Date May 14, 2019 Report No. 2019-346

To Chair and Members Committee of the Whole – Operations and Administration

From E. (Beth) Goodger, General Manager Public Works Commission

1.0 Type of Report

Consent Item []

Item For Consideration [X]

2.0 Topic Brant County Health Unit 2019 West Nile Virus Surveillance and Prevention Program [Financial Impact – None]

3.0 Recommendation

A. THAT Report No. 2019-346 Brant County Health Unit 2019 West Nile Virus Surveillance and Prevention Program, BE RECEIVED; and

B. THAT the Letter of Permission attached to Report 2019-346 as Appendix "B" BE PROVIDED by the City Clerk, on behalf of The Corporation of the City of Brantford, to the Brant County Health Unit indicating Municipal Council’s support of the actions to be undertaken to reduce the risk of West Nile Virus, by conducting larviciding of catchbasins and any other areas of standing water, as necessary, in order to reduce local mosquito populations as part of the Brant County Health Unit’s West Nile Virus Surveillance and Prevention Program.

4.0 Purpose and Overview

To obtain Council approval to provide a letter of permission from the City of Brantford to the Brant County Health Unit (BCHU) to conduct larviciding of
catchbasins and any other areas of standing water as necessary, in order to reduce local mosquito populations as part of the BCHU's 2019 West Nile Virus Surveillance and Prevention Program.

5.0 Background

A letter dated April 11, 2019 (attached as Appendix “A”) was received from the Manager, Environmental Health & Infectious Diseases, Brant County Health Unit (BCHU), requesting a Letter of Permission from the City, which is required by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) in order to issue a permit to the Health Unit's Licenced Pesticide Applicator. Once the permit has been received, the Health Unit will begin larviciding in late June / early July 2019.

The BCHU has been requesting the letter of permission to conduct larviciding in conjunction with the City’s catchbasins and other standing water areas since 2006.

6.0 Corporate Policy Context

Goal #2 of the Strategic Plan “High Quality of Life and Caring for All Citizens” includes the following Long Term Desired Outcome:

“Brantford will be recognized as a safe, healthy community – one that promotes the well-being of its citizens, and supports access of all citizens to a full range of health and community services.”

Conducting a larviciding program to combat West Nile Virus will enhance community health and wellness and is consistent with this long term desired outcome of the Strategic Plan.

7.0 Input From Other Sources

Brant County Health Unit provided the financial details of the West Nile Virus Surveillance and Prevention Program and the documents (appendices) attached to this report.

8.0 Analysis

In order to protect the citizens of the City of Brantford from West Nile Virus, larviciding of catchbasins and other areas of standing water must be undertaken. A letter from the City is required by the MECP in order to issue a
permit to the Health Unit’s Licensed Pesticide applicator. Council approval to proceed will enable the larviciding operations to commence in late June or early July 2019. A sample copy of the letter to be forwarded to the MECP is attached for information as Appendix “B”.

The BCHU completes an annual assessment of the previous year’s program. In 2018, a total of 27,352 (Round 1: 14,980 and Round 2: 12,372) catch basins in the City of Brantford were larvicided as part of the West Nile Virus (WNV) Program. There were 13 isolated positive WNV mosquito pools (1st County of Brant, 2nd City of Brantford) and one pool reported from Six Nations. A total of 6 positive human cases of WNV were reported in the region in 2018.

The BCHU provides public health educational information about WNV (attached in Appendices “C” to “G”) such as WNV Questions and Answers, a Fact Sheet on WNV and West Nile Encephalitis, the BCHU WNV webpage, a utility bill insert and an Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Pamphlet.

9.0 Financial Implications

The WNV Program operated by the BCHU has a total budget of $92,133 for the 2019 operational year. The City’s share of the cost of the program for 2019 is $16,814 as outlined in Table 1. The cost is funded from the City’s annual funding allotment to the Heath Unit, provided through the Public Health, Safety and Social Services Budget. There is no other impact to the City’s budget.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Table 1 - Distribution of 2019 WNV Program Cost</th>
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<td><strong>PROVINCIAL (75%)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care will cost-share the West Nile Virus operational budget 75%/25% with the municipalities of the City of Brantford and the County of Brant.
10.0 Conclusion

In order to protect the citizens of the City of Brantford from WNV, larviciding of catchbasins and other areas of standing water must be undertaken. A letter from the City is required by the MECP in order to issue a permit to the Health Unit’s Licensed Pesticide applicator. Council approval to provide such a letter will enable the annual larviciding operations to commence in late June / early July 2019.

Selvi Kongara, P.Eng., Director of Environmental Services, Public Works Commission

E. (Beth) Goodger, General Manager, Public Works Commission

Attachments

- Appendix A - Letter dated April 11, 2019 from Manager, Environmental Health & Emergency Preparedness, Brant County Health Unit RE: Larviciding of Catchbasins - West Nile Virus
- Appendix B - Draft copy of the letter to be provided by City Clerk
- Appendix C - WNV Questions and Answers
- Appendix D - Fact Sheet – West Nile virus and West Nile Encephalitis
- Appendix E - Brant County Health Unit West Nile Virus Webpage Information
- Appendix F - Brant County Health Unit Hydro Bill Inserts to City of Brantford & County of Brant Residents
- Appendix G - Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Pamphlet

Copy To:

Jo Atanas, General Manager, Public Health, Safety and Social Services

In adopting this report, is a by-law or agreement required? If so, it should be referenced in the recommendation section.
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<td>By-law required</td>
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<td>Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk</td>
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<td>Is the necessary by-law or agreement being sent concurrently to Council?</td>
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