee, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Services, City of Guelph;



Jodie Sales, General Manager, Strategy, Innovation and Intergovernmental Services, City of Guelph.



Wednesday, July 22, 2020

The Honourable Steve Clark Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Province of Ontario College Park 17th Flr, 777 Bay St Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Clark,

## RE: Bill 197, the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020

I'm pleased to provide you with input from the City of Guelph on Bill 197, *the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act*, 2020. The City appreciates the legislation's focus on reopening Ontario for business and getting our economy back on track as we adapt to our new normal in light of COVID19.

I will focus my comments on schedules of particular interest to the City, namely:

- Schedule 3, the Development Charges Act
- Schedule 17, the Planning Act
- Schedule 6, the Environmental Assessment Act
- Schedule 9, the Marriage Act
- Schedule 12, *the Municipal Act;* and
- Schedule 18, the Provincial Offences Act.

#### Schedule 3, the Development Charges Act

While Bill 197 does not eliminate municipal administrative and fiscal challenges arising from development charge (DC) payment deferrals, the City of Guelph is pleased with the amendments to the DC framework put forward by the legislation. In particular, the City welcomes the expansion of services eligible for DCs, the elimination of the 10% DC discount and the inclusion of studies as an eligible expense recoverable by DCs. We also support the two year transition timeline – this will give the City sufficient time to adapt to the new framework.

Despite positive elements in Bill 197, the City is disappointed to see that the legislation fails to clarify eligibility requirements for DC deferrals. It is the City's position that eligibility for DC deferrals should be based exclusively on development type rather than on the type of developer. This would prevent non-profits from



qualifying for 20 year DC deferrals in instances where they are developing market housing. Any measure intended to support the construction of affordable housing should be exclusive to affordable developments. Market housing developments should be ineligible regardless of the proponent.

<u>Recommendation:</u> Amend Section 26.1 (2) of the *Development Charges Act* to clarify that 20-year DC deferrals for non-profit housing developments do not include market rental developments proposed by non-profit organizations.

#### Schedule 17, the Planning Act

Schedule 17 of Bill 197 provides municipal governments with increased clarity on the province's new Community Benefit Charge (CBC) Framework although significant outstanding details remain that are to be addressed via regulation. The City is supportive of the flexibility the CBC framework grants municipal governments when it comes to identifying local priorities to fund using CBCs. The City also supports the reinstating of parkland and alternative parkland rates via bylaw as indicated in the Bill.

A shortcoming of Bill 197 is that it makes CBC and Parkland Dedication By-Laws appealable to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) and empowers the LPAT to amend municipal bylaws. This approach disempowers municipal governments and local councils.

<u>Recommendation</u>: Eliminate provisions in Bill 197 that would enable the LPAT to repeal or amend municipal CBC and parkland by-laws.

Although Bill 197 provides some clarity, many details about the CBC and parkland dedication frameworks are outstanding, including what percentage of land value will be used to calculate the maximum CBC, and CBC exemptions. Given these outstanding details, the financial impact of the CBC framework on municipal governments remains unclear. Additional consultation will be necessary as further details are proposed.

<u>Recommendation:</u> Hold public consultations on proposed regulations related to outstanding elements of the CBC framework prior to finalizing further details to allow municipal governments to provide additional input.

#### Schedule 6, the Environmental Assessment Act

The City of Guelph supports measures to modernize environmental assessments (EAs) to improve environmental outcomes, reduce duplicative and administratively burdensome requirements and to shorten timelines. Any provincial actions taken to streamline EAs must carefully balance environmental protections to ensure our natural environment is protected for generations to come.



#### Schedule 9, the Marriage Act

Schedule 9 amends the *Marriage Act* to extend the validity of marriage licenses that expired during the Declaration of Emergency up to 24 months after the emergency ends. The City of Guelph supports this provincial action. The City had previously recommended extending the validity of marriage licenses to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. We appreciate the government's responsiveness to this municipal ask.

#### Schedule 12, the Municipal Act

Schedule 12 of Bill 197 responds to another ask from the City of Guelph. Enabling electronic participation in council and committee meetings will allow local councils to safely conduct municipal business as we recover from the COVID19 emergency. Leveraging digital technology during council meetings will be helpful in reducing risk as we prepare for a potential second wave.

#### Schedule 18, the Provincial Offences Act (POA)

The City of Guelph supports measures in Bill 197 intended to allow the digitalization of POA matters. Allowing electronic participation in POA proceedings will modernize the POA process and make it accessible as we adapt to our new normal in light of COVID19.

If you have any questions or comments about this letter, I encourage you to contact Leslie Muñoz, Manager, Policy and Intergovernmental Relations, for the City of Guelph at <u>leslie.munoz@guelph.ca</u>.

Sincerely,

Scott Stewart, Chief Administrative Officer
City of Guelph
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C Trevor Lee, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Services, City of Guelph; Kealy Dedman, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise, City of Guelph; and



Jodie Sales, General Manager, Strategy, Innovation and Intergovernmental Services, City of Guelph.





July 31, 2020

The Honourable Caroline Mulroney Minister of Transportation 777 Bay Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8 <u>minister.mto@ontario.ca</u>

Dear Minister Mulroney,

Thank you for your government's leadership during these extraordinary times. On behalf of the City of Guelph and University of Guelph we are writing to draw your attention to continued financial challenges facing Guelph's public transit systems and the impacts on our riders and communities.

As you know, Transit is a critical service that enabled front-line health care workers to get to work, ensured manufacturing sector employees could keep the supply chain moving, and helped maintain access to groceries and pharmacies during the height of the pandemic. Now, as we enter phase 2, stage 3 of the recovery, we are looking ahead to the resumption of routine service and beginning to fully understand ridership and revenue impacts.

For many years, the University of Guelph student associations and Guelph Transit have had an agreement to provide a discounted transit pass (U Pass) to all University of Guelph students. This agreement allowed Guelph Transit to provide enhanced service to the University campus, and other student centric destinations in Guelph to facilitate public transit travel to jobs, off campus housing and entertainment.

On July 15, at the request of the University of Guelph student associations, Guelph Council made the difficult decision to approve the request to suspend the U Pass agreement. As a result of the pandemic, far fewer students will be required to attend in-person classes and fewer students will be able to reside in U of G's on campus residences due to public health requirements. These are not short-term impacts, these are changes to our community that will continue to have impacts for at least the next several years.

During the crisis, most transit systems in Ontario opted to forego farebox revenues in order to maintain access while protecting the health of transit operators. Now, farebox revenues are beginning to restart, however ridership has not rebounded to anywhere near prepandemic levels. The City of Guelph has reported transit losses of \$3.4 M due to the pandemic, and now, as a result of the suspension of the U Pass, Guelph Transit is facing an additional \$4.7M in losses. As a direct result of these financial impacts, Guelph Transit has had to cut services reducing the level of service, the frequency of scheduled trips, and its workforce. There are additional revenue losses due to decreased advertising and decreased charter contracts.

On behalf of the City of Guelph and the University of Guelph, we are asking the Province to recognize the longer-term impacts of COVID-19 on our transit system for both operators and users (such as university students, faculty and employees), and the importance of transit in connecting our communities.

While emergency relief funding to replace lost operating revenue and support for the procurement of personal protective equipment, cleaning agents and disinfectants is important, we must also discuss longer-term support for transit operations.

As you know, the City of Guelph has limited ability to take costs out of Transit budgets. In some cases, a reduction in services will be feasible, but nowhere near 80 per cent. There are fixed costs to providing even reduced services, and these will be unsustainable.

We would welcome a phone call with you at your earliest opportunity to discuss these matters. To confirm your availability, please have your office contact <a href="mailto:scott.stewart@gueph.ca">scott.stewart@gueph.ca</a>.

Guelph is thankful for your leadership at this time. We are committed to continuing to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities and facilitate strong economic recovery in partnership with you and your government.

Sincerely,

Scott Stewart, Chief Administrative Officer **City of Guelph** T 519-822-1260 x 2221 E <u>Scott.Stewart@quelph.ca</u>

Daniel Atlin, Vice-President, External **University of Guelph** M 226-820-6471 E Datlin@uoguelph.ca

cc: The Hon. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing The Hon. Ross Romano, Minister of Colleges and Universities The Hon. Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance Ontario Public Transit Association Canadian Urban Transit Association Association of Municipalities of Ontario



# Written Submission for the Pre-Budget Consultations in Advance of the Upcoming Federal Budget

## **By: The City of Guelph**



#### List of Recommendations:

**Recommendation 1:** To support local economic recovery and protect municipal services, the federal government should prioritize funding for Phase II of the Safe Restart Agreement in the upcoming federal budget.

**Recommendation 2:** Stimulate local economic recovery by investing in critical municipal infrastructure and by increasing the total federal funding available through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

**Recommendation 3:** Enhance federal engagement and partnerships with the provinces and municipal governments to improve the sustainability of funding for critical services delivered by municipalities.


August 7, 2020

The Honourable Wayne Easter, P.C. M.P. for Malpeque Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance House of Commons Ottawa

Dear Mr. Easter,

I am pleased to submit the following comments to the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Finance on behalf of the City of Guelph (the City) as part of the federal prebudget consultation process.

Like all municipalities across Canada, the City of Guelph was called upon to quickly respond to the COVID19 pandemic. To date, we have done what is necessary to keep Guelph healthy and keep its economy open for business. Throughout the pandemic, we provided essential frontline services to the public with enhanced cleaning and PPE protocols. We also delayed property tax payments, temporarily made public transit and parking free, converted our facilities into testing centres, installed Plexiglas barriers to protect employees and citizens, provided emergency supports to those experiencing homelessness and launched *Grow Back Better*, our 10-point plan to ensure an inclusive and green recovery. Today, we have a thriving new outdoor Dining District, City Hall services and our Farmer's Market have reopened, and the people of Guelph can once again access many recreational amenities in the community.

Despite these successes as Guelph safely reopens, the impact of the pandemic on the City's finances have been notable. Unforeseen costs are up and our revenues losses are mounting. At the time of writing, the City's deficit is between \$10-13M with \$20M in total lost revenues and \$4M in unbudgeted costs related to the City's COVID19 response. While we have yet to receive funding from the Safe Restart Agreement, this federal and provincial initiative is welcome and should go far in supporting the City for the rest of 2020.

Additional support for municipal operating costs and hard-hit transit systems will be necessary following the 6-8 months the Safe Restart Agreement is intended to cover. Local communities will also need a well-designed economic stimulus package from the federal and provincial governments that prioritizes critical municipal infrastructure. Finally, municipalities like the City of Guelph would benefit from enhanced federal engagement with the sector and a longer-term partnership to ensure sustainability for the breadth of services offered by municipal governments, from transit to key services like social housing, public health and long term care.

#### Prioritize Relief for Municipal Operating Costs and Transit Systems



Under the Safe Restart Agreement, Ontario's municipal governments are expected to receive \$4B in funding from the federal and provincial governments. This emergency relief is expected to last until around the end of the federal government's current fiscal year and is welcome by the City. However, the negative financial impacts of COVID19 are expected to last beyond the 6-8 month mark. More support from the federal and provincial governments will be necessary, especially as it relates to operating costs and public transit. The absence of strong federal and provincial commitments to supports for municipal governments for the 2021/2022 federal and provincial fiscal year has created uncertainty for the City as it budgets for the 2021 municipal fiscal year.

In particular, Guelph Transit has seen a steep decline in revenues and increased costs since the start of the pandemic. Currently, ridership is at 56% of what it was this time last year and revenue losses for 2020 stand at around \$8M and climbing. The majority of this revenue loss comes from the cancellation of the City's UPASS agreement with the University of Guelph's student associations for the upcoming school year. This means that Guelph Transit remains vulnerable to continued declines in revenue throughout 2021 until in-person classes resume and ridership levels stabilize. Since many of Guelph Will need federal support in the upcoming budget to continue to provide the service.

Investing in municipal transit systems is a smart choice for the federal government as it aims to recover from the COVID19 pandemic and economic downturn. Locally, Guelph Transit keeps the community moving. Public transit is essential in getting people to their workplaces and connecting them to services available in the community.

Other municipal services will also need operating relief in the upcoming budget. Federal funding should support key services like child care, housing services, public health and long-term care.

**Recommendation #1:** To support local economic recovery and protect municipal services, the federal government should prioritize funding for Phase II of the Safe Restart Agreement in the upcoming federal budget.

#### Invest in Critical Municipal Infrastructure to Stimulate Local Economic Recovery

The Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) has taken on renewed importance as municipal governments work to recover from the current economic downturn. Investing in current and anticipated infrastructure needs is a key tool available to the federal government to stimulate local economic recovery. Funding for critical municipal infrastructure will keep Guelph working and growing when we need it the most.

The City welcomes the recently announced COVID19 Resilience Stream under the ICIP program. In particular, the City supports the Federal government's commitment to cover 80% of eligible project costs. Also welcome is the \$1.184B in funding that has been



allocated to communities in Ontario, recently enhanced flexibility under other ICIP streams, and the federal commitment to a quick approval process.

The City of Guelph has a list of priority, job-creating and shovel-worthy projects ready to nominate to the provincial and federal governments once the first intake is launched. We encourage the federal government to quickly finalize negotiations with the Government of Ontario. The City also recommends that the federal government continue to invest in critical municipal infrastructure to stimulate local economic recovery by increasing the total federal funding available through ICIP.

**Recommendation #2:** Stimulate local economic recovery by investing in critical municipal infrastructure and by increasing the total federal funding available through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

#### **Renew Federal/Municipal Partnerships to Enhance Municipal Sustainability**

One of the lessons of the COVID19 pandemic has been the need to address the gaps that have emerged as a consequence of the devolution of services and responsibilities from the federal government, to the provinces, to municipal governments. In Ontario, municipal governments have been hit especially hard by the pandemic because of the broad range of services they offer to the public, from long-term care, to emergency housing for those experiencing homelessness, to public health, public transit, employment supports, childcare and more. These services are essential but they require collaboration and partnership between all orders of government to ensure their successful delivery. The pandemic has revealed that how these critical services are funded in local communities is precarious and unsustainable. There is a need for federal leadership.

As the federal government develops the upcoming budget it must consider the need to enhance engagement with municipalities like the City of Guelph in light of the critical role modern cities play providing essential services across the country. A renewed partnership between the federal government, the provinces and municipal governments will be critical as we work together to recover from COVID19 and the economic downturn.

**Recommendation #3:** Enhance federal engagement and partnerships with the provinces and municipal governments to improve the sustainability of funding for critical services delivered by municipalities.

Thank you for considering these comments from the City of Guelph. Leslie Muñoz, Manager, Policy and Intergovernmental Relations, at the City of Guelph, is available to answer any questions or comments you might have at <u>leslie.munoz@guelph.ca</u>.

Recovering from the COVID19 pandemic will require unprecedented levels of collaboration between the three orders of government. The City of Guelph looks forward to continuing to work with the Government of Canada and the province of Ontario to ensure a speedy recovery for our community.



Sincerely,

Scott Stewart, Chief Administrative Officer City of Guelph **T** 519-822-1260 extension 2221 **TTY** 519-826-9771 **E** scott.stewart@guelph.ca

**CC** Minister of Finance the Honourable Bill Morneau;

Minister of Infrastructure and Communities the Honourable Catherine McKenna; MP Lloyd Longfield, Member of Parliament for Guelph;

Trevor Lee, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Services, City of Guelph; Kealy Dedman, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise, City of Guelph;

Colleen Clack, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Public Services, City of Guelph; Jodie Sales, General Manager, Strategy, Innovation and Intergovernmental Services; Carole Saab, Chief Executive Officer, Federation of Canadian Municipalities

#### Attachment-2 2021 City Council and Committee Meeting Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Committee of the Whole – Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise Services and Governance 2:00 p.m.	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 City Council Planning and City Council 6:30 p.m.	27	28	29	30	31

#### Table 1 January 2021 City Council and Committee Meetings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Committee of the Whole – Corporate Services, Public Services and Audit 2:00 p.m.	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 City Council Planning 6:30 p.m.	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Family Day	16	17 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	18	19	20
21	22 City Council 6:30 p.m.	23	24	25	26	27
28						

#### Table 3 March 2021 City Council and Committee Meetings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Committee of Management for the Elliott 1:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole – Governance and Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise Services	2	3	4	5	6
7	2:00 p.m. 8 City Council Planning 6:30 p.m.	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 March Break	16 March Break	17 March Break	18 March Break	19 March Break	20
21	22 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 City Council 6:30 p.m.	30	31			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Good Friday	3
4	5 Easter Monday	6 Committee of the Whole – Audit, Corporate Services, Public Services 2:00 p.m.	7	8	9	10
11	12 City Council Planning 6:30 p.m.	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	20	21 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	22	23	24
25	26 City Council 6:30 p.m.	27	28	29	30	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Committee of the Whole – Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise Services and Governance 2:00 p.m.	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 City Council Planning 6:30 p.m.	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Victoria Day	25	26 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	27	28	29
30	31 City Council 6:30 p.m.					

#### Table 5 May 2021 City Council and Committee Meetings

#### Table 6 June 2021 City Council and Committee Meetings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference (tentative)	4 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference (tentative)	5 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference (tentative)
6 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference (tentative)	7 Committee of Management for the Elliott 1:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole – Public Services, Audit and Corporate Services 2:00 p.m.	8	9	10 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference (tentative)	11 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference (tentative)	12 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference (tentative)
13 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference (tentative)	14 City Council Planning 6:30 p.m.	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	22	23 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	24	25	26
27	28 City Council 6:30 p.m.	29	30			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Canada Day	2	3
4	5 Committee of the Whole – Governance and Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise Services 2:00 p.m.	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 City Council Planning 6:30 p.m.	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	20	21 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	22	23	24
25	26 City Council 6:30 p.m.	27	28	29	30	31

#### Table 7 July 2021 City Council and Committee Meetings

#### Table 8 August 2021 City Council and Committee Meetings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Civic Holiday/ John Galt Day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Association of Municipalities Annual Conference	16 Association of Municipalities Annual Conference	17 Association of Municipalities Annual Conference	18 Association of Municipalities Annual Conference	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Labour Day	7 Committee of Management for the Elliott 1:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole – Corporate Services, Public Services and Audit 2:00 p.m.	8	9	10	11
12	13 City Council Planning 6:30 p.m.	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	21	22 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	23	24	25
26	27 City Council 6:30 p.m.	28	29	30		

#### Table 9 September 2021 City Council and Commitee Meetings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Committee of the Whole – Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise Services and Governance 2:00 p.m.	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Thanksgiving Day	12 City Council Planning 6:30 p.m.	13	14	15	16
17	18 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 City Council 6:30 p.m.	26	27	28	29	30
31						

#### Table 10 October 2021 City Council and Committee Meetings

Table 11 November 2021 City Council and Committee Meetings	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Committee of the Whole – Public Services, Audit and Corporate Services 2:00 p.m.	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 City Council Planning 6:30 p.m.	9	10	11 Remembrance Day	12	13
14	15 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	16 Budget Placeholder	17	18 Budget Placeholder	19	20
21	22 City Council 6:30 p.m.	23	24 Budget Placeholder	25	26	27
28	29	30 Budget Placeholder				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Budget Placeholder	3	4
5	6 Committee of Management for the Elliott 1:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole – Governance and Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise Services 2:00 p.m.	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 City Council Planning 6:30 p.m.	14	15 City Council Placeholder 6:00 p.m.	16	17	18
19	20 City Council 6:30 p.m.	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day
26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	,

#### Table 12 December 2021 City Council and Committee Meetings



Making a Difference

## COVID-19



### Update from Mayor Guthrie

August 12, 2020

Page 50 of 78

#### Keep up the good work: Slowing the spread of COVID-19



Let's build on our positive momentum so we don't slide backwards

- Wash your hands
- Wear a mask
- Stay >6 ft. away from people outside your bubble

### **Support for municipalities**

- The COVID-19 pandemic's impact on municipalities has been staggering
- Ontario's Big City Mayors urged the provincial and federal governments to provide fiscal relief



HOME > CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) LOCAL NEWS

### Municipal leaders warn of impending financial crisis

Municipalities are losing revenue while expenses remain or increase, resulting in significant need for support from feds and province, say Large Urban Mayors' Caucus of Ontario and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities

### **Support for municipalities**

July 16, 2020: Provincial & Federal governments announce \$19 billion in emergency funding, including **\$4 billion for** Ontario municipalities

#### **Global News**

CANADA

Ontario municipalities to receive up to \$4 billion from province, feds to offset COVID-19 costs

**By Paola Loriggio · The Canadian Press** Posted July 27, 2020 2:54 pm EST Updated July 27, 2020 4:12 pm EST



#### POLITICS

#### Ontario's mayors 'encouraged' by emergency COVID-19 funding

By Matt Carty • Global News Posted July 17, 2020 11:13 am



WATCH: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says the federal, provincial and territorial governments have reached a deal on billions of dollars in transfers to continue reopening economies amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Page 53 of 78

### **City governance update**

- Returning to normal Council and committee meeting schedule beginning in September
- Meetings will continue to be held remotely until the end of the year with opportunities for the public engage through virtual delegations



# COVID-19



### Managing the impacts of COVID-19

Update #5

August 12, 2020

Page 55 of 78

### **COVID-19 Update #5**

- Financial recovery
- Economic recovery
- Social and community recovery
- Organizational recovery
- Preparing for a second wave
- Recommendations



# Financial recovery



### **Financial recovery**

- Emergency funding: Safe Restart Agreement
  - Support will address economic recovery and preparations for a second wave
  - \$4 billion for Ontario municipalities
  - \$3.6 billion for public transit across Canada

### **Financial recovery**

- Consultation and delegations continue as we advocate and comment on:
  - Public transit
  - COVID-19 impacts on municipalities
  - Bill 197
  - 2021 Federal budget
  - Fiscal supports, regulatory changes, and funding for supportive housing and infrastructure



- Temporary Patio Program and Dining District
  - Application intake, street review and approval process plan for on-street patios

- Guelph Shops launched July 16
  - Over 1,000 unique views of dedicated webpage on launch day
  - 45+ businesses have asked to join
  - Continue to promote and refine program

- Tourism relief
  - Secured over \$100,000 to support destination marketing, visitor experiences, place making and tourism business support
  - Gift card giveaways; partnership with Guelph Box; open air art gallery

- Grow back better
  - More than 12,000 nutritious food baskets delivered to approximately 1,500 participants
  - \$32,000 in cash donations and matching funds raised, plus in-kind donations valued at \$350,000
  - Seeding Our Food Future grant recipients announced
  - Urban Agriculture Activation program starting soon
  - The Kitchen Table online community engagement platform launching soon

- Guelph Farmers' Market
  - 30 local farmers and primary producers
  - 1,500 customers—about 60 per cent of normal attendance
  - Another 30-35 vendors returning soon

### Social and community recovery



### **Social recovery**

- Emergency and Resilience Fund
  - \$350,000 in funding available for notfor-profit organizations, unincorporated groups and individuals
- Adapting plans for physical distancing

# Organizational recovery



### Organizational recovery

- Developing people-focused practices, policies and procedures
- Delivering training for staff
- Updating City facilities to allow safe return of employees and the public

### **Organizational recovery**

- Adapting Council and Committee meetings
  - All meetings to be held remotely through the end of 2021, unless public health advice and guidance supports a return to in-person meetings

# Preparing for a second wave



### Preparing for a second wave

- Mid-action report
- EOCG will continue to meet regularly until state of emergency is lifted
- Ability to scale up and down

### **Financial implications**

- Projected year-end cost of COVID-19 is \$24.4 million
  - Year-end operating deficit is estimated at
    - \$6.5 to \$8 million for tax-supported businesses
    - \$3.5 to \$5 million for non-tax-supported businesses

#### Recommendations

1. That report "Managing the Impacts of COVID-19: Update #5" dated August 12, 2020 be forwarded to the local MP and MPP, FCM, AMO, LUMCO and the Federal Minister of Finance and the Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Minister of Finance for the Province of Ontario.

### Recommendations

2. That staff be directed to communicate the urgency for additional details about the Safe Restart Agreement given the City of Guelph's currently projected COVID-19 deficit impact of \$24.3 million, mitigated through cost-containment measures of \$14.3 million and resulting in a \$10 million overall budget deficit impact for 2020, to the Deputy Prime Minister, the Federal Minister of Finance, Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Ontario's Minister of Finance and the Premier of Ontario.

### Recommendations

 That the 2021 City Council and Committee Meeting Schedule, included as Attachment-2 to report "Managing the Impacts of COVID-19: Update #5" dated August 12, 2020, be approved.





XXX











































Page 77 of 18





















#### The Corporation of the City of Guelph

#### By-law Number (2020) - 20522

A by-law to confirm proceedings of a meeting of Guelph City Council held August 12, 2020.

#### The Council of the Corporation of the City of Guelph enacts as follows:

- 1. Subject to Section 3 of this by-law, every decision of Council taken at the meeting at which this by-law is passed, and every resolution passed at that meeting, shall have the same force and effect as if each and every one of them had been the subject matter of a separate by-law duly enacted.
- 2. The execution and delivery of all such documents as are required to give effect to the decisions taken at the meeting at which this by-law is passed and the resolutions passed at this meeting, are hereby authorized.
- 3. Nothing in this by-law has the effect of giving to any decision or resolution the status of a by-law where any legal prerequisite to the enactment of a specific by-law has not been satisfied.
- 4. Any member of Council who disclosed a pecuniary interest at the meeting at which this by-law is passed, shall be deemed to have disclosed that interest in this confirmatory by-law as it relates to the item in which the pecuniary interest was disclosed.

#### Passed this twelfth day of August, 2020.

Cam Guthrie, Mayor

Dylan McMahon, Deputy City Clerk