



Report to Council

Department: Office of the CAO
Division: Office of the CAO
Date: March 21, 2022
Prepared by: Doug Sweet, Chief Administrative Officer
Report Number: Office of the CAO-2022-03
Subject: Canadian Transportation Museum and Heritage Village
Light Pole Donation Request
Number of Pages: 4

Recommendation(s)

The following three (3) recommendations are provided for Council's consideration:

1. That CAO-2022-03 Report entitled "Canadian Transportation Museum and Heritage Village (CTMHV) Light Pole Donation Request" be **received**;
2. That Council **declare** the old Harrow Light Poles as surplus as per the Town's Procurement By-Law 2129 Section 35; and further
3. That Council **approve** the the Town of Essex donating the old Harrow light poles to the Canadian Transportation Museum and Heritage Village (CTMHV) to be used for their laneway lighting.

Purpose

To bring forward to Council a request from the Canadian Transportation Museum and Heritage Village (CTMHV) to have the Town of Essex donate the old Harrow downtown light poles that were removed during the Harrow Streetscape project.

Background and Discussion

The Canadian Transportation Museum and Heritage Village (CTMHV) contacted Council and Town Administration inquiring if the Town would donate the previous used downtown Harrow light poles that were removed during the Harrow Streetscape project (see below).

“The Canadian Transportation Museum & Heritage Village is a non-profit organization that prides itself in maintaining and promoting the unique historical values of Southwestern Ontario and our very own great local history. Since taking over as an all-new Board we have been working diligently to rebuild and reorganize our organization and what we consider to be a most important piece of property representing what Essex County really is and all its surrounding communities. As a non-profit we very much rely on volunteers and the community to continue to upgrade and this in turn allows the community to enjoy the preservation of our local community. I send you this communication regarding the light poles and even perhaps any fixtures the town has removed during the recent Harrow uptown transformation and if available would the town consider donating any of them to our organization? We are presently wanting to light up our laneway coming on to the property as well as our parking lots and village lanes. This is a program long overdue, and it is also a decision we want to begin as soon as we can because of safety and security reasons. If any of these items are still available, we would greatly appreciate being considered as a donated”.

Approximately 15 concrete light poles were removed and replaced with new light poles as part of the Harrow Streetscape project. As the light poles are past their useful life and have limited market value, the Town planned on crushing the poles and use the crushed concrete for road maintenance (i.e., shouldering and gravel roads).

The Town’s Procurement By-Law 2129 has a section (i.e., Section 35.06e) on Surplus and Obsolete Material and Equipment that permits the Town to sell or dispose of material by donating to a charitable organization. The Canadian Transportation Museum and Heritage

Village is a registered charitable organization and they have provided proof of their charity number and status to Town Administration.

The light poles are currently stored at the Harrow Public Works yard and the Canadian Transportation Museum and Heritage Village would need to arrange to have the poles delivered to their site.

Financial Impact

The light poles removed from downtown Harrow for the Harrow Streetscape project have limited resale value and are past their useful life in regard to the Town's Asset Management Plan, therefore there is no financial impact to the Town.

Consultations

Jackson Tang, Procurement Manager

Kevin Girard, Director of Infrastructure

Kate Giurissevich, Director of Corporate Services

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.