

Memorandum

Date: May 9, 2023

To: Members of Council

From: Brian Baird, Director Operations

Subject: Supplementary Information – Association of Ontario Road Supervisors Objection to a New Proposed Enbridge Gas Locate Fee

The Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) have requested the support of its municipal members by objecting to a new locate fee of \$200.00 plus applicable tax being proposed by Enbridge Gas. The Town of Caledon is a member of AORS.

Ontario municipalities including the Town of Caledon allow utilities such as Hydro One, Rogers, Bell and Enbridge to use municipal Right of Ways (ROW) at no charge to the utility. Any construction project no matter its size is required to have utility locates performed to identify their location within the ROW to prevent damage to the utility, prevent inconvenience of service outage to residents and prevent potential injury or catastrophic consequences such as electrocution or gas line fires.

Utility locates are coordinated province wide through Ontario One Call and it is a free service. This is to encourage everyone to have utility locates executed before starting any construction project, whether a small residential landscape project or a large commercial building in the interest of public safety and continuity of service.

If Enbridge is allowed to charge \$200.00 plus tax per locate of their gas line the concerns are as follows:

- Discouragement of homeowners and/or contractors to have utility locates performed to save costs and therefore increasing risk to the health, safety and welfare of the public.
- Increased costs to all municipal construction projects including roads, facilities, park construction and tree planting
- Setting precedence for other utilities to implement a locate fee and further increasing construction costs.

As a member of AORS, it is recommended that the Town of Caledon support the letter and proposed resolution.