



The Corporation of the Township of King Report to Council

From: Corporate Services Department – Clerks Division
Report Number: COR-CLK-2026-001
Date: Monday, April 27, 2026
Title: **Animal Services Agreement**

Recommendation

1. That Council receive Report COR-CLK-2026-001 for information.
2. That Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute a service agreement between the Township of King and the City of Vaughan for the provision of Animal Services, effective May 1, 2026, for a period of five (5) years.

1. Report Highlights

- Currently animal control and sheltering services are provided by the City of Vaughan to the Township of King through a service level agreement which expires on May 1, 2026.
- King's effective partnership with the City of Vaughan has been in place since 2011.
- The proposed service level agreement maintains the same level of service as is currently provided and is for a five-year term.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to authorize staff to enter into a new service agreement for a five-year term with the City of Vaughan to continue providing animal services to the Township of King.

3. Background

Since 2011, the Township of King has partnered with the City of Vaughan through a Council-approved service agreement to deliver animal control and related services on behalf of the Township ([Report CL-2010-36](#)) through Vaughan Animal Services (VAS). This partnership supports enforcement of the Township's Animal Control By-law and provides animal control response and animal sheltering services by leveraging Vaughan's established facilities, trained officers, and operational capacity.

Council has periodically renewed the agreement since its inception to ensure the continuity of animal control services. The scope of the agreement has remained focused on domestic animal control including dogs, cats and livestock, as well as sheltering services.

In 2024, Council approved coordinated amendments to the service agreement ([Report No. COR-CLK-2024-011](#)), representing the first substantive expansion of the scope of services

by VAS since the partnership was established. These amendments included the transition of dog and cat licensing administration, a specific role in avian influenza response to address public health considerations, and expanded responsibilities related to livestock investigations.

4. Analysis

VAS currently delivers animal control services in King focused on domestic animals, including dogs, cats, and livestock. Services include response to animals at large, lost pets, annual kennel and dog daycare inspections, and enforcement of the Township's [Animal Control By-law](#), (#2016-85) supported by proactive patrols that provide daily coverage Monday to Friday, with 24/7 emergency response available.

VAS also provides animal sheltering services located at 70 Tigi Court, Unit 47 in Vaughan. The shelter is open to the public Monday to Saturday and is closed on Sundays and statutory holidays. Effective January 2025, VAS also administers dog and cat licensing for King, providing residents with a single point of contact for domestic animal related services and inquiries.

The proposed service level agreement maintains the current level of service and provides for a five-year term commencing May 1, 2026. Township staff are satisfied with the level of service received and believe that renewing this agreement continues to be mutually beneficial to both municipalities. The partnership with the City of Vaughan delivers not only operational efficiencies but also access to established expertise and comprehensive service delivery, including trained personnel, facilities, vehicles, equipment, and the assumption of related insurance and liability responsibilities.

Contract Management and Program Oversight of Animal and Wildlife Services

The Township's animal and wildlife services contracts were previously jointly managed by the former combined Clerks and By-law Department. Following corporate restructuring, contract administration remained with the Clerks Division; however, operational experience has since demonstrated that the day-to-day delivery of animal and wildlife services aligns more closely with the By-law Services Division, given the enforcement, field response, and service coordination involved.

As part of the new contract term, administrative responsibility for contract management and program oversight will transition from the Clerk's Division to the By-law Services Division. This change is intended to better align oversight with operational responsibility and enhance coordination with enforcement activities. While this transition will result in a slight increase in the By-law Division's service level, By-law Services has confirmed that there are no anticipated negative implications to existing service delivery or staffing levels. The By-law Services Division is agreeable to receiving this responsibility.

This transition to By-law Services will enable closer collaboration with Vaughan Animal Services and the Toronto Wildlife Centre, providing an opportunity to review service standards, identify potential gaps, and consider future operational improvements through a by-law enforcement lens.

5. Financial Considerations

If approved, the first year of the proposed five-year agreement will consist of an eight-month period at a prorated cost of \$166,749, based on a full annual rate of \$250,124. The proposed agreement and associated annual costs are presented in Table 1. The final year of the current contract reflects a 2025 rate of \$242,839.

The 2026 cost increase, representing the final eight (8) months of the year, has already been incorporated into the approved 2026 Animal Services operating budget (General Ledger Account 10-12-1204-3850). The only financial change proposed through this renewal is an adjustment to the annual rate increase, increasing from 2.5% to 3% to reflect anticipated cost pressures. Future annual adjustments will continue to be addressed through the Township’s annual budget process, consistent with past practice.

Table 1 – Yearly Agreement Costs	
Contract Year	VAS Base Contract Fee
1 (8 months – 2026)	\$166,749 <i>(Prorated from \$250,124)</i>
2 (2027)	\$257,628
3 (2028)	\$265,357
4 (2029)	\$273,317
5 (2030)	\$281,518

6. Alignment to Strategic Plan

The 2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan (CSP) was adopted by Council on June 12, 2023. The CSP reflects the priorities of upmost importance to the community and defines the obligations and commitments of the Township of King to its citizens and to the public. The CSP is aligned with the Townships long-term vision defined in the “Our King” Official Plan. The CSP also aims to ensure that staff initiatives focus on and work towards supporting King’s Vision, Mission and Values.

The Animal Services agreement supports an ongoing positive partnership, which allows us to deliver more efficient and effective services to residents. The agreement provides mutual services delivery and financial benefits for the Township of King and the City of Vaughan.

This report is in alignment with the CSP’s Priority Area(s), and/or associated Objective(s) and/or Key Results(s):

Priority Area: Service Excellence

Objective: Enrich community well-being and make King the ideal place to live, work and play.

Key Result: Not Applicable.

This report aligns with the Township's 2023–2026 Corporate Strategic Plan under the priority area of Service Excellence, supporting the objective to enrich community well-being and deliver responsive, coordinated municipal services.

7. Conclusion

In summary, the renewal of the Township of King's Animal Services Agreement with the City of Vaughan for a five-year term is recommended in order to ensure the continued provision of effective animal services and the realization of on-going operational efficiencies for Township residents.

8. Attachments

Not applicable.

Prepared by:

Denny Timm

Township Clerk and Manager of Legislative Services

Recommended by:

Jennifer Caietta

Director of Corporate Services

Approved for submission by:

Daniel Kostopoulos

Chief Administrative Officer