



Report to Council

Department: Development Services

Division: Development Services

Date: April 7, 2025

Prepared by: Lori Chadwick, Director, Development Services
David McBeth, Manager, Capital Works & Asset Management

Report Number: Development Services-2025-05

Subject: CWATS Annual Report

Number of Pages: 3 plus attachments

Recommendation(s)

That Development Services Report 2025-05 entitled “CWATS Annual Report” prepared by Lori Chadwick, Director, Development Services and David McBeth, Manager, Capital Works & Asset Management dated April 7, 2025 be received.

Purpose

To provide Council with an annual update of various County Wide Active Transportation System (CWATS) projects and initiatives in the Town of Essex, as well a forecast of future objectives.

Background and Discussion

At the March 18, 2024 Regular Council Meeting, Administration provided Council with a comprehensive overview of the CWATS Program. The Report to Council can be found under the Publications, Plans, and Reports section of the Town’s website found here

<https://www.essex.ca/en/town-hall/publicationsplansandreports.aspx>.

CWATS Programs and Projects fall within one of the following three (3) categories:

1. **Core Infrastructure:** The physical construction of bike lanes, on-road paved shoulders, off-road multi-use trails, and multi-use urban paths (and any associated services: drainage, culverts, utilities)
2. **Paved Shoulder Program:** Coordination with the County of Essex during road rehabilitation to evaluate and install paved shoulders for active transportation
3. **Municipal Partnership Program:** Implementation of educational programs that encourage the use of the CWATS system

Please refer to the **attached** presentation for an update on the various CWATS projects and initiatives in the Town of Essex completed in 2024 and planned for 2025.

Financial Impact

This report is for informational purposes only. “Current Projects” identified in the attached presentation have been approved in budget.

Consultations

Ann Marie Unis, Manager, Finance & Business Services

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:	CWATS Annual Report - Development Services-2025-05.docx
Attachments:	- CWATS 2025 - Council Presentation - April 7 2025 final.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Mar 31, 2025

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Sweet". The signature is stylized with a large "D" and "S".

Doug Sweet, Chief Administrative Officer - Mar 31, 2025 - 9:45 AM