



Staff Report

Operations – Roads & Drainage

Report To: COW-Operations_Planning_and_Development_Services
Meeting Date: March 19, 2024
Report Number: CSOPS.24.019
Title: Pretty River Road Parking Deputation Response
Prepared by: Jim McCannell, Manager of Roads & Drainage

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report CSOPS.24.019, entitled “Pretty River Road Parking Deputation Response” for their information.

B. Overview

Ontario Parks staff along with Town Staff met on Teams with Mr. Hockley on February 16, 2024. There were two (2) parking areas that were identified and discussed during the meeting. Mr. Hockley and the Ontario Parks staff will continue to explore opportunities to develop parking on Provincial lands. The creation of a new parking area on the Pretty River Road allowance was not supported by the Town.

C. Background

Mr. Hockley presented to Council requesting the creation of additional parking areas that were more closely aligned with the needs of the Hunters and Anglers that use the Pretty River Park. Mr. Hockley identified that the Hunters and Anglers used areas more to the south compared to hikers and cyclists using the trails more to north end of the park. The existing parking lot located on the east side of the Park (the snowmobile parking lot) was too far from the creek and from the areas used by hunters.

Two areas were presented as possible locations for new parking lots. The first area identified by Mr. Hockley was at an existing park entrance marked with a yellow gate. The second area was along the Pretty River Road adjacent to the traveled portion of the road. This second area would have experienced the same issues as were encountered at the previous on-street parking location. There was no way to grant exclusive use of the on-street parking to Mr. Hockley and their members. Once the parking area was created anyone would be able to use it. This option was not supported by Town Staff.

The Ontario Parks Staff indicated they were willing to work with Mr. Hockley to see what improvements might be required to allow for parking on their lands. During the meeting Mr. Hockley and the Parks Staff agreed to a site meeting to review the existing conditions and determine if improvements could be made. Early conversations mentioned the removal of a few trees and the addition of gravel but needed a review of the site first.

D. Analysis

The Ontario Parks staff agreed to continue working with Mr. Hockley to determine if the former park entrance was a candidate for additional parking.

E. Strategic Priorities

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.

F. Environmental Impacts

None

G. Financial Impacts

None

H. In Consultation With

N/A

I. 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 Jim McCannell, Manager of Roads & Drainage managerroadsdrainage@thebluemountains.ca.

J. Attached

n/a

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McCannell
Manager of Roads & Drainage

Jeffery Fletcher
Acting Director of Operations

For more information, please contact:
Jim McCannell, Manager of Roads & Drainage
managerroadsdrainage@thebluemountains.ca
519-599-3131 extension 271

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	CSOPS.24.019 Pretty River Road Parking Deputation Response.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Mar 1, 2024

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

Jim McCannell - Mar 1, 2024 - 9:28 AM

Jeff Fletcher - Mar 1, 2024 - 2:51 PM