

Community Safety and Well-Being Plan History Overview

In 2019, the Provincial government amended the *Police Services Act* to mandate every municipality to prepare and adopt a Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plan. After discussions amongst the regional Chief Administrative Officers proposing a regional CSWB Plan, Report S198/2019 and CAO-2019-11 was brought to City of Windsor (City) and Essex County (County) Councils respectively, requesting authorization to engage the County of Essex and its municipalities to develop a Regional Community Safety and Well-Being Plan (RCSWB). City and County Councils authorized a project team comprised of staff from City and County Administration to “bring the regional Community Safety and Well-Being Plan to City Council and Essex County Council in sufficient time to be considered prior to the Provincial government’s deadline of January 1, 2021.” The Province established this deadline prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Due to the Pandemic, the project was paused on March 18, 2020, with core team members redeployed to manage COVID-related emergencies within their respective organizations.

During this pause, the Province passed the *Coronavirus (COVID-19) Support and Protection Act, 2020*, which granted an extension to the CSWB deadline past January 1, 2021, to an undetermined date. At the meeting of City Council on May 4, 2020, correspondence from the Office of the Solicitor General was received informing Council of the change in the deadline and that it would be working with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the City of Toronto to determine a new submission date. The correspondence was noted and filed.

The RCSWB project officially resumed on June 1, 2020. A project update was provided to City and County Councils describing key actions taken during the project pause, including the completion and submission of letters to AMO and Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) advocating for an amended deadline of January 1, 2022. Elected officials from a number of municipalities across Ontario were also advocating for the January 2022 deadline.

Tecumseh Council received a presentation from the CSWB Project Manager, at the Special Council Meeting held on October 27, 2020. On behalf of the Regional CSWB Plan Systems Leadership Table and Project Team, the Project Manager provided an overview of the CSWB Plan framework, status of development and key project updates, including the upcoming consultation and engagement approach.

In November 2020, City and County Councils received a further project update, which included revised timelines and methodologies due to the Pandemic.

On December 24, 2020, the Ministry of the Solicitor General issued correspondence to Ontario municipalities indicating that the new CSWB Plan submission deadline is July 1, 2021.

On February 1, 2021, City Council directed Administration to forward a letter to the Solicitor General advising that whereas the new CSWB submission deadline of July 1,

2021 significantly constrains the ability to engage in fulsome and meaningful community consultation, the City of Windsor will prepare an interim report for submission by July 1, 2021, along with a final report by December 31, 2021. City Council further requested that the Solicitor General review the imposed deadline. Essex County Council likewise adopted a similar resolution.

At the February 9, 2021 Regular Council Meeting (RCM), Tecumseh Council received [Report CAO-2021-04](#) respecting a CSWB Plan update and public consultation opportunities.

On June 25, 2021, a letter and attachment package consisting of the interim report, as well as City and County Council Decision letters, was submitted to the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

In June 2021, all lower-tier municipalities of the County of Essex received a project update presentation. Each municipal council was provided with an opportunity to offer input on local and regional priorities, and review the results of public consultations conducted within each municipality.

[Report CAO-2021-17](#) was presented at the October 26, 2021 RCM regarding the development of the RCSWB and authorizing Essex County Council to approve the final CSWB Plan on the Town's behalf.