



REPORT N° INF2019-025

Date	10/06/2019
Submitted by	Julian Lenhart
Subject	Laurier Street Revitalization Update
File N°	

1) **NATURE/GOAL :**

The Nature of this report is to update Council on the status of the Laurier Street Revitalization project.

2) **DIRECTIVE/PREVIOUS POLICY :**

In August of 2018, Council approved report AMÉ-18-48-R-Revitalization of Laurier Street-Design and By-Law 2018-81 to sign an agreement with CSW.

3) **DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATION :**

THAT Report no. INF2019-025, which provides an update on the Laurier Street Revitalization Project, be received as information.

QUE le rapport no. INF2019-025, qui vise à faire une mise à jour du projet de revitalisation de la rue Laurier, soit reçu à titre d'information.

4) **BACKGROUND :**

The revitalization of Laurier Street was identified as a top priority in both the City's Strategic Plan and in its Asset Management Program. Additionally, the City's Official Plan (2014) identifies Laurier Street as a Commercial Core Area and the Counties of Prescott Russell has identified it as a County Recommended Cycling/Tourist area. This project strategically aims at improving the health and safety of motorized and active transportation, beautifying the City's main street, improving accessibility to existing businesses and attracting new businesses.

The Active Transportation Master Plan (2019) has highlighted the community concerns of speeding/dangerous conditions for cycling and pedestrians, especially along main routes, including Laurier Street, with high traffic volumes. Augmenting this, there are projections for a 36% increase in population, intensifying the potential of conflict between the cyclists, pedestrians and motorists. Below, are the major safety concerns that this project intends to address in order to achieve the community's desired outcomes;

- No existing cycling facilities, therefore higher risk for potential accidents and collisions between cyclists and vehicles;

- Increased volumes of traffic with the on-going community expansion will further increase potential conflicts;

In order to address the safety concerns mentioned above, the City has submitted a \$2,750,000 grant application, on May 14, 2019, under the ICIP Road stream for Rural and Northern communities. The Province communicated with the City regarding our funding request and has informed us that our application is in the process of being reviewed.

5) **DISCUSSION :**

This project is the strategic implementation of the Strategic Plan and the first of the Active Transportation Master Plan. This project will generate the first distinct cycling facility, 1.8 km in length, within the Municipality on Laurier Street, the city's mainstreet. Encouraging Active Transportation and increasing the opportunities for the community to support the shops, services and institutional facilities within the project limits. The cycling facility will provide a key link to the County Recommended Cycling Route.

The following improvements will enhance the street, sidewalks, lighting, benches to ensure accessibility and foster a healthy vibrant economy for area businesses, cyclists and pedestrians. The preliminary design of this project is included in Attachment 1.

- Provide a separate cycling facility within the right of way.,
- Enhances the downtown by providing a Complete Street,
- Reinforces the sense of place, with wider and consistent sidewalks to accommodate Universal Accessibility needs,
- Connect the civic and public spaces with Active Transportation
- Traffic calming measures, including traffic bulb-outs to reduce the speed of the vehicle,
- Street lighting to enhance the pedestrian visibility to the vehicular driver.

Next Steps (assuming grant funding)

- 2019 - Traffic Study;
- 2019 - Lighting Study;
- 2020 - Final design, tender and EA;
- 2021 – Construction lighting enhancement;
- 2021 – Construction rehabilitation of pavement and delineation of on-road cycling facility for 1.5 km;
- 2023 - Intersection improvement and land acquisition
- 2024 - Construction of segregated cycling and pedestrian facility for 350 m;
- 2025 – Project end

- 6) **CONSULTATION:**
N/A
- 7) **RECOMMENDATIONS OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE/ OTHER DEPARTMENTS :**
N/A
- 8) **FINANCIAL IMPACT (expenses/material/etc.):**
Future phases of this project are reliant on grant funding.
- 9) **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS :**
N/A
- 10) **RISK MANAGEMENT :**
This project will reduce risk for potential accidents and collisions between cyclists and vehicles.
- 11) **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS :**
The development of the separate cycling facilities will create the infrastructure to support the County and Provincial Wide Cycling network.
- 12) **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**
Attachement 1 – Preliminary Design