



Newmarket



April 28, 2016

JOINT CAO FOR NEWMARKET/AURORA 2016-09

TO: JCC

SUBJECT: Potential Fire Service Merger – Central York Fire Services and Richmond Hill – Review Process

ORIGIN: CAO, Town of Newmarket and CAO, Town of Aurora

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT Joint CAO for Newmarket/Aurora Report 2016-09 dated April 28, 2016 regarding potential Fire Service Merger – Central York Fire Services and Richmond Hill Fire Services – Review Process be received for information and the process endorsed.

COMMENTS

On April 7, 2015 JCC approved the following motion:

WHEREAS the consolidation of Aurora and Newmarket fire services into Central York Fire Services has achieved efficiencies through enhanced levels of fire service provided at a significantly reduced cost;

AND WHEREAS consolidation with additional municipalities may achieve further operating efficiencies, improved department structure, increased service level(s), and cost avoidance opportunities;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to prepare correspondence to the Council of the Town of Richmond Hill pursuing interest in the consolidation of CYFS with the Town of Richmond Hill Fire Service;

AND THAT the correspondence be brought before both Councils of Aurora and Newmarket for approval and signed by Heads of Councils before submission to Richmond Hill Council.

This motion was adopted by both Aurora Council (April 14, 2015) and Newmarket Council (April 20, 2015).

The Mayors of the two municipalities sent a letter to Richmond Hill, copy attached, indicating interest to review this potential merger. The three municipal CAOs have met a few times to determine the appropriate process for this review to determine if there is a business case to move forward with merger discussions. The review in any case would identify potential synergies if a full merger was not supported. Richmond Hill has agreed to provide a staff member, the Director of Strategic Initiatives to lead the process.

Staff are currently obtaining proposals from external experts to assist with this review to determine amongst other things, potential synergies, cost, savings, cost mitigation/avoidance and service level considerations.

BUSINESS PLAN AND STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGES

This initiative is aligned with the strategy of being *Well Equipped and Managed* and *Well Planned and Connected*. In addition, this initiative supports the strategy of ensuring efficient and effective services and supporting innovative partnerships.

BUDGET IMPACT

The total budget estimate for this review is estimated at \$40,000-50,000 including reports to the three Councils. The cost of the review will be shared equally by the three municipalities with Richmond Hill also providing staff support as noted.

CONTACT

For more information on this report, contact Doug Nadorozny or Bob Shelton.

"Bob Shelton"

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