



Standing Committee Report Electoral Area Services Committee

To: Electoral Area Services Committee
From: Director of Financial Services
Date: December 11, 2025

Subject: 2026-2030 Financial Plan – Operating Reserve Allocation Options

Objective: To seek direction in the use of operating reserve allocations to reduce the tax requisition increases for specific Electoral Area Services.

Discussion:

The draft financial plan for the Electoral Area Services was presented to the Electoral Area Services Committee on November 6, 2025. During that meeting, concerns about the tax requisition increases for residents were identified. In response, staff have reviewed the financial plans for each service and identified services where operating reserves could be responsibly used to reduce increases to the tax requisition.

Out of the thirty-three unique local area services that are funded with a tax requisition, twelve have increases higher than inflation. Of the twelve, seven can be smoothed out over multiple years through the use of operating reserves. The following tables identify the service, the amount of operating reserves that could be used in 2026. The resulting reduction in annual property taxes for the average house would range from \$32-\$75. The following table provides the reduction by service:

Service	Budgeted Operating Reserve Balance at December 31, 2025	Proposed Additional Use of Operating Reserves	Total Proposed Use of Operating Reserves	Estimated Reduction in Annual Taxes	Electoral Area Impacted
Untidy Premises	\$28,405	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$2-4	West & East
Building Inspections	\$1,043,338	\$165,000	\$165,000	\$24-40	West & East
Eastside Community Parks	\$55,192	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$3	East
Ellison Volunteer Fire Department	\$240,764	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$22	East – Ellison
Ellison Community Heritage Hall	\$186,943	\$5,000	\$14,000	\$4	East – Ellison
Westside Community Parks	\$94,988	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$3	West
Wilsons Landing Volunteer Fire Department	\$207,322	\$10,000	\$45,000	\$15	West – Wilsons Landing

Next Steps:

Proposed changes supported by the Committee will be incorporated into the financial plans for the Local Area Services that are included in the draft RDCO 2026-2030 Financial Plan to be presented to the Regional Board in January 2026.

Recommendation(s):

THAT the Electoral Area Services Committee endorses the proposed changes to the Electoral Area Services 2026-2030 Financial Plan as presented in the December 11, 2025 Committee report from the Chief Financial Officer.

Report Approved by: Tania McCabe, CPA, CA, Director of Financial Services

Approved for Agenda: Sally Ginter, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment(s): 1. Draft 2026-2030 5-Year Financial Plan Proposed Changes PowerPoint Presentation
