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**To:** Mayor and Council

**From:** Briar Kelly, Community Economic Development Officer

**Meeting Date:** October 6, 2025

**Subject:** Report #CAO-011-2025 – Climate Action Advisory Committee Request for Emergency Preparedness Report - Weather Events

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## Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receive report #CAO-011-2025 (Climate Action Advisory Committee's Request for Emergency Preparedness Report - Weather Events) dated October 6, 2025; and,

- 1) That Council, in support of the recommendation from the Climate Action Advisory Committee, direct staff to prepare a comprehensive Emergency Preparedness Report addressing the Township's readiness for weather events; and,
- 2) That this report be presented to Council, with staff identifying possible opportunities for the Climate Action Advisory Committee to support weather emergency preparedness initiatives of the Township, at a future meeting.

## Background

The Climate Action Advisory Committee was established to provide guidance on local climate action initiatives and to enhance the community's resilience to climate-related challenges. As part of its mandate, the Committee has identified emergency preparedness for extreme weather events as a critical priority for Clearview Township.

Recent years have seen an increase in the frequency and intensity of severe weather events across Ontario, including extreme precipitation, ice storms, prolonged heat waves, and severe windstorms. These events have the potential to significantly impact municipal operations, infrastructure, and community safety.

The Committee recognizes that while the Township has existing emergency management protocols, a focused assessment of weather-specific preparedness across all municipal departments would strengthen the Township's overall resilience and ensure coordinated response capabilities.

As such, the Climate Action Advisory Committee passed a motion at the latest meeting held on September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025. Moved by Jim Campbell, Seconded by Councillor Beelen, that “Be It Resolved That the staff liaison prepare a report to Council on developing an Emergency Preparedness Report that outlines the current status, identifies gaps and challenges, provides recommendations for future planning, and includes departmental CO<sub>2</sub> reduction plans for future implementation, to be presented to Council for endorsement.” The Motion was Carried by the Committee at this meeting.

### **Comments and Analysis**

The proposed Emergency Preparedness Report would serve multiple strategic objectives aligned with the Climate Action Advisory Committee's mandate. The report would require all relevant Township departments to outline their specific emergency preparedness plans for weather events, ensuring a coordinated and comprehensive approach to emergency management. This comprehensive departmental assessment would provide a foundation for understanding the Township's current capabilities and protocols across all municipal operations.

A critical component of the report would be the identification of existing gaps in preparedness protocols or resources that may compromise the Township's response effectiveness. Through this gap analysis, the Township and Climate Action Advisory Committee would gain valuable insights into areas where current procedures may be insufficient and highlight areas where additional support, resources, or training may be required to enhance the Township's emergency preparedness capabilities. Once this report is completed and shared with the Climate Action Advisory Committee, they can work through the opportunities where additional support can be provided to mitigate these challenges and inform the Committee's future strategic planning.

This initiative directly supports the Committee's mandate to advance local initiatives that improve community preparedness for sudden weather events and climate-related impacts. The report would provide Council with a clear understanding of the Township's current state of readiness and actionable recommendations for strengthening emergency preparedness protocols. This proactive approach would enhance community safety, protect municipal infrastructure, and demonstrate the Township's commitment to climate resilience.

The Climate Action Advisory Committee believes this comprehensive assessment is essential for ensuring Clearview Township is well-positioned to respond effectively to increasingly unpredictable weather patterns and protect the safety and well-being of residents and municipal assets.

## **Financial Implications**

The preparation of this Emergency Preparedness Report would not require direct budget expenditures or additional funding allocations. However, the initiative would require dedicated staff time across multiple departments to compile existing emergency protocols, assess current capabilities, and identify areas for improvement. This investment in the Township's long-term resilience and risk management capacity has the potential to prevent more costly emergency response scenarios and infrastructure damage in the future.

## **Clearview's Strategic Plan**

The above initiative supports the following strategic pillars:

- Climate

## **Report Appendices**

### **Approvals**

**Submitted by:** Briar Kelly, Community Economic Development Officer

**Reviewed by:** John Ferguson, CAO

**Financial Implications Reviewed by:** Kelly McDonald, Treasurer/Director of Finance

**Approved by:** John Ferguson, CAO