



Date: September 15, 2025
To: Mayor and Council
Author: Scott Moore, Fire Chief
RE: Cottam Fire Station (North) Lands for Parking, Storage, and Training

RECOMMENDED ACTION

That Administration **be authorized** to utilize and designate the underlying lands of the older Cottam Center & Library, once demolition is complete, for the exclusive use of the Kingsville Fire Department, for parking and training purposes.

BACKGROUND

The older Cottam Centre & Library building is scheduled for demolition, as it is being replaced by a new Cottam Community Centre and Library building. Once removed, the property will become open space adjacent to the Cottam Fire Station (North).

The Cottam Fire Station currently faces challenges with limited parking capacity, particularly during training sessions and emergency responses when volunteer firefighters arrive on site. The lack of adequate parking impedes timely response and creates safety and logistical issues. The Fire Department also needs an area for training usage.

DISCUSSION

The acquisition of the older Cottam Centre & Library building space for Fire Department use would provide a much-needed solution to the current challenges faced at the Cottam Fire Station. The property would allow the department to expand parking capacity for volunteer firefighters responding to both training and emergencies, ensuring personnel can arrive safely and efficiently without competing with community centre or sports field users for parking.

The property will be signed and clearly designated for Fire Department use only, eliminating the ongoing problem of overflow parking from nearby facilities.

In addition to parking, the property would serve as a dedicated and controlled area for training activities. At present, the department often relies on private sector partners to secure suitable sites for training exercises. Having access to Town-owned property

adjacent to the station would reduce that dependency and allow for more consistent, accessible, and safe training opportunities for firefighters. This would not only improve operational readiness but would also strengthen the department's ability to meet its mandate to protect the community.

The proposal ensures that the property continues to be used in a manner that benefits the public by directly supporting emergency response and preparedness. Securing this land for fire department operations would represent a practical and strategic use of Town-owned property.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Minimal costs are anticipated, limited to fencing, signage, and minor site preparation. These costs could be incorporated into the Fire Department's facility maintenance budget or future capital planning.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

None.

CONSULTATIONS

Jeromy Garant, Deputy Chief
Tim Del Greco, Senior Manager, Capital Projects and Engineering
John Norton, CAO

PREPARED BY:



Scott Moore
Fire Chief

REVIEWED BY:



John Norton
Chief Administrative Officer