



Report to Council

Department: Development Services
Division: Economic Development
Date: April 19, 2021
Prepared by: Nelson Silveira, Economic Development Officer
Report Number: Economic Development-2021-04
Subject: Community Improvement Plan Update (Quarter 1 2021)
Number of Pages: 5

Recommendation(s)

That Economic Development-2021-04 entitled Community Improvement Plan Update (Quarter 1 2021) Summary prepared by Nelson Silveira, Economic Development Officer dated April 19, 2021 be received.

Purpose

To provide Council with a first quarter update of Community Improvement Plan applications in 2021.

Background and Discussion

The Town of Essex Community Improvement Plans (CIP) were created to stimulate private sector investment through municipal incentive-based programs. The CIP has a variety of grant programs for eligible property owners that invest in façade improvements, new signage, and building renovations and improvements. These programs have facilitated and

encouraged community change by providing grant funding for new development in three separate project areas that include Essex Centre, Harrow, and Colchester/County Road 50.

Funding for CIP programs in Essex Centre and Harrow is set to expire at the end of 2021.

Funds from these programs are to be redirected to the streetscape projects in the both of these project areas. However, the Colchester & County Road 50 CIP remains unchanged and is set to expire in 2027. As a result, Administration has been and will continue to increase our marketing efforts to garner uptake in the expiring programs.

Completed Projects

The following table describes completed projects that have received CIP funding in 2021:

Address	Grant Program	Status of Grant	Total Grant Paid in 2021
220 Jackson St The Wreck/Coolchester Creamery (Colchester & CR50 CIP)	Conversion Grant – Converting above ground commercial into rental dwelling unit	Grant Paid – March 2021	\$1,000.00
724 County RD 50 E Paglione Estate Winery (Colchester & CR50 CIP)	Landscape & Buffering Grant – Ground identification sign with peripheral landscaping	Grant Paid – March 2021	\$5,827.50
Total: \$6,827.50			

New Applications

The following table describes new CIP applications projects received in 2021:

Address	Grant Program	Status of Grant
2 Talbot St South Former Dahl House (Essex Centre CIP)	Rehabilitation Grant Façade Improvement Grant Development Permit Fees Grant Accessible Entrance Grant Architectural Design Grant	Application Received – April 2021

Open Applications from 2020

The following table describes open CIP applications from 2020 that have yet to receive funding:

Address	Grant Program	Status of Work
16 Centre St Essex Free Press (Essex Centre CIP)	Façade Improvement Grant	Work in Progress
22 Centre St Wine O'Willie's (Essex Centre CIP)	Façade Improvement Grant	Work in Progress
915 County RD 50 E John R Park Homestead	Landscape & Buffering Grant Development Charges Grant Development Permit Fees Grant	Work in Progress, however, approximately \$35,000 is estimated

(ERCA) (Colchester/County RD 50 CIP)	Architectural Design Grant Outdoor Café/Patio Grant	
114 Talbot St. South Balanced Life Wellness Centre (Essex Centre CIP)	Landscape & Buffering Grant	Work in Progress
830 County Road 50 E Bridgewood Farms Colchester & County RD 50 CIP	Landscape & Buffering Grant Conversion Grant	Work in Progress

Financial Impact

As of the date of this report, the following table summarizes the Community Improvement Plan Budget for 2021 including grants paid out and funds remaining.

	Essex Centre CIP	Harrow & Colchester/CR 50 CIP
Approved 2021 Budget	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Total Grants Paid	\$0.00	\$6,827.50
Total Funds Remaining	\$100,000.00	\$93,172.50

Consultation

Link to Strategic Priorities

- ☐ Manage, invest and plan for sustainable municipal infrastructure which meets current and future needs of the municipality and its citizens.
- ☐ Create a safe, friendly and inclusive community which encourages healthy, active living for people of all ages and abilities.
- ☐ Provide a fiscal stewardship and value for tax dollars to ensure long-term financial health to the municipality.
- ☒ Manage responsible and viable growth while preserving and enhancing the unique rural and small town character of the community.
- ☐ Improve the experiences of individuals, as both citizens and customers, in their interactions with the Town of Essex.
- ☐ **Improve the Town's capacity to meet the ongoing and future service needs of its citizens** while ensuring the corporation is resilient in the face of unanticipated changes or disruptions.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Community Improvement Plan Update (Quarter 1 2021) - Economic Development-2021-04.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Apr 13, 2021

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Chadwick".

Lori Chadwick, Director, Development Services - Apr 13, 2021 - 9:56 AM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Nepszy".

Chris Nepszy, Chief Administrative Officer - Apr 13, 2021 - 10:42 AM