

2019 Regional Fiscal Strategy

On February 28, 2019 Regional Council made the following decision:

1. Council adopt the updated fiscal strategy as outlined in this report.
2. Council affirm the 2019 Long-Term Debt Management Plan shown as Attachment 1 to this report.
3. Council authorize payments from the following reserves to repay tax levy and rate-supported debt originally intended to be refinanced in 2019:

<u>Reserve</u>	<u>Amount</u>
a. Debt Reduction Reserve	\$5,870,069.50
b. Capital Asset Replacement – Water	\$1,785,712.38
c. Capital Asset Replacement – Wastewater	\$25,660,706.58

4. Council rename the University Campus Reserve as the Innovation Investment Reserve and broaden its purpose to include funding to external parties for Council approved initiatives. Tax levy appropriations made through the annual budget process would fund this reserve.
5. Council establish the following new reserve funds:
 - a. Cannabis Contingency Reserve – to fund unanticipated operating and capital costs related to the legalization of recreational cannabis. Tax levy appropriations made through the annual budget process would fund this reserve.
 - b. Waste Management Stabilization Reserve – to fund fluctuations in recycling material market prices and other costs identified as part of the budget process. A \$30 million transfer from the Solid Waste Management Reserve and surplus revenues resulting from higher than budgeted commodity prices for blue box materials would fund this reserve.
 - c. Rapid Transit Reserve – to fund rapid transit projects to be identified in a future Council report. Tax levy savings as a result of funding from the Integrated Bilateral Agreement - Public Transit Stream, would be contributed to this reserve. The funding of the Rapid Transit Reserve would be contingent

upon York Region's successful negotiation of an agreement with the provincial and federal governments.

6. Council approve technical amendments to the following policies:
 - a. The Capital Financing and Debt Policy to permit greater flexibility with respect to the minimum amount that the Region keeps in its development charges reserves by reducing the requirement from one year to a range of between 75 to 100% of one year's principal and interest, as detailed in this report.
 - b. The Surplus Management Policy to add the Group Benefits as part of the contingent liability reserves that are funded through the surplus allocation process, as detailed in this report.
7. The Regional Solicitor be authorized to prepare, amend and/or repeal the necessary bylaws.