



Hamilton

INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members HMRF/HWRF Pension Administration Sub-Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	December 10, 2019
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	HMRF/HWRF/HSR Pension Plan Possible Transfer to OMERS (FCS18093(a)) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
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SUBMITTED BY:	Rick Male Director, Financial Services and Taxation & Corporate Controller Corporate Services Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

At its meeting of January 23, 2019, Council ratified Audit, Finance, & Administration Report 19-001, which included the HMRF/HWRF Pension Administration Sub-Committee Report 18-001 from December 18, 2018. As per Item 10.4, Report FSC18093, staff was directed to investigate a possible transfer of the City of Hamilton's (City) three legacy pensions plans to Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS):

- i) Hamilton Municipal Retirement Fund (HMRF);
- ii) Hamilton Wentworth Retirement Fund (HWRF); and
- iii) Hamilton Street Railway Pension Plan (HSR)

INFORMATION

After Council's direction to explore the feasibility of the transfer, staff held several conference calls with OMERS and the plan actuaries to determine the information required to prepare a costing based on the going concern discount rate provided to the City of Toronto for its transfer. All plan data requested by OMERS was provided by staff and actuaries in June 2019 and a costing was expected by September 2019.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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After several delays, OMERS notified the City of Hamilton on October 24, 2019 that they are no longer in a position to move forward on the potential transfer because the economics have changed since the City of Toronto agreement and the pricing no longer meets their internal metrics.

City of Toronto was much further along in the transfer to OMERS of their five legacy plans. As of March 2019, one plan completed the transfer and those members are now receiving pension payments from OMERS. Three plans were awaiting approval from FSRA (Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario), and for the last plan, Toronto chose not to move forward.

Similar to the City of Hamilton, the City of Ottawa were also advised by OMERS that their initiative would not be moving forward.

Consequently, City staff are no longer pursuing a transfer to OMERS of the three legacy pension plans.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

None

BH/dw