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The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

To: Health & Social Services Committee
From: Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health
Report: 2024-MOH-4
Date: November 7, 2024

Subject:

Region of Durham Paramedic Services (RDPS): Two Ford Explorers to support Community Program for Long Term Care (CPLTC)

Recommendation:

That the Health & Social Services Committee recommends to Regional Council:

- A) That the unbudgeted purchase of two Ford Explorers, at an estimated upset cost of \$109,344, be approved to address the need in Durham Region and financed 100 per cent from savings within Provincial funding of the Community Program for Long Term Care.
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Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for an unbudgeted capital request allowing RDPS to secure two Ford Explorers to be utilized in the CPLTC.
- 1.2 Purchase of two Ford Explorers will allow Community Programs to continue to be operational and service the community with various types of visits: initial visits, follow up visits and exacerbation visits.
- 1.3 We require these vehicles to continue to expand and perform community paramedicine work in Durham Region to reduce 911/ED utilization while keeping the population in their homes as safely and independently as possible.

2. Background

- 2.1 Community Programs perform proactive, safe, 24/7, diagnostic testing and assessments to keep older adults living safely and independently in their homes for as long as possible while avoiding 911/ED utilization.

- 2.2 All Community Programs vehicles purchased for use by RDPS CP staff must be compliant with the current HTA and operated safely while following the internal Policy & Procedure Vehicle Operations #3.010.
- 2.3 All Community Programs fleet will be upfitted to allow appropriate equipment storage in, and standardized by RDPS CP, to the extent possible, throughout the CP fleet for risk management and clinical care purposes.
- 2.4 Tender 605-2024 was issued and closed on September 3, 2024. Two unit of the 8 units in the tender are to be allocated to RDPS CP program and subject to the approval of this report will be awarded in accordance with the Purchasing By-law.
- 2.5 The estimated cost to purchase two unbudgeted Ford Explorers for use in the Community Programs is \$109,344. Earlier this year, Regional Council approved the adoption of the Ford Explorer Interceptor as the standard vehicle for use by RDPS Community Programs.

3. Previous Reports

- 3.1 Report [Report#2024-MOH-3](#) provided an update on the vehicle standardization and upfitting.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There is a surplus of funding within the CPLTC for the 2024/25 fiscal year that would be re-directed to fund the addition of two Ford Explorers vehicles. The Province has approved a revision of the 2024/2025 budget for CPLTC to permit the redirection of funding. To ensure this purchase can be applied to the CPLTC funding, a purchase order must be issued prior to the provincial year end of March 31, 2025.
- 4.2 Section 14.2 of the Budget Management Policy requires Regional Council approval of unbudgeted capital expenditures in excess of \$50,000.
- 4.3 Operational costs of the additional vehicles will be covered within the CPLTC.

5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 5.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goal and priority in the Durham Region Strategic Plan including Community Paramedicine:
 - a. Goal 1: Environmental Sustainability: adoption of clean energy solutions through strategic investment of vehicles.
 - b. Goal 5: Service Excellence: Optimize resources and partnerships to deliver exceptional quality services and value.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 It is recommended that the two Ford Explorers be purchased to support CPLTC to work together to deliver service excellence to the Durham Region residents.
- 6.2 This report has been reviewed by the Finance Department and the Commissioner of Finance concurs with the financial recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

R.J. Kyle, BSc, MD, MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC, FACPM
Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health

Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Original signed by

Nancy Taylor
Commissioner of Finance