

# Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

## Report

12th Meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee  
August 30, 2022

**PRESENT:** Mayor E. Holder (Chair), Councillors M. van Holst, S. Lewis, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Cassidy, M. Hamou, J. Morgan, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Turner, E. Peloza, J. Fyfe-Millar, S. Hillier

**ALSO PRESENT:** K. Van Lammeren, B. Westlake-Power

Remote Attendance: L. Livingstone, A. Barbon, B. Card, S. Corman, J. Dann, J. Davison, K. Dickins, A. Dunbar, S. Mathers, M. Schulthess, C. Smith

The meeting is called to order at 4:01 PM; it being noted that the following Members were in remote attendance: M. van Holst, M. Salih, J. Helmer, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Turner, E. Peloza and S. Hillier.

### 1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor J. Helmer discloses a pecuniary interest with respect to Item 2.2, having to do with the Municipal Accommodation Tax and Short-term Accommodations, by indicating that he has rented home in past with AirBNB and may do so again in the future.

### 2. Consent

#### 2.1 3rd Report of the Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Oppression Community Advisory Committee

Moved by: M. Hamou

Seconded by: E. Peloza

That the 3rd Report of the Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Oppression Community Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on August 11, 2022, BE RECEIVED.

Yeas: (15): Mayor E. Holder, M. van Holst, S. Lewis, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Cassidy, M. Hamou, J. Morgan, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Turner, E. Peloza, J. Fyfe-Millar, and S. Hillier

**Motion Passed (15 to 0)**

#### 2.2 Municipal Accommodation Tax - Amended By-law to Include Short-Term Accommodations

Moved by: M. van Holst

Seconded by: P. Van Meerbergen

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Finance Supports, the proposed by-law as appended to the staff report dated August 30, 2022 as Appendix 'A', BE INTRODUCED at the Municipal Council meeting on September 6, 2022, with respect to the by-law entitled "A By-law to Impose a Municipal Accommodation Tax".

Yeas: (14): Mayor E. Holder, M. van Holst, S. Lewis, M. Salih, M. Cassidy, M. Hamou, J. Morgan, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Turner, E. Pelozza, J. Fyfe-Millar, and S. Hillier

Recuse: (1): J. Helmer

**Motion Passed (14 to 0)**

**3. Scheduled Items**

None.

**4. Items for Direction**

**4.1 Allocation of Remaining London Community Recovery Network (LCRN) Funding**

Moved by: M. Cassidy  
Seconded by: J. Fyfe-Millar

That the Civic Administration, including (but not limited to) staff in Social and Health Development BE DIRECTED to work together with Community Partners to develop London Community Recovery Network (LCRN) business cases with a focus on addressing London’s social recovery, especially in mitigating the effects of homelessness, precarious employment, food insecurity, etc; it being noted that the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee received a communication dated August 25, 2022 from K. Pagniello, Executive Director, M. Laliberte, Staff Lawyer and T. Kiefer, Housing Support Worker, Neighbourhood Legal Services with respect to this matter.

Yeas: (15): Mayor E. Holder, M. van Holst, S. Lewis, M. Salih, J. Helmer, M. Cassidy, M. Hamou, J. Morgan, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Turner, E. Pelozza, J. Fyfe-Millar, and S. Hillier

**Motion Passed (15 to 0)**

**5. Deferred Matters/Additional Business**

None.

**6. Adjournment**

Moved by: A. Hopkins  
Seconded by: S. Hillier

That the meeting BE ADJOURNED.

**Motion Passed**

The meeting adjourned at 4:12 PM.

**Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Oppression Community  
Advisory Committee  
Report**

The 3rd Meeting of the Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Oppression Community Advisory Committee  
August 11, 2022

Attendance                      PRESENT: R. O'Hagan (Chair), K. Burke, P. Gill, R. Gill, B. Hill, L. Ochoa and J. Pineda; J. Bunn (Acting Committee Clerk)

ABSENT: S. Evoy, N. Fahd, M. Castillo, N. Fragis, H. Karky, M. Mlotha and A. Stonefish

ALSO PRESENT: R. Morris, M. Schulthess and B. Westlake-Power

The meeting stood adjourned at 4:30 PM due to lack of quorum.

## Report to Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

**To:** Chair and Members  
Strategic Priorities & Policy Committee

**From:** Anna Lisa Barbon, CPA, CGA  
Deputy City Manager, Finance Supports

**Subject:** Municipal Accommodation Tax – Amended By-law to Include Short-term Accommodations

**Date:** August 30, 2022

## Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Finance Supports, the attached proposed by-law (Appendix 'A') **BE INTRODUCED** at the Municipal Council meeting on September 6, 2022, with respect to the by-law entitled "A By-law to Impose a Municipal Accommodation Tax".

## Executive Summary

On August 2, 2022, Municipal Council approved the by-law entitled "A By-law to impose a Municipal Accommodation Tax and to repeal By-law No. A.-7753-259, as amended, entitled "A bylaw to impose a Municipal Accommodation Tax"". The newly approved by-law did not include the necessary clause to repeal the previous by-law. The attached proposed amending by-law corrects this issue.

## Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

Council's 2019 to 2023 Strategic Plan for the City of London identifies "Leading in Public Service" as a strategic area of focus. Specifically, utilizing non-tax supported sources of funding to support program or project delivery contributes to the strategy "Continue to ensure the strength and sustainability of London's finances."

## Analysis

### 1.0 Discussion and Considerations

#### 1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

Strategic Priorities & Policy Committee – July 27, 2022 – Municipal Accommodation Tax on Short-Term Accommodations – Single Source Procurement 2022-211, [2022-07-27 - Municipal Accommodation Tax.pdf](#)

#### 1.2 Background and Purpose

On August 2, 2022, Municipal Council approved the by-law entitled "A By-law to Impose a Municipal Accommodation Tax and to repeal By-law No. A.-7753-259, as amended, entitled "A bylaw to impose a Municipal Accommodation Tax"". This by-law required short-term accommodations to collect Municipal Accommodation Tax and was intended to replace the previous by-law. The newly approved by-law did not include the necessary clause to repeal the previous by-law. The attached proposed by-law includes the required clause and makes no other changes. The proposed by-law will repeal the prior by-law effective October 1, 2022.

## Conclusion

The attached proposed amending by-law corrects the issue as noted above which appropriately repeals By-Law No. A.-7753-259.

**Recommended by:** Anna Lisa Barbon, CPA, CGA  
Deputy City Manager, Finance Supports

Appendix A Proposed By-law for MAT

## Appendix A

Bill No.  
2022

By-law No. A.-8290( )--

A by-law to amend By-law No. A.-8290-227, a bylaw to impose a Municipal Accommodation Tax and to repeal By-law No. A.-7753-259, as amended, entitled, “A bylaw to impose a Municipal Accommodation Tax”

WHEREAS section 400.1 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipality may pass a by-law imposing a transient accommodation tax;

WHEREAS Ontario Regulation 435/17 provides regulations in respect of the imposition of a transient accommodation tax;

WHEREAS section 23.2 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* permits a municipality to delegate certain legislative and quasi-judicial powers;

AND WHEREAS at its meeting of May 8, 2018, Council approved the establishment of the transient accommodation tax to be imposed on the purchase of accommodations of short duration within the City of London, which will generate revenue to be shared with designated non-profit entities to promote local tourism;

AND WHEREAS Council approved the imposition of transient accommodation tax on the purchase of Short-term Accommodation at its meeting of August 2, 2022 and passed “A bylaw to impose a Municipal Accommodation Tax and to repeal By-law No. A.-7753-259, as amended, entitled “A bylaw to impose a Municipal Accommodation Tax””;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed expedient to repeal By-law No. A.7753-259, as amended, entitled, “A bylaw to impose a Municipal Accommodation Tax” and all its amendments;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

1. By-law No. A.-8290-227 is hereby amended by adding the following section and renumbering the bylaw provisions accordingly:

**12. Repeal**

By-law No. A.-7753-259, entitled, “A bylaw to impose a Municipal Accommodation Tax” and all of its amendments shall be repealed effective October 1, 2022.

2. This bylaw comes into force and effect on the day it is passed.

PASSED in Open Council on

Ed Holder  
Mayor

Michael Schulthess  
City Clerk

First reading –  
Second reading –  
Third reading -



30 August 2022

Chair and Members Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

**Allocation of Remaining LCRN Funding**

Dear Colleagues,

As you know, London has experienced devastating impacts – both economically and socially - from the COVID-19 Global Pandemic. It is for this reason that the London Community Recovery Network (LCRN) was created with directing funding towards initiatives to aid in London’s economic and social recovery. Since the launch of LCRN, we have welcomed the re-opening of our economy thanks to advances in the prevention of COVID-19 through a multi-layered response, including and especially through mass vaccination. As London continues to experience economic growth and investment, we have good reason to be optimistic for our business sector.

Unfortunately, the pandemic has greatly exacerbated existing social challenges, including fellow Londoners who are experiencing poverty and living unsheltered. The social impacts that have been made worse by COVID-19 do not seem to be abating and recent events in our city have called necessary public attention to this dire situation.

Therefore, I am proposing the following motion:

That Civic Administration – including (but not limited to) Staff in Social and Health Development - be directed to work together with Community Partners to develop LCRN business cases with a focus on addressing London’s social recovery, especially in mitigating the effects of homelessness, precarious employment, food insecurity, etc.

Respectfully submitted,



Maureen Cassidy  
Councillor, Ward 5



**Neighbourhood  
Legal Services**  
LONDON AND MIDDLESEX

August 25, 2022

Community and Protective Services Committee  
City of London  
300 Dufferin Ave  
London, ON N6B 1Z2

By email [cpssc@london.ca](mailto:cpssc@london.ca)  
cc: [mcassidy@london.ca](mailto:mcassidy@london.ca)

**Re: August 30, 2022 Agenda Item – 4.1 Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee**

Dear Committee Members:

Neighbourhood Legal Services London Middlesex is a poverty law clinic assisting low income Ontarians who reside in London and Middlesex County with legal issues in the areas of social assistance, landlord/tenant and precarious employment. As such, we are highly aware of the difficulties that low income Ontarians encounter.

We are writing today to support Ward 5 Councillor Maureen Cassidy's motion to direct staff to work with community partners on social service business cases for the \$2.9 million left in the London Community Recovery Network fund. We specifically support her priority of focussing these funds on efforts to mitigate homelessness.

Throughout the course of the pandemic low income Londoners have suffered greatly. There have been no increases to social assistance in the past three years, and the upcoming 5% increase to ODSP rates doesn't come close to addressing cost of living increases over these past years. We know that food alone has increased approximately 10% and food bank usage is at an all-time high.

Moreover, the crisis in housing in London is exacerbated by very large increases in rent over the past few years; 18% last year alone. The average price of a one bedroom unit now is close to \$1,200 and \$1,800 for a two bedroom apartment. This has meant that many landlords are highly motivated to evict long standing tenants in favour of newer tenants so that they can gain the value of those rental price changes. Shelter allowances for OW and ODSP remain at \$389 and \$497 respectively. The people we service, including the working poor, cannot afford market rents. Many vulnerable low-income tenants are simply not able to find new housing they can afford.



We support Councillor Cassidy's call to work with community partners to develop business plans for the use of these funds for low-income Londoners. For example, our clinic would support these funds could be used by allocating them to the Community Bridge Housing Program that assists low-income tenants to find and afford adequate housing. We believe this would be an effective way to prevent homelessness and take some pressure off the shelter system. We have an urgent need now for rental housing assistance now, in the form of rent supplements to keep low income Londoners from becoming homeless.

Thank you for your anticipated review of Councillor Cassidy's motion, which we fully support.

Yours truly,



Kristie Pagniello  
Executive Director



Mike Laliberte  
Staff Lawyer



Theresa Kiefer  
Housing Support Worker