

REPORT

Council

Meeting Date: February 27, 2023

FROM: Finance Department

DATE: February 21, 2023

SUBJECT: Municipal Transit Stream – Safe Restart Phase 4 Deferral

LOCATION:

WARD: Town-wide

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RECOMMENDATION:

That the staff report dated February 21, 2023, entitled *Municipal Transit Stream – Safe Restart Phase 4 Deferral* from the Finance department, be received.

KEY FACTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- The Town of Oakville's Phase 4 SRA funding allocation is \$1,766,610.
- Phase 4 funding is to flow to municipalities by way of a transfer payment agreement (TPA) between the Province and municipal recipients, with payments based on a one-time claim for eligible expenses.
- The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) requires more time to initiate the TPA with the participating municipalities and as a result staff will not have the TPA to be signed and authorized by Council for the February 27th meeting.

BACKGROUND:

The Safe Restart Agreement (SRA) was originally announced on July 27, 2020. The program funding was to be used for municipal transit systems' financial pressures related to COVID-19, maintain critical services and protect vulnerable people as the province safely and gradually reopens.

Phases 1-3 covered the timelines starting April 1, 2020 through to January 31, 2022. Phase 4 eligibility period is between February 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022.

COMMENT/OPTIONS:

Once staff receive the TPA from the MTO, it will be added to the next agenda to be signed and authorized by Council.

CONSIDERATIONS:

(A) PUBLIC

Provincial and Federal funding programs like SRA help maintain the health and safety of transit passengers and employees.

(B) FINANCIAL

Funding received through the SRA program will assist the town in mitigating the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on delivery of transit services.

(C) IMPACT ON OTHER DEPARTMENTS & USERS

The Safe Restart Agreement funding is specific to municipal transit and will be utilized to mitigate Oakville Transit related revenue loss and expenses

(D) CORPORATE STRATEGIC GOALS

This report addresses the corporate strategic goal(s) to continuously improve our programs and services and to be fiscally responsible.

(E) CLIMATE CHANGE/ACTION

The funding agreement addresses the economic sustainability of the community.

APPENDICES:

None

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