

**INTERIM PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR 2009**

**Recommendation**

The Director of Financial Services, in consultation with the Manager of Property Tax & Assessment recommends:

That a by-law be prepared to levy interim property taxes for 2009, with three installments due in March, April and May for all property classes.

**Economic Impact**

The issuance of an interim property tax levy provides the necessary cash flow to meet the City's own needs and its financial obligations to the Region of York and the Province of Ontario for education purposes.

**Communications Plan**

Advertised notices for the interim property tax notices will be posted in all local papers in late February and early March.

**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council on the issuance of the interim property tax bills for 2009 to all property classes, under the authority of section 317 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended.

**Background - Analysis and Options**

The issuance of an interim property tax levy provides funds for the City to meet day-to-day operating and capital financial obligations.

As noted above the interim levy will be due in three equal installments in March, April and May. Taxpayers have the option to enroll in the installment pre-authorized payment plan recently approved by Council or the existing 11-month pre-authorized payment plan. The withdrawals for the 11-month plan will be made on the first banking day of each month from January to November.

The interim billing will be calculated utilizing the 2009 assessment roll as provided by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC).

In accordance with current Provincial legislation, the interim amount levied by property is subject to the following rules:

1. The amount levied on a property shall not exceed 50% of the total taxes levied on the property for the previous year, subject to an adjustment, as per Section 317(9), should it appear the levy would be too high or too low in relation to an estimate of the total taxes that will be levied for 2009.
2. A calculated notional tax rate applied to the 2009 assessment will be used to calculate the levy.
3. For the purpose of calculating the total amount of taxes for the previous year, any amount levied for only part of the year will be annualized.
4. For new property assessments added to the roll for the 2009 taxation year, the levy will be calculated by applying the notional tax rate to the 2009 assessment.

5. The interim levy for properties in the commercial, industrial and multi-residential classes (capped classes) will include an amount equal to 50% of the 2008 capping adjustment.

The 2009 final tax billing will be calculated utilizing the assessment values under the new legislated cycle of reassessment every four (4) years with a mandatory phase-in of assessment increases for all property classes. Effective January 1, 2009, the first four-year program will be in effect until the 2012 tax year and will utilize assessment values (CVA) as of January 1, 2008. The final billing will be issued in June.

### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020**

In consideration of the strategic priorities related to Vaughan Vision 2020, the issuance of the interim property tax levy will enhance:

- Service Excellence: Pursue Excellence in Service Delivery
- Management Excellence: Ensure Financial Sustainability

### **Regional Implications**

The City of Vaughan will be collecting an amount of approximately \$111 million in interim property taxes on behalf of the Region of York.

### **Conclusion**

The interim levy will produce total property tax revenue of approximately \$292 Million based on taxable assessment of approximately \$45 billion. These interim funds are raised for the City's, Region of York's and School Boards' operational purposes.

### **Attachments**

None

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Respectfully submitted,

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