



Staff Report

Report To:	South Huron Council
From:	Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk
Date:	January 15 2018
Report:	CAO 18.2
Subject:	Community Transportation Grant Program

Recommendations:

That the report of Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer dated January 15, 2018 regarding the Community Transportation Grant Program be received; and

That Administration be authorized to proceed with discussions with potential partners on the initiative; and

That Administration be authorized to proceed with the grant application for the Community Transportation Grant program for the February 28, 2018 deadline.

Purpose:

Council authorization

Background and Analysis:

The Ministry of Transportation is releasing a new round of funding for community transportation initiatives. The new Community Transportation Grant Program – Municipal Stream (CT Program) builds on the two-year Pilot Program established in 2015, to fund the development of community transportation solutions to address local transportation needs, including ways to better utilize existing transportation resources.

The new program is also expanding to fund the development of intercommunity bus services to link communities across counties and

regions. The total funding available is \$30 M for a 5 year program. The maximum individual grant is \$500,000 for local community transportation projects and \$1.5 M for intercommunity bus projects.

The new CT Program is an opportunity for municipalities to develop new transportation service or improve existing service to Ontario communities that are not served or are underserved by regular transit and intercommunity bus service.

The program emphasizes improving mobility options for the whole community and those who experience transportation barriers, including older adults, people with disabilities, youth, and persons living on low income. The program emphasizes partnerships, coordination, and a collaborative approach to service delivery.

While the new CT Program is continuing its funding of coordinated community transportation delivery, the Ministry is also seeking initiatives that can meet growing regional and intercommunity travel demand by:

- Developing long-distance intercommunity bus services in priority areas of the province where there is no or insufficient intercommunity service;
- Providing local community transportation services that connect to existing, new or planned intercommunity bus routes and other transportation systems;
- Creating and supporting local transportation hubs to connect passengers safely and conveniently to transportation services.

At this time, it is requested that authorization to begin the process be granted. Administration will ensure that Council will be apprised of progress to date prior to the submission of a grant application on February 28, 2018.

Operational Considerations:

There are no operational considerations as a result of the actions outlined in this report

South Huron's Strategic Plan:

Section 6.2.2 of the Municipality of South Huron 2015- 2019 Strategic Plan identifies key priorities and strategic directions. The following elements are supported by the actions outlined in this report:

- ✓ Improved Recreation and Effort Community Wellbeing
- ✓ Dedicated Economic Development

Financial Impact:

There are no financial implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

Legal Impact:

There are no legal implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

Staffing Impact:

There are no staffing implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

Policies/Legislation:

None

Consultation:

None

Related Documents:

None

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk