

Report #7 of the Committee of the Whole

For consideration by Regional Council

June 25, 2025

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the following:

1. 2026 Regional Property Tax Supported Business Plans and Budget Guideline ([2025-COW-28](#))

 - A) That the following detailed direction and guideline for the 2026 Property Tax Supported Business Plans and Budget for Regional Departments, Durham Region Transit Commission, and Durham Regional Local Housing Corporation be approved:
 - i) The 2026 Property Tax Supported Business Plans and Budget for Regional Departments, Durham Region Transit Commission, and Durham Regional Local Housing Corporation not exceed \$704.734 million, an increase of 6.44 per cent compared to the 2025 approved budget for Regional Departments, Durham Region Transit Commission, and Durham Regional Local Housing Corporation, which translates to an overall property tax impact of 3.48 per cent for 2026 on the Regional portion of the property tax bill after assessment growth;
 - B) That the following detailed direction and guideline for the 2026 Business Plans and Budget for each Conservation Authority be approved:
 - i) The 2026 Business Plans and Budget for each Conservation Authority not exceed an increase of 2.5 per cent, plus or minus any current value assessment adjustments, compared to the 2025 approved budget, which translates to an overall property tax impact of 0.02 per cent for 2026 on the Regional portion of the property tax bill;
 - C) That copies of Report #2025-COW-28 of the Commissioner of Finance be forwarded to Durham Region Transit Commission, Conservation Authorities, Durham Regional Local Housing Corporation, and other Outside Agencies to guide the development of detailed 2026 Business Plans and Budget; and
 - D) That staff provide information with the budget on what would have to be eliminated or reduced to achieve a tax rate increase at 3 per cent and 2.48 per cent.

2. 2026 Durham Regional Police Service Property Tax Supported Business Plans and Budget Guideline ([2025-COW-29](#))

- A) That the following detailed guideline for the 2026 Property Tax Supported Business Plans and Budget for the Durham Regional Police Service Board be approved and the Durham Regional Police Service Board be requested to prepare and submit a 2026 Property Tax Supported Business Plans and Budget in compliance with timelines set out and aligned with this guideline:
 - i) The 2026 Property Tax Supported Business Plans and Budget for the Durham Regional Police Service Board not exceed \$346.813 million, an increase of 10.69 per cent compared to the 2025 approved budget for the Durham Regional Police Service, which translates to an overall property tax impact of 3.00 per cent for 2026 on the Regional portion of the property tax bill after assessment growth; and
- B) That a copy of Report #2025-COW-29 of the Commissioner of Finance be forwarded to the Durham Regional Police Service Board to guide the development of their detailed 2026 Business Plans and Budget.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Henry, Regional Chair and CEO