

**Ministry of
Transportation**

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1Z8
416 327-9200
www.ontario.ca/transportation

**Ministère des
Transports**

Bureau de la ministre

777, rue Bay, 5^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 1Z8
416 327-9200
www.ontario.ca/transport



December 7, 2022

107-2022-4251

Duncan McPhail
Mayor
Municipality of West Elgin
treasurer@westelgin.net

Dear Mayor McPhail:

Our government is committed to supporting municipal transit. We will continue to champion the needs of our municipal partners and transit users to ensure Ontarians can get where they need to go safely and efficiently. Since 2020, our government has provided more than \$2 billion in partnership with the Government of Canada to help mitigate the financial impacts of the pandemic on municipal transit systems across the province.

To help address COVID-19 related financial pressures experienced by municipal transit systems between February 1, 2022, and December 31, 2022, Ontario and the federal government will provide up to an additional \$505 million under the Safe Restart Agreement (SRA) Phase 4 Funding for the Municipal Transit stream.

This funding is intended to provide municipalities with relief in the 2022 municipal fiscal year so they can continue to provide the essential transit services Ontarians rely on.

SRA Phase 4 municipal funding allocations include a base amount of \$5,000 to all eligible municipalities, plus a proportional share of reported actuals under previous phases of SRA funding. This funding distribution is intended to equitably align the available funding with demonstrated financial needs.

I am pleased to inform you that **Municipality of West Elgin** ("Recipient") is eligible to receive up to \$6,732 to help address your COVID-19 municipal transit pressures incurred from February 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022.

Eligible Expenditures

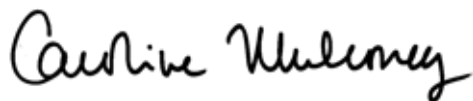
Financial expenditures that are eligible for reimbursement under SRA Phase 4 are consistent with the criteria under previous phases of SRA funding, which include both expenditures associated with the need to continue to operate with reduced revenue and new expenses resulting from COVID-19.

Similar to the approach taken under SRA Phase 3 funding, the eligible expenditure criteria will also include the use of SRA Phase 4 funding to support priority transit initiatives at up to a 50 per cent provincial cost-share.

Ministry staff will contact their municipal counterparts with details of SRA Phase 4 funding in the coming days. All communications, as well as any questions or concerns, should be sent to the SRA funding program email account at [MTO-COVID Transit Funding@ontario.ca](mailto:MTO-COVID_Transit_Funding@ontario.ca).

As we have demonstrated over the last few years, our government is committed to continuing to work with municipalities and their transit systems to keep Ontarians moving. The Safe Restart Agreement Phase 4 Funding will provide meaningful financial relief for municipal transit systems and help them continue to deliver safe and reliable transit services for their communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Caroline Mulroney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Caroline" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Mulroney".

Caroline Mulroney
Minister of Transportation

Appendix A – SRA Phase 4 Program Timeline

The Recipient is required to submit a report consisting of actual impacts from February 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022, paid prior to the submission of reporting documentation, to the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) by **January 31, 2023**.

This report is intended to provide MTO with details of the financial impacts that are being offset by SRA Phase 4 funding. The maximum funding amounts in the transfer payment agreement (TPAs) will be based upon the information submitted.

The TPAs between SRA Phase 4 municipal funding recipients and the Province will be developed and sent to municipalities for sign-off in February 2023. Please note that timely submission of reporting material is critical to executing TPAs by the end of the provincial fiscal year on **March 31, 2023**.

MTO will provide top-up funding for eligible expenses exceeding the Recipient's allocation if funding is available. If the need for top-up funding program-wide exceeds the amount of unused funding, the Recipient will receive an amount proportional to their share of the program-wide top-up funding need.

The Recipient's Head of Council (e.g., mayor, reeve, regional chair or warden) and Clerk are required to sign the TPA and return it to MTO by **February 28, 2023**.

Along with the signed TPA, the Recipient must provide a copy of the by-law or resolution authorizing the representatives signing on behalf of the Recipient to enter into an agreement with the Province. The final TPA will be signed and returned to the Recipient by **March 31, 2023**.