



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the General Committee

From: Richard Freymond, Commissioner of Corporate and Legislative Services

Meeting Date: February 6, 2023

**Subject: Next Generation 9-1-1 Transition Funding Supports
Report CLSFS23-015**

Purpose

A report to advise Council of applications to the Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) Transition Funding Supports and to recommend the execution of a Transfer Payment Agreement.

Recommendation

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report CLSFS23-015 dated February 6, 2023, of the Commissioner of Corporate and Legislative Services, as follows:

That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute a funding agreement and any subsequent corresponding agreements or amendments for the Next Generation 9-1-1 Transition Funding Supports on terms acceptable to the Commissioner of Corporate and Legislative Services, and in forms acceptable to the City Solicitor.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budget or financial implications to approving the recommendations in this report.

A \$750,000 2023 capital budget (Ref #3-1.01) was approved for facilities upgrades to the Peterborough Police Station dispatch centre to facilitate NG9-1-1 requirements. Facility upgrades are not covered through the NG9-1-1 transition funding supports.

In addition, the 2023 capital budget (Ref # 3-3.02) approved the Next Generation 9-1-1 information technology project for a total municipal share of \$1,100,000 for the transition to NG9-1-1 services. As new information becomes known, additional funding requests may be made as part of the 2024-2025 capital budgets.

Background

On November 29, 2022, the Ministry of the Solicitor General opened calls for applications to the Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) Transition Funding Supports to access \$208 million in funding over 3 years.

This funding will support municipalities and 9-1-1 communication centres to transition their emergency response systems to Next Generation 9-1-1. Next Generation 9-1-1 is a new emergency communications system that will improve public safety by enabling voice, text messages and data to flow seamlessly from the public to 9-1-1 communication centres when emergency assistance is required.

The existing 9-1-1 system has been in place for more than 30 years and has reached its end of life. To address the legacy system, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) has mandated that emergency telecommunications networks must transition to a new digital 9-1-1 platform by March 4, 2025. This will enable Canadians to access new, enhanced, and innovative 9-1-1 features with internet protocol (IP) based capabilities.

The funding, first announced in April 2022, will be provided over three years to help municipalities and their emergency response communication centres provide the infrastructure, technology upgrades and training needed to transition to Next Generation 9-1-1 by March 2025. Municipalities that directly operate a 9-1-1 communication centre within their jurisdiction are eligible to apply for funding. As mandated, the City applied for funding separately for both the Peterborough Fire Services and Peterborough Police Services Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs). Although separate funding applications have been submitted, the City, Peterborough Police and Fire are working together to acquire a NG 9-1-1 solution. It is unclear how the funding allocations will be determined; however, the City expects to be notified of their allocation for the first fiscal year (April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023) in February, 2023.

What is eligible?

New NG9-1-1 technology and associated costs in the 2022-23 fiscal year (i.e., April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023). This could include:

- Hardware, software, licensing costs
- Project management
- Project resourcing including consultant fees
- Additional training and change management

What is NOT eligible?

- Technology purchased and/or costs incurred prior to the 2022-23 fiscal year (i.e., before April 1, 2022)
- Other technology investments (e.g., Computer Aided Dispatching, Records Management Systems, radio and broadband communications systems)
- Existing overhead costs of operating a PSAP
- Physical security systems
- Facility upgrades
- Geographic information system/mapping and civic addressing
- Maintenance or ongoing costs

Funding under the NG9-1-1 program will initially be available for year one during the 2022-2023 fiscal year with the remaining funding available for application shortly after, by mid-calendar 2023.

Next Steps

Final allocations will be confirmed by the Ministry of the Solicitor General via execution of a Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA). The TPAs must be executed expeditiously to secure the funding. Council approval to execute these agreements is sought through this report.

Submitted by,

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Commissioner of Corporate and Legislative Services

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