



Staff Report

Report Title: Golf Cart Pilot (2)

Prepared By: Emily Dance, Clerk

Department: Clerks

Date: Apr. 7, 2021

**Report Number: CLK-2021-04-26
Ministry of Transportation Golf Cart Pilot**

File Number: T08 GOL 21 –

Attachments: Draft Comments MTO Golf Cart Pilot

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report No. CLK-2021-04-26 prepared by Emily Dance, Clerk AND directs staff to submit the attached comments to the Ministry of Transportation in regard to the Golf Cart Pilot for Huron-Kinloss.

Background:

As reported on March 15, 2021 the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) announced that they are exploring the feasibility of implementing a pilot program that would permit the on-road use of golf carts on Pelee Island and in Huron-Kinloss.

The MTO is soliciting public comment on the proposal to permit the on-road use of golf carts in Huron-Kinloss as part of a pilot project. The Ministry has provided the framework for the pilot and have requested input from the Township on various items.

Discussion:

On March 16, 2021 Township staff attended a virtual meeting with the MTO and the Solicitor General Office to discuss the pilot and to provide feedback.

As there are significant impacts on the enforcement piece of the pilot, staff requested a meeting with the OPP and the MTO to review any concerns.

A meeting was held on March 30, 2021 with Mayor Twolan, Deputy Mayor Murray, Senior Staff, the MTO and the OPP.

The OPP has stated strong opposition the pilot due to concerns for public safety. They will be outlining these concerns in their comments to the MTO.

The MTO has provided a list of questions for comment by the Township. Staff has provided a draft response and are requesting input from the Committee prior to submitting to the MTO. The chart is attached to the report.

According to the Ministry's scheduled target date of June 2021; and regulations not being available until May 2021 there are significant challenges for both Township staff and the OPP to be fully prepared to implement the pilot. Ministry staff noted that when the framework is approved the Township is not obligated to initiate the pilot.

Public comments made to the MTO registry will not be made public, but, the MTO has agreed to provide a summary for review.

Further details on the implementation will be provided when additional information is available.

Financial Impacts:

There are no funds provided by the province to cover costs to implement the pilot. Staff are reviewing costs that maybe required, such as additional insurance coverage, legal review, enforcement obligations, staff capacity, registration, and reporting tools.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are an accessible community that offers opportunities for everyone by being accessible for those with disabilities.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Emily Dance, Clerk

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer