

City Council Report

REPORT NUMBER 147-2026-Growth-Strategy & Engagement

DATE

PREPARED

March 13, 2026

FILE

CITY COUNCIL
MEETING DATE

March 17, 2026

SUBJECT

Cargo Van for Temporary Shelter Village Operations - Budget
Appropriation 9-2026

RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL

WITH RESPECT to Report 147-2026, we recommend that Appropriation 9-2026, to create a capital project in the amount of \$70,000 for a cargo van to support the Temporary Shelter Village operational transportation needs, funded through the Health Canada – Emergency Treatment Fund Grant, be approved;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks approval to create a new capital project for the procurement of a cargo van to support the operational and transportation needs of the Temporary Shelter Village. The capital costs for this project are fully funded via grant funding.

The City of Thunder Bay was successful in securing funding through the Health Canada Emergency Treatment Fund. In November 2024, \$237,960 was awarded. In August 2025, additional funding was made available and Administration submitted an amended proposal that was subsequently approved. In October 2025, \$401,100 was awarded.

The approved amounts total \$639,060. As part of the submission, Health Canada approved the allocation of \$70,000 to purchase the cargo van to support the funded project's objectives. The Agreement expires March 31, 2026.

DISCUSSION

In November 2024, Administration submitted a funding application totaling \$237,960 to Health Canada's Emergency Treatment Fund program. In February 2025, Administration was

advised of a successful application, and Council subsequently approved entering into a Service Agreement. The Agreement expires March 31, 2026.

In October 2025, additional funding was made available by Health Canada via the Emergency Treatment Fund. Administration applied for an additional \$401,100 and was successful. This brings the total funding awarded to \$639,060. Of that amount, \$70,000 was allocated towards the procurement of a cargo van to support the Temporary Shelter Village project's operationally related transportation needs.

The cargo van will allow the Temporary Shelter Village Operator to provide essential transportation for clients to appointments and other operationally relevant needs. This mobility is important given the Village's distance to commonly accessed social services and health care facilities. Providing transportation will enable higher success rates.

The cargo van is considered a tangible capital asset and, therefore, must be included in the City's Capital Budget. In accordance with the Budget Policy 05-02-01, because this project was not identified in the approved 2026 Capital Budget due to timing of Health Canada's approval of the funding, City Council approval is required to create a new project. The attached Budget Appropriation 9-2026 will create the capital project and appropriate the external grant funding to allow for the procurement of this asset.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

Administration is recommending the approval of Budget Appropriation 9-2026 to create a new capital project to procure a cargo van for the Temporary Shelter Village, fully funded by the Health Canada Emergency Treatment Fund grant.

BACKGROUND

October 15, 2025, Health Canada notified Administration of a successful application to amend and increase the funding allocation.

August 14, 2025, Administration submitted an amended proposal request.

February 26, 2025, Administration signed the Service Agreement.

February 10, 2025, City Council authorized entering into a Service Agreement with Health Canada that included the procurement of a fleet vehicle.

February 3, 2025, Health Canada notified Administration of a successful application.

November 8, 2024, Administration applied to the Emergency Treatment Fund.

October 11, 2024, Health Canada issued the Emergency Treatment Fund Call for Proposals.

REFERENCE MATERIAL ATTACHED

Attachment A - Appropriation 9-2026 TSV Cargo Van - Growth – Approved

REPORT PREPARED BY

Rilee Willianen, Supervisor, Encampment Response – Growth

REPORT SIGNED AND VERIFIED BY

Cynthia Olsen, Acting Commissioner – Growth

03/13/2026