

From: Roger Cook
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 8:59 AM
Subject: MTO Gas Tax funding

Good morning all,

The MTO Gas Tax for Transit program is funded by a 2 cent per liter transit tax. For 2019, SMART is expecting about \$719,000 from this program.

Under the former provincial government, this tax was to increase by half a cent per liter in 2020 and 2021 and a full cent in 2022. Gas Tax funding for all transit systems would then increase by 25% in 2020 and 2021 and another 50% in 2022.

SMART would have seen its Gas Tax funding increase to \$900,000 in 2020, \$1,080,000 in 2021 and \$1,440,000 in 2022.

Despite promising to honour this commitment while on the campaign trail, the new provincial government announced in the budget yesterday that this plan was been CANCELLED.

This is NOT good news for SMART or for any transit service. This enhanced funding was important to SMART's future. As well, the government will be conducting a review of the Gas Tax for Transit program. This uncertainty is certainly not welcome.

I am not sure if anything can be done to reverse this decision. I just thought you should all be made aware.

Best regards,
Roger

Roger Cook

Manager
519-881-2589

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