

THE CORPORATION OF THE  
**TOWN OF SAUGEEN SHORES**

MOVED BY: John Divinski

RESOLUTION NO: \_\_\_\_\_

SECONDED BY: Rachel Stack

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Whereas** the Province of Ontario, through the Municipal Act, 2001, Section 400.1 and Ontario Regulation 435/17, authorizes municipalities to implement a Municipal Accommodation Fee (MAF) on transient accommodation; and

**Whereas** in June 2025 73 of 144 municipalities in Ontario have adopted a MAF, including two in Bruce County, with other local municipalities currently reviewing its implementation; and

**Whereas** a MAF is not a tax on residents, but rather is levied on visitors who utilize local infrastructure and amenities, to which Saugeen Shores residents currently contribute through property taxes, ensuring those who benefit from local tourism amenities contribute to their maintenance and operations; and

**Whereas** tourism is a significant economic driver in Saugeen Shores, generating substantial visitation and requiring ongoing support and investment in infrastructure; and

**Whereas** the MAF aligns with the municipality's Corporate Strategic Plan Pillar #1: Meeting the needs of a growing community; and

**Whereas** leveraging funds collected through the MAF would allow Saugeen Shores to expand tourism initiatives across all four seasons as recommended in the Saugeen Shores Tourism Strategy, thereby strengthening the municipality's competitive advantage in the tourism sector; and

**Whereas** capital and amenity infrastructure—such as bridges, roads, parks, trails, beautification projects, washrooms, and beach amenities—are essential to both residents and visitors, and often rely on grants, donations, and volunteer support in addition to municipal funding; and

**Whereas** the funds collected through the MAF would create a municipal fund that could enhance and maintain current recreational infrastructure, and support new amenities and recreational infrastructure such as parks, an additional ice rink, washrooms, and beautification; and

**Whereas** enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors fosters new investment and supports Saugeen Shores' development as a vibrant, well-rounded community; and

**Whereas** the funds for further study would come out of the Tax Stabilization Reserve, which has an estimated balance of \$1.3 million by the end of 2025.

**Therefore, Be it Resolved** That to support amenity infrastructure, and to maintain and enhance the quality of life for Saugeen Shores residents and visitors, it is recommended:

That Council direct staff to prepare a report outlining the potential for implementing a Municipal Accommodation Fee (MAF) in Saugeen Shores, with the purpose of providing Council with a robust, data-driven recommendation regarding the implementation of a MAF, including projected revenue, tourism benefits, market analysis, administrative considerations, and community partner input; and

That Council fund the Municipal Accommodation Fee (MAF) impact study at a cost of \$20,000 from the 2025 Tax Stabilization Reserve.

- Carried
- Carried, as amended
- Defeated
- Deferred
- Referred
- Tabled
- Withdrawn

Division of Recorded Vote

	Yes	No	Absent	Conflict
Divinski				
Duhaime				
Grace				
Halpin				
Huber				
Myatt				
Myette				
Stack				
Charbonneau				

\*Presiding member called last

---

Mayor