



RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WATERLOO

May 12, 2008

RE: 2008 Municipal Road and Bridge Infrastructure Investment

WHEREAS the City of Waterloo is one of the Ontario municipalities who have been approved to receive funds in the amount of \$1,308,003 from the Ministry of Transportation towards municipal road and bridge capital infrastructure renewal needs;

WHEREAS towns and cities are where the people of Canada work and live and their long term sustainability is at risk without an adequate infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS provincial and national economic prosperity is inextricably linked to the well being and prosperity of towns and cities;

AND WHEREAS public ownership of infrastructure has shifted over the past 50 years away from the federal and provincial governments to become an increasing responsibility for municipal governments such as the City of Waterloo;

AND WHEREAS the City of Waterloo requires revenues that grow with the economy in order to contribute to the sustainability of its infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the City of Waterloo has introduced a number of initiatives such as ten-year capital planning, continuous improvement, public private partnerships and a proposed capital investment contribution as the City's efforts to address the infrastructure deficit;

AND WHEREAS the City of Waterloo has determined that its municipal infrastructure deficit is approximately \$160 million over the next ten years;

AND WHEREAS the City of Waterloo's infrastructure deficit would require a one time municipal tax increase of 40% to be fully funded;

AND WHEREAS property taxes, for the most part, is a very regressive tax not based on economic growth, income or ability to pay;

AND WHEREAS there is just a single taxpayer paying taxes to the different levels of government;

AND WHEREAS, on average, municipalities collect eight cents of every dollar of total government collected taxes for the services they provide;

AND WHEREAS there are federal and provincial surpluses projected over the next number of years;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1) the Council of The Corporation of the City of Waterloo calls upon the Provincial government to clarify and confirm that the 2008 Municipal Road and Bridge Infrastructure Investment is in fact a one time infusion of funds versus an annual contribution and that if this is the case, that the Provincial government provide long term and sustainable infrastructure funding to assist the City of Waterloo and all upper, lower, and single tier municipalities in addressing their infrastructure roles and responsibilities;
- 2) copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, Federal and Provincial Ministers of Finance, Provincial Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal, Federal Minister of Transportation, all Members of Parliament, all Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Big Cities Mayors' Caucus of FCM;
- 3) all municipalities be encouraged to pass motions supporting this resolution and forward to their relevant federal and provincial representatives."

For further information, please contact

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