To: Mayor Dan Carter and Members of Council

From: Paul Ralph

Date: November 12, 2021

Re: Proposed 2022 Operating Budget and Business Plan

On behalf of staff, I am pleased to submit the Proposed 2022 Operating Budget and Business Plan for Council's consideration.   The proposed budget, including the departmental business plans, supports the goals in the Council approved Oshawa Strategic Plan.

The budget submission requires an additional $2.704 million over the 2021 budget. This is equivalent to a 1.78% tax levy increase on the Oshawa portion of taxes (40% of the total tax bill) and represents an increase in the total tax bill of approximately $35.96 on a property assessed at $356,000 (the average house assessment value in Oshawa).

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on municipal finances including lost revenues and increased costs. These impacts have been partially offset through cost containment mitigation measures and using the Federal-Provincial Safe Restart Funds. A number of strategies have been implemented to reduce the impact to the extent possible. In addition to managing the effects of COVID through the budget, the proposed 2022 Operating Budget:

- Maintains the base levels of service (some service levels were reduced in 2021 to comply with Provincial orders);
- Addresses volume growth;
- Includes inflationary increases;
- Addresses contractual labour increases;
- Incorporates the outcomes of various continuous improvement initiatives.

In closing, I extend my sincere thanks to the City staff that have worked so diligently, in the uncertain economic climate caused by the pandemic, to manage current year budgets and bring forward a 2022 budget that invests in key strategic priorities to strengthen the future of the City while also balancing affordability with the delivery of quality services aligned with Council's priorities. Staff look forward to working collaboratively with Council to meet the expectations of our community.

Paul Ralph
Chief Administrative Officer