



MUNICIPALITY OF **West Elgin**

Staff Report

Report To: Council Meeting
From: Heather Bouw, Clerk
Date: 2023-06-08
Subject: LTVCA – Service Agreement for Mandatory and Non-Mandatory Services – 2023-33-Clerks

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin hereby receives the report from Heather Bouw, Clerk re: Service Agreement for Mandatory and Non-mandatory Services; and

That the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin hereby directs staff to prepare a by-law and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the Service Agreement.

Purpose:

At this time, LTVCA is requesting that their member municipalities enter into an agreement that will allow them to continue to provide all of the services outlined in Appendix A for the next five (5) years, and member municipalities will need to agree to continue to pay the levy for those services for the next five (5) years. The LTVCA will not add or delete any services funded through the levy without consulting with the member municipalities. Any changes will require an amendment to the original Service Agreement.

Background

Since 2017, the CA Act has been amended four (4) times to provide further clarity and transparency surrounding the programs and services that Conservation Authorities (Cas) provide and the governance of operations of CAs. These amendments were undertaken through the Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017 (Bill 139), the More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019 (Bill 108), the Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020 (Bill 229) and the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (Bill 23).

Under Ontario Regulation 687/21, Conservation Authorities are required to enter into an agreement with their member Municipalities in order to levy members for services provided, other than mandatory services. As of January 1, 2024, Conservation Authorities will only be able to levy municipalities for Provincially mandated services unless they have an agreement with their member municipalities regarding additional services.

While some of these services may be procured on a fee for service basis, many may be in-kind or grant funded. The LTVCA services listed in the attached Categories of Programs and Services Agreement in Appendix A are structured according to LTVCA's current budget framework and encompasses the entirety of services currently offered by the LTVCA.

At the May 25, 2023 meeting of Council, LTVCA representatives Mark Peacock, P. Eng. CAO/Secretary-Treasurer and Valerie Towsley, Watershed Resource Planner attended and reviewed

a slide deck presentation outlining Inventory of Programs and Services as well as Categories of Programs and Services Agreement as follows:

- Category 1: Mandatory programs and services where municipal levy could be used without any agreement
- Category 2: Non-mandatory programs and services at the request of a municipality with municipal funding through an agreement
- Category 3: This category includes other non-mandatory programs and services the CA determines are advisable. These programs may use municipal levy through an agreement.

Council had no concerns during the presentation on the service areas and programs areas, nor on how components of these services and programs have been classified by the LTVCA within each category.

Financial Implications:

Unknown at this time.

Policies/Legislation:

Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017 (Bill 139)

More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019 (Bill 108)

Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020 (Bill 229) More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (Bill 23)

Ontario Regulation 687/21

Respectfully submitted by,

Heather Bouw, Clerk