



Staff Report

Community Services – Parks and Trails

Report To: Committee of the Whole Meeting
Meeting Date: November 1, 2022
Report Number: CSOPS.22.54
Title: Georgian Trail Annual Report
Prepared by: Terry Green,
Manager of Parks and Trails

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report CSOPS.22.54, entitled “Georgian Trail Annual Report” for information purposes

B. Overview

The Georgian Trail Annual Operations Report has been requested to be brought forward to each of the three participating partner municipal Councils: Municipality of Meaford, Town of The Blue Mountains, and Town of Collingwood. The purpose of the report is to update Council on the maintenance and operations specific to the Georgian Trail.

The Georgian Cycle and Ski Trail Association has offered to financially support work with The Town of The Blue Mountains, Collingwood and Meaford to enhance some sections of the trail that are narrowing.

C. Background

Staff from each of the three participating partner municipalities have contributed to the summary of work completed on the Georgian Trail in 2021. Council approved grooming of the Georgian Trail for the 2021/22 winter season. And has been built into the level of service moving forward

Trail bi-directional counter readings from 2021 at the four locations at Lora Bay, Thornbury Trestle Bridge, Georgian Peaks and Craigleith Depot totaled 529,381 users which included both pedestrian and cyclists with Craigleith Heritage Depot 37%, Thornbury Trestle Bridge 34%, Georgian Peaks 16%, Lora Bay 13%.

January 1, 2022, to August 26, 2022 bi-directional readings at the four locations 195,000 with Craigleith Heritage Depot 23%, Thornbury Trestle Bridge 47%, Georgian Peaks 10%, Lora Bay 20%.

Municipality of Meaford (Kilometer 1 to Kilometer 7.2 - 22% of Trail)

Work and inspections completed:

- Monthly trail inspections
- Cutting back the trail
- Replaced two 48" culverts
- Repaired washouts
- Noxious weed control in (June)
- Removing snowbanks at road crossings during winter months for pedestrian access
- Garbage collection along trail twice a year and empty 10 containers distributed along the trail daily

Town of The Blue Mountains (Kilometers 7.2 to Kilometer 27.7 - 62% of Trail)

Work and inspections completed:

1. General operations:

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- Biannual bridge inspections completed by private contractor
- Monthly inspections completed from April 1 to November 1
- Weekly inspections completed during winter trail grooming operations
- Three cuts of grass along trail including trimming around benches
- Removal of dead and fallen trees along various sections of trail
- Noxious weed control program (June)
- Winter trail groomed daily when there is adequate snow
- Removal of snowbanks at road crossings weekly
- Garbage collection at 10 locations twice per week
- Placement of privies at 3 locations Peace Park, Camperdown Road, and Lakeshore Road for the winter months

2. Maintenance and repair works:

- Top dressed the trail from Georgian Peaks Road to Hidden Lake Road
- Continued with the removal of ash trees affected by the Emerald Ash Borer on sections from Christie Beach Road to Lora Bay Drive and dead and hazardous trees along various locations of the trail
- Installed additional p-gates along the sections of the trail
- Installed garbage receptacles and dog waste bag receptacles at various locations
- Cut back trees and vegetation from Grey #21 to Christie Beach Road

Town of Collingwood (Kilometer 27.7 to Kilometer 33.0 - 16% of Trail)

Work and inspections completed:

- Monthly inspections completed from April 1 to November 1
- Monthly grass cutting along the trail including trimming along benches
- Removal of any fallen/hazardous trees along the trail
- Cutting back Trail
- Grading of uneven surfaces

- Contract weed spraying (June)
- Grooming of the trail during winter months when there is adequate snow

D. Strategic Priorities

1. Communication and Engagement

We will enhance communications and engagement between Town Staff, Town residents and stakeholders

2. Organizational Excellence

We will continually seek out ways to improve the internal organization of Town Staff and the management of Town assets.

3. Community

We will protect and enhance the community feel and the character of the Town, while ensuring the responsible use of resources and restoration of nature.

4. Quality of Life

We will foster a high quality of life for full-time and part-time residents of all ages and stages, while welcoming visitors.

E. Environmental Impacts

All activities are completed with as little environmental impact as possible.

F. Financial Impacts

Municipality of Meaford

General Operations \$10,000

(13.5% of total)

Town of The Blue Mountains

Recorded expense of \$63,003.68 for 2021 operating season; includes

- \$13,274.35 general operations
- \$427.63 insurance
- \$11,580.82 winter trail grooming
- \$37,720.88 staff costs for ash tree removal

(86% of total)

Town of Collingwood

General Operations \$350.00

(.5% of total)

G. In Consultation With

- H. Municipality of Meaford – Jesse Bedard, Foreperson Parks, and Facilities Services
 - I. Town of Collingwood – Wendy Martin, Manager of Parks, Recreation and Culture
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J. Public Engagement

The topic of this Staff Report has not been the subject of a Public Meeting and/or a Public Information Centre as neither a Public Meeting nor a Public Information Centre are required. However, any comments regarding this report should be submitted to Terry Green, Manager of Parks and Trails tgreen@thebluemountains.ca.

K. Attached

1. Map of Georgian Trail

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Green
Manager of Parks and Trails

For more information, please contact:
Terry Green, Manager of Parks and Trails
tgreen@thebluemountains.ca
519-599-3131 extension 353

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	CSOPS.22.054 Georgian Trail Annual Report.docx
Attachments:	- Georgian-Trail-Map.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Sep 29, 2022

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

Terry Green - Sep 29, 2022 - 3:35 PM

Ryan Gibbons - Sep 29, 2022 - 3:44 PM