



## The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Public Works & Engineering Services

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**From:** Phil Bartnik, Director Public Works & Engineering Services

**Date to Council:** March 8, 2022

**Report Number:** PWES-2022-06

**Subject:** Riverside Drive Multi-Use Trail Project Update

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### Recommendations

It is recommended:

**That** Report PWES-2022-06 Riverside Drive Multi-Use Trail Project Update **be received;**

### Executive Summary

Following the June 22, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council (RCM), direction was given to the Town's Consultants to proceed with the detailed design stage of the Riverside Drive Multi-Use Trail Project. This Administrative report serves to provide an update of the progress performed by the Project Team to date, including a visual presentation of the trail alignment at the 90% design stage and the next steps required to complete the project.

### Background

At the June 22, 2021 RCM, the Town's Consultants presented the technical recommendations for the multi-use trail to Town Council. The presentation addressed additional comments received through the PlaceSpeak platform such as safety concerns, property impacts, and environmental impacts. A copy of this presentation, along with the PlaceSpeak feedback received, is included in [Report PWES-2021-29](#).

Based on their evaluation, the Consultants recommended proceeding with the detailed design and construction of the Riverside Drive Multi-Use Trail on the south side of Riverside Drive. After deliberations, Council received report PWES-2021-29 (Motion: RCM-195/21) and gave approval to proceed with the detailed design and installation of a recreational multi-use trail on the south side of Riverside Drive from the Tecumseh-Windsor border to Manning Road (Motion: RCM-196/21).

Included in these recommendations was the direction to Administration to report back to Council following detailed design to provide Council with an opportunity to view the alignment.

## **Canada Community Revitalization Fund**

On July 21, 2021, the Town submitted an application to the Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF) for the Riverside Drive Multi-Use Trail Project.

In a news release published on August 13, 2021, the federal government announced its financial support from the Canada Community Revitalization Fund for post-pandemic recovery for the Town of Tecumseh to help fund our community infrastructure project, the Riverside Drive Multi-Use Trail, in order to rebound from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This one-time special intake funds up to 75%, to a maximum of \$750,000, of the total eligible project costs of the Riverside Drive Multi-Use Trail.

At the October 12, 2021 RCM, Council authorized the execution of an agreement with Her Majesty the Queen of Right in Canada as represented by the Minister responsible for Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario for funding under the Canada Community Revitalization Fund under By-Law 2021-80 (Motion: RCM-326/21).

Included within the terms of this agreement is a hard deadline for project completion of December 31, 2022. This project is currently on pace to be constructed in the coming summer months, provided that no unexpected delays are encountered in the next steps listed in this report.

## **Comments**

### **Public Consultation**

Following the June 22, 2021 RCM, Administration mailed a letter in July 2021 to residents along the south side of Riverside Drive to provide an update on the resolutions made at the council meeting and the next steps of the project which included bringing the detailed design to council for informational purposes, as intended through this report.

## **Individual Property Owner Meetings - Right-of-Way Landscaping Conflicts**

The Project Team's approach throughout the detailed design stage has been to continue to communicate with landowners and residents where necessary. As part of this approach, individual meetings were held with landowners who have substantial landscaping, fencing, or decorative features within the public right-of-way that will be impacted by the trail.

These meetings commenced in November 2021 and have continued into February of 2022 with approximately 34 properties identified as having substantial landscaping conflicts with the proposed alignment. These conflicts ranged anywhere from small decorative bushes to fencing to landscaped gardens. Of the 34 properties notified by hand and mail delivery, 30 residents responded. Seven (7) properties along the south side of Riverside Drive requested information or a meeting to discuss project details. The Project Team addressed these additional inquiries through on-site meetings with residents and individual communication.

Relayed in these meetings was the option to remove, relocate, or replace features that are currently located within the right-of-way, depending on the feature and condition of such. Generally, a majority of the conflicts will be removed or relocated with the exception of fencing, which in some cases, may not be able to be relocated due to its respective conditions.

Of the meetings held to date, the majority were productive in their intended nature and provided additional benefits of calming fears and uncertainty of the project through the use of visual aids and explanations of the trail's proposed layout and setbacks from the property line. Further to this, the Project Team received a considerable amount of positive feedback favouring construction of the trail from families and individuals with accessibility concerns.

The Project Team will mail an additional letter to each of the 4 properties that have yet to respond to the letters (3) sent following the June 2021 RCM to establish relocation and removal details. If no response is received, an additional attempt will be made to contact the landowners at the start of construction.

## **Detailed Design**

Detailed design commenced following the June 2021 RCM with the completion of a topographical and legal survey. Based on the information obtained from these surveys, Dillon Consulting Ltd. completed a preliminary trail alignment in October 2021 that displayed the existing and potential conflicts, both known and unknown, related to existing landscaping, utilities, and property limits.

Following preparation of the preliminary trail alignment, meetings were held with affected parties to discuss these conflict and a 90% detailed design was received by the Town on Friday, February 11, 2022.

This detailed design, provided in Attachment 1, generally follows the alignment presented in the April 8, 2021 Special Council Meeting (SCM) with slight adjustments made during the design stage due to the comprehensive review of existing topography, property lines, and existing conflicts as well as discussions held with individual property owners.

A visual comparison between the detailed design and the preliminary design, presented in April 2021, can be seen in Attachment 2.

## Next Steps

The next steps to progress and ultimately complete the project are as follows:

- 1) Upload Report PWES-2022-06 Riverside Drive Multi-Use Trail Project Update and its supporting attachments to the Town of Tecumseh Webpage for public information (**March 2022**);
- 2) Finalize the detailed design and the drafting of tender documents including design drawings and details (**March 2022**);
- 3) Tender the project as part of the annual PWES Capital Works Plan (**March/April 2022**);
- 4) Acquire property, where required, as part of the finalized design and in accordance with the findings from the legal survey (**April 2022**);
- 5) Relocate utilities that are in conflict with the layout of the trail (**Hydro component to be completed by June 2022**);
- 6) Proceed with construction and its related components such as landowner notification, scheduling, and inspection (**July to September 2022**).

## Consultations

Chief Administrative Officer  
Dillon Consulting Limited

## Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Following the successful tender of the project, a report will be brought forward to Council to award the construction contract.

## Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2019-22 Strategic Priorities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make the Town of Tecumseh an even better place to live, work and invest through a shared vision for our residents and newcomers.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that Tecumseh's current and future growth is built upon the principles of sustainability and strategic decision-making.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Integrate the principles of health and wellness into all of Tecumseh's plans and priorities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steward the Town's "continuous improvement" approach to municipal service delivery to residents and businesses.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrate the Town's leadership role in the community by promoting good governance and community engagement, by bringing together organizations serving the Town and the region to pursue common goals.

## Communications

Not applicable

Website

Social Media

News Release

Local Newspaper

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

Cameron Hedges, E.I.T.  
Engineering Project Manager

Reviewed by:

John Henderson, P.Eng.  
Manager Engineering Services

Reviewed by:

Phil Bartnik, P.Eng.  
Director Public Works & Engineering Services

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP  
Chief Administrative Officer

<b>Attachment Number</b>	<b>Attachment Name</b>
1	Riverside Drive Multi-Use Trail 90 Percent Design
2	Riverside Drive Multi-Use Trail Design Comparison – 90 Percent Design and Preliminary Design