



## MEMORANDUM

To: Members of Committee of the Whole

From: Bruce Macgregor  
Chief Administrative Officer

Date: June 1, 2020

Re: Study on the Potential Creation of a Regional Fire Service not supported by all Local Municipalities

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At its [February 27, 2020 meeting](#), Regional Council requested a resolution from all local municipal councils indicating whether they support proceeding with a study on the potential creation of a Regional Fire Service by May 29, 2020.

York Region currently has eight fire departments — East Gwillimbury, Georgina, King, Markham, Richmond Hill, Vaughan, Whitchurch-Stouffville and Central York which serves Aurora and Newmarket. Local municipal resolutions received by the Regional Clerk from the local municipalities (Attachment 1) are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1**  
**Summary of Local Municipal Responses for Study on the potential for Regional Fire Service**

Local Municipality	Supports	Does Not Support
Aurora	X	
East Gwillimbury		X
Georgina	X	
King		X
Markham		X
Newmarket	X	
Richmond Hill	X	
Vaughan		X
Whitchurch-Stouffville	X	

Local municipalities who are in support of a fire service delivery study have also expressed interest in working with their local municipal colleagues to determine the efficiencies of further consolidation and/or cooperation.

The creation of a Regional Fire Service would require, pursuant to the Municipal Act, 2001, support through a “triple majority” vote of Councils. That would require: (i) a supportive vote of Regional Council **and** (ii) a majority of local Councils voting in favour **and** (iii) the majority of local Councils voting in favour also representing a majority of the electorate Region-wide.

Given that a study on the potential creation of a Regional Fire Service is not supported by a sufficient number of local municipalities to represent a “triple majority”, proceeding with a study at this time does not appear warranted.

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Bruce Macgregor  
Chief Administrative Officer

eDocs # 10796177

Attachment - 1