

<p>4. OTTAWA WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW 2020 – OPTIONS REPORT</p> <p>EXAMEN DES LIMITES DE QUARTIERS DE LA VILLE D’OTTAWA POUR 2020 – RAPPORT SUR LES OPTIONS</p>

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That City Council receive this report for information.

RECOMMANDATION DU COMITÉ

Que le Conseil municipal prenne connaissance de ce rapport.

DOCUMENTATION/DOCUMENTATION

1. City Clerk’s report dated 25 June 2020 (ACS2020-OCC-GEN-0002).

Rapport du Greffier municipal daté le 25 juin 2020 (ACS2020-OCC-GEN-0002).

2. Extract of draft Minutes, Finance and Economic Development Committee, 7 July 2020

Extrait de l’ébauche du procès-verbal, Comité des finances et du développement économique, le 7 juillet 2020

**Report to
Rapport au:**

**Finance and Economic Development Committee
Comité des finances et du développement économique
7 July 2020 / 7 juillet 2020**

**and Council
et au Conseil
15 July 2020 / 15 juillet 2020**

**Submitted on June 25, 2020
Soumis le 25 juin 2020**

**Submitted by
Soumis par :
M. Rick O'Connor, City Clerk / greffier municipal**

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Ward: CITY WIDE / À L'ÉCHELLE DE LA VILLE File Number: ACS2020-OCC-GEN-0002

SUBJECT: Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020 – Options Report

**OBJET : Examen des limites de quartiers de la Ville d'Ottawa pour 2020 –
Rapport sur les options**

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

**That the Finance and Economic Development Committee recommend that City
Council receive this report for information.**

RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT

**Que le Comité des finances et du développement économique
recommande au Conseil municipal de prendre connaissance de ce rapport.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On June 12, 2019, City Council considered the staff report titled, "[City of Ottawa Ward Boundary Review \(2019-2020\)](#)" and approved a process to review the City's ward boundaries and establish new boundaries in time for the 2022 Municipal Elections. The Council-approved ward boundary review process is aimed at addressing issues relating to "effective representation" and certain wards being outside of generally acceptable population variances. The review is meant to establish ward boundaries that could be used in at least three municipal elections (2022, 2026 and 2030) and, perhaps, a fourth municipal election in 2034.

Pursuant to Council's direction, staff retained an independent consultant team to conduct the ward boundary review in accordance with statutory requirements, common law principles and any parameters established by Council and/or the Government of Ontario. The ward boundary review process approved by Council includes a two-stage broad engagement and consultation strategy with Ottawa residents, communities, key stakeholders and Members of Council to elicit input on the City's current ward boundaries and to receive feedback on ward boundary options.

The consultant team began the review in January 2020. The team conducted Round One of public consultation in March and April of 2020 to collect input regarding the City of Ottawa's current ward boundaries. Following the first round of public consultation, the ward boundary process approved by Council provides for the consultant team to bring forward to Council an Information Report, also known as an Options Report, which sets out new ward boundary options for the City of Ottawa.

This staff report provides, for Council's information, the consultant team's Options Report that is attached as Document 1. The Options Report incorporates input received from Members of Council, members of the public and key stakeholders during Round One of public consultation, as well as background research and analysis by the consultant team.

The Options Report includes five options for new ward boundaries. Of these, two options would maintain the same number of wards as provided by the City's current

ward boundaries (23). One option would provide a lower number of wards (17) and two options would provide an increased number of wards (25 and 24, respectively).

After providing the Options Report to Council for information, the consultant team will undertake Round Two of public consultation, which will collect feedback regarding the options for new ward boundaries. Round Two is currently scheduled to take place in Q3 of 2020.

Following Round Two of public consultation, the consultant team will bring forward a Final Report to the Finance and Economic Development Committee (FEDCO) and Council that will include recommendations with respect to new ward boundaries in the City of Ottawa. It is currently anticipated that the Final Report will be considered by FEDCO and Council in December 2020, though this will in part depend on how the COVID-19 pandemic situation evolves, as described in more detail in this report.

BACKGROUND

Ward Boundary Reviews in Ontario

Legislative Provisions

Municipalities in Ontario must adhere to rules established for them by the provincial government. The *Municipal Act, 2001* (the Act), a piece of legislation that provides much of the foundation for governance and authority for Ontario municipalities, includes guidance in two key areas relating to Council composition and ward boundaries by establishing as follows:

1. **That a municipality has authority to change the composition of its Council,** subject to the following rules, as set out in Subsection 217(1) of the Act:
 1. There shall be a minimum of five members, one of whom shall be the head of council.
 2. The members of council shall be elected in accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*.
 3. The head of council shall be elected by general vote.
 4. The members, other than the head of council, shall be elected by general vote or wards or by any combination of general vote and wards.

5. The representation of a local municipality on the council of an upper-tier municipality shall not be affected by the by-law of the local municipality under this section.

Strictly speaking, the exercise of this authority is not a matter that may be appealed to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT), which is an adjudicative tribunal¹ that hears cases in relation to various matters, including municipal governance; and

2. **That a municipality may establish and change its ward boundaries**, through a process broadly outlined in the legislation that results in Council approving a by-law to establish ward boundaries² [Section 222 of the Act]. That said, this authority is subject to some statutory requirements and potential appeal to the LPAT. In the event of such an appeal, the Act provides that the LPAT shall hear the appeal and may make an order affirming, amending or repealing the municipality's ward boundary by-law – effectively establishing the ward boundaries that the Tribunal believes are correct.

The Act includes deadlines for when a by-law must be in effect in order for ward boundaries to be used in a municipal election [Subsections 222(8) and 222(9) of the Act]. Based on the relevant provisions, a by-law establishing new ward boundaries must be in force before January 1, 2022, in order for any ward boundary changes to be in effect for the 2022 Municipal Elections. If a by-law establishing new ward boundaries is appealed to the LPAT, the notices of appeal must be withdrawn, or the Tribunal must have issued an order to affirm or amend the by-law, before January 1, 2022. In all other cases (unless the by-law is repealed by the LPAT), the by-law would come into force for the second regular election after the by-law is passed. In other words, if a by-law establishing new ward boundaries came into force after January 1, 2022, the new boundaries would be in effect for the 2026 Municipal Elections.

In addition, electors may use a petition signed by 500 electors to request a change to ward boundaries [Section 223 of the Act]. If Council did not pass a by-law in accordance with the petition within 90 days of receiving the petition, any one of the

¹ The LPAT was formerly known as the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB).

² Details of the relevant statutory process are described in more detail in this report, as well as the staff report titled, "[City of Ottawa Ward Boundary Review \(2019-2020\)](#)," which was considered by Council on June 12, 2019, and the [Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020 Backgrounder](#) produced by the consultant team conducting the Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020.

petitioners may make an application to the LPAT to have the municipality divided or redivided into wards or to have the existing wards dissolved. The LPAT shall hear the application and may make an order dividing or redividing the municipality into wards or dissolving the existing wards.

The legislative provisions relating to ward boundaries are set out in Document 2. It should also be noted that the Ontario Government has the ultimate authority to establish municipal ward boundaries and determine the size of Council³.

Effective Representation

There is no express requirement in the Act for a municipality to conduct a review of its ward boundaries at any particular time. Neither does the Act provide any statutory criteria to govern the establishment of ward boundaries. However, common law in Canada requires that the principle of “effective representation” be applied when reviewing ward boundaries, as discussed in Section 2.2 of the attached Options Report (Document 1). This principle is a key matter that would be considered by the LPAT in the event of any appeal of a Council-approved by-law to establish ward boundaries.

Council’s Direction to Undertake the Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020

On June 12, 2019, City Council considered the staff report titled, “[City of Ottawa Ward Boundary Review \(2019-2020\)](#).” The staff report noted that the City of Ottawa’s current ward boundaries have largely been in place since the City’s last comprehensive ward boundary review was conducted by an independent consultant in 2004-2005. Boundaries established by the 2004-2005 review were expected to meet the test of “effective representation” until 2015. The staff report described how ward populations and future estimates for the City of Ottawa indicated that certain wards are, or are projected to be, outside of generally acceptable population variances.

³ The Ontario Government’s ultimate authority over municipal ward boundaries was described in more detail in the “[City of Ottawa Ward Boundary Review \(2019-2020\)](#)” staff report. That report noted the City of Toronto’s ward boundaries were ultimately subject to mandatory provincial legislation in 2018 that changed the outcome of Toronto’s earlier ward boundary review. While the Ontario Superior Court overturned the Province’s legislation, the Ontario Court of Appeal stayed the Superior Court’s ruling and the 2018 Municipal Elections in the City of Toronto proceeded in accordance with the ward boundaries established by the Province. Since the time of that report, it is noted that the Supreme Court of Canada on March 26, 2020, granted the City of Toronto leave to appeal the Ontario Court of Appeal decision in the case.

The staff report proposed a ward boundary review process that is meant to establish boundaries that could be used in at least three municipal elections (2022, 2026 and 2030) and, perhaps, a fourth municipal election in 2034. Council approved the following report recommendations, as amended by the Finance and Economic Development Committee (FEDCO)⁴:

That Council:

- 1. Direct staff to undertake a Request for Proposal (RFP) process to retain an independent consultant to conduct a comprehensive ward boundary review for the City of Ottawa, as described in this report and consistent with the Terms of Reference herein;**
- 2. Approve that temporary annual funding, equivalent to one Full-time Equivalent (FTE), be provided to support any Member whose ward population size is projected to be larger than the average ward population size by more than 33 per cent during the 2018-2022 Term of Council, as an interim measure until a new ward boundary by-law comes into force, as described in this report;**
- 3. Direct the City Clerk and Solicitor to send a letter to the Premier of Ontario and the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to advise of any Council decisions with respect to a comprehensive ward boundary review for the City of Ottawa, as described in this report;**
- 4. Approve that the City Clerk and Solicitor's letter to the Premier of Ontario and the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs also specifies that Council intends for the ward boundary review to be conducted on the basis of retaining the current number of wards, being 23, each represented by a single elected Member, in addition to a Mayor elected by general vote, as set out in By-law No. 2005-534; and**
- 5. Approve that the Terms of Reference for the City of Ottawa's 2019-2020 comprehensive ward boundary review be amended to direct the independent consultant to bring forward ward boundary options that retain the existing Council composition, as described in this motion, and pending**

⁴ FEDCO amended the ward boundary review staff report on June 4, 2019, through Motion No. 5/1, as described in the meeting minute extract provided in Document 3.

any feedback received from the Ontario Government in response to the City Clerk and Solicitor's letter.

The ward boundary review process approved by Council includes a two-stage broad engagement and consultation strategy with Ottawa residents, communities, key stakeholders and Members of Council to elicit input on Ottawa's current ward boundaries and to receive feedback on ward boundary options. The staff report outlined the following key steps for the ward boundary review process:

Task	Status
Public consultation on current ward boundaries (Round One)	Complete
Information Report to Council setting out new Ward boundary options (Options Report)	Current step
Public consultation on new ward boundary options (Round Two)	To come
Final report to Council with recommendations (Final Report)	To come
Enacting by-law	To come
45-day LPAT appeal period	To come
If applicable, LPAT decision regarding any appeals of the by-law to establish ward boundaries	To come (if applicable)
2022 Municipal Elections	October 2022

Actions undertaken by Staff pursuant to Council's Direction of June 12, 2019

Correspondence between the City Clerk and the Province of Ontario

Pursuant to Recommendation 3 of the ward boundary review staff report approved by Council on June 12, 2019, the City Clerk issued a letter dated June 19, 2019, to the Premier of Ontario and the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The letter advised of Council's decisions with respect to a comprehensive ward boundary review

for the City of Ottawa. Other provincial party leaders and local Members of Provincial Parliament were copied on the City Clerk's letter, as had been outlined in the Council-approved staff report.

In accordance with Recommendation 4 of the staff report, as amended, the City Clerk's letter also specified that Council intends for the ward boundary review to be conducted on the basis of retaining the current number of wards, being 23, each represented by a single elected Member, in addition to a Mayor elected by general vote. The Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing issued a letter dated July 22, 2019, in response to the City Clerk's letter. The respective letters are attached to this report as Documents 4 and 5.

Retaining an Independent Consultant to Conduct the Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020

In accordance with Recommendation 1 of the Council-approved ward boundary review staff report, staff on September 13, 2019, issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to retain an independent consultant to conduct a comprehensive ward boundary review for the City of Ottawa. Pursuant to Council's approval set out in Recommendation 5 of the staff report, as amended, the RFP included in the Terms of Reference Council's directions of June 12, 2019, including that the independent consultant be directed to bring forward ward boundary options that retain the existing Council composition, as described in [Motion No. 5/1 approved by FEDCO on June 4, 2019], and pending any feedback received from the Ontario Government in response to the City Clerk's letter. The RFP also provided that the contract award was subject to Council's approval of funding through the 2020 Budget.

On December 11, 2019, Council approved Budget 2020, which included the financial implications resulting from the outcome of the ward boundary review RFP process. Further to Council's adoption of the budget, Beate Bowron Etcetera Inc., in association with The Davidson Group and Hemson Consulting Ltd., was selected as the successful proponent for the ward boundary review. The successful proponent's bid received the highest technical and financial scores among two RFP responses that were reviewed and evaluated by designates for the City Clerk, the City Solicitor and the General Manager, Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development Department, supported by the Supply branch of the Innovative Client Services Department.

The consultant team, led by Beate Bowron, is responsible for conducting the ward boundary review, including broad engagement and consultation with members of the public, Members of Council, communities and key stakeholders, and developing ward boundary options and recommendations for Council's consideration. The team will also act as an expert witness at the LPAT and Ontario Divisional Court, if necessary.

Members of the consultant team have extensive experience conducting successful comprehensive ward boundary reviews. Beate Bowron Etcetera previously partnered with The Davidson Group on the City of Toronto's review in 2014-2016 and the City of Ottawa's review in 2004-2005. Hemson Consulting Ltd. worked with Beate Bowron Etcetera and The Davidson Group on a ward boundary review in the City of Vaughan in 2016-2017, and the team is also completing an Electoral System Review for the Town of Aurora. Biographical information about key consultant team members, as provided by the consultant team, is attached as Document 6.

Undertaking the Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020

The Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020 began in January 2020. In March 2020, the consultant team began Round One of public consultation, which gathered input regarding current ward boundaries.

Public Consultation – Round One

Round One collected opinions about Ottawa's current ward boundaries between March 4, 2020, and April 3, 2020. It included consultation with Members of Council, residents and stakeholders who were invited to participate, including social, community and healthcare advisory and support groups, community association representatives and business improvement areas, the four area school boards, post-secondary institutions and agricultural societies.

A total of 483 individuals and groups participated in Round One. Public consultation opportunities were widely advertised through public service announcements; the City's social media channels; Members' communications; bus, digital billboards and community newspaper ads; posters placed in Client Service Centres, recreation facilities and libraries; and targeted invitations to stakeholders. Opportunities to provide input included as follows:

- A dedicated website, ottawa.ca/wardboundary, and a dedicated project page on Engage Ottawa;
- An online survey and guestbook;
- Individuals could contact wardboundary@ottawa.ca with questions or comments;
- Meetings took place between the consultant team and all Members of Council; and
- Two public meetings were held:
 - Ben Franklin Place on March 10, 2020; and
 - St-Laurent Complex on March 11, 2020.

As described below in more detail, seven additional public meetings as well as three stakeholder sessions were planned for Round One. However, the COVID-19 pandemic and its implications resulted in the cancellation of those activities.

Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Round One Public Consultation

The approach to some of the in-person events planned for Round One of public consultation had to be changed due to the quickly evolving COVID-19 pandemic, subsequent actions of the federal, provincial and municipal governments, and health-related requirements. This included the need for people to maintain physical distance from each other and limitations on in-person gatherings. Declarations of emergency are still active as of the drafting of this report and are expected to be in place for an indeterminate period of time.

Some of the COVID-19-related developments that occurred during the first public consultation phase of the Ottawa Ward Boundary 2020 included as follows:

- On March 5, 2020, the City of Ottawa entered into Enhanced Operations to ensure that all City departments were engaged with the coordination and sharing of information and to ensure preparedness.
- On March 11, 2020, the City advanced from Enhanced Operations to Activated Operations, meaning that all City departments were engaged in the response to

COVID-19 and the Emergency Operations Centre was activated to support these efforts.

- On March 13, 2020, the City announced that it was closing all City-managed recreation and cultural facilities, and all Ottawa Public Library branches, based on the recommendation of the Ministry of Health's guidance to limit mass gatherings. This announcement included the cancellation of in-person City of Ottawa public consultations.
- On March 17, 2020, the Province of Ontario declared a provincial state of emergency with respect to the COVID-19 situation. This included a prohibition on all organized public events of more than 50 people.
- On March 25, 2020, Mayor Watson declared a state of emergency for the City of Ottawa.
- On March 28, 2020, the Ontario Government issued an emergency order under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* to prohibit organized public events and social gatherings of more than five people. This order replaced the previous prohibition on organized public events of more than 50 people.

As noted above, a total of nine public consultation sessions for the Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020 were initially scheduled to be held at facilities across the City between March 10, 2020, and April 1, 2020. In addition, three public stakeholder sessions were scheduled between March 25, 2020, and March 30, 2020.

Due to the COVID-19 situation, seven in-person public consultation meetings and three stakeholder sessions scheduled between March 24, 2020, and April 1, 2020, could not proceed as planned. In addition, some of the consultation meetings between the consultant team and individual Members of Council were conducted by way of telephone, rather than in person.

In the absence of the remaining in-person public and stakeholder meetings, residents and stakeholders were strongly encouraged to complete the online survey, submit input through the guestbook, or provide written input.

It is noted that even before the COVID-19 situation caused the cancellation of in-person meetings, significantly more input was received through online means than through such public meetings. More than 300 online surveys and written online submissions

were received by March 13, 2020, which is the day a public service announcement was issued advising of the cancellation of remaining in-person consultation opportunities. The first two public meetings were attended by a total of 19 people.

DISCUSSION

The Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020 Options Report is provided by the Consultant Team for Council's Information

In accordance with the ward boundary review process established by Council on June 12, 2019, the independent consultant team has provided the Options Report attached to this report for Council's information as Document 1. The Options Report incorporates input received from Members of Council, members of the public and key stakeholders, as well as background research and analysis by the consultant team.

The report includes five options for new ward boundaries. Of these, two options would maintain the same number of wards as provided by the City's current ward boundaries (23). One option would provide a lower number of wards (17) and two options would provide an increased number of wards (25 and 24, respectively).

As required by the Council-approved resolution of June 12, 2019, staff amended the Terms of Reference for the ward boundary review to include Council's direction that the independent consultant bring forward ward boundary options that retain the existing Council composition, "as described in this motion" [being Motion No. 5/1 approved by the Finance and Economic Development Committee (FEDCO) on June 4, 2019], and pending any feedback received from the Ontario Government in response to the City Clerk's letter.

The FEDCO motion, which is included in Document 3, states that "further to the municipality's statutory authority to establish Council composition, Council may direct the independent consultant **to bring forward ward boundary options that retain the current Council composition while achieving 'effective representation' and the other intended outcomes of the review,**" and that Council's direction "**would not preclude the consultant from testing the concept of an increased or decreased number of wards as part of the preliminary work on the review prior to bringing forward to Council only those viable and recommended ward boundary options that retain the current Council composition and accomplish the principles, requirements and objectives described above** [being the goal of achieving 'effective

representation’ as well as various legislative and case law requirements and other objectives]” [emphasis added].

The three options provided in addition to the two options that retain the current Council composition will provide the consultants with an opportunity to assess all options as part of their preliminary work, which will be important in the event that Council’s decisions with respect to the ward boundary review are appealed to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT). The consultant team has noted as follows in [background research](#) for the Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020 [emphasis added]:

“The [Ontario Municipal Board (OMB)] (now LPAT) adjudicates most ward boundary reviews, since most ward boundary reviews are appealed, especially those involving larger municipalities. ... The various OMB decisions have been remarkably consistent. In summary, four tests are applied to determine the veracity of a ward boundary review. These are:

1. Has the consultant team undertaking the ward boundary review been objective and independent from council and staff direction;
2. Has the principle of effective representation, as enunciated by the courts and OMB, been achieved;
3. Was the public involvement process robust and provided participants with both input on the design of the wards and the ability to comment on various ward options; and
4. Are the population projections that determined the voter parity component of effective representation credible. ...

The OMB, and ... the courts, have laid out some fairly well-defined tests by which ward boundary reviews will be judged. It is highly likely that the results of the current OWBR [Ottawa Ward Boundary Review] will be appealed. In planning and implementing the OWBR the potential of appeal must always be contemplated. At times this may seem ponderous. However, at a future LPAT hearing attention to the appropriate level of detail could mean the difference between the approval or denial of a new ward system approved by Council.”

It is recommended that Council receive the Options Report for information without providing any direction to the consultant team at this time. As noted in the Background

section of this report, the consultant team will act as an expert witness at the LPAT and Ontario Divisional Court, if necessary, in the event of an appeal of the City's by-law to establish ward boundaries. Council's receiving of the Options Report for information at this time, without any direction, would ensure that the consultant team is able to continue its work in the objective and independent manner expected by the LPAT, based on past decisions of the Tribunal.

Next Steps in the Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020

After providing the Options Report to Council for information, the consultant team will undertake Round Two of public consultation, which will collect feedback regarding the options for new ward boundaries.

As noted in the Background section of this report, declarations of emergency with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic continue as of the drafting of this report and may be in place for an indeterminate period of time. Staff have discussed with the consultant team the matter of proceeding with the remaining stages of the ward boundary review in light of the COVID-19 situation. While it is possible that limits on in-person meetings may continue to be necessary at the time of Round Two consultation, the consultant team has advised that they believe the ward boundary review will remain defensible should it continue at the present time and eventually be appealed to the LPAT.

Despite the various restrictions that have been, and continue to be, required by the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is noted that the City of Ottawa has conducted Committee and Council meetings and public consultations through virtual means and teleconferencing. This includes the robust public meeting that heard 93 delegations regarding the staff report titled, "[New Official Plan – Growth Management Strategy](#)," which was considered by a joint Planning Committee and Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee meeting on May 11, 12 and 19, 2020. Furthermore, online consultation opportunities in Round One of public consultation for the Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020 resulted in significantly more participation and input than the two in-person public meetings that were held.

Public Consultation – Round Two

Round Two of public consultation is scheduled to take place in Q3 of 2020. As noted above, it is possible that the COVID-19 situation at that time may continue to include

restrictions relating to public events, which could affect the consultant team's ability to hold in-person sessions as part of the Round Two public consultation.

As such, the consultant team will proceed with a flexible approach for Round Two that will consider the current circumstances, including any emergency declarations or municipal/provincial restrictions, while taking into account lessons learned by the City with respect to public consultation in situations where in-person gatherings are not possible (e.g. Committee meetings that receive public delegations, and other City-led public consultations), should any restrictions be in place at the time of Round Two consultation.

While an online survey, guestbook and other online feedback mechanisms used in Round One of public consultation will be used again for Round Two, additional tools that will be considered if in-person public meetings and stakeholder sessions cannot be held include webinars and online meetings via Zoom or a similar platform.

As was the case with Round One of public consultation, consultation opportunities will be widely advertised. The Office of the City Clerk will provide Members of Council with additional information regarding Round Two of public consultation in the coming months.

Final Report to Council and Projected Timeline

Following Round Two of public consultation, the consultant team will bring forward a Final Report to FEDCO and Council that will include recommendations with respect to new ward boundaries in the City of Ottawa. It is currently anticipated that this report will be brought forward to Committee and Council in December 2020, though this will in part depend on how the COVID-19 situation evolves.

After Council approves any changes to ward boundaries by way of an enacting by-law, there would be a 45-day period in which notices of appeal could be filed for the LPAT. In the event of any appeal, provided that any decision made by the LPAT occurs before January 1, 2022, it is anticipated that the new ward boundaries would be in effect for the October 2022 Municipal Elections.

The current projected timeline for the Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020 is as follows:

Task	Responsible	Date
Public consultation on new ward boundary options (Round Two)	Consultant team	Q3 2020
Final report to Council with recommendations	Consultant team	December 2020
Enacting by-law	City Clerk	Q4 2020/Q1 2021
Give notice to the public that the bylaw has passed and prepare for LPAT appeals	City Clerk	Q4 2020/Q1 2021
45-day Appeal Period ends/Last day for notice(s) of appeal to be received	City Clerk	Q1 2021
Notice(s) of appeal to be forwarded to the LPAT by the City (within 15 days of the last day for filing a notice of appeal)	City Clerk	Q1 2021
Expected LPAT decision (within ~ six to 10 months)	LPAT	Q3 2021/Q4 2021
2022 Municipal Elections		October 2022

RURAL IMPLICATIONS

As described in the Options Report attached as Document 1.

CONSULTATION

Consultation for the Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020 Options Report was conducted as described in this report and the attached Options Report. Specifically, Round One of public consultation collected opinions about Ottawa's current ward boundaries. This included consultation with Members of Council, residents and

stakeholders through public meetings, email, an online survey and guestbook, and the Engage Ottawa platform.

COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)

This is a city-wide report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal impediments associated with this report.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

There are no accessibility impacts associated with this report.

TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES

The Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020 is not a specific action connected to the Term of Council Priorities. That said, the review relates to the priority of “Service Excellence Through Innovation: Deliver quality bilingual services that are innovative and continuously improve to meet the needs of individuals and diverse communities.”

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Document 1 – Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020 – Options Report (Prepared by Beate Bowron Etcetera, Hemson Consulting Ltd., and the Davidson Group)

Document 2 – Legislative Provisions for Ward Boundary Reviews

Document 3 – Minute Extract – Finance and Economic Development Committee meeting of June 4, 2019

Document 4 – Letter from City Clerk to the Premier of Ontario and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Document 5 – Letter from Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to City Clerk

Document 6 – Consultant team biographies

DISPOSITION

As this is an Information Report, the Ottawa Ward Boundary Review 2020 will continue in the manner described in this report, subject to any direction that may be provided by Council. The internal ward boundary review project team led by staff will continue to support the independent consultant team’s role and undertake any additional work such as planning and implementation.