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**Township of Southgate
Council**

MEMORANDUM

SUBMITTED: October 28, 2024 **FOR MEETING:** November 6, 2024
TO: Council
FROM: Deputy Mayor Barbara Dobreen
NOTICE OF MOTION: **OPP Billing and the Call for Provincial Funding Support**

Recommendation:

WHEREAS it is apparent that the Ontario Government has overlooked the needs of small rural Ontario; and

WHEREAS Ontario's small rural municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets including roads, bridges, water/wastewater and municipally owned buildings including recreational facilities, libraries and other tangible capital assets; and

WHEREAS small rural Ontario's operating needs consume the majority of property tax revenue sources; and

WHEREAS small rural municipalities (of 10,000 people or less) are facing monumental infrastructure deficits that cannot be adequately addressed through property tax revenue alone; and

WHEREAS in 2015 the provincial government moved to standardized billing for all non-contract D.P.P. (5.1) locations; and

WHEREAS 323 Ontario municipalities are protected by the Ontario Provincial Police and are facing anywhere from 9% to 65% increases in OPP billing; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Government has committed \$9.1 billion to Toronto alone to assist with operating deficits and the repatriation of the Don Valley and Gardner Expressway; and \$534 million to Ottawa for the repatriation of Hwy 174; and

WHEREAS the annual cost of the Ontario Provincial Police, Municipal Policing Bureau for small rural non-contract (5.1) municipalities is approximately \$428 million; and

WHEREAS this annual cost is significantly less than the repatriation costs of the Gardiner Express Way, the Don Valley Parkway and Highway 174 (Ottawa Region) but provides a greater impact to the residents of the Province overall; and

NOTICE OF MOTION: OPP Billing and the Call for Provincial Funding Support
Continued

WHEREAS this will afford relief to small rural municipalities for both infrastructure and operating needs while having a minimal impact on the provincial budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Southgate calls on the Ontario Government to immediately implement sustainable funding for small rural municipalities by reabsorbing the cost of the Ontario Provincial Police Force back into the provincial budget with no cost recovery to municipalities.

AND FURTHER, that Council direct staff to circulate this resolution to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Solicitor General, Minister of Finance, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (amo@amo.on.ca), all Ontario MPPs, and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Olsen