

Elgin County Council Highlights



Council Approves Design for Wildflower Plot and Native Species Planting Guidelines

As recommended by the Environmental Advisory Committee, County Council approved a design for a wildflower plot at the Elgin Manor Long-Term Care Home. An existing garden at the Home will be repurposed with native species plantings such as milkweed, Black Eyed Susan, Purple Coneflower, Wild Indigo and other species of flowers that are native to southwestern Ontario. Native species provide critical habitats for native pollinators including butterflies, bees, moths, beetles and hummingbirds.

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Council Approves Design for Wildflower Plot and Native Species Planting Guidelines (continued)

Council also approved a set of guidelines to provide direction to County of Elgin staff and contracted landscapers regarding the use of native species in new and existing landscaped areas/garden plots at County owned facilities.

Both the approved wildflower plot design and the Native Species Planting Guidelines are included in the July 26, 2022 Elgin County Council Agenda Package.



Elgin County Investment Policy Created

At its meeting on July 26, 2022 County Council approved an Investment Policy. This policy ensures that the County remains in compliance with relevant Sections and Regulations as outlined in the Municipal Act by providing the framework for staff to utilize when making investment decisions on behalf of the County.

The Investment Policy serves to minimize the risk of loss on principle and safeguard County assets in readiness for future use. It is intended that unused funds would create additional revenue when not used.

The full policy can be found in the July 26, 2022 Elgin County Council Agenda Package.

County Council Approves Connectivity Advocacy Plan

The Connectivity Committee has worked tirelessly over the past several years to enable an environment for Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to flourish. The connectivity landscape in Elgin has already changed with new networks emerging to fill connectivity gaps; however, there are still many areas that need to be addressed.

County Council, at the recommendation of the Connectivity Committee, approved a four (4) pillar Connectivity Advocacy Plan for implementation. Areas of focus include Communications and Engagement, Leadership and Relationship Building, Advocacy, and Education. Advocacy efforts with all other levels of government will be centered on the critical role played by access to stable and affordable broadband infrastructure in local, provincial, and national economic recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic.

The full Connectivity Advocacy Strategy is available for review in the July 26, 2022 Elgin County Council Agenda Package.



Council Approves Minor Revision to Draft Plan of Condominium in Aylmer

County Council approved a minor revision to Condition No. 4 of the February 8, 2022 Decision regarding the approval of a Draft Plan of Condominium proposed by Dillon Consulting Ltd. in the Town of Aylmer. Draft plan approval was provided by County Council on February 8, 2022, for a plan of condominium on lands municipally known as 335 John Street South, Town of Aylmer. Staff sought Council approval to revise Condition No. 4 to ensure the County reserves a right to any easements which may reasonably be required as part of the development. County staff, as well as the County Solicitor, discussed the above revisions with the owner, who has advised of no objection.

Full details of this minor condition are included in the July 26, 2022 Elgin County Council Agenda Package.

New Fire Training Officer Cost Sharing Agreement Approved

County Council approved a new fire training officer cost-sharing agreement to be entered into by Elgin County's Local Municipal Partners. The Corporation of the County of Elgin provides Fire Training Officer services to its Local Municipal Partners (LMPs).

Initially, the service was provided to five of seven LMPs with Central Elgin and the Town of Aylmer not electing to participate in the first instance. Subsequently, Central Elgin elected to participate in the services, resulting in a first amending agreement to the initial cost-sharing agreement. More recently, the Town of Aylmer has signalled its desire to participate in the services. For efficiency and ease of contract administration, a new cost-sharing agreement recognizing the participation of all LMPs will be entered into rather than entering into a further amending Agreement.

Details of the cost-sharing agreement are included in the July 26, 2022 Elgin County Council Agenda Package.



Community Emergency Management Support for Local Municipal Partners

The County's Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) has the primary responsibility and accountability for developing, implementing and maintaining the municipal emergency management programs for Elgin County. These programs are geared towards the prevention, response and recovery of emergencies that could have an impact on our community.

In 2020, Elgin County began providing emergency management program support for interested Local Municipal Partners (LMPs) through a shared service pilot. Providing emergency management services to LMPs achieves cost savings for LMPs and supports a standardized approach to emergency management across the County. The County's CEMC works with the LMP's Community Emergency Management Program Committee to support the development of their municipal emergency management programs.

County Council approved a Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) Services agreement for consideration by any additional interested LMPs. This agreement is included in full in the July 26, 2022 County Council Agenda Package.



For the complete July 26, 2022 County Council Agenda Package
please visit the Elgin County [website](#).