

## REPORT TO COUNTY COUNCIL

# Legacy Oil and Gas Well Year 3 Funding Approval

**To:** Warden and Members of County Council

**From:** Director of Paramedic Services

## RECOMMENDATION

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1. That County Council receive Report PS 2024-04 entitled “Legacy Oil and Gas Well Year 3 Funding Approval” and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Paramedic Services to sign a transfer payment agreement related to this funding program as described herein.

## REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

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- The purpose of this report is to seek authorization for the CAO and the Director of Paramedic Services to execute a transfer payment agreement to access funding under Year 3 of the Legacy Oil and Gas Well Program in invest in capacity building, training and emergency response.
- The Legacy Oil and Gas Wells Municipal Transfer Payment Program will cover the full cost of these initiatives, being \$105,000.

## IMPLEMENTATION POINTS

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Upon signing the transfer payment agreement, staff will begin the recruitment process for the project lead to begin work on the key deliverables of this funding, which is expected to be completed by the end of March 2026.

## Financial Impact

These expenditures will be funded through the Legacy Oil and Gas Well Transfer Payment Program, with no additional financial burden on the County’s operating or capital budgets.

## Summary of Costs

Activity	Detail	Budget
Capacity Building	Leveraging Microsoft 365 suite of tools to build out a centralized emergency management resource platform that helps coordinate resources among Oxford County and area municipalities.	\$75,000
	Decontamination trailer and emergency shelter supplies.	4,600
Training and Development	Decontamination trailer training for first responders.	5,500
Emergency Response	Remote electronic messaging board for public safety.	19,900
Total		<b>\$105,000</b>

## Communications

The public communications portion of the Legacy Oil and Gas Wells multi-year project was completed in Year 1. Year 3 activities are internally focused and will not require public communication. Area stakeholders will be engaged through the Emergency Management Coordinator.




## 2023-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

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Oxford County Council approved the **2023-2026 Strategic Plan** on September 13, 2023. The Plan outlines 39 goals across three strategic pillars that advance Council's vision of "Working together for a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable future." These pillars are: (1) *Promoting community vitality*, (2) *Enhancing environmental sustainability*, and (3) *Fostering progressive government*.

The recommendation in this report supports the following strategic goals.

### Strategic Plan Pillars and Goals

PILLAR 1	PILLAR 2	PILLAR 3
		
<b>Promoting community vitality</b>	<b>Enhancing environmental sustainability</b>	<b>Fostering progressive government</b>
Goal 1.3 – Community health, safety and well-being		Goal 3.2 – Collaborate with our partners and communities Goal 3.4 – Financial sustainability Goal 3.5 – Advocate for Oxford County

See: [Oxford County 2023-2026 Strategic Plan](#)

## DISCUSSION

### Background

Oxford County has been participating in the Legacy Oil and Gas Wells Municipal Transfer Payment Program, aimed at enhancing emergency preparedness and response, particularly related to legacy petroleum wells. Oxford County received \$105,000 in Year 1, and is approved for the same amount of funding in Years 2 and 3 of the program.

Year 1 funding enabled the creation of a hazard-specific response plan in collaboration with area municipalities, and the procurement of an online crisis management software platform that is complementary to the emergency management notification tool already used by some municipalities in Oxford County.

Year 2 activities focused on supporting shelter management programs within Oxford County; purchasing electronic road information signs; and supporting the purchase of a generator for the Springford Patrol Yard.

The recent procurement of a Decontamination Trailer under the Legacy Oil & Gas Well Transfer Payment Program was through a separate funding stream within this program for collaborative projects.

### Comments

The funding program's third year focuses on capacity building, staff training, and emergency response improvements. Oxford County's funding proposal includes the following activities:

**Capacity Building:** Developing an Emergency Management platform utilizing SharePoint/Microsoft Teams. This platform will also serve as a common toolkit for Oxford County and area municipalities for managing incidents in a coordinated manner. We will also

be procuring additional supplies for emergency shelters and consumables for the decontamination trailer.

**Training Development:** Provide training on the use of the decontamination trailer for first responders (area Fire Departments and Oxford County Paramedic Services).

**Emergency Response:** Procurement of an additional remote electronic messaging board to improve public communication during emergencies.

## CONCLUSIONS

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The proposed activities align with the strategic goals of enhancing community safety and well-being, as well as fostering a progressive and financially sustainable government. Approval of the funding and authorization for signing the required documents will allow these critical initiatives to proceed, ensuring better preparedness for future emergencies.

## SIGNATURES

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### Departmental approval:

Original signed by

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Ryan Hall  
Director – Paramedic Services

### Approved for submission:

Original signed by

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Benjamin R. Addley  
Chief Administrative Officer