



# Committee Report

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## Transportation Committee Report

**Meeting Date:** December 15, 2020  
**Meeting Time:** 1:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Town Hall, Council Chambers  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON

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### Transportation Committee Recommendations

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**NOTE:** The following are recommendations from the Transportation Committee to be considered for adoption by Council

- [Receive Minutes \(December 15, 2020\)](#)

**Recommended** (Move, second)

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives the Transportation Committee minutes dated December 15, 2020, as attached, for information purposes.

#### C. Matters for Discussion

##### C.2 [Memorandum: Victoria St/Louisa St Traffic Study Follow-up](#)

**Recommended** (Move, second)

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains acknowledges and approves the December 15, 2020 Transportation Committee recommendation with respect to the Victoria St/Louisa St Traffic Study Follow-up, as follows:

THAT the Transportation Committee receives Memorandum: Victoria St/Louisa St Traffic Study Follow-up for information purposes;

AND THAT the Transportation Committee endorses in principle, the recommendation by staff for intersection improvements at Beaver Street (stopping up and closing Beaver St S between Victoria and Louisa Street) with the understanding that the alternatives will be brought to a future Committee meeting for the Committee's review in a closed session;

AND THAT the Transportation Committee recommends Council and staff engage the immediately-adjacent community stakeholders in this discussion.

### **C.3     Grey County Cycling and Trails Master Plan Follow-up**

#### **Recommended** (Move, second)

THAT, in accordance with the December 15, 2020 Transportation Committee request, Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains requests Grey County staff to attend an upcoming Committee meeting to provide a presentation on the Grey County Cycling and Trails Master Plan.



# Minutes

## The Blue Mountains, Transportation Committee

**Date:** December 15, 2020  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Town Hall, Council Chambers - Virtual Meeting  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON  
**Prepared by:**  
Sarah Merrifield, Executive Assistant Committees of Council

**Members Present:** Rob Sampson, Jim Uram, Andrew Siegwart, John Ardiel  
John White joined the meeting at 1:04 p.m.  
**Staff Present:** Director of Operations Shawn Carey, Director of Planning and Development Services Nathan Westendorp, Director of Legal Services Will Thomson, Manager of Development Engineering Brian Worsley, Construction Coordinator Michael G. Campbell, and Transportation Master Plan Project Coordinator Adam Fraser  
**Regrets:** Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons

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### A. Call to Order

#### A.1 Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

We would like to begin our meeting by recognizing the First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples of Canada as traditional stewards of the land. The municipality is located within the boundary of Treaty 18 region of 1818 which is the traditional land of the Anishnaabek, Haudenosaunee and Wendat-Wyandot-Wyandotte peoples.

#### A.2 Committee Member Attendance

Executive Assistant to Committees of Council Sarah Merrifield confirmed all Committee members were present save John White who joined the meeting at 1:04 p.m. following the call to order.

### **A.3 Approval of Agenda**

Committee member John White joined the meeting at 1:04 p.m.

Moved by: John Ardiel

Seconded by: Jim Uram

THAT the Agenda of December 15, 2020 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda.

Yay (5): John Ardiel, Andrew Siegwart, John White, Councillor Uram, Councillor Sampson

**The motion is Carried (5 to 0)**

### **A.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof**

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2019-56, Transportation Committee Members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

### **A.5 Previous Minutes**

Moved by: Jim Uram

Seconded by: Andrew Siegwart

THAT the Minutes of November 10, 2020 be approved as circulated, including any revisions to be made.

Yay (5): John Ardiel, Andrew Siegwart, John White, Councillor Uram, Councillor Sampson

**The motion is Carried (5 to 0)**

## **B. Staff Reports and Deputations**

### **B.1 Deputations, if any**

None

**B.2 Public Comment Period (each speaker is allotted three minutes)**

NOTE: In accordance with the Town Procedural By-law 2019-56 fifteen minutes is allotted at the Meeting to receive public comments regarding Transportation Committee matters included on the Agenda. The speaker shall provide their name and address, and shall address their comments to the Chair. Comments shall not refer to personnel, litigation or potential litigation matters, or matters that are a follow-up to a Public Meeting.

Committee meetings are taking place virtually to assist with social distancing with respect to COVID-19. Comments received from the public that have not been included on the Agenda will be read at the meeting by the Executive Assistant.

None

**B.3 Staff reports, if any**

None

**C. Matters for Discussion**

**C.1 Unopened Road Allowances Access and Maintenance/Signage for Assumed, Unopened Trails**

As requested at the November 10, 2020 meeting.

Director of Planning and Development Services Nathan Westendorp noted development-related and trucking traffic in Lora Bay related to Cottages Phase 4 is routed through Sideroad 11 unopened road allowance per the development agreement. Nathan noted that recently, the Town has been reviewing and enhancing its standard operating procedures with respect to enhanced communications and inter-departmental collaboration related to development.

Manager of Development Engineering Brian Worsley noted the 11<sup>th</sup> sideroad right-of-way for development traffic will end shortly as this route was only for civil construction works related to Cottages Phase 4. Brian confirmed that Phase 5 access is proposed off of a construction road to south of the existing Cottages development. The development agreement requires the developer to restore the area to previous condition or better. Councillor Sampson emphasized the importance of advising residents of the phase 5 construction access route.

Committee member John White requested to know when the Sideroad 11 unopened road allowance will be assumed as a trail by the Town. Executive Assistant Committees of Council confirmed she would bring the question to Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons and follow-up with the Committee.

Committee member Andrew Siegwart noted there may be other master planned communities in the Town which have similar issues and could serve as examples of where the Town can provide better communication and process. Nathan agreed and emphasized the Town is learning about how to better communicate the planning and development process, including how to effectively manage expectations for how long these types of developments take to build out. John White noted Lora Bay has a condo newsletter that is circulated to its residents and could be an opportunity to advise all Lora Bay residents of development-related communication. It was noted other development areas may not have this type of email distribution system. Nathan confirmed the primary point of contact and information is through the Town website, but also noted the Town is trying to ensure outreach to new property owners to ensure they have clear and realistic expectations with respect to their subdivision development.

Nathan further noted there are project signs installed at developments and developers are required to provide notice of major project milestones (i.e. tree clearing, paving, construction, etc.). Proactive communication is being prioritized.

Director of Planning and Development Services Nathan Westendorp, Director of Legal Services Will Thomson, and Manager of Development Engineering Brian Worsley left the meeting.

## **C.2 Memorandum: Victoria St/Louisa St Traffic Study Follow-up**

Director of Operations Shawn Carey provided an overview of Memorandum: Victoria St/Louisa St Traffic Study Follow-up. The Committee requested clarity on the portion of Beaver Street that is proposed to be stopped up and closed. Construction Coordinator Michael G. Campbell confirmed the section proposed to be stopped up and closed is Beaver Street South between Victoria and Louisa Streets only. This would also require re-working of the entrance south of the Foodland/LCBO plaza onto Beaver Street, but these details are not yet available.

Shawn confirmed the Operations Department is requesting endorsement in principle of the recommendation to fix the intersection in tandem with the Victoria and Louisa Streets Reconstruction project.

Councillor Sampson requested that the alternatives and scenarios be brought to a closed session meeting of the Committee to review. Shawn noted the endorsement in principle by the Committee will help staff to continue to advance the design components and timing of the project. The Committee enquired as to the level of engagement with the community stakeholders. Shawn confirmed that the Town needs to declare the lands surplus to its needs prior to proceeding with the recommended design option, which includes stopping up and closing Beaver Street South between Louisa and Victoria.

Moved by: John Ardiel  
Seconded by: Andrew Siegwart

THAT the Transportation Committee receives Memorandum: Victoria St/Louisa St Traffic Study Follow-up for information purposes;

AND THAT the Transportation Committee endorses in principle, the recommendation by staff for intersection improvements at Beaver Street (stopping up and closing Beaver St S between Victoria and Louisa Street) with the understanding that the alternatives will be brought to a future Committee meeting for the Committee's review in a closed session;

AND THAT the Transportation Committee recommends Council and staff engage the immediately-adjacent community stakeholders in this discussion.

Yay (5): John Ardiel, Andrew Siegwart, John White, Councillor Uram, Councillor Sampson

**The motion is Carried (5 to 0)**

**C.3 Grey County Cycling and Trails Master Plan Follow-up - Councillor Sampson**

NOTE: at the November 10, 2020 meeting the Committee requested a status update on the Grey County Cycling and Trails Master Plan

Moved by: Jim Uram  
Seconded by: John White

THAT the Transportation Committee asks Council to request Grey County staff to attend an upcoming Committee meeting to provide a presentation on the Grey County Cycling and Trails Master Plan.

Yay (5): John Ardiel, Andrew Siegwart, John White, Councillor Uram, Councillor Sampson

**The motion is Carried (5 to 0)**

**C.4 Traffic Counter Update - Director of Operations Shawn Carey**

Transportation Master Plan Project Coordinator Adam Fraser advised the Town has four (4) "black cat" traffic counters that are used on an as-needed basis. The Town has two counters installed, per the Ministry of Transportation's permission, in the area of the Highway 26 speed reduction, and also received permission from Grey County to use five (5) of the County traffic counters at various points throughout the municipality. This is in addition to the two (2) remaining Town counters that will be installed.

Councillor Sampson advised that the Minister of Transportation may visit in Spring 2021 and using the traffic counters will provide accurate, Town-collected traffic data that can be reviewed at that time. Councillor Sampson also confirmed that included within the draft 2021 budget is an allocation for a traffic counting system. Shawn confirmed there will be a Request for Information available to vendors, likely in the spring of 2021 to obtain information about the various types of traffic counting systems available. John White requested that Committee members be able to review the draft Request for Information once ready, in order to provide comment.

**C.5 Potential Road Swap Status Update - Shawn Carey (standing item)**

10th Line and Bruce/Marsh Streets

Shawn Carey confirmed that GIS staff are in the process of mapping and indexing the infrastructure and assets along the 10<sup>th</sup> Line which includes a catalogue of any deficits, to allow for benchmark costing that can be provided to the County for information and further the ongoing road swap discussions.

Andrew Siegwart requested clarification on the level of community engagement that has been undertaken with respect to the road swap. Shawn confirmed that the swap has been discussed in open Committee and Council sessions, however, there has not been a lot of direct community engagement to this point. Andrew emphasized the need to undertake that engagement early on, to ensure affected property owners and businesses are aware of the discussions. Councillor Sampson recommended that a presentation on the potential road swap be brought to the Committee and advertised publicly, with businesses and property owners invited to discuss. This matter will be reviewed by Town staff.

**C.6 Transportation Master Plan Update - Transportation Master Plan Project Coordinator Adam Fraser**

Adam Fraser confirmed that the Request for Proposal bid award will be announced shortly following execution of an agreement. The retained consultant will meet with the Committee virtually in early 2021 to provide some information to the Committee about the Master Plan process.

Committee member Andrew Siegwart left the meeting at 2:27 p.m.



**C.7 Consideration and Appointment of an Alternate to the Economic Development Advisory Committee**

Item C.7 deferred to January 2021 meeting.

Note: John Ardiel is the Committee representative but no alternate has been selected.

THAT the Transportation Committee appoints (one member) as John Ardiel's alternate representative to the Economic Development Advisory Committee for the balance of the 2018 to 2022 Term.

**C.8 Follow-up Direction from Council**

Item C.8 deferred to January 2021 meeting.

NOTE: the following direction provided by Council at the November 2, 2020 meeting:

a. THAT, further to the September 15, 2020 Transportation Committee recommendation, Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains directs Town Staff to report back to either Council or the Transportation Advisory Committee of Council on any potential impact and mitigation of construction and other commercial vehicle use of municipally-assumed roads in the Town, and that this report be provided by end of December, 2020, CARRIED.

b. WHEREAS at the September 15, 2020 Transportation Committee meeting, the Committee recommended as follows:

The Transportation Committee recommends that Council direct Town Staff, to maximize the visibility of the sight lines from the perspective of both on trail and vehicular road conveyance at any point where the Georgian Trail and a Road or Driveway intersect, and

That where the Georgian Trail intersects with a Town Road, that Council direct staff to consider the safety gaps of those crossings and any implications for the Town budget, and

That where the Georgian Trail intersects with a County Road, that Council request County Council direct staff to consider the safety gaps at those crossings and any implications for the County budget, and

That where the Georgian Trail intersects with a Provincial controlled highway or road, that Council requests the Province to consider adding proper vehicular and cyclist and pedestrian safety control

measures including the consideration of proper crossing control devices and / or vehicular speed control devices, Carried.

NOW THEREFORE, Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains endorses the September 15, 2020 Transportation Committee motion and directs as follows:

- staff shall maximize the visibility of the sight lines from the perspective of both on trail and vehicular road conveyance at any point where the Georgian Trail and a Road or Driveway intersect;
- where the Georgian Trail intersects with a Town Road staff consider the safety gaps of those crossings and any implications for the Town budget;
- where the Georgian Trail intersects with a County Road, that Council request County Council direct staff to consider the safety gaps at those crossings and any implications for the County budget, and
- where the Georgian Trail intersects with a Provincial controlled highway or road, Council requests the Province to consider adding proper vehicular and cyclist and pedestrian safety control measures including the consideration of proper crossing control devices and / or vehicular speed control devices,

AND THAT Council direct staff to forward this resolution to the Ministry of Transportation, Grey County Council, and Grey County Transportation for consideration in the Grey County Trails and Cycling Master Plan, CARRIED.

## **D. Correspondence**

None

## **E. New and Unfinished Business**

### **E.1 Additions to Agenda**

### **E.2 Items Identified for Discussion at the Next Meeting**

- Grey County Cycling and Trails Master Plan presentation, once reviewed by Council
- Traffic Counter System
- Consideration of a Road Swap Presentation (10<sup>th</sup> Line, Bruce/Marsh Sts)
- Transportation Master Plan Presentation by consultant
- Items C.7 and C.8
- Closed session review of alternatives for Beaver Street South

## **F. Notice of Meeting Dates**

January 19, 2021

Town Hall, Council Chambers (virtual)

## **G. Adjournment**

Moved by: Jim Uram

Seconded by: John Ardiel

THAT the Transportation Committee does now adjourn at 2:32 p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair.

Yay (4): John Ardiel, John White, Councillor Uram, Councillor Sampson

Absent (1): Andrew Siegwart

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0, 1 member absent)**