



Report to Council

Department: Infrastructure Services
Division: Operations
Date: September 16, 2024
Prepared by: Norm Nussio C.E.T., CRS-I
Manager of Operations and Drainage
Report Number: Operations-2024-07
Subject: South Talbot Pedestrian Crossings
Number of Pages: 6

Recommendation(s)

That Operations-2024-07 entitled, "South Talbot Pedestrian Crossings" prepared by Norm Nussio, Manager of Operations and Drainage, dated September 16, 2024, be received.

Purpose

As per the regular council meeting on March 6, 2024, Council directed Administration to prepare a report on the feasibility of installing crosswalks on South Talbot Road at the intersections of Laird Ave., Centre St., and Iler Ave.

Background and Discussion

R24-06-237

That council direct administration to review the feasibility of installing pedestrian access ramps along South Talbot Road at Iler Avenue, Laird Avenue and Centre Street to access the multiuse pathway along South Talbot Road South.

Moved by Katie McGuire-Blais
Seconded by Rodney Hammond
Carried

In February 2016, the Town undertook a review of all pedestrian crossings in urban centres and presented it to Council. At that time, all uncontrolled pedestrian crossings on collector and arterial roads were addressed using various measures. It was also supported by Council to continue the practice of establishing controlled crossings on collector and arterial roads to improve vehicular and pedestrian safety in the Town.

As per **the Town's Development Standards Manual** Figure CS-2b attached to this report, collector roads within the Town are required to have sidewalks on both sides of the road with a provision for a multiuse trail to improve pedestrian safety for highly travelled roads within the municipality.

Along South Talbot Road South there are two (2) controlled crossings to access the newly constructed multiuse trail along the west side of the road, one at Brien Ave W and the other at Victoria Ave. In addition, on Iler Ave., Centre St., and Laird Ave., there are no sidewalk facilities on them to provide access to the trail. This means that residents have to travel within the adjacent neighbourhood to get to Victoria Ave. or Brien Ave. crossings to safely get access to the trail.

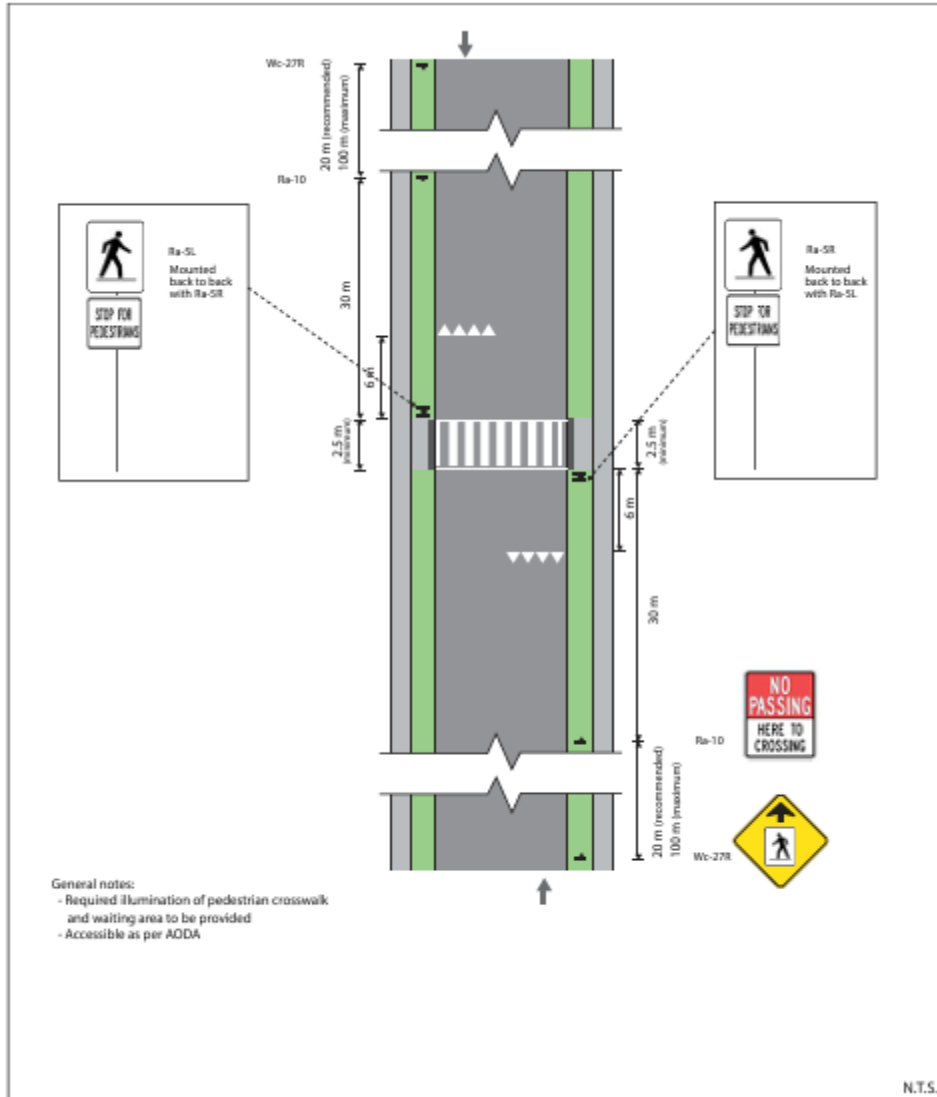
In order to be compliant with Town of Essex standards, the recommendation to address pedestrian crossings along South Talbot Road from Brien Ave. West to Victoria Ave. is to

install a sidewalk on the east side of South Talbot Road in accordance with the Development Standards Manual (Figure CS-2b). This would provide facilities that will allow pedestrians in this neighbourhood to access pedestrian facilities and the **Town's Active Transportation** system, while maintaining vehicular and pedestrian safety in accordance with Town policies. The Capital Works and Asset Management Division is working to schedule this sidewalk into the capital forecast for a future **year's** budget, subject to council approval.

Should Council wish to proceed with crossings to the trail at Iler, Laird, and Centre, the crossings would need to comply with the Ontario Traffic Manual - Book 15 designs for controlled midblock crossings. This would require the Town to implement and construct curb cuts, concrete sidewalks, loading areas for pedestrians, paint markings and several signs in this short stretch of roadway as shown below in figure 1 (Level 2 Type D). An aerial image has also been attached in this report showing the layout on South Talbot Road at both intersections.

However, creating multiple mid-block crossings on a collector road can create issues with sign pollution, traffic flow, and driver frustration. If Council wishes to explore this option direction should be given to administration to include costing for this option in the 2025 budget for Council consideration and deliberation.

Figure 1 Level 2 Type D



Financial Impact

There is no financial impact as a result of this report.

Installation of a sidewalk along the east side of South Talbot as outlined in the report can be requested by council in a future capital budget. In addition, should Council proceed with the controlled crossing approach, which is not recommended at this time, the cost of this option will be included in the 2025 budget for Council consideration and deliberation.

Consultations

Kevin Girard, Director of Infrastructure Services

Dave McBeth, Manager, Capital Works and Asset Management

Link to Strategic Priorities

- Embrace asset management best practices to build, maintain, and continuously improve our municipally owned infrastructure.
- Leverage our Town's competitive advantages to promote jobs and economic investment.**
- Take care of our natural environment and strengthen the sense of belonging to everyone **who makes Essex "home"**.
- Deliver friendly customer service in an efficient, effective, and transparent manner while providing an exceptional working environment for our employees.
- Build corporate-level and community-level climate resilience through community engagement and partnership and corporate objectives.

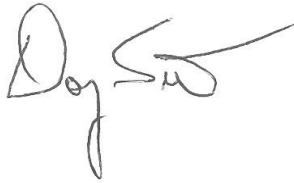
Report Approval Details

Document Title:	South Talbot Pedestrian Crossings - Operations-2024-07.docx
Attachments:	- South_Talbot_Crossings.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Sep 9, 2024

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

No Signature - Task assigned to Kevin Girard, Director, Infrastructure Services was completed by workflow administrator Joseph Malandrucolo, Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk

Kevin Girard, Director, Infrastructure Services - Sep 9, 2024 - 2:36 PM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Sweet". The signature is stylized with a large initial "D" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Doug Sweet, Chief Administrative Officer - Sep 9, 2024 - 3:20 PM