



Council Highlights are intended to provide a summary of Council proceedings only. The information contained within the Highlights is based on approved material from within the associated agenda packages, linked at the bottom. These reports were part of the agendas from the **Council Meeting on September 26** and the **Committee of the Whole Meeting on September 12, 2023**. For more information on any item covered in the Highlights, each article is hyperlinked to the appropriate report, which can be accessed by clicking on the title. Images are also linked to relevant resources.

A recording of these sessions is also available for public viewing on the [County's YouTube channel](#).

- Service Simcoe

## 2023/24 Ontario Renal Network Operating Funding Agreement for Trillium Manor

Trillium Manor supports the delivery of peritoneal dialysis services to residents within Trillium Manor who require them. The program is managed and funded through Ontario Health.

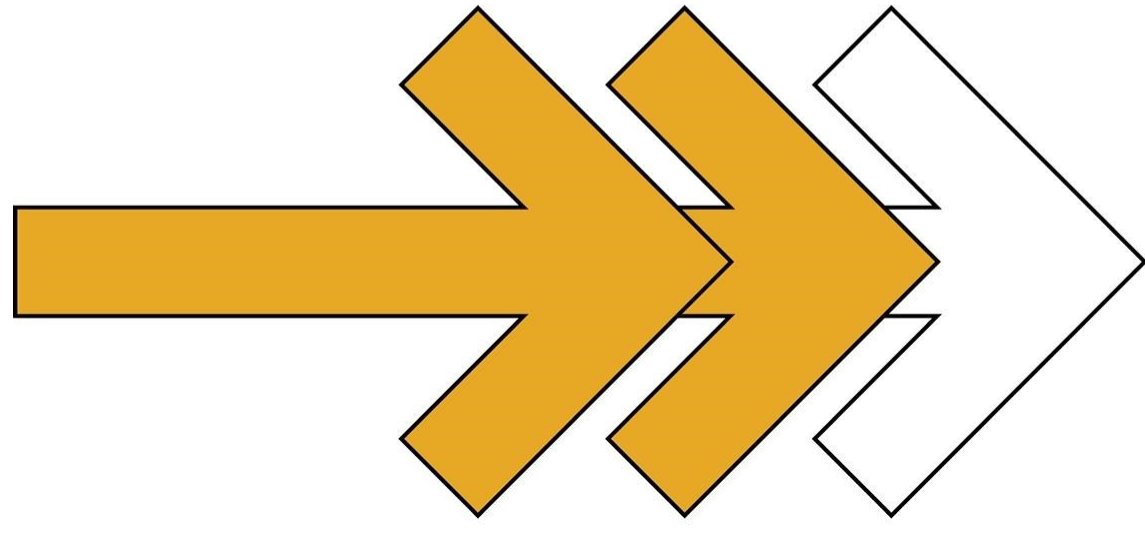
Both Simcoe Manor and Trillium Manor have had agreements in place to provide peritoneal dialysis to residents for several years. This service is provided in partnership with Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, the Ontario Renal Network, Cancer Care Ontario, and Ontario Health.

On September 12, 2023, Council received a report on the funding agreement, which will allow Trillium Manor residents to receive hemodialysis treatment within their home rather than at the regional dialysis centre resulting in less disruption in their daily lives and transportation costs.

# COUNTY OF SIMCOE

## TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN

### Phase II: Transportation Network Development Roads, Transit and Active Transportation



Click on the image above to read the Transportation Master Plan Update.

## Transportation Master Plan Update - Project Progress

On September 12, 2023, Council received a report on the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) Update project that is currently in progress, along with an overview of the progress that has been made.

The work plan for the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) Update has been developed into a four-phase plan, with public and stakeholder consultation and communication activities conducted throughout.

Phase II and Phase III Reports were published on the County's TMP webpage on June 22, 2023, providing the opportunity for key stakeholders to submit their comments.

At present, the project team is actively engaged in the process of determining how best to address the comments that have been received. Council will receive a review of the recommendations in the near future.



## Blue Box Transition and Collection Week Change

On September 12, 2023, Council received a report on the provincial Blue Box Transition and the associated collection week change.

Part of the provincial Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act requires that the producers of blue box material set up their own collection system by January 1, 2026, with a transition period from July 1, 2023, through to December 31, 2025. The County of Simcoe was provided a transition date of January 1, 2024.

In negotiation with Circular Materials Ontario (CMO)–the Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) acting on behalf of producers to set up the collection system–the County has agreed to continue to provide the recycling services on their behalf from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025. For this period there will be no change to the method of collection or the types of materials being collected.

As of January 1, 2026, there is still a possibility, though unlikely, that the County may continue to be responsible for curbside recycling collection. It is more likely that CMO will contract separately for these services and the County of Simcoe will no longer be responsible for collecting recycling material from residences.

### Collection Week Change

As of January 1, 2024, the County of Simcoe will no longer be required to transfer recycling collected curbside. CMO has contracted their own transfer facility located in the City of Barrie to transfer this material. This means that the County's collection trucks will be required to empty recycling at the location designated by CMO and then proceed to the County's transfer station to empty organics.

To accommodate these changes, our bi-weekly cart collection rotation will change for some areas of the County. Impacted households will have two consecutive recycling collection weeks (November 27-30 and December 4-7). These households are permitted one additional garbage bag (to be placed beside their cart) on their next garbage week (December 11-14). More information will be made available at [simcoe.ca/collection](http://simcoe.ca/collection), and a targeted communications and marketing campaign will provide advanced notice to impacted households.

## 2024 High Level Draft Budget Assumptions

As outlined during the 2023 Budget presentation, the County's operating balance has reduced significantly over the last few years due to efforts to provide modest tax rate increases. This has increased the gap between funding and cost inflation. In addition, cost increases are significant in many areas such as construction, supplies, insurance and other external factors which adds to the need for additional funding to meet growing service and capital project demands. To enable staff to present a responsible, prudent, but forward thinking budget to Council for their review, staff requested that they be permitted to present a draft budget with a Tax Levy increase in the range of 2% for asset management and 3% for operating expenses for a combined increase of approximately 5% for 2024 for Council's review. This is after some significant efforts to reduce impacts. A number of other municipalities in Ontario have communicated similar needs and pressures in developing their 2024 budget request.

On September 26, 2023, following Council deliberations, Council approved the budget assumptions, which directs staff to incorporate the proposed rates into the 2024 County of Simcoe draft budget. The budget review process will begin with Council receiving the proposed draft budget during a special budget meeting and then will have opportunities to review and recommend changes if desired. Budget approvals will follow these discussions in late 2023.



Click on the image above to learn more about the County Orillia Campus at the former ODCVI.

## Request for Approval – Orillia Campus Leaseholds – SCS Division

As part of a purposeful design within the Orillia Campus project, the Social and Community Services (SCS) Division will operate a satellite office to ensure that residents and neighbouring community members have access to essential community and social services. This includes services delivered within the SCS Division, such as Ontario Works, Community Services, Social Housing and Children Services.

On September 26, 2023, Council approved the County portion of the leasehold and equipment costs for the satellite office, with the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services funding the remaining 50%.

[Council Meeting Agenda - September 26, 2023](#)

[Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda - September 12, 2023](#)

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