

March 27, 2026

**CL 6-2026, March 26, 2026**

**PWC 3-2026, March 10, 2026**

**PW 10-2026, March 10, 2026**

**LOCAL AREA MUNICIPALITIES**

**SENT ELECTRONICALLY**

Extension of the Niagara Regional Courts Inter-Municipal Agreement (Amendment 3)  
PW 10-2026

Regional Council, at its meeting held on March 26, 2026, passed the following recommendations of its Public Works Committee:

That Report PW 10-2026, dated March 10, 2026, respecting Extension of the Niagara Regional Courts Inter-Municipal Agreement (Amendment 3), **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendations **BE APPROVED**:

1. That an extension to the term of the existing Amending Agreement to the Niagara Region Courts Inter-Municipal Agreement (NRCIMA) (being Amendment 2 dated October 13, 2022) of 3 years **BE APPROVED** for purposes of continuing the Red Light Camera (RLC) Program as described in Report PW 10-2026;
2. That the extension agreement (being Amendment 3 to the NRCIMA) **BE PREPARED** in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal and Court Services, including amendments necessary to reflect the conclusion of the Automated Speed Enforcement program in accordance with legislative changes as described in Report PW 10-2026;
3. That the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute the Amending Agreement (Amendment 3) to the NRCIMA once finalized, subject to approval by all 12 local area municipalities; and
4. That this report **BE CIRCULATED** to the 12 local area municipalities and that the 12 local area municipalities **BE REQUESTED** to approve the execution of the Amending Agreement (Amendment 3) to the NRCIMA to continue the Red Light Camera (RLC) program.

A copy of Report PW 10-2026 is enclosed for your reference.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann-Marie Norio". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ann-Marie Norio

Regional Clerk

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CLK-C 2026-030

cc: F. Tassone, Director, Transportation Services  
S. Fraser, Associate Director, Transportation Planning  
L. De Angelis, Commissioner, Public Works  
K. Ward, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Public Works

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**Subject:** Extension of the Niagara Regional Courts Inter-Municipal Agreement (Amendment 3)

**Report to:** Public Works Committee

**Report date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2026

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## Recommendations

1. That an extension to the term of the existing Amending Agreement to the Niagara Region Courts Inter-Municipal Agreement (NRCIMA) (being Amendment 2 dated October 13, 2022) of 3 years **BE APPROVED** for purposes of continuing the Red Light Camera (RLC) Program as described in Report PW 10-2026;
2. That the extension agreement (being Amendment 3 to the NRCIMA) **BE PREPARED** in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal and Court Services, including amendments necessary to reflect the conclusion of the Automated Speed Enforcement program in accordance with legislative changes as described in Report PW 10-2026;
3. That the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to execute the Amending Agreement (Amendment 3) to the NRCIMA once finalized, subject to approval by all 12 local area municipalities; and
4. That this report **BE CIRCULATED** to the 12 local area municipalities and that the 12 local area municipalities **BE REQUESTED** approve the execution of the Amending Agreement (Amendment 3) to the NRCIMA to continue the Red Light Camera (RLC) program.

## Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval of an extension to the current amendment to the NRCIMA to continue the RLC program as part of the Region's broader Vision Zero Road Safety initiative.
- The three-year term of the NRCIMA amendment adopted at the launch of RLC and Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) to support the financial sustainability of those programs will conclude in September 2026.
- The proposed Amendment extends the term by 3 years to September 2029 and recognizes the conclusion of the ASE program as a result of legislative changes.

- All other terms of the agreement remain unchanged, including the apportionment of costs and revenues.
- Preliminary RLC results indicate a moderate reduction in serious collision types and a 29.4% decrease in the number of tickets issued monthly from 2024 to 2025.
- The proposed 3-year extension (Amendment 3) will allow staff to continue operating the RLC program based on the existing terms as previously approved by Regional Council and the 12 local area municipalities and further evaluate its safety benefits as part of the Vision Zero Road Safety initiative.

### **Financial Considerations**

The proposed extension agreement (being Amendment 3 to the NRCIMA) remains unchanged as it relates to the apportionment of revenues and costs, known as net revenues. Net revenues are shared equally with 50% allocated to the local area municipalities and 50% allocated to the Region. In the event that net revenues result in a deficit position, meaning revenues do not cover the costs to administer the programs, the Region will cover these costs until such time that net revenues are realized. At that time, any deficits resulting from previous years will first be deducted before determining any net distribution. Any net revenues resulting from the RLC program must continue to be reinvested into road safety programs.

Specifically, for the RLC program, the 2026 budget to administer the program through both Court Services and Transportation Services has been adjusted to reflect zero net revenues. Further analysis will be completed as more information becomes available regarding the RLC program and will be utilized to support the budget process for 2027 and the 2028/2029 multi-year budgets.

### **Analysis**

#### **NRCIMA Background**

The Niagara Regional Court Intermunicipal Agreement (NRCIMA) was first approved in 2000, as a result of the transfer of the Provincial Offences Court from the Province to the Region, reflecting that the Region would undertake the court administration, support and prosecution programs, and operation of Provincial Offences Court on behalf of all municipalities in Niagara.

In 2022, an amendment to the NRCIMA (Amendment 2) was approved to reflect the introduction of RLC and ASE charges. This amendment recognized that the resources and costs to implement and operate these two programs are unique and are to be

tracked and reported separately from those for base Courts Services charges to support reinvestment of program revenues into road safety initiatives. The amendment also provided a financial framework that recognized the significant upfront investment by the Region to launch the program, while allowing for net revenue sharing with the local area municipalities.

This Amendment (Amendment 2) is currently in effect, covering a three-year term from September 2023 to September 2026. This term began with the issuance of the first ASE tickets in September 2023.

### **NRCIMA Amendment 3**

With the upcoming conclusion of the current amendment term (Amendment 2) in September 2026, an extension is required to support the ongoing operation of the RLC program on the existing terms as previously approved by the 12 local area municipalities and the Region.

The proposed amendment (NRCIMA Amendment 3) will:

- Extend the term of the existing amendment by 3 years to September 2029; and
- Add references to recognize the conclusion of the ASE program in November 2025 as a result of legislative changes. In accordance with Bill 56, the “Building a More Competitive Economy Act”, which eliminated the authority of municipalities to operate ASE effective November 14, 2025, the amendment will recognize that no new ASE charges will be issued as of that date, however any ASE charges issued prior to that date will continue to be processed in accordance with the agreement.

All other terms of the agreement remain unchanged, including the apportionment of costs and revenues. Collected fines will be used first to cover program costs as defined in Amendment 2. If collected fines are more than program costs, net fines will be distributed “50/50” between the Region and local area municipalities for re-investment in road safety initiatives.

### **Approval Process**

As the NRCIMA is a joint agreement between the Region and the 12 local area municipalities regarding the operation of Niagara Courts, all 13 parties must approve the proposed Amendment 3. This report seeks the Region’s initial approval of Amendment 3.

Subject to Regional Council approval, the report and draft Amendment 3 will be circulated to the 12 local area municipalities for their respective review and approval. Transportation and Legal Services staff will support local area municipality staff through this process and attend local Council meetings as required.

Subject to approval by all 12 local area municipalities, Amendment 3 will be finalized and executed on behalf of the Region in accordance with this report.

### **Red Light Camera Program**

RLCs detect and capture images of vehicles entering an intersection when the traffic signal is red. They help reduce severe collision types such as angle and head-on collisions at signalized intersections, as one component of the Region's broader Vision Zero Road Safety initiative. 10 RLCs are currently in operation at signalized intersections across the region.

Parallel report PW 9-2026 provides detail on the safety benefits of the program to-date including a moderate decrease in the serious head-on and angle collision types RLCs are intended to prevent and a 29.4% reduction in the number of tickets issued monthly (329 in 2024 to 232 in 2025). This indicates a reduction in red-light running at RLC equipped intersections.

Staff recommend the continuation of the program based on these results. The extension of the program will allow for the collection of additional data to support future consideration of expansion of the program in collaboration with the LAMS.

Staff will return to Council with any future recommendations for expansion, which would occur in alignment with the NRIMCA amendment if approved.

### **Alternatives Reviewed**

Do Not Approve the Amendment (Not Recommended)

This is not recommended as the financial viability of the program is based on the Region's ability to recover program costs from collected fines, as authorized by the proposed Amendment.

### **Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities**

The overall Vision Zero Road Safety initiative is an identified action under the 'Equitable Region' strategic focus area. The Equitable Region focus is to "provide opportunities for

a safe and inclusive Niagara by listening and responding to our community needs and planning for future growth”.

### **Other Pertinent Reports**

- [PW 16-2025 - Vision Zero Road Safety Strategic Plan](#)  
<https://pub-niagararegion.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=dc06e20b-31d1-4a80-9252-b606a4e5689f&Agenda=Merged&lang=English&Item=13&Tab=attachments>
- [PW 11-2023 - Implementation of Red Light Cameras \(RLC\) Across Niagara Region](#)  
<https://pub-niagararegion.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=16e110c9-712b-4fbe-9436-07c97c48c1ab&Agenda=Merged&lang=English&Item=12&Tab=attachments>
- [CSD 81-2020 – Amending Agreement to the Niagara Region Inter-Municipal Agreement](#)  
<https://pub-niagararegion.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=0d5b3b54-9efd-4103-a0bb-84a45a69f24d&Agenda=Agenda&lang=English&Item=14&Tab=attachments>
- [PW 64-2019 - Vision Zero Road Safety Program](#)  
<https://pub-niagararegion.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=277bcf05-71ce-4d77-867e-5e839b3f87be&Agenda=Agenda&lang=English&Item=13&Tab=attachments>
- [PW 36-2019 – Red Light Camera](#)  
<https://pub-niagararegion.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=5a991a11-6ca0-4f35-b766-37bd8f2814fd&Agenda=Agenda&lang=English&Item=14&Tab=attachments>

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**Prepared by:**

Frank Tassone, C.E.T.  
Director, Transportation Services  
Public Works

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**Recommended by:**

Lisa De Angelis, RPP, P. Eng.  
Commissioner Public Works  
Public Works

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**Submitted by:**

Ron Tripp, P.Eng.  
Chief Administrative Officer

This report was prepared in consultation with Morgan Young, Legal Counsel; Miranda Vink, Associate Director Court Services; Scott Crocco, Senior Legal Counsel Litigation; Peter Vujic, Manager Road Safety; Taimur Usman, Project Manager Road Safety; and reviewed by Frank Tassone, Director Transportation Services; Jason Misner, Communications Consultant, Brian McMahon, Program Financial Specialist; Renee Muzzell, Associate Director Program Financial Support; and Donna Gibbs, Director Legal and Court Services.