



MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Chair and Members of Council

FROM: Erin Mahoney, M.Eng.
Commissioner of Environmental Services

Daniel Kostopoulos, P.Eng.
Commissioner of Transportation and Community Planning

Bill Hughes
Commissioner of Finance

DATE: June 19, 2014

RE: **Bill 8, The Ontario Underground Infrastructure Notification System Act, 2012**

This memo highlights the Region's responsibilities under Bill 8, *The Ontario Underground Infrastructure Notification System Act, 2012* (the Act) and outlines impacts with respect to implementing the Act.

On June 19, 2012, Royal Assent was given to Bill 8, *The Ontario Underground Infrastructure Notification System Act, 2012*, which mandates that Ontario One Call (ON1Call) serve as a single point of contact for all underground utility locate requests in Ontario. The Act has made it mandatory for all municipalities to be part of the program by June 19, 2014.

Environmental Services, Transportation and Community Planning and Finance departments are impacted by this Act and have taken the following action:

- Environmental Services registered with ON1Call on July 9, 2012 (for underground water and wastewater infrastructure)
- Transportation and Community Planning set up a program with ON1Call and will register by the June 19 deadline (for underground infrastructure related to traffic signal lines, street lighting and storm sewers)
- Finance registered the York Telecom Network (YTN) on April 5, 2012 (for underground fiber optic cables)

Joining ON1Call increases the number of locate requests received by the Region, indicating increased asset protection and awareness. To assist in managing the requests received, the departments have chosen to retain ON1Call to screen locate requests based on the type of dig, proximity to Regional infrastructure and excavation depth. Screening of locates effectively optimizes the locate work load for Regional staff.

ON1Call is a not-for-profit organization and does not charge excavators a fee for placing a locate request. Fees are collected from their members (owners of underground infrastructure). To encourage municipal participation, ON1Call has chosen to not charge municipalities any fees until January 1, 2015 and therefore, currently operates exclusively on the fees it charges non-municipal utility members such as Enbridge Gas, Rogers, Bell, etc. Effective January 1, 2015, the Region's collective annual payment to ON1Call is estimated to be \$400,000 with each department budgeting for their portion of costs.

The Region manages locate requests received by ON1Call using their respective locate programs. An internal working group with representation from Environmental Services, Transportation and Community Planning and Finance has been established to collaboratively address future development of locate programs. The aim of this working group is to advance interdepartmental continuity and give consideration to continuous improvement, including centralizing a locate program across all departments.

Local municipalities are also required to join ON1Call by the June 19 deadline. Currently, the Town of Aurora, City of Vaughan, Town of East Gwillimbury, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and the City of Markham (Traffic Lights only) have joined ON1Call. ON1Call has stated that lower tier municipalities are prepared for the June 19 deadline.

For more information, please contact Brett Bloxam, Director, Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring, at (905) 830 4444 ext. 75320, Steven Kemp, Director, Traffic Management and ITS, at ext. 75526 or John Swan, Director, Information Technology Services, at ext. 71756.

Erin Mahoney, M.Eng., Commissioner of Environmental Services

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