

REPORT TO: Mayor and Members of Council

PREPARED BY: Greg Vandenheuvel, Director of Fire and Emergency Services

DEPARTMENT: Fire and Emergency Services Department

DIVISION: Fire Department

MEETING DATE: July 16, 2025

SUBJECT: Expansion of Lambton Shores Fire Protection Agreement

PROPOSED MOTION

That Council accept this report and endorse the revised Fire Protection Agreement with Lambton Shores.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Fire Protection Agreement with Lambton Shores be amended to include properties that are geographically closer to the Arkona station.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2024 implementation of the agreement with Lambton Shores for fire protection by the Arkona station precipitated further study of the area and found that additional properties are geographically closer to Arkona station than either the Parkhill or Ailsa Craig Stations.

Those properties should be added to the area protected by Arkona. North Middlesex will also respond to calls in this area, but Arkona will be dispatched first, providing the best protection possible for these residents.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Fiscal Responsibility By seeking fiscal sustainability by balancing service needs, demands, and growth

BACKGROUND

Prior to May 2016, fire protection in the Hungry Hollow area, along Townsend Line and north to the river was provided, under agreement, by Lambton Shores' Arkona Station.

In 2023, a new agreement was proposed and came into effect in mid-2024.

In implementing the agreement, it was learned that other North Middlesex residents live closer to the Arkona Station than North Middlesex Fire Stations.

Expanding this agreement would provide better fire protection to fifteen properties, including eleven residences. These properties are on Centre Rd from the Ausable River to Wyatt Rd.

Billing is based on a flat rate of \$126.64 per household, plus the Ministry of Transportation Rate (\$570.50 per hour) for each apparatus that responds. The addition of eleven residences will add \$1,393.04 to what North Middlesex pays Lambton Shores for this service.

DISCUSSION

In the event of an emergency, a quick response by emergency personnel can be critical.

The Fire Protection Agreement with Lambton Shores provides enhanced protection for those living further from the Parkhill and Ailsa Craig stations, but closer to Lambton Shores' Arkona station.

Currently, the Arkona station provides first response to North Middlesex properties that are between the Ausable River and Townsend Line.

FINANCIAL

Funding of \$15,000 which reflects a \$5,000 increase for the enhancements was approved in the 2025 Budget.

ATTACHMENT

Prepared By: **Greg Vandenheuvel, Director of Fire and Emergency Services**

Reviewed By: Ralph D'Alessandro, Director of Finance /Treasurer

Approved By: Carolyn Tripp, Chief Administrative Officer