

Municipality of Lakeshore – Report to Council

Operations

Engineering & Infrastructure



To: Mayor & Members of Council

From: Krystal Kalbol, P. Eng., Corporate Leader – Operations

Date: April 6, 2022

Subject: Great Lakes Waterfront Trail, Closing the Gap – Caille Avenue

Recommendation

Support the application made by the Waterfront Regeneration Trust, on behalf of Great Lakes Waterfront Trail, to receive funding through Infrastructure Canada under the Active Transportation Fund (ATF) for the construction of an asphalt pathway along Caille Avenue, as presented at the April 26, 2022 Council meeting.

Background

The Great Lakes Waterfront Trail is shared by a partnership of 155 communities organized by the Waterfront Regeneration Trust. Since 1992, the Waterfront Regeneration Trust has led the work to create the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail.

The existing trail network in this area can be seen in the attached map.

The vision for a completed trail system has put emphasis on closing the gap for the trail system which will include an active transportation facility along Caille Avenue.

The reconstruction of Caille Avenue is not included in Lakeshore's current 5-year capital program.

Comments

Pedestrians (and cyclists) are currently utilizing the roadway along Caille Avenue to engage in active transportation which has the potential to impact traffic flow and create unsafe conditions for both pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists.

The preliminary design of the Caille Avenue Waterfront Trail would be a 3.0 metre wide multi-use pathway with a total distance of 1.85 kilometres located between Rourke Line and West River Street. The proposed project would provide a safe separation for trail users from roadway traffic and create a designated space in the boulevard that would allow for increased safety and a more convenient active transportation link.

The proposed multi-use pathway would expand the active transportation system within Lakeshore from the future Rourke Line pedestrian facility (to be constructed in 2022) to the existing facility along West River Street, as well as expand the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail system. This system would connect residents to various amenities such as the marina, park, and beach and provide further connection to business amenities along Notre Dame Street in the Belle River downtown corridor.

Administration has supported the Waterfront Regeneration Trust in applying for federal funding through Infrastructure Canada under the Active Transportation Fund (ATF). The ATF grant cover would cover up to 60% of the estimated construction costs. A preliminary letter was provided (as attached) for support but will require Council endorsement for the application to be considered.

Further, the Municipality will be required to work alongside VIA Rail to obtain approval for this project as a significant amount of this land is leased through VIA Rail and within proximity to their rail corridor.

Others Consulted

Waterfront Regeneration Trust and VIA Rail were consulted.

Financial Impacts

Currently there is no financial impact.

If the application is successful, the remaining costs of the project will need to be coordinated between the residents as part of a local improvement petition.

Attachments

Attachment 1) Waterfront Trail Map along the north shore (Belle River)

Attachment 2) Administrations letter of Support

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Great Lakes Waterfront Trail, Closing the Gap in the Municipality of Lakeshore.docx
Attachments:	- Waterfront Trail Map along the north shore (Belle River).pdf - Letter of Support - Caille Avenue Trail.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Apr 21, 2022

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

Prepared by Krystal Kalbol

Approved by Justin Rousseau and Truper McBride