
Subject: Gross Budget Increase for the Automated Licence Plate Reader Project for the Niagara Regional Police Service

Report to: Regional Council

Report date: Thursday, March 23, 2023

Recommendations

1. That a capital budget adjustment in the amount of \$1,391,813 gross and \$0 net **BE APPROVED** (and **INITIATED**) for the Automated Licence Plate Reader (ALPR) Project, and that the gross capital budget adjustment **BE FUNDED** from the Ministry of Solicitor General ALPR grant program.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the creation of a 2023 capital project in the amount of \$1,391,813 to purchase ALPR technology.
- In accordance with the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) Board's Financial Reporting, Control and Procurement By-Law No. 384-2019, section 8.5.1, "Capital and operating budget amendments and/or adjustments will be made in accordance with Region's Budget Control By-Law".
- Per the Region's Budget Control By-Law section 6.6(b), Council approval is required if a gross budget adjustment funded by external sources is greater than \$1,000,000.

Financial Considerations

The approval of this recommendation will support the implementation of the ALPR Grant Program. The gross capital expenditure of \$1,391,813 will equip 102 vehicles with the ALPR technology as referenced in the NRPS report attached.

Analysis

The NRPS applied for the ALPR as part of the Government of Ontario investment in ALPR technology to provide police services with the tools they need to do their jobs, improve public safety, and strengthen roadside law enforcement efforts across the province.

This report is being presented to Council following approval by the NRPS Board. The Region's Budget Control By-Law No. 2017-63, section 6.6 b), states that "In-year receipt of funding for Capital Projects may result in the creation or broadening in scope of a Capital Project in accordance with and when required by the terms of the funding received. If the funding is not included in the Council-approved annual Budget, with the approval of the Commissioner and Treasurer (for amounts not exceeding \$1 million), a Budget Adjustment will be made to reflect the additional revenue and expenses. Amounts exceeding \$1 million will be adjusted with Council's approval".

While the NRPS are not obligated to comply with the Region's full Budget Control By-Law, NRPS has opted to comply with all By-Laws to ensure proper accounting treatment and for ease of identifying and reporting on purchases.

Alternatives Reviewed

No alternatives have been considered as this project is fully funded from external sources.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

The recommendation in this report aligns with Council's Strategic Priority of Healthy and Vibrant Community.

Other Pertinent Reports

N/A

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Appendices

Appendix 1 Niagara Regional Police Service Board Report – Automated Licence Plate
Reader Grant Program Capital Project