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## Report 2022-138

**Report Title:** Delays in Receiving Ambulances

**Committee Name:** Community Health

**Committee Meeting Date:** October 3, 2022

**Prepared by:** Susan Brown  
Northumberland Paramedic - Chief  
Northumberland Paramedics

**Approved by:** Jennifer Moore, CAO

**Council Meeting Date:** October 19, 2022

**Strategic Plan Priorities:**  Economic Prosperity and Innovation  
 Sustainable Growth  
 Thriving and Inclusive Communities  
 Leadership in Change

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### Information Report

“**That** the Community Health Committee receive Report 2022-138 ‘Delays in Receiving Ambulances’ for information; and

**Further That** the Committee recommend that County Council receive this report for information.”

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### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to communicate the continued delay in receiving three (3) new Ambulances that were approved in the 2022 Budget.

## Background

Northumberland Paramedics received pre-approval in August 2021 to purchase three (3) ambulances for delivery in 2022. The two (2) ambulances (4134 and 4135) were part of the long-term replacement cycle, the third ambulance (4723) is the new ambulance assigned to the new Port Hope crew implemented in 2021. As in past years, placing an order in August/September of the preceding year would normally take approximately 6-8 months to receive, usually in March or April of the subsequent year.

We received ongoing notifications of updated delivery dates to receive these ambulances with the latest being February 2023, as per the table below.

Action	Estimated Delivery
Quote for Vehicles	July 2021 – 3 Vehicles
Budget Confirmed with P. O	August 25, 2021
ETA	March / April 2022 -usual time frame
ETA revised	June (2) and July (1) 2022
ETA revised	End of September 2022
ETA revised	March 2023

The delay in receiving the ambulances have been attributed to the following global and local issues of Crestline:

- Global Chassis delays and availability
- Global Micro Chip Shortages
- Huge back log in units needing to be produced and shipped due to delays
- Manpower shortages

The supply and demand challenges and current timelines of 10-12 months, increasing to 18 months for completed ambulances and delivery poses concerns of sustainability and safety of the ambulances that comprise the emergency fleet of Northumberland Paramedics.

## Consultations

Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs (OAPC)

Paramedic Chiefs of Canada (PCC)

Ministry of Health – Emergency Services Branch

## **Legislative Authority/Risk Considerations**

The Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care requires that all ambulances and ERV's be compliant and certified under the Land Ambulance Certification Standard Version 5.0 dated September 28, 2021. This standard recognizes that the appropriate life span of an Ambulance is fifty-four (54) months or 250,000 km whichever comes first. Northumberland Paramedics has adopted this life span and as such replaces vehicles on that schedule as part of the Long- Term Plan.

The replacement of this equipment as per the adopted schedule enhances paramedic and patient health and safety by reducing the risk of failure when performing critical work and responding to emergency calls.

Ambulances are subject to early wear and tear due to extreme operating conditions including exposure to all types of environmental conditions during emergency call responses.

## **Discussion/Options**

There are no options available as Braun has consolidated with Crestline and Demers and are the only recognized and certified ambulance providers in Ontario. All of which are experiencing the same global and local issues as Crestline noted prior.

## **Financial Impact**

If delayed until February 2023, we will require a carryover of the budgeted amount of the three (3) replacement vehicles within the 2022 budget.

Increased maintenance and repair costs maintaining vehicles beyond the standard that recognizes that the appropriate life span of an Ambulance is fifty-four (54) months or 250,000 kms whichever comes first.

Increased "lost hours" of vehicles and replacements waiting for lengthy repairs and replacement parts.

## **Member Municipality Impacts**

Potential for breakdowns of ambulances when responding to an emergency call.

## **Conclusion**

Staff request that the Community Health Committee and County Council receive this report for information.

## **Attachments**

1. Correspondence Crestline September 1, 2022