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**TO:** GENERAL COMMITTEE

**SUBJECT:** 2017/2018 PROVINCIAL GAS TAX AGREEMENT

**WARD:** ALL

**PREPARED BY AND KEY CONTACTS:** B. FORSYTH, DIRECTOR OF TRANSIT AND PARKING STRATEGY

**SUBMITTED BY:** B. FORSYTH, DIRECTOR OF TRANSIT AND PARKING STRATEGY

**GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL:** R. JAMES-REID, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ACCESS BARRIE

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL:** M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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### **RECOMMENDED MOTION**

1. That the Mayor and Treasurer be authorized to execute a Letter of Agreement with the Province of Ontario as represented by the Ministry of Transportation related to the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program to allow for the alignment of the program year with the Provincial fiscal year.
2. That in response to a request from the Province of Ontario as represented by the Ministry of Transportation related to the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program, the City of Barrie reconfirm its commitment to continue to act as the host for the provision of public transit service to the Township of Essa.

### **PURPOSE & BACKGROUND**

3. The purpose of this report is to execute the Letter of Agreement for the 2017/18 Provincial Gas Tax and to reconfirm the City of Barrie's commitment to continue to act as the host for the provision of public transit service to the Township of Essa.

### **ANALYSIS**

4. Staff have recently received the Provincial Gas Tax information and agreement for 2017/18 and require a supporting by-law and for the agreement to be executed.
5. The Provincial government has committed to supporting municipal transit by the allocating annual funding to these municipalities for the sole purpose of improving transit through the Provincial Gas Tax (PGT) Program.
6. The contribution that the City of Barrie will receive as part of the 2017/18 program has increased over the 2016/17 levels by \$120,499 (from \$2,059,132 to \$2,179,631).

### **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

7. There are no environmental matters related to the recommendations.

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## **ALTERNATIVES**

8. There are alternative available for consideration by General Committee:

**Alternative #1**

General Committee could choose not to authorize the execution of the Letter of Agreement.

This alternative is not recommended given Barrie's objective of responsible spending and acquiring funding from various levels of government.

## **FINANCIAL**

9. The majority of the annual PGT funding received by the City of Barrie is allocated to the operating budget with an anticipated draw of \$2,090,000 in 2018, pending Council approval of the 2018 Business Plan. The estimated balance in the PGT reserve (11-05-0595) as of December 31, 2018 is projected to be \$475K.

## **LINKAGE TO 2014-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN**

10. The recommendations included in this Staff Report support the following goal identified in the 2014-2018 City Council Strategic Plan:
- Well Planned Transportation
  - Responsible Spending