Mr. Mayor and Members of Council, the following serves as an update on emergency works related to the spring/summer 2019 wet weather events and elevated lake levels.

In 2019, significant snowmelt and rainfall events occurred in Hamilton resulting in high water levels in Lake Ontario and Hamilton Harbour. On May 31, 2019, the water level in Lake Ontario was measured at 75.88 metres above sea level. This level surpassed the record of 75.87 metres, which was reached on four different days in late May 2017. On June 4, 2019, the water levels in Lake Ontario peaked at 76.01 metres, approximately 1.32 metres above historical averages.

Hamilton Water, declared an emergency on May 3, 2019 as defined in the Procurement Policy By-Law 17-064. Moffatt Equipment was authorized to perform emergency works throughout the City resulting from extreme wet weather flows and elevated lake level conditions. Works included the procurement of pumps, pumping water off several roadways in the neighbourhood near Beach Blvd and cleaning inlets and outlets.

As of July 31, 2019, Lake Ontario water levels are still elevated at 75.75 metres and have not returned back to manageable levels. It is expected that the emergency works will continue throughout August 2019. However, an interim payment will be completed for works procured through Procurement Policy 10 for Moffatt Equipment at a cost of $753,025.00 necessitating a notification to Council.

For further information, please contact Dave Alberton, Manager Water Distribution & Wastewater Collection, at (905) 546-2424, extension 1090.