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**Subject:** Excess Soils Management Policy

**Report to:** Public Works Committee

**Report date:** Tuesday, August 9, 2022

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## Recommendations

1. That the Excess Soils Management Policy, attached as Appendix 1, **BE APPROVED** and **ADDED** to the Corporate Policy Manual.

## Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the Excess Soils Management Policy and its addition to the Corporate Policy Manual.
- As noted in C-A-001-001 Corporate Policy Framework – Administrative Processes and Review, changes to corporate policies require the approval of Regional Council.
- The Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP) proposed the On-Site and Excess Soil Management Regulation, now regulated in Ontario under O.Reg. 406/19 to promote sustainable excess soil management by reducing the volume of reusable excess soils disposal at landfills, reducing the truck traffic associated with hauling excess soils to these landfills, and instead to identify sites looking for excess soil for the ultimate beneficial reuse.
- The purpose of the Excess Soils Management Policy is to ensure compliance with O.Reg.406/19, and associated documents, and to make sure that there is a consistent approach to the management of excess soil by all departments responsible for the generation of excess soil.

## Financial Considerations

There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

## Analysis

In Ontario, all construction projects that generate excess soils are regulated under O.Reg. 406/19 On-Site and Excess Soil Management. The goal behind the regulatory framework is to promote sustainable excess soil management by reducing the volume of reusable excess soils disposal at landfills, reducing the truck traffic associated with

hauling excess soils to these landfills, and instead to identify sites looking for excess soil for the ultimate beneficial reuse.

As a significant generator of excess soils through various capital construction projects, Niagara Region must comply with O.Reg.406/19 and ensure that there is a consistent approach to the management of excess soil by all departments responsible for the generation of excess soil.

The Excess Soils Management Policy will apply to all Niagara Region staff, consulting firms, and contractors who are working on projects where excess soil is generated and unable to be managed on-site, as well as project areas accepting fill material.

### **Alternatives Reviewed**

Not Applicable

### **Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities**

The recommendation in this report align with the following Council Strategic Priority:

- Responsible Growth and Infrastructure Planning

By adopting this policy, Niagara Region is ensuring that all capital construction projects protect Niagara's natural environment through the responsible management of excess soils.

### **Other Pertinent Reports**

Not Applicable

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**Submitted by:**

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This report was prepared in consultation with Frank Tassone, Associate Director, and reviewed by Carolyn Ryall, Director, Transportation Services.

**Appendices**

Appendix 1          Excess Soils Management Policy