



Meeting Date: April 17, 2024

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Report No: PWE 14-2024

Subject: 2024 Sidewalk Program

Recommendation:

THAT Report PWE-14-2024, re: 2024 Sidewalk Program be received;
AND THAT Council endorse the 2024 Sidewalk Program.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to request Municipal Council endorsement of the proposed 2024 Sidewalk Program.

Background:

Through the 2024 budget process, Council approved a capital budget item for the expansion of sidewalks within the Municipality. This capital budget item looks to build on Council's [Strategic Plan](#) initiatives in building walkable and connected communities and neighborhoods. In June of 2021, the Municipality solicited feedback in the form of a [survey](#) from the community regarding the desire and support for sidewalk and street lighting expansion. The results showed a clear desire for sidewalk expansion.

Analysis:

Walking is an active form of transportation promoted by the Master Servicing Plan, Official Plan and it is an integral part of communities. The provincial Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) requires municipalities to remove barriers. Implementing new sidewalks is part of a complete streets approach that aims to reduce car-dependency and make neighbourhood streets welcoming, equitable, safe and accessible for community members of all ages, abilities and means. The lack of sidewalks is one of the primary reasons why parents are not comfortable encouraging children to walk to school. This usually contributes to additional vehicular traffic congestion and safety concerns in school areas and traffic concerns from local property owners and school stakeholders.

A number of new sidewalk locations are constructed each year through this program. The program improves safety, promotes accessibility and supports Councils [strategic plan initiatives](#).

The attached location map in Appendix A generally illustrates the recommended sidewalk program for 2024. Sidewalk locations have been determined to fill present gaps in the sidewalk network. New sidewalks will be in standard locations set back from the road wherever feasible which provides a comfortable user experience and facilitates snow clearing. New sidewalk designs consider the particular street environment and minimize impacts as much as possible. Individual grading, landscaping and utility issues may necessitate minor alignment adjustments when construction begins.

Community Engagement

Staff provided letters to all property owners on the streets that may be impacted by the proposed 2024 sidewalk program, the letter also advised residents of this report to Council. As of the date this report was written, staff have not been contacted by any residents regarding the planned 2024 sidewalk program.

Provided Council endorses this report and the 2024 sidewalk program, staff will be following up with an additional letter to all homeowners on affected streets advising of planned construction activities and providing contact information for construction related issues or concerns.

Financial Implications:

All planned works will be undertaking using the Council approved capital sidewalk budget of \$75,000, the estimated construction cost for the planned work is \$67,500.

Strategic Plan:

This matter aligns with following strategic priorities:

- Sustainable Infrastructure and Services

The delivery of the 2024 sidewalk program will provide enhanced active transportation connections to residents, providing for alternative transportation choices while connecting and enhancing neighbourhoods.

Attachments:

Appendix A – 2024 Sidewalk Program Locations