



COMMUNITY SERVICES – ENGINEERING SERVICES  
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DATE: April 28, 2014

**DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES REPORT  
ENGINEERING SERVICES 2014-31**

TO: Committee of the Whole  
SUBJECT: Yonge Street Sidewalk- Tom Taylor Trail to Savage Road  
ORIGIN: Engineering Services

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**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Development & Infrastructure Services Commission – Engineering Services Report 2014-31 dated April 28, 2014, be received and the following recommendations adopted:

1. THAT Council provide further direction to staff by considering options A or B for the Yonge Street Sidewalk – Tom Taylor Trail to Savage Road.

**Option A**

That the Yonge Street Sidewalk – Tom Taylor Trail to Savage Road be deferred until York Region urbanizes that section of Yonge Street.

**Option B**

That staff be directed to continue with the project and that additional funding of \$145,000 be provided from the reserves.

2. AND THAT if Option “A” above is selected, Council make a formal request asking York Region to help accelerate the urbanization of this portion of Yonge Street by making it a high priority.

**PURPOSE/BACKGROUND**

In 2013, Council requested and approved a \$100,000 budget for an interim sidewalk on the east side of Yonge Street from the Tom Taylor Trail to Savage Road.

The Town retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. at a cost of \$9,720 to complete a detailed design for the sidewalk in accordance with the Ontario Provincial Standard Specifications and Town of Newmarket standards. During the conceptual design process, it was determined that a major retaining wall would be required due to the steep slope of the east side of Yonge St. (see Appendix A). The retaining wall would be needed throughout the full length of the sidewalk. This was an unexpected element that increased the cost to construct the sidewalk by a significant amount. The construction estimate for this project as provided by Stantec, which includes the retaining wall and contingencies, is \$230,000. Additional engineering fees of \$4,100 will also be required by Stantec to design the retaining wall.

Staff has discussed the intention of urbanization for this section of road with York Region. Urbanization would eliminate the need for the retaining wall, thereby saving the initial high capital cost of the wall, as well as any future maintenance costs associated with the wall. At this time, the Region has no plan to urbanize this section of Yonge St. And even though plans for the urbanization of this section of Yonge Street as a future transit rapidway were identified at the vivaNext open house held on November 19 and 20, 2013, no timelines for the urbanization have been given. York Region is, however, planning to resurface Yonge Street in the summer of 2014. As part of the resurfacing work, York Region is including a 2.25m paved shoulder on the edge of the road (currently there is an existing 1.0m paved shoulder).

Staff is seeking Council direction on how to proceed. Seeing that there will be a 2.25 meter paved shoulder along the edge of the road as a result of York Region's resurfacing work this summer, Council may wish to defer the project until such a time that York Region urbanizes this section of road. The Town would then partner with York Region to build a proper sidewalk without needing a retaining wall. If this is the chosen option, Council could also formally request that York Region accelerate its plans to urbanize this section of Yonge Street. However, if Council chooses to direct staff to move ahead with the sidewalk project in 2014, an additional \$145,000 would have to be provided from the reserves to enable the sidewalk to be constructed due to the substantive retaining wall that will be required.

#### **BUSINESS PLAN AND STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGES**

- Well-equipped & managed...Fiscal responsibility, clear vision of the future and aligned corporate/business plans.

#### **HUMAN RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS**

No Impact to current staffing levels.

#### **BUDGET IMPACT**

##### Capital Budget

Pending council direction to defer this project, staff request that the budget for this project be returned to reserves. However, if Council would like to proceed with this project, additional budget funds of \$145,000 will be required from the reserves.

#### **CONTACT**

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Appendix A- Existing site conditions

