



DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES – COMMISSIONER
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September 8, 2015

DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMISSION REPORT 2015-53

TO: Committee of the Whole
SUBJECT: Ontario Municipal Cycling Infrastructure Program
ORIGIN: Commissioner, Development & Infrastructure Services

RECOMMENDATIONS


THAT Development & Infrastructure Services Commission Report 2015-53 dated September 8, 2015, regarding the Ontario Municipal Cycling Infrastructure Program be received and the following recommendation(s) be adopted:

- 1. THAT Council endorse the proposed cycling infrastructure project as identified in the attached Schedule 'A' - Newmarket East-West Bikeway Map to enable staff to continue with an application for partial funding of the project through the Ontario Municipal Cycling Infrastructure Program (OMCIP);**
- 2. AND THAT Council preapprove the allocation of \$325,000 from the development charges capital fund over the 2016 and 2017 Budgets.**

COMMENTS

Staff is seeking Council's endorsement of an on-street east-west cycling route, connecting Eagle Street West with Leslie Street through the downtown as part of the Council-approved Active Transportation Network. Council endorsement of the proposed cycling infrastructure project and pre-approval of funding in the 2016/17 Budgets will enable staff to continue to the next stage of the application and expedite the implementation of the east-west cycling route as described below.

The Project - Schedule 'A' attached illustrates the selected route identified in Official Plan Amendment 11, the Town's Active Transportation Network. The proposed project is an east-west cycling route of approximately 5.5 km in length connecting the intersections of Eagle Street West/Millard Avenue in the west to Leslie/Srigley Streets in the east, principally via Millard Avenue and Srigley Street. Note that the final route may be altered slightly as detailed design work is completed.



Background - The Ontario Ministry of Transportation is investing \$10 million over two years (2016 and 2017) through the Ontario Municipal Cycling Infrastructure Program (OMCIP) to help municipalities build new or improve existing cycling infrastructure. The OMCIP creates an opportunity for the Town to leverage provincial funding up to 50% of a project's costs to a maximum of \$325,000 to assist the Town with investing in cycling infrastructure as identified in the Town's Active Transportation Network.

Applying for the funding program is a two-stage process: 1) the submission of an Expression of Interest (EOI), which staff submitted August 6, 2015; and 2) an invitation to successful municipalities to submit completed applications, which includes a requirement for Council endorsement (being the subject of this report). The response to the submitted EOI is expected in late September and the deadline for submission of the completed application will be in October. Exact dates have yet to be announced. Council endorsement of the project is being sought in advance of the receipt of MTO's decision on the EOI as it may be challenging for staff to complete the application and receive Council's endorsement within the restricted timeframe. Announcements of awarded funds are anticipated by the end of 2015.

STRATEGIC LINKAGES

This report links to Newmarket's Strategic Plan direction Well Planned & Connected by improving travel within Newmarket through inter-connected neighbourhoods and providing varied transit options, including biking trails, paths, and lanes.

This report also aligns with Council's 2014-2018 Strategic Priority - Traffic Safety & Mitigation by ensuring safe streets, improving traffic congestion, and supporting major transit service enhancements.

CONSULTATION

In preparation of the Expression of Interest, consultations were held with staff from Engineering and Planning & Building Services departments, as well as the Regional Municipality of York's Active and Sustainable Transportation team. Local cycling groups and Smart Commute Central York were also consulted for their insight and recommendations for improvement to municipal cycling infrastructure.

HUMAN RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable to this report.

BUDGET IMPACT (Current and Future)

Operating Budget

There is no operating budget impact at this time.

Capital Budgets

There is no capital budget impact in 2015, however should the Town's Expression of Interest (EOI) be successful with Council's endorsement of the application through this report and to complete the proposed cycling infrastructure project, staff are seeking Council's approval of the allocation of \$325,000 funded from the development charges capital fund for the 2016 and 2017 Budget in order to leverage \$325,000 of grant funding through OMCIP. Development charge funding is available as identified in the Council approved Development Charges study, totaling \$1.5 million for investing in transportation demand management and bike lanes between 2014 and 2023. Should the Ministry of Transportation not approve the application, funds committed to this proposed project would be re-evaluated based on competing priorities within each budget year.

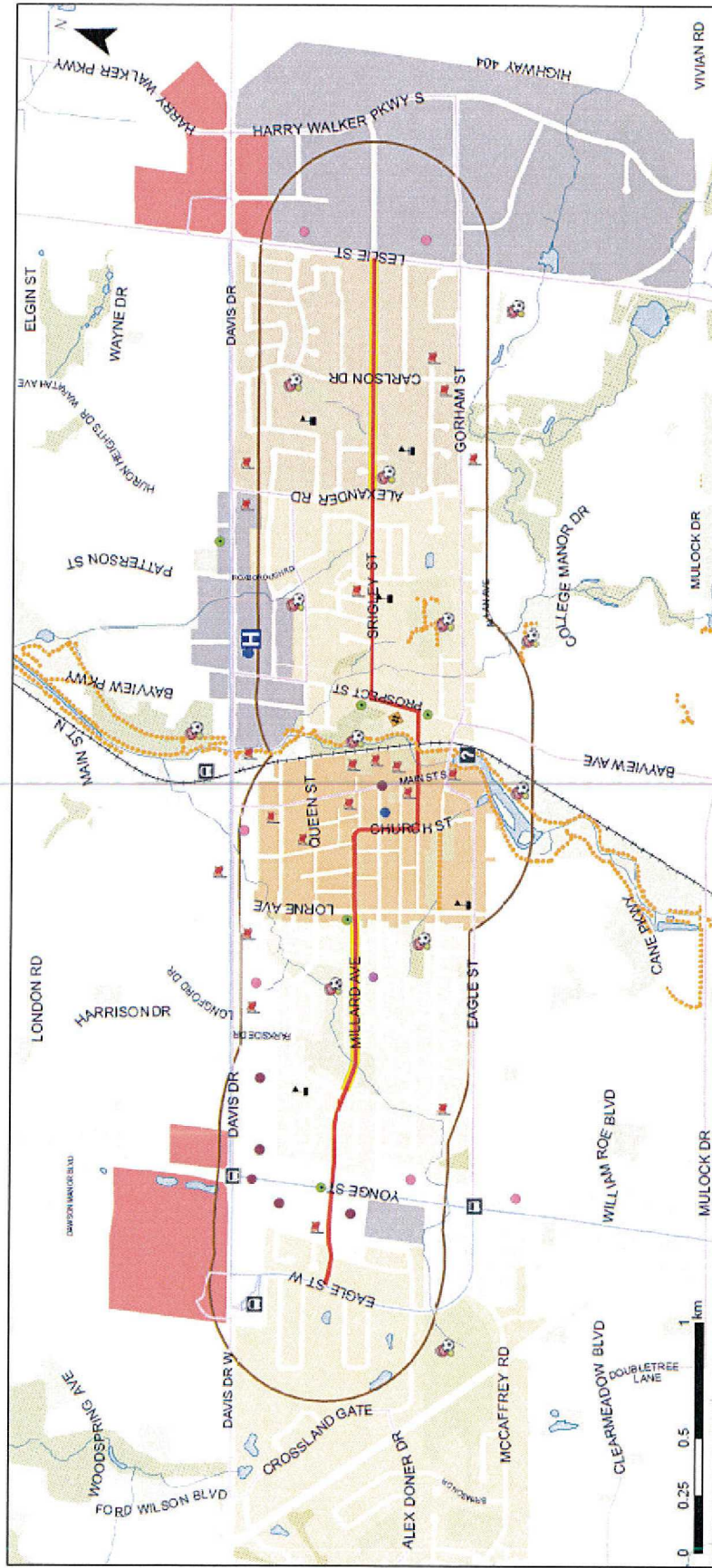
CONTACT

For more information on this report, contact Peter Noehammer, Commissioner, Development & Infrastructure Services, at 905-953-5300 ext. 2201.



Peter Noehammer
Commissioner, Development & Infrastructure Services

Attachment: Schedule 'A' - Newmarket East-West Bikeway Map



Schedule A: Newmarket East-West Bikeway - OMCI Project

Legend

- | Origins & Destinations | | Safety & Security | |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 500m Trail Buffer | Public Transit Hub | Intersection/Crossing Location | Hospital |
| Newmarket East-West Bikeway | Sport or Recreation Facility/Attraction | High Traffic Volume Area | Railway |
| Tom Taylor Multi-Use Trail | Other Major Tourist Attraction | Operating Space | Neighbourhoods |
| Local Bus Routes | Shopping Centre | High Traffic Speed Area | Parks & Open Space |
| VIVA Rapid Bus Route | Employment Area | | Water Features |
| | Community/Cultural Centre | | |
| | Elementary or Secondary School | | |
| | Major Commercial Area | | |
| | Minor Commercial Area | | |
| | Other Public Institution | | |

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