

THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAMBTON SHORES

Report DPW 22-2024

Council Meeting Date: October 1, 2024

TO: Mayor Cook and Members of Council
FROM: Nick Verhoeven, Director of Public Works
RE: King Street West Forest Project

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report DPW 22-2024 regarding the King Street West Project be received; and

THAT the one-way traffic conversion on King Street West between Main Street and James Street as proposed by the Forest BIA be approved in principle pending an acceptable final design; and

THAT up to \$50,000 from the King Street Sidewalk Project be utilized for engineering services related to this project.

SUMMARY

This report provides a recommendation to proceed with engineering services for King Street West Forest one way conversion and revitalization project.

BACKGROUND

As part of the 2023 Capital Budget Lambton Shores included \$250,000 to replace sidewalks on King Street West (downtown) in Forest between Main Street and Washington Street. During consideration of timing and logistics of the project, staff discussed the project with a handful of members of the Forest BIA and other individuals and groups. Feedback received indicated a desire to reimagine the scope of this project to something bigger than staff had initially proposed. Based on this feedback the project has been “shelved” pending ongoing discussions amongst the BIA and other stakeholders.

At its September 10th, 2024 meeting Council received a presentation from BIA member Glen Van Valkenburg. The presentation provided support for a one-way traffic proposal on King Street West between Main Street and James Street and proposed including some themes to improve the downtown experience and build on momentum from recent BIA and related groups initiatives.

With Council’s approval, staff are proposing to engage a qualified engineering consultant to draft a design based on the one-way conversion and themes within the presentation.

Once a design is complete it would come back to a future council meeting for final approval and implementation.

The 2023 Sidewalk project budget of \$250,000 is still available. Staff recommend utilizing \$50,000 of those funds towards engineering services to develop a design.

At this time the one-way conversion and revitalization project would require the following works:

- Sidewalks and curbs
- Asphalt Paving
- Water service replacements
- Storm sewer/catch basin adjustments
- Streetlights

The proposed works would require the movement and replacement of curbs to accommodate the changing configuration of sidewalks. The grades of adjacent asphalt would be impacted and necessitate the replacement of asphalt and movement of catch basins. Streetlights would need to move to be out of the way of pedestrian lanes. During the project staff are proposing to replace underground water service components known to be corroded.

Staff have preliminarily estimated a construction cost of \$1,000,000 to implement the one-way conversion and revitalization project. The engineering work will further refine a construction budget which could be brought forward for 2025 budget deliberations. By completing engineering now, and prioritizing this project over the coming months, staff envision that this project could potentially be under construction in the Spring of 2025 and complete for July of 2025.

ALTERNATIVES TO CONSIDER

There are no alternatives to consider at this time.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Staff is recommending that Council endorse the one-way conversion and revitalization project in principle pending an acceptable final design and that staff be authorized to procure engineering services at a cost up to \$50,000 to advance the one-way conversion and revitalization project.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The \$50,000 proposed for engineering services was approved as part of the 2023 budget of \$250,000 for sidewalk replacements on King Street West.

CONSULTATION

Senior Management Team