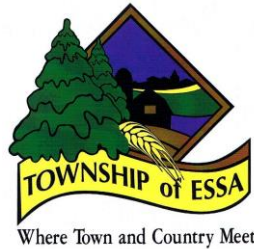


Corporation of the Township of Essa
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Utopia, Ontario
L0M 1T0



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October 19, 2023

Town of Collingwood
97 Hurontario Street, P.O. Box 157
Collingwood ON L9Y 3Z5

**Re: Township of Essa Council Support
Provincial and Federal supports for Drinking Water Plant Expansion**

Dear Ms. Skinner:

Please be advised that at its meeting of October 18, 2023, Council of the Township of Essa passed the following in regards to your request for Provincial and Federal supports for Drinking Water Plant Expansion:

WHEREAS the provincial government has a goal of building 1.5 million new homes by 2031, and the federal government has intention to address housing;

AND WHEREAS the Great Lakes are a resource for all of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS existing water infrastructure includes a large capacity intake pipe from Georgian Bay, and a 60km pipeline from the water treatment plant in Collingwood southerly to New Tecumseth, with outtakes in Clearview and Essa Townships in Simcoe County; and there is existing infrastructure to The Town of the Blue Mountains in Grey County;

AND WHEREAS the Environmental Assessment of the Collingwood-located Water Treatment Plant incorporated long-term needs with two phases, the current Phase 1 which provide substantial capacity increases in 2028 including over 9,000 units for Collingwood, which upon agreement could be shared with The Town of the Blue Mountains, and about 14,500 units for New Tecumseth, and enables further stepped capacity increases to meet municipal water needs for almost 36,000 additional housing units and/or industrial uses and incorporates Clearview and potentially others that would otherwise have constrained access to water;

AND WHEREAS this area is growing at one of the quickest rates in Canada and has the approved and in flight development applications and industry to support the delivery of housing, industrial growth and the proposed new regional hospital in Collingwood;

AND WHEREAS the total project cost increased from \$50M to \$120M and is now in the range of \$270M with the bid prices, and it is not affordable for the current developers, ratepayers and taxpayers to fully fund this project;

AND WHEREAS the project is shovel-ready, with bids valid until November 10th, 2023 and likely to increase if they expire;

AND WHEREAS the remaining capacity in the plant is about 2,000 units plus any interim capacity, and a non-award will stymie growth and last into 2029 and potentially beyond;

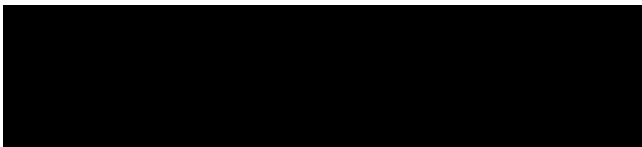
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council support the asks from Collingwood and New Tecumseth to the provincial Ministers of MMAH and Infrastructure and the federal government that they help enable the water treatment plant expansion to proceed, including that the province appoint the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator to co-develop a solution;

AND THAT Council support a Council or staff representative of the municipality sitting on a short-term task force with the Development Community seeking to enable this expansion to proceed;

AND THAT Council's Resolution be communicated to MPP Saunderson, MP Dowdall, the Town of Collingwood, the Town of New Tecumseth, The Town of the Blue Mountains, and the Township of Clearview.

----Carried ----

Sincerely,



Sarah Corbett
Deputy Clerk

cc: MPP-Simcoe Grey, Brian Saunderson, Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org
MP – Simcoe-Grey, Terry Dowdall, Terry.Dowdall@parl.gc.ca
Sara Almas, Clerk, Town of Collingwood, salmas@collingwood.ca
Pam Fettes, Clerk - Town of New Tecumseth, pfettes@newtecumseth.ca
Corrina Giles, Clerk - Town of the Blue Mountains, cgiles@thebluemountains.ca
Sasha Helmkay, Clerk - Township of Clearview, shelmkay@clearview.ca