



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Public Works & Environmental Services

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Phil Bartnik, Director Public Works & Environmental Services

Date to Council: July 23, 2019

Report Number: PWES-2019-31

Subject: Sylvestre Drive Sanitary Sewer Extension
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, Schedule B
Filing the Notice of Study Completion

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That the Public Works & Environmental Services Report PWES-2019-31 Sylvestre Drive Sanitary Sewer Extension, Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Schedule B, Filing the Notice of Study Completion **be received**;

And that the Notice of Study Completion **be advertised** in the local newspaper and the Town's social media accounts to initiate the mandatory 30-day public review period.

Background

At the December 12, 2017 Regular Council Meeting, Council approved the recommendations (Motion RCM-441/17) of PWES Report No. 57/17 titled "2018-2022 Public Works & Environmental Services Capital Works Plan" that authorized Administration to proceed with the completion of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment and the detailed design for the sanitary sewer extension on Sylvestre Drive.

Comments

Administration had identified the need for road repairs to a section of Sylvestre Drive as early as 2014 in the annual PWES 5-year Capital Works Plan. In keeping with the Town's practice to consolidate infrastructure improvement projects to achieve efficiencies, it was identified that,

along with the road repairs, the sanitary sewer should also be extended and the storm sewers replaced within that same section of road.

The installation of the sanitary sewers to service the properties identified within the study area is in keeping with Town's Water & Wastewater Master Plan, the Provincial Policy Statement, the County of Essex's Official Plan, and the Town's Official Plan to provide full municipal services to those properties within designated Settlement Areas.

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

The *Ontario Environmental Assessment (EA) Act* recognized that certain municipal undertakings occur frequently, are small in scale, have a generally predictable range of effects or have a relatively minor environmental significance. To ensure that a degree of standardization in the infrastructure planning process is followed throughout the Province, the EA Act contemplated the use of the Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) procedure for projects which require approval under the Act but which are not considered to be major environmental works. The Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) document titled *Municipal Class Environmental Assessment* (October 2000 as amended in 2007, 2011 and 2015), describes the procedure for undertaking a Class EA for municipal projects.

Projects undertaken by municipalities vary in their environmental impact, and are classified within the Class EA document in terms of Schedules:

- **Schedule A** projects are limited in scale, have minimal adverse environmental effects and include a number of municipal maintenance and operational activities. These projects are preapproved and may proceed to implementation without following the full Class EA planning process. Schedule A projects generally include normal or emergency operational and maintenance activities.
- **Schedule A+** projects are similar to Schedule A projects in that they are considered pre-approved; however, the public is to be advised prior to project implementation.
- **Schedule B** projects have potential for some adverse environmental effects. The proponent is required to undertake a screening process, involving mandatory contact with directly affected public and relevant review agencies, to ensure that they are aware of the project and that their concerns are addressed. If there are no outstanding concerns, then the proponent may proceed to implementation. Schedule B projects generally include improvements and minor expansions to existing facilities.
- **Schedule C** projects have the potential for significant environmental effects and must proceed under the full planning and documentation procedures specified in the Municipal Class EA document. Schedule C projects require that an Environmental Study Report (ESR) be prepared and filed for review by the public and review agencies. Schedule C projects generally include the construction of new facilities and major expansions to existing facilities.

The main elements of the Class EA planning process are incorporated in the following five phases, and further depicted on Attachment No.3:

- Phase 1: Identify the problem or opportunity.
- Phase 2: Identification and evaluation of alternative solutions to determine a preferred solution.
- Phase 3: Examination of alternative methods of implementation of the preferred solution.
- Phase 4: Documentation of the planning, design and consultation process.
- Phase 5: Implementation and monitoring.

The Municipal Class EA process includes an appeal period of 30-days for the public to review the EA document once it has been completed. The proponent is encouraged to work in cooperation with any member of the public who may have a concern to determine the preferred means of addressing a problem. If the concerns of the project cannot be resolved through discussions with the proponent, the member of the public may request the Minister of the Environment to require the proponent to comply with Part II of the EA Act before proceeding with the proposed undertaking. If no request is received by the Minister or delegate, the proponent is free to proceed with the implementation and construction.

Categorization of the Project under the Municipal Class EA

The Municipal Class EA document identifies a number of Schedule B activities for Wastewater Management Projects, one of which is defined as:

- Establish, extend or enlarge a sewage collection system and all works necessary to connect the system to an existing sewage outlet where such facilities are not in an existing road allowance or an existing utility corridor.

The Sylvestre Drive Sanitary Sewer Extension project had identified the need for an easement to service those properties fronting County Road 19 within the study area. This was due in part of the number of utilities, watermain and the municipal drain located within the County Road 19 right-of-way. Upon review of the Municipal Class EA document, this project has been categorized as a Schedule B, and as such is confined to Phases 1 of 2 of the process.

Overview of the Alternatives & Identification of the Preferred Alternative

Three Alternatives were considered for the extension of sanitary sewers to service a portion of the Sylvestre Industrial Park area. Each of these alternatives required a private property easement to service the properties fronting County Road 19 (Manning Road). These Alternatives consisted of the following:

- Alternative A

This alternative would require an additional easement along the east/west property line to outlet four (4) properties to the Sylvestre Drive existing sewer. A second sewer would be placed along Sylvestre Drive to service those properties fronting Sylvestre. The total length of sewer required would be 970 metres.

- Alternative B

The five (5) properties fronting County Road 19 would be serviced by (private) individual grinder pump stations connected to the mainline sewer via a small low pressure header sewer. The properties along Sylvestre Drive would be serviced via a gravity main. The total length of sewer is 350 metres and the low pressure sewer header is 280 metres.

- Alternative C

All properties would be serviced by a gravity sewer system. A pre-fabricated pump/lift station would be located at the intersection of Sylvestre Drive and County Road 19 to service the properties along County Road 19. A total of 630 metres of gravity sewer main would be required in addition to the pump/lift station.

All Alternatives were evaluated against criteria derived by the Consulting Engineer, which consisted of: Engineering Considerations, Cultural & Socio-Economic Environment, Natural Environment and Cost. The Table containing the Evaluation of Alternative Solutions is located on Pages 16 and 17 of Attachment No. 4 of this report.

Ultimately, Alternative C was selected as the Preferred Alternative and is depicted in Attachment No. 3 of this report.

Public Consultation

The public consultation throughout the study satisfied the requirements of the Municipal Class EA. These included:

1. Notice of Study Commencement

The Notice of Study Commencement was mailed on March 13, 2018 to the study contact list, which consists of interested property owners, stakeholders, indigenous communities, and regulatory agencies. It was also published in the March 16 and 23, 2018 editions of the Shoreline and placed on the Town's website and social media accounts.

2. Indigenous Communities Consultation Engagement

The Indigenous Communities identified as potentially interested in the study included Walpole Island, Caldwell, Aamjiwnaang, Chippewas of the Thames, Chippewas of Kettle & Stony Point, and Moravian of the Thames (Delaware Nation), Metis Nation of

Ontario and Southern First Nations Secretariat. The Notice of Project Commencement was sent to the Indigenous Communities along with cover letters. Correspondence was only received from the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation.

3. Direct Property Owner Consultation

Additional consultation and meetings were held with the property owners within the study area. Servicing alternatives and sewer alignments were reviewed, along with the identification of the preferred alternative. These meetings were held April 18, 2018 and April 16, 2019.

Next Steps

The Notice of Study Completion will be published in the local newspaper and on the Town's website and social media accounts, and will also be mailed to landowners, stakeholders and regulatory authorities on the contact list for the Municipal Class EA.

A copy of the Notice of Completion will also be included as a Communication Item at the following regularly scheduled meeting of Council following publication.

A hard copy of the Municipal Class EA, Schedule B Project File will be made available at Town Hall through the Clerk's Office during the 30-day review period, along with a digital copy being made available on the Town's website.

Following the 30-day review period, and considering that all of the comments received have been addressed and that no Part II Orders were submitted to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Administration will bring forward a separate report to Council to have the Municipal Class EA, Schedule B Project File formally adopted.

Construction will be incorporated into the Public Works & Environmental Services 5-year Capital Works Plan, which will be subject to Council approval, and may be scheduled as early as 2020.

Consultations

Planning & Building Services
Dillon Consulting Limited

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Administration intends to bring forward a separate report to Council in fall 2019 to proceed with the passing of a Part XII by-law (*Municipal Act*, s.391) for the full cost recovery of the wastewater infrastructure expenditures to those benefitting properties. This is in keeping with the Town's past policy and practice for the installation of new wastewater infrastructure.

Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2019-22 Strategic Priorities
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- Make the Town of Tecumseh an even better place to live, work and invest through a shared vision for our residents and newcomers.
- Ensure that Tecumseh’s current and future growth is built upon the principles of sustainability and strategic decision-making.
- Integrate the principles of health and wellness into all of Tecumseh’s plans and priorities.
- Steward the Town’s “continuous improvement” approach to municipal service delivery to residents and businesses.
- 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:

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

Reviewed by:

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

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment Number	Attachment Name
1	Study Area
2	Municipal Class EA Planning and Design Process (Flow Chart)
3	Alternative C (Preferred Alternative)
4	Sylvestre Sanitary Sewer, Class Environmental Assessment, Schedule B Project File Report, June 2019