



March 20, 2024

**BY EMAIL**

Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
Email: premier@ontario.ca

**Re: Rural and Small Urban Municipalities – Affordability of Water and Wastewater Systems**

At its Regular Council Meeting held on February 20, 2024, Council supported the enclosed correspondence dated January 31, 2024 from the County of Renfrew regarding the affordability of water and wastewater systems. Council discussed the importance of upgrading the water quality to meet the Provincial Water Quality Objectives and noted the need for operational funding with the rise of water and wastewater rates.

The Council of the Town of Essex is advocating to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities of Ontario (ROMA), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to review if the affordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally.

Council accordingly passed the following resolution:

**R24-02-057**

Moved By Councillor Verbeek  
Seconded By Councillor Matyi

**That** the correspondence dated January 31, 2024 from the County of Renfrew regarding Rural and Small Urban Municipalities Affordability of Water and Wastewater Systems be received and supported; and



**That** a letter of support be sent to the Honourable Kinga Surma, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Chris Lewis, MP, Anthony Leardi, MPP, Essex Riding, AMO, ROMA, FCM, and local municipalities.

We trust you will find this satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "jmall", written in a cursive style.

Joseph Malandruccolo  
Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk  
[jmalandruccolo@essex.ca](mailto:jmalandruccolo@essex.ca)

Enclosure

cc: Minister of Infrastructure

Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Chris Lewis, MP

Anthony Leardi, MPP, Essex Riding

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)

Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

County of Essex

Town of Amherstburg



Town of Kingsville  
Municipality of Lakeshore  
Town of LaSalle  
Municipality of Leamington  
Town of Tecumseh