

Municipality of Lakeshore - Report to Council

Engineering & Infrastructure Services

Public Works



To: Mayor & Members of Council

From: Jeff Wilson, Manager of Operations

Date: January 29, 2021

Subject: Gravel Road Conversion Criteria and Amended 10 Year Gravel Conversion Program

Recommendation

Direct Administration to complete the gravel road conversions of Walls Road (from Lakeshore Road 113 to Lakeshore 115), Lakeshore Road 115 (from Walls Road to Rogers Road) and Rogers Road (from Lakeshore Road 115 to West Belle River Road) in 2021 to be funded from the Gravel Road Conversion reserve in the amount of \$469,000;

Adopt the amended 10 year Gravel Conversion program as per the attached with the inclusion of Lakeshore 115 (from Rogers Road to County Road 42) as reassessed, to be completed in 2022 in the amount of \$370,000, as presented in the February 16, 2021 Council report.

Background

The original Gravel Road Conversion Program implemented in 2009 focused on the conversion of roadways that would allow for paved connectivity moving east to west joining the Municipality's rural road system with other Municipal roads and/or the County road system. This original program did not consider the number of residential houses along these routes and only focused on the network as a whole.

The revised criteria for the gravel conversion program adopted in 2017 was amended to give consideration to the number of residents along the route. This program criteria was expanded to consider two factors, residential density per kilometer and connectivity.

Residential density takes into consideration the number of residence per kilometer of a particular road section while connectivity continues to ensure that paved roads connect to other paved roads creating travel routes for residents across the Municipality. Connectivity is an important criteria to be included in any gravel conversion program as it accounts for the broader public interest in improving a stretch of roadway as opposed to

the private benefit to those residing along a stretch of road. If a road does not provide a benefit to the broader public through improving connectivity then a local improvement process is likely a better option than subsidizing the improvement by using public dollars.

This was considered in the equal weighting of density and connectivity.

Prior to the amended criteria being adopted in 2017, a report was taken to Council identifying that sections of roadways (from the original list) were delayed to accommodate the timing of the Belle River Wind Project. These sections included Walls Road (from Lakeshore Road 113 to Lakeshore Road 115), Lakeshore Road 115 (from Walls Road to Rogers Road) and Rogers Road (from Lakeshore Road 115 to West Belle River Road). It was identified at that time that the newly paved roadways would have seen considerable damage by the construction of the wind mill project and therefore the gravel conversions would be completed once the wind farm construction was concluded.

The criteria was amended prior to the completion of the wind farm construction.

Comments

The revised criteria and weighting of the Gravel Road Conversion Program as identified in 2017 is still supported by Administration.

The delay of this conversion project in 2017 due to the construction of the Belle River Wind Project and being subject to a program modification had a major impact on the conversion timing of Lakeshore Road 115.

There are 2 maps attached for information:

- **Map 1** shows the existing points per section assigned to Lakeshore Road 115, without considering the deferred works; and
- **Map 2** shows the updated points for the remaining sections on Lakeshore Road 115 with the deferred works being considered.

The delay of this section of Lakeshore Road 115 (from Walls Road to Rogers Road) contributed to the section of Lakeshore Road 115 (from Rogers Road to County Road 42) obtaining a lower score based on connectivity points, which in turn removed this section of roadway from the 10 year conversion program.

The section of Lakeshore Road 115 (from Rogers Road to County Road 42) was reassessed based on conditions shown in Map 2 and now falls within the 10 year program (in 2022) as connectivity of the roadway scores higher if the delayed works would have been completed.

It should be noted that the section of Lakeshore Road 115 to the south of Walls Road will not be eligible in 2022 for conversion but falls within the 10 year plan.

If Council wishes to proceed with the recommendation to complete the deferred works indicated in the attached report dated August 24, 2017 in 2021, Administration further recommends that Council approve the amended the 10 year Gravel Conversion program as attached which includes the section of Lakeshore Road 115 (from Rogers Road to County Road 42).

This addresses both the overall impact this delay had on the conversion of Lakeshore Road 115 and continues to recognize a Gravel Road Conversion Program that meets the needs of the community.

Financial Impacts

The delayed road sections, Walls Road (from Lakeshore Road 113 to Lakeshore Road 115), Lakeshore Road 115 (from Walls Road to Rogers Road) and Rogers Road (from Lakeshore Road 115 to West Belle River Road) can be completed and funded in 2021 in part from the surplus (under the gravel road conversion program reserve) that was recognized on the Hawthorne Drive gravel conversion project in the amount of \$469,100 from the gravel roads conversion reserve.

The Hawthorne Drive project had significant surplus due to the following:

- Aggressive bidding by a Contractor based on proximity to the site (construction yard was less than a kilometer away from the work site);
- The original estimate considered relocation of utilities that were accommodated in the conversion and utility relocations were minimized;
- The original estimate considered an asphalt surface vs. surface treatment; and
- Project contingency was not utilized during construction of this project.

The road section, Lakeshore Road 115 (from Rogers Road to County Road 42) will be completed in 2022 under the amended 10 year program and would be funded under the Gravel Road Conversion Program reserve in the amount of \$370,000. This will be brought forward as part of the 2022 Capital Budget.

Attachments: Report to Council August 24, 2017

Map1 Current Gravel Conversion Criteria

Map 2 Updated Gravel Conversion Criteria

Amended 10 year Gravel Road Conversion Program

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Gravel Road Conversion Criteria and Lakeshore Road 115.docx
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Report to Council August 24 2017.pdf- Map 1 Lakeshore Road 115 Current Gravel Conversion Criteria.pdf- Map 2 lakeshore Road 115 Updated Criteria.pdf- Amended 10 year Gravel Road Conversion Program.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Feb 10, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

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