

City of Mississauga  
**Corporate Report**



<p>Date: July 30, 2024</p> <p>To: Chair and Members of General Committee</p>	<p>Originator's files:</p>
<p>From: Geoff Wright, P.Eng, MBA, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer</p>	<p>Meeting date: September 4, 2024</p>

## Subject

**Feasibility of Inserting Provincially Mandated Program Funding Shortfalls on the 2025 Tax Bill**

## Recommendation

That the Corporate Report dated July 30, 2024 from the City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer, entitled "Feasibility of Inserting Provincially Mandated Program Funding Shortfalls on the 2025 Tax Bill", be received for information.

## Executive Summary

- At the February 28, 2024 Council meeting, staff were asked to report back on how to incorporate information related to provincial-mandated program funding shortfalls on the 2025 tax bill and to investigate whether the system allows for this note disclosure.
- Section 343 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* stipulates the content of the tax bill.
- There is limited space available on the tax bill for additional information beyond the mandated content.
- TXM Tax Manager (TXM), our tax system provides for the ability to add up to three disclosure notes for specific City impacts, with a limit of 110 characters per line.
- Modifications to TXM would be required to add a specific Region disclosure note.
- The annual newsletter included in the final tax bill mailing could be used to provide information on the costs of Regional services impacting Mississauga taxpayers.
- Due to these limitations, staff do not recommend modifying TXM for a specific Region disclosure note.

## Background

A corporate report entitled “2024 Tax Bill Disclosure of Provincially Mandated Program Funding Shortfalls” was presented to Council at the February 28, 2024 Council meeting. This report is in response to Resolution 0037-2024 directing staff to report back on how to incorporate information related to provincially mandated program funding shortfalls in the 2025 tax bill.

Currently, TXM allows up to three disclosure notes for specific City impacts, including explanation of special purpose levies. This functionality uses a calculation based on the property assessment value, to provide individual property-specific impacts. For example, a typical residential property assessed at \$730,000 would have a disclosure note that reads “\$71.30 of the City levy is additional funding for the Capital Infrastructure and Debt Repayment Levy”. There is a system limitation of 110 characters for each line in a disclosure note.

The current TXM note disclosure functionality does not have the ability to calculate Regional impacts specific to each property.

## Comments

Staff have reviewed the feasibility to add the functionality to calculate a Region-specific disclosure note similar to the current disclosure notes for City impacts.

The disclosure would require additional system programming to calculate the City’s share of the Region’s shortfall and the property specific impact. Due to space limitations, this additional disclosure will result in a reduced space for City’s disclosure notes.

If this enhancement to TXM is required, it would result in a postponement of other TXM enhancements currently in the work plan. The enhancements currently in the work plan have been scheduled based on operational needs to improve customer service and promote process efficiencies.

Communications staff annually prepare a newsletter that is included in the final tax bill mailing and can be used to include information on the costs of regional services impacting Mississauga taxpayers.

## Financial Impact

Implementing a disclosure note for Regional costs that includes a property specific impact would require an enhancement to TXM. This enhancement would take a minimum of 60 business days to program, test and implement at a minimum cost of \$65,000 and would result in the delay of other TXM enhancements.

## Conclusion

Although it is possible to add a Region-specific disclosure note in the 2025 tax bill to highlight provincially mandated program shortfalls for the Region, staff are not recommending the development of this option in TXM as it would be difficult to accurately explain the impacts with the limited space available on the tax bill. The use of the annual newsletter may be a more viable and economical option to capture this information, if requested by Council.

## Attachments

N/A



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Geoff Wright, P.Eng, MBA, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer

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