



## Report to Council

Department: Infrastructure Services

Division: Capital Works and Asset Management

Date: May 16, 2022

Prepared by: Kevin Girard, P.Eng., MBA  
Director of Infrastructure Services

Report Number: Capital Works and Asset Management-2022-02

Subject: Essex Streetscape Update and Schedule

Number of Pages: 5

### Recommendation(s)

**That** Capital Works and Asset Management – 2022-02 entitled, “Essex Streetscape Update and Schedule” prepared by Kevin Girard dated May 16, 2022 be received.

### Purpose

This report has been prepared to provide an update to Council on the Essex Streetscape Project.

### Background & Discussion

In the 2021 Capital Budget, Council approved administration to proceed with the detailed design of the Essex Streetscape project and awarded the design works to Stantec Consulting, which was carried forward into 2022. Further, the 2022 capital budget also includes funding for the construction of the Essex Streetscaping project that was intended to be completed in 2022.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the construction industry is experiencing significant delays with project engineering and construction, with the largest impact being supply chain issues for common infrastructure such as watermain, sewers, streetlights, and electrical conduit. Knowing that this has become an issue for other projects and operational departments, the Town tasked Stantec Consulting with contacting suppliers for the materials that would be required for the Essex Streetscape to determine the lead time on specific infrastructure materials. The results of that review are as follows:

- **Watermain components** - 2 to 5 months for delivery once orders have been submitted.
- **Storm sewer, CB's and MH's** - 6 to 10 weeks for delivery once orders have been submitted.
- **Tree grates** - 10 to 14 weeks for delivery once orders have been submitted. Shop drawing preparation, submittal, review and approval is expected to take 4 weeks. (total of 14 to 18 weeks)
- **Unit pavers** - 6 to 8 weeks for delivery once orders have been submitted. Shop drawing preparation, submittal, review and approval is expected to take 3 weeks. (total of 9 to 11 weeks)
- **Benches, planters, trash receptacles** - 10 to 14 weeks for delivery once orders have been submitted. Shop drawing preparation, submittal, review and approval is expected to take 6 weeks. (total of 16 to 20 weeks)
- **Electrical conduit, wire** - 2 to 4 months for delivery once orders have been submitted.
- **Streetlights/Poles** - 4 to 6 months for delivery once orders have been submitted. Shop drawing preparation, submittal, review and approval is expected to take 2 months. (total of 6 to 8 months)

The Essex Streetscape project is very large and will take a minimum of seven (7) months to complete if there were no supply chain issues and no major unforeseen items that arise during construction. Even if there were no issues with delivery of materials, it is Administration's opinion that it is not possible to construct all the work in 2022, especially since some of the work

cannot be completed during cold weather. In addition, starting the works in 2022 could lead to incomplete works being left over the winter which could lead to safety concerns and risk to the public. Therefore, in order to minimize the impact to residents and businesses, Administration is recommending that the work be tendered as one contract in 2022, but have the construction phased over 2022 and 2023. The following is what is recommended to be completed in 2022:

- All materials including items to be installed in 2023 would be ordered to minimize delays in construction.
- If possible, the watermain and sewer work would be constructed throughout the limits of the project along Talbot Rd and Victoria Ave. The trenches in the road would be restored with asphalt and the trenches in the boulevard would be restored with topsoil in grassed areas and cold patch in sidewalks. Disturbed driveways would be fully restored. Damaged concrete curb would also be fully restored where it is to remain, and temporary asphalt curbs be placed at other locations.
- Since the work along Victoria Ave. has minimal material delivery issues, it could proceed and be fully completed in 2022.
- A large portion of the proposed work at the north end of Talbot Rd (Maidstone Ave to Medora Ave) and at the south end (Brien Ave to Gosfield Townline) could be completed with the exception of the new streetlighting and some minor restoration.

In 2023, the remaining work would be undertaken starting in early spring. This would allow the contractor sufficient time to acquire materials so the work in the downtown core could be completed efficiently, which will help to minimize the impact to residents and businesses. In addition, by completing the work in this phased approach, the Town will likely receive more competitive pricing from tenderers and less impact to residents and businesses.

Administrations estimated timelines for the project are as follows:

Revised Estimated Schedule	
Deadline	Task
June 2022	Design Completion
End of June 2022	Tender Closing
Mid-July 2022	Tender Award
End of July 2022	Contractor to order standard materials and prepare shop drawings
October 2022	2022 Works – Construction Start
December 2022	2022 Works – Construction End
May 2023	2023 Works – Construction Start
October 2023	2023 Works – Project Substantially Performed
October 2024	Project Completed (End of Maintenance)

### Financial Impact

As identified in the 2022 Capital Budget, the Essex Streetscape Project is partially funded by grants, specifically, the RED (Rural Economic Development) Program through OMAFRA and the CCRF (Canada Community Revitalization Fund) through FedDev, which requires the project to be completed by March 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively, to keep this funding. Implementation of the updated schedule herein will still permit the Town to utilize the RED program funding by the deadline. Further, Administration has confirmed with FedDev that the CCRF program is being considered for an extension to December 31, 2023 to accommodate supply chain issues that are being experienced by most successful grant proponents. Therefore, there is no financial impact as a result of this report and the updated schedule.

Council approval will be required for the award of the Essex Streetscape construction contract, which is anticipated to be in mid-July as identified in the schedule herein.

### Consultations

Jackson Tang, Assistant Manager, Business Services

Kate Giurissevich, Director, Corporate Services/Treasurer

David McBeth, Manager, Capital Works & Asset Management

## **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.

## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Essex Streetscape Update and Schedule - Capital Works and Asset Management-2022-02.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	May 9, 2022

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', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Doug Sweet, Chief Administrative Officer - May 9, 2022 - 9:21 AM**