



Memorandum

TO: Krista Power, City Clerk **FILE:**

FROM: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

DATE: 03/24/2023 (mm/dd/yyyy)

SUBJECT: Strong Towns Principle #1: Financial solvency

MEETING & DATE: Committee of the Whole - 05/01/2023 (mm/dd/yyyy)

This past month, the City of Thunder Bay (EarthCare), The Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce, and Thunder Bay Ventures hosted several Strong Towns Events: A Bottom Up Revolution to Rebuild Prosperity where insights were shared highlighting a path to community prosperity that is as unique as our place.

This provided citizens, local businesses and local decision makers the opportunity to learn what makes a “strong town” and how to build a bottom up revolution to rebuild prosperity and influence the future direction of the city. These presentations were part community conversation, part lecture from an expert, and the catalyst for discussion for a better Thunder Bay through improved decision making, policy development, and to bolster the financial resiliency of municipal operations.

In keeping with Strong Towns Principle #1: Financial solvency is a prerequisite for long-term prosperity, I would like to advance this further and request that Administration complete work to research and inventory all of the potential municipal mechanisms available to recover costs of services including but not limited to, policy changes, operating practices, service levels and revenue opportunities. Understanding that work on the Asset Management Plan and Finance Strategy is ongoing, this list will inform Council on mechanisms to better prepare Council for what types of decisions may need to be made about our current policies for long term financial sustainability.

As outlined in this memorandum, I provide the following motion for Council's consideration,

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from Councillor Shelby Ch'ng dated March 24, 2023, we recommend that Administration inventory the municipal mechanisms and options for recovering the cost of services;

AND THAT this report include potential future policy revisions and risks associated with the options;

AND THAT Administration report back on progress on or before December 4, 2023;

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