



## The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Public Works & Environmental Services

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**From:** Kirby McArdle, Manager Roads & Fleet

**Date to Council:** February 12, 2019

**Report Number:** PWES-2019-05

**Subject:** Lesperance Road Bike Lanes (Riverside Drive to McNorton Street)  
Public Information Centre Feedback and Recommendations

---

### Recommendations

It is recommended:

**That** Public Works and Environmental Services Report No. PWES-2019-05 titled “Lesperance Road Bike Lanes (Riverside Drive to McNorton Street) Public Information Centre Feedback and Recommendations” **be received**;

**And that** Administration **be authorized** to proceed with the work to incorporate bike lanes on Lesperance Road from Riverside Drive to McNorton Street.

### Background

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information on the comments and concerns received at the September 26, 2018 Public Information Centre regarding the Lesperance Road Bike Lanes, from Riverside Drive to McNorton Street.

The report will also provide a summary of information and events leading up to the Public Information Centre.

The Town has completed various studies and reports that directly supported and initiated the development of this project: Lesperance Road Bike Lanes from Riverside Drive to McNorton Street.

## **Request to Create Dedicated Bike Lanes**

A request was made by Council for Administration to investigate the feasibility of removing the two-way turn lane pavement markings and placing new pavement markings near the curb lines along Lesperance Road to create dedicated bike lanes. This was first raised as New Business at Council meetings held July 28, 2015 and again February 16, 2016.

Administration advised that the requested bike lanes on Lesperance Road would be reviewed as part of the Transportation Master Plan study and included within the Active Transportation component of the Master Plan if deemed warranted.

## **Tecumseh Transportation Master Plan (2017)**

Dillon Consulting Limited (Dillon) was retained by the Town to complete the Tecumseh Transportation Master Plan (TTMP). Through the development of the TTMP, the Town adopted a “complete streets” approach for transportation, which considers all modes of travel and places greater emphasis on pedestrians, cyclists and transit users while maintaining traffic flow.

The TTMP was completed in early January 2017 and a Notice of Completion for the TTMP was published on January 13 and January 20, 2017 and was posted on the Town’s website. Written comments were received until February 25, 2017. Administration incorporated comments received, where applicable, and the TTMP was deemed complete in June 2017.

One of the key elements of the TTMP Action Plan is the modification of the existing cross-section of Lesperance Road to remove the existing two-way left turn lane to create on-road cycling lanes. This recommendation supports the Town’s commitment to promote Active Transportation.

## **PWES Report No. 32-17: Dedicated Bike Lane Pavement Markings on Lesperance Road**

At the Regular Council Meeting (RCM) held June 27, 2017, Council approved the pavement marking painting on Lesperance Road from Riverside Drive to McNorton Street, to create dedicated bike lanes and to include the cost of the work in the 2018 Public Works & Environmental Services Capital Works Plan (Motion: RCM-225/17).

Council’s approval to create dedicated bike lanes on Lesperance Road supports the commitment (within the TTMP) to promote Active Transportation and balance the level of service for all modes of transportation.

## **CAO Report No. 08-17: Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) Program – Grant Funding**

In a report to Council at the September 12, 2017 RCM, the Chief Administrative Officer informed Council of the Town’s application to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation for funding through the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program (OMCC) to support the implementation of commuter cycling infrastructure (Motion: RCM-302/17).

As part of the application process, the Town was required to submit a list of commuter cycling projects, associated eligible costs and a formal program application to the MTO, and included

a declaration of participation via formal letter. The letter stated that the Town has a council approved cycling plan through the County Wide Active Transportation System and the TTMP's Active Transportation plan.

A project listed in the Town's submission for funding was the Lesperance Road dedicated on-road bike lane pavement markings.

**PBS Report No. 25-17: County Wide Active Transportation System (CWATS) Town of Tecumseh 2018 Proposed Projects – Dedicated Bike Lanes along Lesperance Road and Design and Utility Relocates – Trail Along Walker Road**

In a report to Council at the September 12, 2017 RCM, Planning and Building Services (PBS) recommended that Council approve the proposed 2018 CWATS Project No. 1 – Municipal Partnership Program: Dedicated Bike Lanes on a Portion of Lesperance Road (from Riverside Drive to McNorton Street).

The report indicated that a portion of Lesperance Road, from Riverside Drive to McNorton Street, was evaluated vis-à-vis a specific traffic analysis to consider the impact of repainting the pavement markings on the road such that the two-way left turn lane would be removed and two vehicular travel lanes would be provided along with a dedicated 1.5 metre bike lane on both sides of the road. The analysis supported the reconfiguration of this segment of Lesperance Road in this manner and the TTMP was completed incorporating this design feature.

PBS Report No. 25-17 further stated that the Lesperance Road bike lanes are integral in connecting the core of Tecumseh to Riverside Drive, which is a CWATS segment. In addition, these bike lanes will also connect riders to the trail constructed by the Town westerly along McNorton Street, which connects to over 40 kilometres of trails in the City of Windsor. The width of each of the vehicular lanes (on Lesperance Road) would be 3.5 metres in both directions, which is deemed sufficient for safe and efficient vehicular movement.

Council endorsed (Motion: RCM-313/17) the introduction of dedicated bike lanes along the east and west sides of Lesperance Road, from Riverside Drive to McNorton Street. Subsequently, CWATS Municipal Partnership funding was approved by the County of Essex, having the effect of cost-sharing the implementation of this project.

**PWES Report No. 57-17: 2018-2022 Public Works & Environmental Services Capital Works Plan**

At the June 27, 2017 Regular Meeting of Council, Council received the PWES Report No. 32/17 titled "Dedicated Bike Lane Pavement Markings on Lesperance Road", and passed the following motion, Motion: RCM-225/17:

"That the pavement marking painting (removal and reapplication) on Lesperance Road from Riverside Drive to McNorton Street, to create dedicated bike lanes, be approved, and included in the 2018 Public Works & Environmental Services Capital Works Plan."

Subsequently, the dedicated bike lanes were included in the 2018 PWES Capital Works Plan and Administration further recommended that Dillon Consulting Limited (Dillon) be retained to assist Town Administration in the creation of pavement marking drawings as Dillon had completed some preliminary work on this project. PWES Report No. 57-17 was approved by Council under Motion: RCM-441/17.

### **Report No. PWES-2018-14: Lesperance Road Bike Lane Pavement Markings**

At the May 22, 2018 RCM, Council authorized Administration to conduct a Public Information Centre (PIC) regarding the Lesperance Road Bike Lane Pavement Markings to gather public input on the project (Motion: RCM-168/18). A notification of the PIC was prepared and posted on the Town's social media and website week of September 6, 2018 and hard copies were hand-delivered to residents located on Lesperance Road from Riverside Drive to McNorton Street. Town Council was also provided with a copy of the notice via the Clerks department.

### **Public Information Centre: September 26, 2018**

As requested by Council, a Public Information Centre was held on September 26, 2018 related to the proposed Lesperance Road Bike Lanes, Riverside Drive to McNorton Street.

### **Report No. PWES-2018-08: 2019-2023 Public Works & Environmental Services Five Year Capital Works Plan**

At the December 11, 2018 Regular Meeting of Council, Council approved the recommendations (Motion RCM-361/18) of Report No. PWES-2018-08 that authorized Administration to proceed with the 2018 capital works plan which included the Lesperance Road Bike Lanes subject to a subsequent report being brought to Council on the results of the Public Information Centre that was held on September 26, 2018.

### **Comments**

A Notice of Public Information Centre (PIC) was hand delivered to all property owners located on Lesperance Road (from McNorton Street to Riverside Drive) and posted on the Town's website and social media accounts during the week of September 6<sup>th</sup> 2018. The PIC was held on September 26, 2018 from 3:00p.m. to 8:00p.m., at Town Hall within Council Chambers.

In total, 49 attendees registered at the PIC, with 30 attendees residing within or near the project limits. In addition to those that attended the PIC, comments were received from several local stakeholders who were unable to attend.

The public was very engaged and a variety of opinions were heard at the PIC. In addition, 37 written responses were received from the community for consideration. Discussions on the Feedback at the PIC, PIC display boards, and all of the comments received are included within Attachments No.1 and 2.

## Feedback

A total of 37 written responses were received from the community for consideration, 19 of which were received from residents on Lesperance Road. Based on the comments received from the residents, four primary themes were noted for consideration:

- Removal of two-way left turn lane
- On-Road Bike Lanes
- Miscellaneous Vehicular Traffic Issues
- Future Multi-Use Trail

Dillon has compiled a review of the information gathered at the PIC, which is appended as Attachment 1 to this report. Dillon will also be present at the 5:00 p.m. February 12, 2018 PCM to present the details of the four primary themes as noted above.

Consideration of the feedback was completed, resulting in the following recommendations:

- The removal of the centre two way left turn lane between McNorton Street and Riverside Drive is recommended to be completed. On-road bike lanes will be incorporated into the new street cross-section.
- The Town of Tecumseh should consider the timing for installation of the multi-use trail, in addition to the line painting project as presented, such that they can be constructed in phases. Should additional funding become available it is recommended that the Town implement the multi-use pathway to complete the “Complete Street” vision for this corridor. The line painting project has secured funding (including cost-sharing with the County of Essex) which will allow the phased in approach for this overall project to be completed. Dillon Consulting did not note any technical justifications why it could not proceed as presented.
- The residents’ concerns related to the removal of the centre turn lane were primarily connected to perceived existing safety and comfort for entering and exiting their homes. To assist with these concerns, enforcement of traffic control could be increased within the project area to ensure vehicles are adhering to the posted speed limit, traffic signals and signage.

## Conclusion

In accordance with the TTMP and the Active Transportation network, the traffic analysis completed by Dillon, and based on the feedback received at the PIC, Administration recommends proceeding with the installation of the bike lanes on Lesperance Road from Riverside Drive to McNorton Street.

## Consultations

Planning & Building Services  
Financial Services  
Dillon Consulting Limited

## Financial Implications

As outlined within CAO Report No.08-17 and PBS Report No. 25-17, the Town was successful in receiving funding from the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) Program and the CWATS Municipal Partnership Project Fund. **In order to be eligible for these funds, the project must be completed by the end of 2019.**

The project cost summary is as follows:

Total Project Costs:	\$115,000
Recoveries (OMCC Program – 80%):	\$92,000
Recoveries (CWATS Municipal Partnership Project Fund – 50%):	\$11,500
<b>Amount to be funded by Town:</b>	<b>\$11,500</b>

Funding for the total \$115,000 has already been allocated as part of the 2018 PWES Capital Works Plan to support this project. However, should the works be completed by the end of 2019 the Town's costs would total \$11,500.

## Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2017-18 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 the Town of Tecumseh's current and future growth is built upon the principles of sustainability and strategic decision-making.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrate the principles of health and wellness into all of the Town 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:

Cheryl Curran, BES  
Clerk I Administrative Clerk

Reviewed by:

Kirby McArdle, P.Eng.  
Manager Roads & Fleet

Reviewed by:

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

Reviewed by:

Brian Hillman, MA, MCIP, RPP  
Director Planning & Building Services

Reviewed by:

Luc Gagnon, CPA, CA, BMath  
Director Financial Services & Treasurer

Recommended by:

Tony Haddad, MSA, CMO, CPFA  
Chief Administrative Officer

<b>Attachment Number</b>	<b>Attachment Name</b>
1	Lesperance Road Bike Lanes (Riverside Drive to McNorton Street), Public Information Centre Feedback and Recommendations, Dillon Consulting Ltd. dated January 28, 2019.
2	Comments Received after the September 26, 2018 Public Information Centre.