

MILTON COUNCIL APPROVES LED STREET LIGHT REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Town of Milton, in partnership with Milton Hydro, is set to replace approximately 30 per cent of the town's street lights with energy efficient LED bulbs.

LED lighting tends to have a longer lifespan and reduced maintenance costs compared to traditional fixtures. The output of LED lights can be adjusted in response to daylight, weather conditions, motion, or during special events.

These features result in energy savings and a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions over the lifespan of the fixture.

The LED street light replacement program is expected to retrofit more than 2,800 traditional bulbs and generate approximately \$23,000 in initial annual budget savings.

A further financial ben-

efit is expected to be realized once the cost of borrowing has been fully repaid after a 10-year term. The first LED street lights are expected to be installed this fall.

"Milton Hydro is proud to manage the LED street light replacement project to ensure that installation meets current electrical standards and that expected energy and greenhouse gas emission reductions are realized," said Brian Penman, chair, Milton Energy Generation Solutions.

The street light replacement program complements Milton's other energy saving and carbon dioxide reducing measures which include solar and ground source heating and cooling at the Milton Sports Centre and the Civic Operations Centre.

MAJORITY OF MILTONIANS VALUE MUNICIPAL SERVICES RECEIVED FOR WHAT THEY PAY IN TAXES: SURVEY

Based on the results of the Town of Milton's recent survey, more than half (56 per cent) of residents rated the value they receive for their tax dollars as good or very good.

When asked about the importance of setting aside funding to replace infrastructure (such as roads and community facilities), 93 per cent responded that it was important or somewhat important. Over 900 residents participated in the annual online and telephone budget survey and shared their thoughts on priorities to be considered in the town's 2019 budget.

Residents were divided over how to balance taxation and service levels. Half of the respondents favoured increasing taxes to

enhance or maintain services, while the other half were not sure or favoured cutting services to maintain or reduce taxes.

Of the specific town services reviewed this year

(roadway maintenance, maintenance of parks, open spaces and sports fields, fire, municipal law enforcement, online services and communications), the majority indicated the amount invested in those services should be maintained with the exception of road maintenance where the majority of respondents (63 per cent) indicated a desire to increase investment.

Survey results and public input are an essen-

tial part of the budget process. Throughout the summer and fall, town staff will develop the budget including consideration of the survey results and council-approved guidelines.

The 2019 budget is expected to be deliberated by the newly-elected council on Dec. 10, 2018 (and Dec. 11, if necessary). For more information on Town of Milton's budget survey or the budget process, visit www.milton.ca/budgets.



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