



GEORGINA

Subject: Joint Fire Fleet Update

To: Mayor and Council

From: Michael Vos, Director, Operations and Infrastructure

Date: April 10, 2024

Briefing:

This briefing note serves to update Council on the progress to-date, and expected next steps, of the Joint Fire Fleet Review, in alignment with East Gwillimbury, who most recently updated their Council on the same topic in March 2023.

At its meeting on February 15, 2023, Council received Staff Report GFRS-2023-0001 regarding the Joint Fire Services Assessment for Georgina Fire and Rescue Service and East Gwillimbury (EG) Emergency and Community Safety Services (now Fire and Emergency Services), which in part authorized staff to identify mutually beneficial opportunities to transition the maintenance of heavy apparatus from East Gwillimbury's fire fleet to Georgina's Fleet Division.

Throughout 2023, Georgina's Fleet Division worked through a number of staffing challenges, and managed to be at full resourcing levels in Q3 of 2023. At the same time, Staff undertook an analysis of Fleet Management Information Systems (FMIS), piloted, and subsequently formalized an agreement with a FMIS that housed fleet inventory, work order management, integration with other vehicle softwares (Automated Vehicle Locators), and could eventually accommodate expansion to other municipalities.

Organizational changes within EG Fire and Emergency Services during the last 4 months of 2023 delayed action with respect to advancing the potential opportunities between the two municipalities in late 2023. Most recently, the Fire Chiefs of both municipalities have met to further explore this opportunity, and in late January, East Gwillimbury staff were in a position to re-initiate discussions with Georgina staff to explore opportunities that were beneficial to both parties.

Notwithstanding the organizational changes within EG Fire and Emergency Services, the discussions and actions thus far are in alignment with the originally proposed Mercury report, which suggests an initial transition of repair in Q1 of 2024, and following successful piloting, service level agreements and council endorsement, working towards a full transition by Q4 of 2025.

Georgina Fleet Services is pleased to update Council that the first East Gwillimbury heavy apparatus has been inspected and work completed, under the pretense of a draft 2 month Service Level Agreement (SLA) pilot. This pilot aims to gain valuable data on the repair timelines and costs, the relationship between the municipalities, and how the integration of additional heavy apparatus will impact the existing asset management of Georgina's assets. Generally, Staff need to be able to gauge, through practice, if in fact the division can accommodate additional apparatus within the work plan. All costs associated with these repairs are paid by EG and will offset the operating budget, the net benefit of which is not yet known.

Staff aim to report back to Council on these topics in greater detail in approximately 3 months following the pilot period, with hopes that the mutual benefits outlined in the Mercury Report are recognized. Upon the success of the pilot, the staff report will include detailed financial and asset management related details, as well as a final Service Level Agreement (SLA) for Council endorsement.