

To: Development Services Committee

From: Thomas B. Hodgins, BES, MA, RPP, MCIP, Commissioner,
Development Services

Report Number: DS-14-161

Date of Report: July 10, 2014

Date of Meeting: July 16, 2014

Subject: Potential Enhanced Gateway Streetscape Treatment on
Simcoe Street North, Conlin Road to Winchester Road

File: F-7000-0141

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council partner with the Region of Durham to create an enhanced gateway streetscape treatment (enlarged medians, upgraded landscaping/planting, decorative streetlights with banner arms, etc.) on Simcoe Street North between Conlin Road and Winchester Road.

The subject corridor will be a new gateway into Oshawa from the Highway 407 East Extension, is associated with the main campuses of Durham Region's major post-secondary institutions and will be adjacent to an important commercial and residential node.

This is a unique and time sensitive opportunity (given that the Region intends to reconstruct Simcoe Street North in 2015 and 2016) and it is recommended that the City agree to certain costs that will be used to deliver the enhanced gateway streetscape treatment.

A large drawing of the proposed enhanced gateway streetscape treatment will be available at the relevant Committee and Council meetings.

2.0 Recommendation

That the Development Services Committee recommend to City Council:

1. That, pursuant to Report DS-14-161 dated July 10, 2014:

- (a) That \$253,000 be approved for enhanced landscaping and a gateway feature site to be paid to the Region in 2015 and 2016 from an appropriate source of funds to be determined at the appropriate time by the City Treasurer and included in the appropriate capital budget.

- (b) That \$315,000 for the decorative streetlighting and \$37,000 for banner/flag poles be referred to the appropriate capital budget forecast for prioritization and funding as appropriate and that the Region be requested to include the enhanced decorative streetlighting and banner/flag poles in its detailed engineering design and tender; and
 - (c) That staff be authorized to work with potential partners in the Simcoe Street North corridor to secure the required road widenings and financial contributions to offset City costs associated with the reconstruction of Simcoe Street North.
2. That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute any and all documents required to advance the enhanced gateway streetscape treatment, including cost sharing, with the Region of Durham consistent with said Report and to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Development Services and City Solicitor.
 3. That a copy the Council resolution and related staff Report DS-14-161 dated July 10, 2014 be forwarded to the Region with thanks for providing the City with the opportunity to partner on this important gateway streetscape project.

3.0 Executive Summary

Not applicable.

4.0 Input From Other Sources

The following have been consulted in the preparation of this report:

- City Manager
- Community Services Development
- Finance Services
- Durham Region

5.0 Analysis

Simcoe Street North between Conlin Road and Winchester Road is a Type B arterial road under the jurisdiction of the Region of Durham.

The Region has just completed a Municipal Class Environment Assessment for this road section and as a next step is in the process of designing a 4-lane road expansion (with an urban cross-section) to be constructed in 2015 and 2016.

The subject section of Simcoe Street North is a gateway into Oshawa and is or will be adjacent to a new Highway 407 interchange, UOIT/Durham College main campuses, future employment lands, a major new commercial centre and significant residential uses.

City and Regional staff have worked together to create an opportunity for an enhanced gateway streetscape treatment on Simcoe Street North between Conlin Road and Winchester Road as part of the 2015 and 2016 reconstruction. The enhancements include landscaping/planting, wider medians, decorative streetlighting and banner/flag poles.

It is proposed that the City be responsible for the costs of the following enhancements including annual maintenance costs:

- Decorative streetlighting
- Landscaping of medians/street trees
- Minor land acquisition for a gateway feature
- Banner/Flag poles

The Region has advised it will accept responsibility for providing and funding:

- Design fees to completely redesign the road with wider medians and raised slotted left turn lanes using a 45 metre right-of-way to allow for the enhanced streetscaping features;
- Streetlighting design using any decorative lights identified by the City;
- Capital cost for road construction, excluding streetlights;
- Capital costs for construction of all impressed concrete and installation of all sod.

The enhancements can be included and delivered as part of the Region's reconstruction of Simcoe Street North in 2015 and 2016 with the expected phasing of the works and financing as follows:

- Summer 2014 – City commitment to the Region for any enhancements.
- 2015 – Region constructs intersection improvements at Winchester Road and Conlin Road. The City contribution to the enhancements is minor at this stage of development.
- 2016 – Region constructs and widens of Simcoe Street North between the above-noted intersections. The City contributes to the enhancements as required.
- 2017+ The City continues to maintain the enhancements.

6.0 Financial Implications

Traditional "roadside" infrastructure is the responsibility of the lower tier municipality in a Regional road reconstruction project. Accordingly, the City is obligated per current and past practice to pay for sidewalks/multi-use paths and standard streetlighting in conjunction with the Region's re-build. These estimated costs are ±\$2.6 million, are eligible for partial funding from development charges and will be included in the City's capital budget as required. These costs are unavoidable.

In the event the City wants to partner with the Region to create an enhanced gateway streetscape treatment the following capital costs will be incurred

- Decorative streetlights - \$315,000
- Landscaped medians and street trees - \$239,000
- Banner/flag pole - \$37,000
- Land for gateway feature - \$14,000

It will also cost the City ±\$25,000 per year to maintain the enhanced features as an annual operating cost. This does not include the cost associated with life cycle replacement.

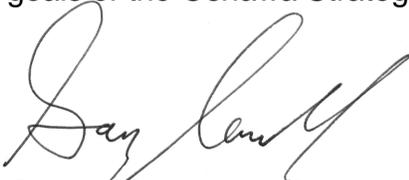
It is recommended that the City commit to the \$239,000 required to upgrade the landscaping and the \$14,000 for the gateway feature site at this time. The funding source will be determined at the appropriate time by the City Treasurer and included in the appropriate capital budget.

It is recommended that the Region be asked to design and tender the decorative lighting and banner/flag poles and that the City funding to implement these items be referred to the appropriate capital budget forecast for prioritization and funding consideration in the appropriate year.

It is also recommended that staff be authorized to find partners to help reduce the City's financial obligations towards the Simcoe Street North reconstruction.

7.0 Relationship to the Oshawa Strategic Plan

The Recommendation advances the Economic Prosperity and Accountable Leadership goals of the Oshawa Strategic.



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Engineering Services



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