

REPORT

COUNCIL MEETING ADDENDUM

MEETING DATE: JANUARY 25, 2021

FROM: Finance Department

DATE: January 19, 2021

SUBJECT: Municipal Transit Enhanced Cleaning (MTEC) Funding

LOCATION:

WARD: Town wide Page 1

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the *Municipal Transit Enhanced Cleaning (MTEC) Funding* report dated January 19, 2021 be received.

2. That By-law 2021-036 – A By-law to authorize a transfer payment for Municipal Transit Enhanced Cleaning, be passed.

KEY FACTS:

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

- The Government of Ontario is providing up to \$15 million through the Municipal Transit Enhanced Cleaning (MTEC) Funding Program to support enhanced cleaning of municipal public systems to keep passengers and employees safe and help reduce the transmission of COVID-19.
- The MTEC funding will be distributed using a modified version of the funding formula used by the provincial Gas Tax Program.
- Allocations include a base funding amount plus an amount based on 2018 ridership.
- The MTEC funding is to be used to cover costs incurred retroactively from April 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.
- Oakville's allocation is \$109,039.
- Council authorization to execute the agreement titled "Transfer Payment Agreement for Municipal Transit enhanced Cleaning" with the Provincial Government represented by the Minister of Transportation for the Province of Ontario is solicited through this report, as attached in Appendix A.

BACKGROUND:

The Municipal Transit Enhanced Cleaning (MTEC) Funding Program was announced on June 29, 2020. The program funding is to be used for enhanced

From: Finance Department Date: January 19, 2021

Subject: Municipal Transit Enhanced Cleaning (MTEC) Funding

Page 2

cleaning of municipal public transit systems to keep passengers and employees safe and help reduce the transmission of COVID-19.

Eligible expenditures include costs directly incurred by participating municipalities on or after April 1, 2020 and on or before December 31, 2020 that are necessary for the enhanced cleaning of transit vehicles and any other public and non-public facing transit assets, that provide or support transit services.

Eligible expenditures include the following:

- a) costs of cleaning materials for enhanced cleaning;
- (b) costs of hand sanitizer for passenger and staff use;
- (c) costs of safety wear for enhanced cleaning, such as gloves or goggles;
- (d) costs of equipment purchased for enhanced cleaning;
- (e) costs of contracted services for enhanced cleaning;
- (f) costs of salaries, including redeployment of staff, for enhanced cleaning; and
- (g) any other costs that, subject to approval by the Province, are considered necessary for enhanced cleaning.

In addition to having been incurred, these costs will have to have been paid by the participating municipalities prior to submitting the Report on Expenditures and accompanying Attestation Form to the MTO.

COMMENT/OPTIONS:

In September of 2020 staff confirmed interest in seeking MTEC funding. Staff have also completed the Report on Expenditures required to obtain the MTEC funding of \$109,039. Receiving these funds will help to offset COVID-19 related expenditures required to keep the transit passengers and employees safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The MTEC funding program is distinct from the Safe Restart Funding program (Phases 1 & 2) and expenses not able to be captured in the MTEC program may still be eligible for consideration in the town's Safe Restart submission.

From: Finance Department Date: January 19, 2021

Subject: Municipal Transit Enhanced Cleaning (MTEC) Funding

Page 3

Staff recommend that the By-law 2021-036 be passed to authorize a transfer payment for Municipal Transit Enhanced Cleaning, as attached in Appendix B.

CONSIDERATIONS:

(A) PUBLIC

Federal funding programs, like MTEC help maintain the health and safety of transit passengers and employees.

(B) FINANCIAL

Funding received through the MTEC program will assist the town in providing a continued level of health and safety to residents and staff.

(C) IMPACT ON OTHER DEPARTMENTS & USERS

Several departments were involved in the delivery and implementation of this program.

(D) CORPORATE AND/OR DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC GOALS

This report addresses the corporate strategic goal to: Continuously improve our programs and services Be fiscally sustainable

(E) COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY

This agreement addresses the economic sustainability of the community.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A - MTEC Transfer Payment Agreement

Appendix B - By-Law 2021-036

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Commissioner - Corporate Services and

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