

Report FR-CW-02-17

To: Warden Barfoot and Members of Grey County Council
From: Kevin Wepler, Director of Finance
Meeting Date: January 12, 2017
Subject: **Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund Formula-Based Component Agreement**
Status: Recommendation adopted by Committee of the Whole as presented per Resolution CW01-17; Endorsed by County Council January 26, 2017 per Resolution CC05-17;

Recommendation

- 1. That County Council receive Report FR-CW-02-17 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund Formula-Based Component Agreement and that the Warden and Clerk be authorized to execute the Agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.**

Background

The Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) provides funding for small, rural and northern communities to develop their infrastructure. The Provincial Government announced that it was expanding the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund and updating its design. Beginning in 2016-17, the province is increasing the amount of formula-based funding from \$50 million per year to:

- approximately \$95 million in 2017
- \$130 million in 2018
- \$200 million per year in 2019

Under the re-designed formula-based component, eligible recipients:

- will receive allocation notices specifying stable, predictable funding over the next 3 years.
- may accumulate annual formula-based grants for up to 5 years to address larger infrastructure projects.
- are guaranteed to receive a minimum of \$50,000 per year, starting in 2017.

The Eligible expenditures have been:

- expanded to include water and wastewater optimization activities, loan payments on new core infrastructure projects, and municipal staff time dedicated to asset management planning and implementing the Composite Correction Program.
- clarified to include the construction of new core infrastructure to address an existing health or safety issue (e.g. connecting households on septic systems to wastewater infrastructure).

The Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund will be reviewed again within five years.

Formula-based Component: Grey County Allocation Notice

The County of Grey's formula-based allocation of funding under the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund for the next three years is as follows:

2017 formula allocation	\$573,710
2018 proposed formula allocation	\$812,809
2019 proposed formula allocation	\$1,249,562

Financial/Staffing/Legal/Information Technology Considerations

The County of Grey's annual grant allocation for the 2014-2016 years was \$324,515. Based on the announcement by the province to increase the amount of formula-based funding, the County will receive additional funding.

This will provide stable funding to help address core infrastructure needs and will be subject to the terms and conditions of the Agreement.

Link to Strategic Goals/Priorities

Establishing funding agreements will ensure that Council's goals of ensuring financial stability and ongoing public accountability are maintained.

Attachments

[Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund Formula-Based Component Agreement](#)

[Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund \(OCIF\) Formula-based Component Allocation Notice](#)

Respectfully submitted by,

Kevin Weppler
Director of Finance