

Authority: Item 10, General Issues Committee
Report 11-018 (FCS11055)
CM: June 15, 2011

Bill No. 161

CITY OF HAMILTON

BY-LAW NO. 11-161

To Authorize the Signing of an Agreement between the City of Hamilton and the Ministry of Transportation Related to Funding Provided Under the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program.

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Hamilton deems it advisable to enter into an agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario, as represented by the Minister of Transportation related to funding provided by the Province of Ontario to the Municipality under the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program;

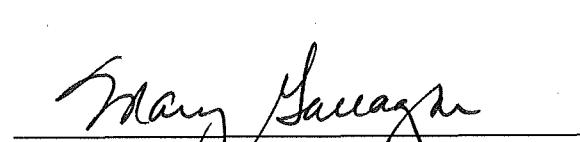
NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Hamilton enacts as follows:

1. The Mayor and City Treasurer are authorized and directed to sign the Letter of Agreement between the City of Hamilton and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario, as represented by the Minister of Transportation which is attached Schedule A and forms part of this By-law.
2. This By-law may be cited for all purposes as the 2011 City of Hamilton/Ministry of Transportation Gas Tax Funding Agreement Bylaw.
3. This By-law is deemed to have come into force on June 15, 2011.

PASSED this 15th day of June, 2011.



R. Bratina
Mayor



M. Gallagher
Acting City Clerk

**Ministry of
Transportation**

Office of the Minister

Ferguson Block, 3rd Floor
77 Wellesley St. West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1Z8
(416) 327-9200
www.mto.gov.on.ca

**Ministère des
Transports**

Bureau du ministre

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May 20, 2011

His Worship Bob Bratina
Mayor
The City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario
L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Bratina:

RE: Letter of Agreement between Her Majesty the Queen in right of the Province of Ontario, represented by the Minister of Transportation for the Province of Ontario (the “Ministry”) and the City of Hamilton (the “Municipality”) Related to Funding Provided by the Province of Ontario (the “Province”) to the Municipality under the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program (this “Letter of Agreement”)

This Letter of Agreement sets out the terms and conditions for the use of dedicated gas tax funds by municipalities for public transportation.

As the Province desires to increase public transportation ridership to support the development of strong communities, the Ministry maintains a Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program (the “program”) under which two (2) cents of the existing provincial gas tax will be provided to municipalities for public transportation expenditures.

Any funding to the Municipality by the Ministry will be provided in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in this Letter of Agreement and the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds for Public Transportation Program – 2010/2011 Guidelines and Requirements (the “guidelines and requirements”).

In consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained in this Letter of Agreement and the guidelines and requirements, which have been reviewed and are understood by the Municipality and are hereby incorporated by reference, the Ministry and the Municipality covenant and agree as follows:

1. To support increased public transportation ridership in the Municipality, and in recognition of the Municipality's need for predictable and sustainable funding to support investments in the renewal and expansion of public transportation systems, the Ministry agrees to provide funding to the Municipality under the program in an amount up to \$10,846,440 in accordance with and subject to the terms set out in this Letter of Agreement and the guidelines and requirements, with \$8,134,830 payable on receipt of this signed Letter of Agreement and related authorizing municipal by-law, and the remaining payment payable thereafter on a quarterly basis.
2. Despite Section 1, the Municipality understands and agrees that any amount payable under this Letter of Agreement may be subject, at the Ministry's discretion, to adjustment to reflect final gas tax receipts and any other adjustments as set out in the guidelines and requirements, including those related to annual appropriations of funds by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.
3. If the Municipality receives dedicated gas tax funds on behalf of any other municipality, and the other municipality has agreed to the Municipality collecting the dedicated gas tax funds on its behalf, the Municipality shall provide, upon request and in compliance with the requirements set out in the guidelines and requirements, any applicable municipal by-law and legal agreement between the Municipality and the other municipality providing for such arrangement to the Ministry prior to the payment of any dedicated gas tax funds by the Ministry under this Letter of Agreement.
4. The Municipality shall deposit the funds received under this Letter of Agreement in a dedicated gas tax funds reserve account, and use such funds only in accordance with the guidelines and requirements.

5. The Municipality shall adhere to the reporting and accountability measures set out in the guidelines and requirements, and shall provide all requested documents to the Ministry.
6. The Municipality understands and agrees that the funding provided under this Letter of Agreement represents the full extent of the Ministry's and Province's financial contribution under the program and that no additional funds will be provided by either the Ministry or the Province for such purposes to the Municipality for the 2010/2011 program year.
7. The Ministry may terminate this Letter of Agreement at any time, without cause, upon giving at least sixty (60) days written notice to the Municipality. If the Ministry terminates this Letter of Agreement without cause, it may cancel all further dedicated gas tax funds payments. Where the Ministry has terminated this Letter of Agreement under this Section, the Ministry may, after determining the Municipality's reasonable costs to terminate any binding agreement for any eligible public transportation service acquired or to be acquired with dedicated gas tax funds provided under this Letter of Agreement, provide the Municipality with additional funding to offset, in whole or in part, such costs. The additional funding may be provided only if there is an appropriation for this purpose, and in no event shall the additional funding result in the total funding under this Letter of Agreement exceeding the amount specified under Section 1.
8. If the Legislature fails to appropriate sufficient funds for the program, the Ministry may terminate this Letter of Agreement immediately by giving notice to the Municipality. In such instance the Ministry may cancel all further dedicated gas tax fund payments.
9. Any provisions, including those in the guidelines and requirements, which by their nature are intended to survive the termination or expiration of this Letter of Agreement, shall survive its termination or expiration.
10. The Municipality hereby consents to the execution by the Ministry of this Letter of Agreement by means of an electronic signature.

If the Municipality is satisfied with and accepts the terms and conditions of this Letter of Agreement, please secure the required signatures for the four enclosed copies of this Letter of Agreement and return two fully signed copies to:

Ministry of Transportation
Division Services and Program Management Office
27th Floor, Suite # 2702
777 Bay Street,
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J8

Once the Ministry has received the signed copies together with a copy of the authorizing municipal by-law, the Ministry will make arrangements for the payment of the dedicated gas tax funds to the Municipality.

Yours sincerely,



Kathleen Wynne
Minister of Transportation

I have read and understand the terms of this Letter of Agreement, as set out above, and by signing below I am signifying the Municipality's consent to be bound by these terms.

The Corporation of the City of Hamilton

Per: R. Bratina Date: May 31/11
Mayor

Per: _____ Date: _____
Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer