

## Council Report For the Meeting of April 25th, 2019

To:

Council

Date:

April 11, 2019

From:

Jo-Ann O'Connor, Deputy Director of Finance

Subject:

2019 Boulevard Tax Bylaw

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council give first, second, and third readings to "Boulevard Tax Bylaw, 2019".

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Each year the City imposes a boulevard tax to help defray the cost of maintenance and upkeep of City boulevards. Pursuant to section 12 of the Victoria City Act, 1920 and section 259 of the Community Charter, this tax is imposed on properties that front and abut upon any boulevard maintained by the City. The tax is proposed to remain at \$2.50 per m<sup>2</sup>. The total budgeted revenue and corresponding expenditure for 2019 is \$535,200. There are approximately 7200 properties that would be subject to the boulevard tax for 2019.

The boulevard service includes moving and edging boulevard grass. This service is not mandatory, and property owners have the ability to opt in or out of the program. To opt in or out, a signed petition must be presented to Council on a per-block basis. Such a petition must be signed by registered owners representing 50 percent of the assessed property values and 50 percent of the properties. Last year Council approved one petition which removed two properties from the program.

This bylaw must be passed prior to May 15th, and after the Financial Plan bylaw to be effective for the 2019 tax year.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Lockhart

Manager-Revenue

Deputy Director of Finance

Susanne Thompson

Deputy City Manager/CFO

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager