

Municipality Of Chatham-Kent

Corporate Services

Information Report

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Cathy J.E. Hoffman, MPA, CHRL, General Manager, Corporate Services
Bob Crawford, Chief, Fire Paramedic Services

Date: June 22, 2018

Subject: 2018 International Plowing Match & Rural Expo (IPM)—Update #4: Status of Event

This report is for the information of Council.

Background

On May 14, 2018 the third report with respect to the IPM 2018 was presented to Council. Included in that report was a status update on the progress of the municipal portion of the project.

This project represents the next scheduled update.

Comments

The municipal portion of the IPM & Rural Expo 2018 event is progressing on schedule.

The Chatham-Kent Police Services (CKPS) has been working on the Operational Plans for the IPM Event which include:

- Preparation of an overall security plan for the event. The use of a private security firm was identified for overnight security and gate security.
- Discussions with Emergency Service Partners have taken place to identify risks and responses to large scale issues including muster points and alternate travel routes required.
- Discussions with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have taken place to update them on the traffic management issues. Their assistance has been requested with respect to providing additional patrols along Highway 40 during the week of the event.
- Development of a traffic management plan which includes detour routes, signage at locations and a pre-event communication strategy.

The Infrastructure and Engineering Services (IES) team have been working with Chatham-Kent Police Services to develop the traffic management plan which includes traffic control and signage pertaining to the following:

- Directional signage to the event
- Positioning of Electronic Sign Boards
- Supply of barricades or road closure trailers to CKPS in the event of an emergency

The costs associated with these additional items are anticipated to be under \$7,000. Most of these expenses will be “municipal out of pocket” and in addition to the original projection of costs. A determination will be made following the overall variance of the project budget on how to fund/invoice these costs.

The IPM co-chairs have met with us and requested consideration of a shuttle service to and from the IPM to reduce traffic congestion and improve overall safety of residents. We are currently exploring options and costs associated with this concept.

All drainage work has been completed for this project.

The Infrastructure and Engineering Services (IES) team have also been working in conjunction with The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and have identified the need for two additional water tanks for the 2018 IPM water distribution system disinfection process. There is no incremental cost for this to be implemented.

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has met with the Public Health Unit to discuss sampling and layout of the water system for the IPM. Discussion is still required to verify dates the water system will be installed and commissioned for use.

The Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit has received up to \$65,500 in one-time funding from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care for the period April 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019 to support the 2018 International Plowing Match due to the potential for increased food and water safety demands, risk of disease transmission, injury/illness prevention and tobacco complaint investigations. The funding has been provided to;

- a) Hire temporary public health inspection staff to develop a hazard identification and risk assessment (HIRA).
- b) To develop a comprehensive preparedness and incident response plan to ensure continuity of mandatory programs.
- c) To coordinate a dedicated response and mass gathering protocol. Remaining funds will be used for expenses for preparation and on-site responses to the event.

The IPM Accessibility Committee submitted their budget to the OPA mid-June for approval. They currently have seven volunteers on the Committee and are interested in attaining more volunteers.

The Showcase Tent team is in full planning mode as they firm up plans to profile the many unique opportunities of each community within Chatham-Kent. The project is on track regarding the budget and timelines.

The internal layout of the tent will see four quadrants distinguishing the prevalent themes and attributes of Chatham-Kent’s water, culture, outdoors and food offerings.

Each quadrant will have a video screen bringing a virtual experience of the whole of Chatham-Kent attractions to the IPM visitor. The water quadrant will include an indoor beach installation with videos of local beaches and angling experiences. The culture quadrant will boast an art installation that IPM visitors can interact with and be a part of a creation. In addition, local musical talent, cultural dances, dramatic readings and videos from our local theatres will create the sensation of experiencing the arts in various Chatham-Kent venues. The outdoor quadrant will take the IPM visitor on a virtual tour of local trails, golf adventures and the viewing of rare southern birds that do not travel farther north. The food quadrant will feature an abundant sampling of local delectable products prepared by Chatham-Kent chefs. Experiencing the Showcase Tent through this virtual imagery journey will be as close to touring our whole rural and urban community as actually being there.

Several community groups and businesses have come on board to help with the implementation of the tent. Some of those include Oak Barrel, Early Acres Winery, Sons of Kent, Bayside Brewery, Uncle Tom's Cabin, North Buxton Historical Site, Chatham-Kent Black Historical Society, Medavie, Home Hardware, and the Glasshouse Nursery and Garden Centre.

Consultation

Various members of the Executive Management Team.

The Showcase Tent Team.

Financial Implications

The budget approved for the municipal portion of the IPM is currently in line with the forecast.

Prepared by:

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