

Report to Council

Report Title:	Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit – Host Municipality – Gas Tax		
Prepared By:	Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer		
Department:	Administration		
Date:	January 13, 2026		
Report Number:	CAO2026-01	File Number:	C11AD
Attachments:	Letter from SMART – Proposal for Adoption of By-Law Appointing the County of Bruce as Host Municipality for SMART Draft By-Law Authorizing County of Bruce to Collect Gas Tax Funds		

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CAO2026-01 - Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit – Host Municipality – Gas Tax, prepared by Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer and in doing so approves endorsing the appointment of the County of Bruce as the host municipality, authorizing the County of Bruce to collect the Dedicated Gas Tax Funds from the Ministry of Transportation on behalf of Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit (SMART) and further approves the appropriate By-law coming forward.

Report:

Background:

Saugeen Mobility and Regional Transit (SMART) **provide** specialized public transit services for individuals with physical, mental, visual, and/or cognitive challenges in the municipalities of Arran-Elderslie, Brockton, Chatsworth, Grey Highlands, Hanover, Huron-Kinloss, Kincardine, Saugeen Shores, Southgate, and West Grey.

The Ministry of Transportation requires a single designated host municipality for regional transit partnerships to manage provincial funding. Historically, the Town of Hanover has served as the host municipality for SMART, receiving Dedicated Gas Tax Funds on behalf of participating municipalities.

On October 27, 2025, Council was advised that Hanover requested an alternate municipality assume this role.

Analysis:

On December 23, 2025 we received confirmation that the County of Bruce agreed to assume responsibility for managing the provincial gas tax program to support SMART. The SMART Board of Directors has formally endorsed this appointment, noting it will strengthen funding administration and service delivery. The County

will now assume the tasks of applying for, receiving, holding, and administering allocations from the Province of Ontario's Public Transportation Fund.

The next step for this change will be for all participating municipalities adopt a by-law to confirm this arrangement. Uniform adoption across all municipalities will ensure compliance with provincial requirements and facilitate seamless access to funding for SMART's ongoing operations.

Staff recommend that Council endorse the appointment of the County of Bruce as the host municipality for SMART and further recommends that the proposed By-law be considered to ensure a timely and seamless transition.

Strategic Action Plan Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Strategic Action Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

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| • Recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Heritage, Culture, and Community | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Quality of Life | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Land Use Planning and the Natural Environment | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Municipal Governance | Yes |

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

Participation in SMART is included in the 2026 budget, this transition would have no additional financial impacts.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer