

Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Community Human Services

Community Attraction and Leisure Services - Parks and Open Spaces

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Genevieve Champagne
Coordinator, Active Transportation & Special Events
Date: February 9, 2018
Subject: Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program Funding

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. The amount of \$755,202.58 in 2017-2018 grant funding under the provincial Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program be received.
2. An Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling - 2017 Annual Enabling By-law be approved to receive these funds.

Background

The provincial Climate Change Action Plan for 2016-2020 identifies initiatives intended to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Ontario. A primary focus of the Climate Change Action Plan is the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions from transportation that primarily come from burning fossil fuel.

The province is enhancing the implementation of the Cycling Strategy and Action Plan by increasing investments into commuter cycling infrastructure. The province will invest cap and trade proceeds into the development and improvement of cycling networks and increasing safe cycling.

To support this mandate the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program (OMCCP) will provide dedicated annual funding to assist Ontario municipalities with the implementation of commuter cycling infrastructure. This infrastructure will encourage people to get out of their cars and onto their bikes for commuting or other frequent trips.

Comments

To provide appropriate projects for the OMCCP grant, Parks and Open Spaces collaborated with Infrastructure and Engineering Services to determine proposed road reconstruction projects that met the submission requirements. The selected projects were also determined

to be community assets that will begin to tie together existing cycling infrastructure. Additionally, the projects were also reviewed to ensure they are identified in the Chatham-Kent Trails Master Plan and the Chatham-Kent Transportation Master Plan.

The following four projects in the Community of Chatham were subsequently submitted for the OMCCP grant.

- Victoria Avenue
Reconstruction of approximately 1.35 km to receive new curb, gutter, surface asphalt, infrastructure improvements, sidewalks, bike paths/lanes and landscaping features. This project construction is planned over two phases.
- Bloomfield Road Reconstruction
Approximately 1.36 km of road complete with new curb, gutter, surface asphalt, infrastructure improvements, intersection improvements, multi-use bike/pedestrian trail and street lighting.
- Round the River Route
Approximately 21 km of paved shoulder. In coordination with Engineering, this project would be divided into specific phases over the four-year period.
- Keil Drive North Multi-Use Trail
The construction of a new 1.0 km long multi-use trail along Keil Drive North for pedestrians and cyclists. This trail would connect with existing trails, sidewalks, and cycling infrastructure and ensure safe and efficient connectivity between two high volume roadways in Chatham.

The OMCCP offers flexibility and allows the Municipality to change/update their project list annually. For the span of the four-year program, the Municipality is also permitted to submit an annual declaration to participate and receive funding. The Municipality's 2017-2018 allocated funding is not based on each projects' cost. The province determines the funding each Municipality receives based on population and the potential ridership within a Municipality (census numbers).

The identification of successful submissions was initially September 2017. However, due to the overwhelming response, the province delayed their announcement to December 2017. The OMCCP amount of \$755,202.58 to be received is for the 2017-2018 funding year. As the OMCCP is a four-year program, the anticipated declaration to participate in the 2018-2019 funding year is expected to occur in April/May of 2018. Subsequent funding levels will be determined later in 2018.

The Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling – 2017 Annual Enabling By-Law is required by the province to receive Chatham-Kent's funding allocation and is found in Attachment A. The Annual Enabling By-Law will be required on an annual basis to accept that year's funding allocation. The recommendation to approve the Annual Enabling By-Law is to accept the 2017-2018 OMCCP Funds.

Areas of Strategic Focus and Critical Success Factors

The recommendations in this report support the following areas of strategic focus:

Economic Prosperity:

Chatham-Kent is an innovative and thriving community with a diversified economy

A Healthy and Safe Community:

Chatham-Kent is a healthy and safe community with sustainable population growth

People and Culture:

Chatham-Kent is recognized as a culturally vibrant, dynamic, and creative community

Environmental Sustainability:

Chatham-Kent is a community that is environmentally sustainable and promotes stewardship of our natural resources

The recommendations in this report support the following critical success factors:

Financial Sustainability:

The Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is financially sustainable

Open, Transparent and Effective Governance:

The Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is open, transparent and effectively governed with efficient and bold, visionary leadership

Has the potential to support all areas of strategic focus & critical success factors

Neutral issues (does not support negatively or positively)

Consultation

For the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program (OMCCP) grant application process, Parks and Open Spaces consulted and partnered with Infrastructure and Engineering Services (IES). A review of IES's pending annual capital projects was completed. Only IES projects that paralleled the need for Active Transportation infrastructure were submitted under the OMCCP grant application.

The Chatham-Kent Trails Master Plan and Transportation Master Plan were reviewed to ensure the projects are identified in both Plans.

The Manager, Legal Services, was consulted to review the content of Attachment A, Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling – 2017 Annual Enabling By-law.

Financial Implications

The financial implications of accepting the \$755,202.58 is the grant's stipulation that 20% of each of the approved Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program (OMCCP) projects' cost be supported through municipal funding. No other provincial funding can be used to support those projects. Third Party funding can be used however it does not reduce the 20% required funding by the Municipality.

To receive the OMCCP \$755,202.58 funding, \$151,040.52, the 20% municipal funding will be funded through a combination of the Capital Budget and the New Sidewalks Budget Line, all managed by the IES Department. The Bloomfield project will be the only project at this time that will be constructed in 2018 which has already received Council approval for funding through the Capital Budget.

Each project can be broken into phases and the funding can be designated to each phase to maximize funding opportunities.

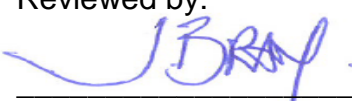
Municipal funding is required to secure the OMCCP funding for infrastructure improvements. The grant only covers the cost of infrastructure improvements for the construction of Active Transportation items. All other road infrastructure components would be funded through IES Lifecycle Budgets.

Prepared by:




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Consulted and confirmed the content of the consultation section of the report by:

Chris Thibert, Manager, Infrastructure Services

Dave Taylor, Manager, Legal Services

Attachment: A – Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling – 2017 Annual Enabling By-law

c. Chris Thibert, Manager, Infrastructure Services
Dave Taylor, Manager, Legal Services

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**ONTARIO MUNICIPAL COMMUTER CYCLING (OMCC)
2017 Enabling By-Law**

BY-LAW NUMBER XXXXXX OF THE Municipality of Chatham-Kent

A BY-LAW TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO AS REPRESENTED BY THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO – ONTARIO MUNICIPAL COMMUTER CYCLING PROGRAM - **2017-2018**

WHEREAS it is deemed expedient to authorize the execution of an Agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in right of the Province of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Transportation for the Province of Ontario for funding under the dedicated Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program (OMCC).

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE **Municipality of Chatham-Kent** HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. THAT the Mayor, Clerk and/or Treasurer are hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the **Municipality of Chatham-Kent** an Transfer Payment Agreement (Agreement) with Her Majesty the Queen in right of the Province of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Transportation for the Province of Ontario for **2017** funding under the OMCC.
2. THAT the Municipal Clerk and Director of Community Attraction and Leisure Services have the delegation of authority to execute any and all required documentation on behalf of the **Municipality of Chatham-Kent** as required by the OMCC for 2017.

3. THAT the Municipality of Chatham-Kent commits to providing funding equivalent in 2017 to twenty percent of 2017 funding provided to the Municipality of Chatham-Kent under the OMCC.
4. THAT the Municipality of Chatham-Kent commits to implementing projects and spending OMCC 2017 funding in accordance with all provisions specified in the Agreement.
5. THAT the Municipality of Chatham-Kent commits to spending OMCC 2017 funding only on the following approved projects:
 - a. Round the River Route
 - b. Victoria Ave. Reconstruction
 - c. Keil Drive North Multi-Use Trail
 - d. Bloomfield Road Reconstruction
6. THAT the Municipality of Chatham-Kent commits that it will obtain all required approvals have been obtained for each project prior to use of OMCC funding.
BY-LAW read a first, second and third time and finally passed this **xx** day of **<Date>**.

MAYOR

CLERK