

2023 Regional Fiscal Strategy

On February 23, 2023 Regional Council made the following decision:

1. Council adopt the 2023 Fiscal Strategy outlined in this report
2. Council endorse the 2023 Long-Term Debt Management Plan, shown as Attachment 1 to this report
3. Council authorize the establishment of the following reserve funds, as shown in Attachment 2, the Reserve and Reserve Fund Policy:
 - a. The Tax Levy Development Reserve Fund, to fund the tax levy portion of development charge related phase-ins, discounts, and exemptions, such as those required by Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022
 - b. The Rate Supported Development Reserve Fund, to fund the user rate portion of development charge related phase-ins, discounts, and exemptions, such as those required as a result of Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022
4. Council authorize transfers between the following reserve funds:
 - a. \$40.3 million between the various tax levy capital reserve funds outlined in Table 1 to align with the needs identified in the 2023 10-year Capital Plan
 - b. \$29.8 million from various tax levy and user rate reserves to development charge reserves to fund the cost of discretionary development charges exemptions under the 2017 Development Charges Bylaw, which was in place until June 16, 2022, as outlined in Table 2
5. Council approve technical amendments to the following policies, shown as Attachment 3:
 - a. The Letter of Credit Policy to explicitly accept electronic Letters of Credit and to align the roles and responsibilities with the current organizational structure
 - b. The Development Charges Interest Policy to revise the interest rate charged to be the average of the five largest Canadian bank's prime rates, plus 1%, which reflects the rules under the Development Charges Act, 1997, as amended.
6. Council direct staff to report back, as part of the Fiscal Sustainability Update Report in June 2023, on the fiscal impact of Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022, on

future development charge collections and the recommended mechanism for funding any shortfalls

7. Council authorize the Regional Solicitor to prepare and/or amend the necessary bylaws