

<b>To:</b>	Warden Hicks and Members of Grey County Council
<b>Council Date:</b>	October 10, 2019
<b>Subject / Report No:</b>	CAOR-CW-16-19
<b>Title:</b>	Community Transportation Update
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Stephanie Stewart, Manager, Community Transportation
<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Kim Wingrove, CAO
<b>Lower Tier(s) Affected:</b>	Grey County wide
<b>Status:</b>	Recommendation adopted by Committee as presented per Resolution CW196-19; Endorsed by Council October 24, 2019 per Resolution CC83-19;

## Recommendation

1. That report **CAOR-CW-16-19 Community Transportation Update** be received for information.

## Executive Summary

Over the past three months staff have meet with several stakeholders and potential partners to ensure that Grey County takes a holistic and thoughtful approach for this project. On August 23<sup>rd</sup>, Grey County released a Negotiated RFP with a closure date of September 13 at 2:00 pm. Grey County is seeking a transportation service provider to develop an innovative “Made in Grey” solution to meet the transportation needs of our residents. We are seeking proposals that will allow us to implement a service that meets basic requirements in the fall of 2019 and that can be enhanced to meet future demands. Consideration should be given to the development of a County-wide Taxi, Limousine and Vehicle for Hire By-law

## Background and Discussion

Staff have worked with the Ministry of Transportation and are excited to share that Grey County has received permission to leverage the assets funded through the grant to fulfill broader requirements, as long as all grant requirements are satisfied. Efforts will be made to use this flexibility in support of a point-to-point or “uber-style” service.

A Vehicle for Hire By-law will be required to enable a point-point service. Residents of Grey County will benefit from a County wide Taxi, Limousine and Vehicle for Hire By-law as this will provide residents with consistency and confidence when riding in a taxi, limo or vehicle for hire in Grey County.

- Service providers will be required to have the same insurance coverage, currently there is no standard for insurance coverage
- Riders will find comfort in knowing that all drivers will have gone through the same screening and training
- Vehicles will be inspected to the same standard and meet all accessible requirements
- Fare consistency will be possible

Although there are many benefits for developing a County By-law, there are a few logistics that would need to be determined.

- Who should be responsible for the ensuring providers meet the initial licensing and vehicle inspection requirements?
  - Grey County, local police or each municipality?
- Who should be responsible for by-law enforcement? What are the penalties for non-compliance?
  - Grey County, local police or each municipality?
- How would the licensing fees be determined?
  - Would current licensing rates be calculated and averaged to determine the County wide rate?
    - Is there room to increase licensing rates within your municipality?
  - To date, four municipalities have a taxi and limousine by-law, and licensing fees have been set by each municipality.
  - Would drivers get to select areas of Grey County they would like to serve, and licensing fees will be based on zones?

Wellington County recently developed a By-law to Licence, Regulate and Govern Accessible Taxicabs, Taxicabs, Limousines and Vehicles for Hire and its owners, drivers and operators. Please find the By-law attached for your reference.

Staff consulted with municipalities that currently have a taxi by-law to receive feedback and input for the above content. Staff received feedback that municipalities would like Grey County to be responsible for this process.

## Next Steps

Staff are reviewing the responses to the Community Transportation Negotiated RFP and will bring a report forward for Council's consideration once that work is complete.

Staff will continue to seek input and collaboration regarding the development of a Vehicle for Hire by-law. Cohesion and municipal collaboration are important for the success of this project.

## Legal and Legislated Requirements

None with this report.

## Financial and Resource Implications

None with this report.

## Relevant Consultation

- ☒ Internal: Tourism, Communication, Economic Development, Social Services, CAO, Clerk
- ☒ External: Chatsworth, Georgian Bluffs, Grey Highlands, West Grey, Southgate, Meaford, Owen Sound, Hanover, The Blue Mountains

## Appendices and Attachments

[Wellington County By-law](#)