

MEMORANDUM

CL-C 9-2023

Subject: Update to By-law No. 79-2010 being A By-law to Authorize Participation by The Regional Municipality of Niagara in the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program

Date: March 23, 2023

To: Regional Council

From: Helen Furtado, Director, Financial Management & Planning/Deputy Treasurer

The purpose of this memo is to inform Council of the necessity to update By-law No. 79-2010 as amended by By-law No. 2018-21, which provides for the authorization of the Niagara Region to participate in the Provincial Gas Tax Program.

By-law No. 79-2010 needs to be further amended to reflect the passing of By-law No. 2021-96 and the satisfaction of the triple majority requirements required as a result thereof, which provides the Niagara Region with the exclusive authority to establish, operate, and maintain a consolidated passenger transportation system for the Niagara Region. Subsequently, the Region passed By-law 2022-38 in order to establish the Niagara Transit Commission as a municipal services board to provide public transportation services on behalf of the Region.

By-law 2022-28 provides that the transferring of assets and operations to the Niagara Transit Commission to come into effect on January 1, 2023. Since the Provincial Gas Tax Program is funded on a fiscal basis, the latest funding announcement covers the period April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023. Due to this, By-law 79-2010 needs to be amended to reflect the expanded authority to the Region to operate public transit within the geographic boundaries of the region effective February 2, 2022 and the assumption of transit service in Niagara by the Niagara Transit Commission, effective January 1, 2023.

The amending by-law (Bill 2023-25 (Agenda Item 18.1)) is attached to the Council agenda for the March 23, 2023, Regional Council meeting for Council's consideration.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Helen Furtado, CPA, CA
Director, Financial Management & Planning/Deputy Treasurer