

Municipality of Chatham-Kent
Infrastructure and Engineering Services
Engineering and Transportation Division

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Chris Thibert, P.Eng.
Director, Engineering

Date: August 28, 2020

Subject: Connecting Links Program Application
Dufferin Avenue Rehabilitation, Community of Wallaceburg

Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. In order to adhere to the required guidelines for the (MTO) Ministry of Transportation Connecting Links Program, the following endorsement be approved:
 - a) The submitted application meets the requirements of the MTO's Connecting Links Program as described in the Program Guide.
 - b) A Comprehensive Asset Management Plan including connecting links has been completed and publically posted.
 - c) The Municipality of Chatham-Kent will comply with the conditions that apply to designated connecting links under the Highway Traffic Act to ensure the safe and efficient movement of provincial traffic.
 - d) The project put forward in the application will be completed and the milestones met as stated in the application; and
 - e) The application is complete and factually accurate.

Background

The Ministry of Transportation's Connecting Links Program assists Municipalities with repairing designated Municipal roadways and bridges that connect two ends of a provincial highway through a community or to a border crossing. There are 77 Ontario municipalities eligible to apply for funding.

The objective of the program is to make connecting link investments that:

- Address critical connecting link improvement needs;
- Extend the life of the asset;
- Are cost effective and appropriate to address the connecting link need;
- Ensure the safe and efficient movement of provincial traffic.

Projects are prioritized that best meet the objectives of the Connecting Links Program addressing critical and urgent connecting link needs first.

The Municipality of Chatham-Kent contains two designated Connecting Links:

- Community of Chatham – Grand Avenue East and St. Clair Street (total length of 7.60 km)
- Community of Wallaceburg - a portion of Murray Street, McNaughton Avenue and Dufferin Avenue (total length of 4.20 km).

Comments

On August 14, 2020, the Municipality of Chatham-Kent received notice regarding the eligibility to submit projects under the Connecting Links Program. The program was set up to support the improvements along Connecting Links within Ontario Municipalities. A Municipality that has more than one designated Connecting Link may submit a maximum of two (2) projects per year. The maximum amount of funding available is up to 90% of eligible project costs or \$3 million per road project (whichever is lower) and new for this round, up to \$5 million for bridge projects. The applicant is required to contribute the remaining 10% of eligible project costs and pay for all ineligible project costs.

Based on the current condition of infrastructure within our Connecting Links, it was determined that the rehabilitation of the pavement on Dufferin Avenue between McNaughton Avenue/Lisgar Street intersection to 100 m west of Walnut Street in the Community of Wallaceburg was the project that was best suited for submission under the MTO Connecting Links Program. This project was submitted previously in the 2017-18 Connecting Links application, however, was not successful.

Based on the results of the previous geotechnical report, Cold in Place Recycling is the most feasible option. In addition to the pavement structure any items that are deficient including curb & gutter, sidewalks, catch basins, sewers and watermains will be replaced as part of this project. Any innovative or sustainable construction practices will be reviewed, which is part of the application process.

Administration will submit the application to the MTO complete with supporting information prior to the November 06, 2020 deadline. If the MTO indicates that the project is successful, a Contribution Agreement provided by the Ministry will need to be executed. If successful, the design for the project would be carried out in 2021 with a construction tender award in the spring of 2022.

Areas of Strategic Focus and Critical Success Factors

The recommendation in this report supports 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 recommendation in this report supports 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

No consultations were held in relation to the preparation of this report as it simply allows the completion of the application for Connecting Link Program for funding, as administered by the Ministry of Transportation.

Financial Implications

There are no financial Implications with this report at this time.

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:

Barry Sullivan, C.E.T., rcsi
Engineering Technologist,
Engineering and Transportation

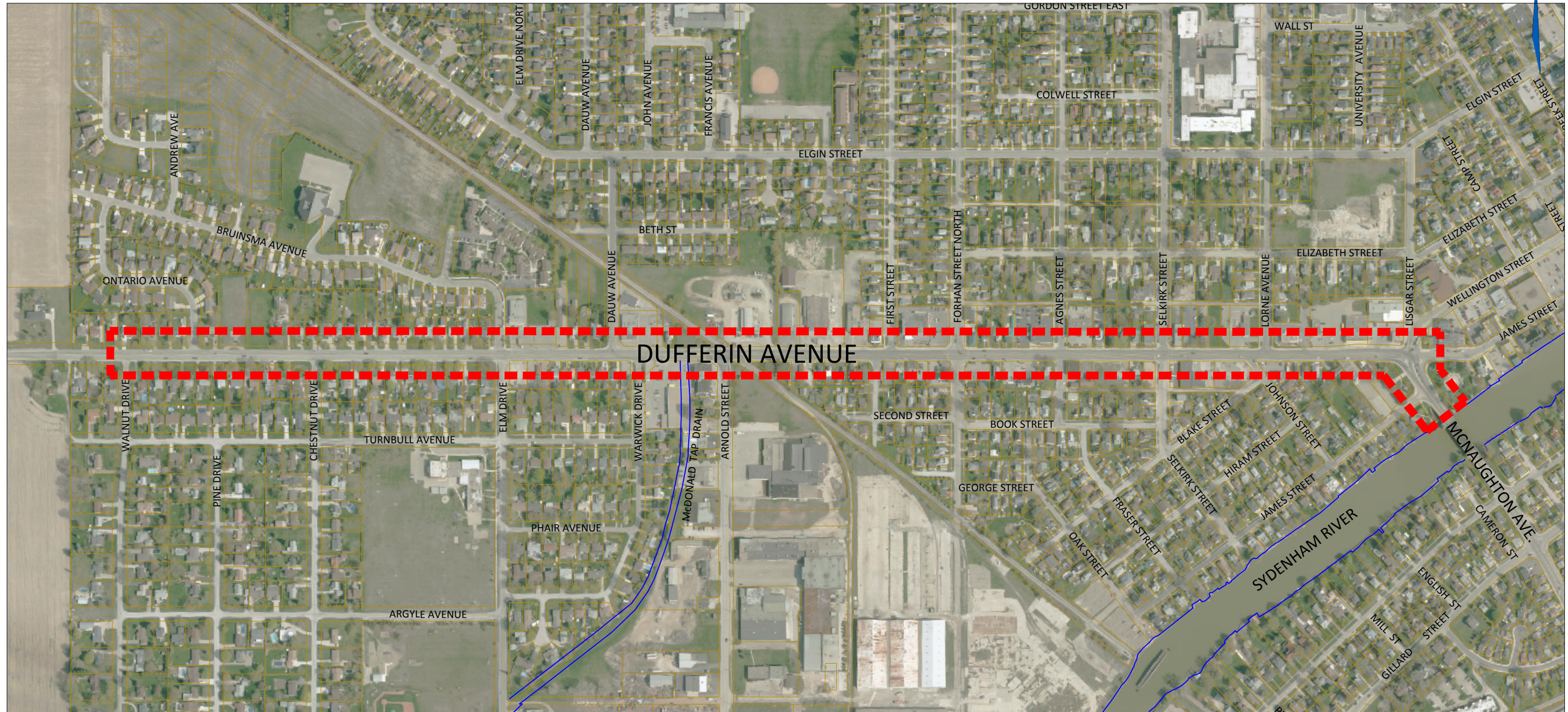
Chris Thibert, P.Eng.
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Reviewed by:

Thomas Kelly, P.Eng., MBA
General Manager
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Attachment(s): Key Plan

REF: P:\RTC\Infrastructure and Engineering\I & ES\2020\4291 - Connecting Link
Application Dufferin Avenue Community of Wallaceburg.doc



DUFFERIN AVENUE