



Council Memorandum

Date: January 28th, 2020

To: Council

From: Councillor

Re: Flood Prevention Subsidy

Recommendation

That the memorandum from Councillor Pat Dunn regarding the implementation of a Flood Prevention Subsidy be received; and

That staff report on the feasibility of implementing such a program in the city of Kawartha Lakes and report back to Council by the end of Q2, 2020.

Rationale

In light of the recent sewage backup that affected Ward 5, it is important that residents connected to municipal wastewater systems have flood protection devices in place. Backwater valves (check valves), sump pumps, and the ability to sever and cap the home's storm sewer or external weeping tile connections play an important role in flood prevention. The City of Toronto offers a total subsidy of up to \$3,400.00 per property, upon proper installation of these flood- prevention devices. Similarly, the City of Peterborough offers a Flood Prevention Subsidy that offers financial assistance to property owners that find, and repair, problems causing rainwater inflow or ground water infiltration into the City's sanitary sewer system. This program includes the installation of backwater valves as well as sump pits and sump pumps.

Under our current By-law to Establish Management and Use of Sewer Works (2016-006), backwater valves are required for all new buildings with basements or below grade crawl spaces. Residents in existing dwellings that meet these criteria should be urged to follow this new standard. Given that we are facing an increasing number of extreme weather events and subsequent flooding each year, it is important that we are



proactive in encouraging our residents to participate in safe guarding both their homes and our water systems.