



# Staff Report

## Community Services – Parks and Trails

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**Report To:** COW\_Finance\_Admin\_Fire\_Community\_Services  
**Meeting Date:** October 7, 2024  
**Report Number:** CSOPS.24.034  
**Title:** Response to Councillor Porter Notice of Motion for the Georgian Trail  
**Prepared by:** Nathan Plater,  
Acting Manager of Parks and Trails

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### A. Recommendations

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THAT Council receive Staff Report CSOPS.24.034, entitled “Response to Councillor Porter Notice of Motion for the Georgian Trail” for information purposes;

And That Council direct staff to request a traffic impact study for any proposed roadway crossings of the Georgian Trail.

### B. Overview

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Council has asked staff to bring forward the 2016 signed Georgian Trail agreement signed by the 3 municipalities in regard to road and driveway crossings along the Georgian Trail.

### C. Background

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In the 2016 signed agreement Article 3.4 Easements it reads “The Parties recognize that development may occur along the Georgian Trail and that from time-to-time easements may be required for servicing properties in order to permit such development. The Parties agree that such easements may be permitted on such terms as the municipality and the specific Council may determine be granted where required, provided if in doing so the easements do not impact unreasonably upon the intended use of the Georgian Trail.” See attachment 1.

The 2011 agreement echo’s a similar recommendation, Article 4.04 “The parties recognize that development may occur along the Trail and that from time-to-time easements or rights-of-way may be required for servicing properties or allowing access in order to permit such development. The parties agree that they shall grant such easements where required provided that in doing so the easements do not impact unreasonably upon the purposes of the Trail. Specifically, the parties agree that easements may be granted as set out in Schedule “A” hereof.”

In Staff report CSPW.16.038 (attachment 3), it is expressed that all other options are investigated and crossing the Trail should be the last resort.

## **D. Analysis**

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Based on the agreement and Council discretion with respect to Georgian Trail crossings, staff recommend that any proposed crossing be subject to a traffic impact study prior to Council consideration.

## **E. Strategic Priorities**

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### **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.

## **F. Environmental Impacts**

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None at this time.

## **G. Financial Impacts**

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None at this time.

## **H. In Consultation With**

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Ryan Gibbons, Director of Community Services

## **I. Public Engagement**

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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 Nathan Plater, Acting Manager of Parks and Trails [nplater@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:nplater@thebluemountains.ca).

## **J. Attached**

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1. 2016 Georgian Trail Municipal Agreement
2. 2011 signed Georgian Trail Agreement

3. Staff Report CSPW.16.038

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Plater  
Acting Manager of Parks and Trails

For more information, please contact:  
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### Report Approval Details

Document Title:	CSOPS.24.034 Response to Councillor Porter Notice of Motion for the Georgian Trail.docx
Attachments:	- 2016-Georgian-Trail-Municipal-Agreement.pdf - 2011-Signed-Georgian-Trail-Agreement.pdf - Staff-Report-CSPW-16-038.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Sep 27, 2024

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

**No Signature - Task assigned to Nathan Plater was completed by assistant Katie Love**

**Nathan Plater - Sep 27, 2024 - 8:53 AM**

**Ryan Gibbons - Sep 27, 2024 - 10:11 AM**