



## 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:** July 23, 2024

**Report Number:** PWES-2024-42

**Subject:** Rural Economic Development (RED) Program, Tecumseh Main Street CIP Streetscaping and Landscaping Beautification – Lesperance North Contribution Agreement

---

### Recommendations

It is recommended:

**That** report PWES-2024-42, Rural Economic Development, Tecumseh Main Street CIP Streetscaping and Landscaping Beautification – Lesperance North, Contribution Agreement, **be received**;

**And that** By-law 2024-065 **be considered** for first, second, third and final reading to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Contribution Agreement between His Majesty the King in right of the Province of Ontario, as represented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (“Province”) and The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh (“Town”), in a form satisfactory to the Town’s Solicitor, financial content satisfactory to the Town’s Chief Financial Officer and technical content satisfactory to the Town’s Engineer, for the program funding received from the Rural Economic Development Program for the Tecumseh Main Street CIP Streetscaping and Landscaping Beautification – Lesperance North project.

## Background

Ontario's Rural Economic Development (RED) program provides cost-share funding to support activities that create strong rural communities in Ontario and opens doors to rural economic development through:

- Funding assistance to address barriers to economic development and labour force challenges, better position rural communities to attract or retain investment, and enhance economic growth;
- Funding to build community capacity and support for economic development in Ontario's rural communities;
- Investments in rural communities to help diversify and grow local economies – making economic growth more inclusive so rural Ontario continues to share in the province's economic prosperity.

The Tecumseh Road Main Street Community Improvement Plan ("CIP"), adopted by Council in 2016, provides a means for planning and promoting development activities and public infrastructure projects to more effectively use lands, buildings and facilities to bring about revitalization and encourage both private and public investment and economic development in the CIP area.

There are two (2) funding streams available under the RED program, the Economic Diversification and Competitiveness Stream and the Strategic Economic Infrastructure Stream. The Tecumseh Road Main Street CIP project is eligible under the Strategic Economic Infrastructure Stream, which focuses on economic infrastructure projects that improve physical community assets that have been identified as strategically important to the community.

The maximum provincial project support for eligible costs in the Strategic Economic Infrastructure Stream is 30%, up to a maximum of \$240,000 per selected project.

## Comments

The Tecumseh Road Main Street CIP Streetscaping and Landscaping Beautification – Lesperance North project will be incorporated as part of the Lesperance Road Multi-Use Trail (Riverside Drive to First Street) and Little River Boulevard Trail (Lesperance to Gauthier) project. The funding from the RED program will assist with the installation of street trees, landscaping and decorative lighting along Lesperance Road from McNorton Street to First Street.

The Town received a letter, dated June 4, 2024, from a representative of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) congratulating the Town of

Tecumseh on receiving funding approval in the amount of \$240,000 for the Town's application for the RED program.

A contribution agreement must be executed between the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh, regarding the funding received for the Tecumseh Road Main Street CIP Streetscaping and Landscaping Beautification – Lesperance North project. As per the RED program guidelines, costs incurred on or after April 1, 2024 will be eligible for provincial reimbursement following the execution of the funding agreement.

A contribution agreement has been prepared by the Ministry and has been reviewed by Administration and the Town's Solicitor. The final contribution agreement is being brought to Council for approval and execution by means of a by-law. The agreement will be finalized once executed and the Town provides evidence that all project funding, other than the provincial contribution, has been secured (via Council Resolution).

## Consultations

Development Services

Financial Services

Legislative Services & Clerk

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

## Financial Implications

At the February 13, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council, Council approved \$5,050,000 for the Lesperance Road (Riverside to First) and Little River Boulevard Trail (Lesperance to Gauthier) project under report [PWES-2024-07](#) titled "2024-2028 Public Works & Engineering Services Five-Year Capital Works Plan" (Motion: RCM-21/24).

Provincial funding for the Tecumseh Road Main Street CIP Streetscaping and Landscaping Beautification – Lesperance North project from the RED program is 30% of total eligible costs, to a maximum contribution of \$240,000. The total cost for the Tecumseh Main Street CIP Streetscaping and Landscaping Beautification project is \$800,000 to be funded as follows: \$240,000 (30%) from the RED program, \$358,440 from the Federal Active Transportation Fund and \$201,560 from the Town's Infrastructure Reserve.

In addition to the RED funding, the Town was also successful in an application for funding for the Lesperance Road and Little River Boulevard Trail project from the Active Transportation Fund (ATF) which can fund up to 60% of eligible project costs. As per report [PWES-2023-24](#) titled "Active Transportation Fund – Multi-Use Recreational Trails, Lesperance Road and Little River Boulevard and the Rehabilitation of Lesperance Road", an ATF grant of \$2,616,000 was approved.

With the Town's successful applications to the RED and ATF programs, the anticipated financial implications for the total Lesperance Road (Riverside to First) and Little River Boulevard Trail (Lesperance to Gauthier) project (including the Tecumseh Road Main Street CIP Streetscaping and Landscaping Beautification – Lesperance North project) are provided in the following table:

<b>Infrastructure Reserve</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Federal Active Transportation Fund</b>	<b>Rural Economic Development (RED) Program</b>	<b>Net Impact</b>
Lesperance Road Trail (Riverside to McNorton)	\$1,880,000	\$1,128,000	-	\$752,000
Lesperance Road Trail (McNorton to First)	\$2,090,000	\$1,254,000	\$240,000*	\$596,000
Little River Boulevard (Lesperance to Gauthier)	\$390,000	\$234,000	-	\$156,000
Subtotal	\$4,360,000	\$2,616,000	\$240,000	\$1,504,000
<b>Roads Lifecycle Reserve</b>				
Lesperance Road Rehabilitation (McNorton to First)	\$690,000	-	-	\$690,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,050,000</b>	<b>\$2,616,000</b>	<b>\$240,000</b>	<b>\$2,194,000</b>

\* RED grant amount is 30% of the \$800,000 eligible costs for the Tecumseh Road Main Street CIP Streetscaping and Landscaping Beautification – Lesperance North project (i.e. Streetlighting and Streetscape works).

It is recommended that the tendering period for the project happen in the Fall of 2024 with construction anticipated to commence in the Spring of 2025.

## Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	<a href="#">2023-2026 Strategic Priorities</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Growth: Achieve prosperity and a livable community through sustainable growth.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Health and Inclusion: Integrate community health and inclusion into our places and spaces and everything we do.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Experience: Enhance the experience of Team Tecumseh and our citizens through responsive and respectful service.

## 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:

Alessia Mussio, P. Eng.  
Engineering Project Manager

Reviewed by:

John Henderson, P.Eng.  
Manager Engineering Services

Reviewed by:

Vanessa DaDalt, CPA, CA, CTP  
Deputy Treasurer & Manager Revenue Services

Reviewed by:

Brian Hillman, MA, MCIP, RPP  
Director Development Services

Reviewed by:

Robert Auger, LL.B.  
Director Legislative Services & Clerk

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP  
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment Number	Attachment Name
None	None