

To: Safety and Facilities Services Committee

From: Adam Grant, Commissioner,
Safety and Facilities Services Department

Report Number: SF-25-25

Date of Report: April 9, 2025

Date of Meeting: April 14, 2025

Subject: Emergency Preparedness Week

Ward: All Wards

File: 03-05

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to recognize and raise awareness about Emergency Preparedness Week (EP Week) and highlight public engagement initiatives from May 4-10, 2025.

2.0 Recommendation

That the Safety and Facilities Services Committee recommend to City Council:

That Report SF-25-25 dated April 9, 2025, concerning Emergency Preparedness Week, be received for information.

3.0 Input From Other Sources

- Fire Services

4.0 Analysis

4.1 Background

In accordance with the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.9 ("Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act"; formerly the Emergency Plans Act, 1983), there is a requirement for municipalities, ministers of the Crown, and designated agencies, boards, commissions, and other branches of government to develop and implement emergency management programs consisting of emergency plans, training programs and exercises, public education, and any other elements prescribed by regulation.

Emergency preparedness is one of the five pillars of Emergency Management:

- Prevention
- Mitigation
- Preparedness
- Response
- Recovery

Since 1996, Emergency Preparedness (EP) Week has been established as a national awareness initiative supported by Public Safety Canada.

By continuously fostering a culture of emergency preparedness through public awareness and education, residents will be able to reduce their vulnerability in an emergency.

4.2 Emergency Preparedness Week

The purpose of EP Week is to educate residents on the appropriate preparedness strategies to mitigate the impact of an emergency situation while cultivating and developing a culture of emergency preparedness starting at home.

During EP Week, public engagement activities organized by Oshawa Fire Services will be centered on understanding the risks, developing a plan and building emergency kits.

The theme for 2025 is “Be Prepared. Know Your Risks”. Some of the activities during EP Week include but are not limited to:

- Emergency Preparedness Week Kick Off
- Emergency Preparedness Open House at Fire Hall 6
- Social Media Engagement
 - Emergency Kits
 - Emergency Plan
- Enbridge Gas Presentation to City Staff on Natural Gas Emergencies and Emergency Response

5.0 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications related to this Report.

6.0 Relationship to the Oshawa Strategic Plan

This report responds to the Oshawa Strategic Plan Priority Area “Care: Safe and Sustainable Environment” with the goal to enhance emergency preparedness and response, including preparing for potential climate emergencies and significant weather events.



Stephen Barkwell, Fire Chief,
Fire Services



Adam Grant, Commissioner,
Safety and Facilities Services Department