

Appendix II
Pest Control Subsidy Framework and Study

Resolution	Staff Recommended Action Plan
<p>Therefore be it resolved, that the Region of Peel develop a residential rodent control rebate program to assist residential property owners who are experiencing rodent infestation to hire pest control companies to address the immediate need in the Applewood Hills, Applewood Heights and Applewood Acres communities and other communities in the Region of Peel and City of Mississauga that have reported and documented rat infestation, and work with and support the local communities through a local rat prevention strategy including but not limited to an enhanced education campaign to residents and businesses, and control and prevention strategies on both public and private property;</p>	<p>Staff recommend the creation of an integrated pest management (IPM) program to address the issue. They will oversee implementation of the rebate program to address immediate concerns and execute a long-term strategy.</p>
<p>And further, that the Region of Peel work with the Applewood Hills, Applewood Heights and Applewood Acres communities to monitor the effectiveness of the rebate program and local rat prevention strategy to help inform a Region and Local Municipality Wide Interdepartmental Rat Mitigation, Control and Prevention Plan;</p>	<p>IPM team to report back to Council on the financial impacts and success of the subsidy program in 2022.</p>
<p>And further, that the Region of Peel retain an industry expert rodentologist to collaborate with staff from the Region of Peel, City of Mississauga, City of Brampton and Town of Caledon through an interdepartmental approach of Region of Peel Public Health, Public Works, City and Region Planning, City Transportation and Works, Parks, Animal Services and By-law to investigate rat populations and infestation and, based on findings, report to Regional Council with a rat mitigation, control and prevention plan that includes strategies on both public and private property and funding implementations on the following:</p>	<p>Assign to new IPM group. This new group would be responsible for overall pest management in Peel and would include PHC and other service groups in the Region including PW. Rat populations to be assessed in next phase of work with assistance from an expert and will commence with the approvals of budget and study.</p>
<p>a. Develop a mechanism to track rat infestation complaints;</p>	<p>IPM group to monitor infestation complaints and analysis.</p>
<p>b. Develop a baseline rat and rodent population in the Region, in the local Municipalities and in specific Neighbourhood Areas with reported rat infestation complaints;</p>	<p>IPM group will procure expert and establish study parameters. Rodentologist working with staff member could (at this stage of the infestation) establish.</p>
<p>c. Current work being undertaken by the Region and the City of Mississauga and various departments to incorporate preventative rat mitigation strategies, and, where gaps and opportunities exist, consider the following, but not limited to, interdepartmental strategies to implement appropriate control measures: i. Place bait/traps on all Peel construction sites in the Applewood Hills, Applewood Heights and Applewood Acres neighbourhoods.</p>	<p>Work in progress with implementation at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silverthorn Pumping Station • Sewer replacement – Cawthra from Bloor to Burnhamthorpe Rd. • Watermain replacements on Fieldgate Drive, Pagehurst Ave, Pickmere Court • Watermain replacements on Argus, Franconia and Parthia • Watermain replacements on Bough Beeches and Caulkdene <p>PW draft construction contract specification has been developed. City of Mississauga to address their construction projects.</p>

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ii. Place bait/traps on all active Peel construction sites.	Work in progress – most water/wastewater construction projects have pest control/baiting in place.
iii. For future Peel construction sites place bait/traps before and after construction to monitor potential changes.	May be very difficult for large linear type construction which does not occupy fixed area for long duration of time. Bait and trap could have environmental and other impacts on pets and other indirect animals including birds. Not recommended. Costs found in Appendix III.
iv. Peel adopt a process that when “retiring” any watermain infrastructure that it be sealed or grouted.	Standard practice on all current water and wastewater projects. All abandoned infrastructure is grouted in place to ensure no underground voids remain.
v. Implement Peel Waste Management controls and inspections on current and future Peel construction projects.	To be expanded to future construction projects. Currently all garbage is cleaned on regular basis from construction sites. Weekly inspections are conducted to ensure site cleanliness, separate material supply and storage locations.
vi. Peel Waste Management to continue to monitor waste collection in Applewood Hills, Applewood Heights and Applewood Acres, including multi-residential and commercial properties and, for future, monitor in other identified neighbourhoods reporting rat infestation.	Monitoring of litter containers, early set outs, multi-residential bin has been underway since June in the Applewood area only. Additional resources required for continued monitoring in Applewood and beyond the area. Local municipalities oversee waste management by-laws for commercial properties and waste collection in parks.
vii. Peel Public Health staff continue to respond and inspect complaints regarding rats and work with City of Mississauga Property Standards staff as required to streamline the process including designating a liaison officer and conducting joint inspections wherever possible.	<p>Public Health is mandated to enforce the Ontario Food Regulations (O. Reg 493/17 Section 13 Pest Control).</p> <p>Public Health could assist the new IPM Group as appropriate.</p> <p>Due to the current COVID pandemic, public health inspectors have been seconded to the response. Responding to rat complaints constrains the ability of public health to respond to the pandemic and further resources will be needed to maintain service levels.</p> <p>Some other municipalities have deferred rat inspections under the emergency declaration.</p> <p>Creating a new IPM team will alleviate further strain on Public Health</p>
viii. Peel Public Health to provide recommendations that rodent control be incorporated into construction plans when commenting on EAs (provincial, regional and municipal).	As part of the Public Health’s Built Environment Work, Public Health comments on environmental assessments related to major transportation initiatives as well as other environmental impact assessments that impact public health. While this is a subset of the environmental assessments that are completed with the Region of Peel, it captures the large projects.

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d. Develop a mechanism to track rodent, specifically rat infestation, complaints to coordinate the tracking of rodent related request for help through each department;	New IPM group to leverage the existing information management system used by Public Health and the 311 system to ensure complaints are addressed.
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e. Develop a plan to implement proactive baiting during infrastructure construction projects, including, but not limited to: i. Rat control measures implemented 6 months to a year prior to construction starting. ii. Rat control monitoring program upon construction completion.	<p>Very difficult due to extent of work to be completed (refer to Item c (iii) above). Difficult to do prior on linear construction project and not recommended due to impacts on natural wildlife (birds and other wild animals) and on pets.</p> <p>All facilities currently have active pest control programs so this would only be applicable to linear pipeline, roads and other waste management construction projects in Peel.</p> <p>Would need to apply to all construction projects including development work and private work to be effective.</p>
f. Develop a plan to include specific rat prevention practices in regular parks maintenance and specific rat prevention practices;	<p>Conservation Authorities in Peel do not agree with baiting and trapping in public places due to impact on other wildlife and pets.</p> <p>Enhanced cleaning and maintenance would be applicable to local municipalities.</p>
g. Modernize and or enhance existing public health and by-law programs and tools to address rodent problems on private property;	Public Health along with new IPM Group will assess existing mandates and regulatory tools to determine what opportunities exist.
h. Incorporate inspections for rats into the inspections of abandoned buildings and issue orders to the owners to remedy, at a neutral cost, any infestations if evidence is found;	This would have to be incorporated into the City's programs as the Region does not inspect these. Further study would be required to be completed to assess ability, responsibility, cost and other implications by IPM group.
i. That the various City and Regional departments review and report back to Regional Council on proactive baiting, waste management controls, and site inspection cleanliness in relation to: i. Issuing of demolition permits ii. Development applications iii. Building permits	Similar to item (h) above – the Region is not responsible for items (i) and (iii) and this would require the local municipalities to implement. IPM group could be responsible for developing specifications and procedures for this to assist. Development Applications have greater impact than the permits.
And further, that Region of Peel staff report back to a future meeting of Regional Council with recommendations on how such a program could be administered, detailing any financial impacts and what monitoring could be put in place to assess its effectiveness.	Assigned to the new IPM Group