



Staff Report for Council Meeting

Date of Meeting: November 11, 2020

Report Number: SRCS.20.27

Department: Community Services
Division: Fire and Emergency Services

Subject: **SRCS.20.27 - Renewal of Richmond Hill Fire
Emergency Services Dispatch Agreements**

Purpose:

This report provides Council with recommendations to renew existing dispatch agreements with the Corporation of the Town of East Gwillimbury, the Corporation of the Town of Whitchurch Stouffville, the Corporation of the Town of Georgina (& Georgina Island), and the Corporation of the Town of Newmarket (Central York.)

Recommendation(s):

That the Commissioner of Community Services be authorized to execute agreements for the provision of Fire Dispatch Services, for up to a five year term expiring December 31, 2025 to the following municipalities:

- a) Central York Fire Services (Newmarket and Aurora)
- b) The Town of Georgina Fire Department (& Georgina Island)
- c) The Town of East Gwillimbury Emergency Services
- d) The Town of Whitchurch Stouffville Fire and Emergency Services

Contact Person:

Steve Kraft, Fire Chief, Fire & Emergency Services, Ext 2898

Report Approval:

Submitted by: Darlene Joslin, Commissioner of Community Services

Approved by: Mary-Anne Dempster, City Manager

All reports are electronically reviewed and/or approved by the Division Director, Treasurer (as required), City Solicitor (as required), Commissioner, and Chief Administrative Officer. Details of the reports approval are attached.

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Background:

Richmond Hill Fire & Emergency Services has provided fire dispatch services to Central York Fire Services (Newmarket and Aurora), Georgina Fire Department (& Georgina Island) and East Gwillimbury Emergency Services since 2001 and the Town of Whitchurch Stouffville Fire & Emergency Services since 2010. Throughout this period of time, a successful relationship has been fostered with all fire departments who continue to receive dispatch services from Richmond Hill Fire & Emergency Services. In exchange for this service, a per capita fee is charged to each fire department, which helps offset the costs of operating the dispatch centre.

In June of 2015, staff report SRCS.15.27 recommended executing agreements for the provision of fire dispatch services for Central York, Georgina, East Gwillimbury, and Whitchurch Stouffville. These agreements were five-year agreements and as such, each agreement is up for renewal.

Staff has consulted with the City's Legal Department and Risk Management to revise the current Dispatch Agreements to ensure they reflect the needs of an evolving dispatch centre.

The Fire Chief is seeking approval to renegotiate the current dispatch agreements for subsequent execution and approval by the Commissioner of Community Services.

Priorities, Cost Implications, and Options

Providing fire dispatch services to the municipalities of Georgina, Whitchurch Stouffville, East Gwillimbury, Newmarket and Aurora generates revenue for the City of Richmond Hill and assists by offsetting our annual cost of this service. If approved, entering into the recommended agreements will generate approximately \$840,000 in 2021, and will increase each year based on population and technology requirements.

Financial/Staffing/Other Implications:

All financial implications outlined in this report were either previously approved by Council or will be brought forward by staff during future Capital and Operating budget deliberations.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan:

The recommendation in this report relates to the strategic plan goal(s) of;

- a) Wise Management of Resources in Richmond Hill, insofar as it promotes and values innovation and reinforces the commitment to maintain sound fiscal management and,
- b) Stronger Connections in Richmond Hill (internally and with allied municipal partners) as a result of planning and promoting community readiness during times of crisis and enhancing community safety and security.

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Conclusion:

Staff believes it is prudent to continue providing fire dispatch services to other agencies as the related staffing and technological advancements made available through these agreements better enable our fire services to respond to emergencies throughout York Region.

Staff is seeking Councils approval to renegotiate the expiring dispatch agreements for:

- a) Central York Fire Services (Newmarket and Aurora)
- b) The Town of Georgina Fire Department (& Georgina Island)
- c) The Town of East Gwillimbury Emergency Services
- d) The Town of Whitchurch Stouffville Fire and Emergency Services

and the subsequent execution and approval by the Commissioner of Community Services.

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Report Approval Details

Document Title:	SRCS.20.27 Renewal of Richmond Hill Fire Emergency Services Dispatch Agreements.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Sep 30, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Steve Kraft - Sep 29, 2020 - 3:21 PM

Darlene Joslin - Sep 30, 2020 - 11:00 AM

MaryAnne Dempster - Sep 30, 2020 - 12:44 PM