

Report #4 of the Committee of the Whole

For consideration by Regional Council

April 23, 2025

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the following:

1. Durham Greener Homes Program Update and Enhancements ([2025-COW-17](#))
 - A) That Regional Council endorse the enhancements to the Durham Greener Homes Program as outlined in Report #2025-COW-17 of the Chief Administrative Officer, including:
 - i) Introducing services to support Durham Region residents in undertaking “weather-ready” home renovations that reduce the impacts and potential costs associated with extreme weather events on their homes through expert advice, program funding supports, industry training, and community engagement; and
 - ii) Introducing a direct municipality-to-homeowner loan financing program, led by the Region and based on authority granted under the Municipal Act (2001), and associated Ontario Regulations 322/12 and 586/06 which authorizes municipalities to make available a Local Improvement Charge (LIC) financing option for energy and water retrofits on private property, subject to the Region successfully renegotiating the existing Grant and Loan Loss Reserve funding agreement with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) through their Community Efficiency Financing (CEF) program to enable funds to be redirected towards home energy and water retrofit loan financing program;
 - B) That staff be authorized to negotiate and award a sole source agreement with the Windfall Ecology Centre to deliver the proposed weather-ready enhancements through existing Durham Greener Homes Program supported by approved operating funding for a period of up to four (4) years (April 2025-March 2029);
 - C) That Regional Council direct staff to prepare and submit a funding proposal through FCM’s Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation program Financing Adaptation Stream anticipated to launch in Fall 2025 to support the full implementation of the Durham Greener Homes Program weather-ready program as outlined in Report #2025-COW-17;
 - D) That the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to enter into all necessary agreements with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and other partners, in forms satisfactory to the Regional Solicitor and Commissioner of Finance, to support implementation of the Program enhancements outlined in Report #2025-COW-17;

- E) That debenture financing from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities not to exceed \$2 million be approved to implement the direct municipality-to-homeowner loan financing program outlined in Recommendation A) ii);
- F) That the Commissioner of Finance/Regional Treasurer, Regional Chair and Regional Clerk be authorized to enter into any loan agreements or execute other documents that may be required to receive the debenture financing from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities;
- G) That approval be granted for the requisite by-laws to receive loan or grant financing from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to advance the Durham Greener Homes Program and the direct municipality-to-homeowner loan financing program; and
- H) That a copy of Report #2025-COW-17 be forwarded to local area municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks, Housing Infrastructure and Communities Canada, the Durham Region Home Builders' Association, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), for their information.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Henry, Regional Chair and CEO