

Committee of the Whole (2) Report

DATE: Tuesday, April 14, 2026

WARD(S): ALL

TITLE: VAUGHAN ANIMAL SERVICES AND TOWNSHIP OF KING
ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

FROM:

Gus Michaels, Deputy City Manager, Community Services

ACTION: DECISION

Purpose

Staff are seeking Council approval for the City of Vaughan to enter into a service level agreement with the Township of King whereby the City of Vaughan's Animal Services team would provide animal control services to the Township of King for a term of five years, with the option to extend for two additional one-year terms.

Report Highlights

- Animal Services has been providing animal enforcement and sheltering services to the Township of King since 2011.
- Both municipalities are satisfied with the services provided and contractual relationship.
- Wildlife control services will be added to the scope of work.
- The new agreement considers additional resources and incremental cost increases over the contract period that are required to maintain expected service levels.
- Council approval is needed to implement this agreement.

Recommendations

1. THAT Council authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into, execute, amend, terminate, and renew a service level agreement with the Township of King for the provision of animal services, generally in accordance with what is set out in this

- report and other terms and conditions satisfactory to the Deputy City Manager, Community Services, and in a form satisfactory to the Office of the City Solicitor;
2. THAT staff be authorized to hire the appropriate staff as identified within this report; and
 3. THAT the City Clerk forward a copy of this report and the decision of Council to the Township of King.

Background

Animal Services has been providing animal services to the Township of King since 2011 under the terms of a written agreement.

Animal Services has maintained a strong, long-standing partnership with the Township of King. Renewing the animal control services agreement reflects both municipalities' shared commitment to providing consistent, effective, and dependable animal care and control services for residents across the region. This includes, but is not limited to, public education, community outreach, awareness initiatives, by-law enforcement and shelter operations.

The Township of King has requested to renew the animal service agreement, with the addition of wildlife control services.

Satisfied with the animal control and sheltering services provided by Animal Services over the past five years, the Township of King approached staff in late 2025 to initiate renewal of the service level agreement ahead of its expiry in May 2026. The new agreement will include wildlife control services, the addition of which reduces service gaps and supports comprehensive public education on coexisting with urban wildlife between the neighboring municipalities.

Previous Reports/Authority

- [Item 6, Report No. 11 of the Committee of the Whole which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 25, 2025.](#)
- [Item 11, Report No. 41 of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on December 17, 2024.](#)
- [Item 18, Report No. 32, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 22, 2021.](#)

- [Item 19, Report No. 21, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on May 17, 2016.](#)

Analysis and Options

Staff from the City of Vaughan and the Township of King have collaborated to develop an agreement acceptable to both municipalities.

In coordination with the Office of the City Solicitor and Financial Planning and Analysis, Animal Services staff have prepared an agreement that supports the continued delivery of responsive and effective animal control services, and that reflects the addition of wildlife control services. The proposed agreement includes a five- year term, with two optional one- year extensions, to the Township of King at a first- year cost of \$210,664 (8 months from May 1 – December 31, 2026) and annual increases of three per cent thereafter. The agreement value reflects the resources required to deliver the requested service level, including additional staffing, enhanced sheltering and animal care, and the incorporation of wildlife control services.

In addition to setting out the terms and costs of the animal services provided by Animal Services, the agreement will also clearly outline each respective municipalities' responsibilities with respect to animal services within the Township of King and address other standard agreement terms including liability, insurance, and indemnification.

Financial Impact

The proposed service agreement is valued at approximately \$1.57 million over five years, including annual fee increases of three per cent. The contract includes two optional one-year extensions under the same terms which, if executed, would bring the total value of the contract to \$2.31 million over seven years. Revenue from this agreement will fully offset all incremental costs associated with delivering animal services that fully support the Township of King's Animal Control By-law. Services include routine patrols, wildlife enforcement, animal pick-up and transportation, the housing and reunification of domestic animals, pet licensing and adoption programs.

Operational Impact

There are minimal operational impacts associated with implementing the new animal services agreement with the Township of King, as the services outlined in the agreement are already being delivered by Animal Services. The agreement also provides for the hiring of one additional part-time staff member required to support the delivery of wildlife control services, who will be in place by the contract start date, ensuring there are no adverse operational or service level implications.

In consultation with Animal Services, the Office of the City Solicitor is preparing the draft agreement, and Financial Planning and Analysis has developed the corresponding costing model.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

Staff have shared a final draft of the agreement with the Township of King's Manager of Legislative Services and Deputy Clerk for their review and further circulation to the appropriate staff.

Conclusion

Because the two municipalities share geographic boundaries, the provision of animal control services by the City of Vaughan to the Township of King aligns with the 2022–2026 Term of Council Strategic Priority to foster a high quality of life through safe and healthy communities. This partnership advances the objective of enhancing community safety through collaboration with regional, provincial, and federal partners by establishing a coordinated approach to animal control between neighboring municipalities.

For more information, please contact: Rudi Czekalla-Martinez, Director and Chief Licensing Officer (Acting), By-law and Compliance, Licensing and Permit Services, ext. 8782.

Attachments

N/A

Prepared by

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