



Capital Business Case

Totem Ranch Road Reconstruction

2023 Budget

Operations

Totem Ranch Road Reconstruction

Executive Summary

The Public Works Department is including the full depth reconstruction of Totem Ranch Road in the proposed 2023 capital budget in order to reduce road and equipment maintenance costs and provide a more consistent service delivery.

Business Need

Totem Ranch Road is a boundary road shared between Edwardsburgh Cardinal and North Grenville, (NG). The road is divided into east and west segments by the 416 highway. Currently the road is a granular surface road. Maintenance typically involves grading the granular in the spring to fall months to remove potholes and ice blading with the grader in the winter months. Additionally, the surface requires fresh gravel application every two to three years. Under agreement between the municipalities, Edwardsburgh Cardinal undertakes all maintenance of the east branch and NG undertakes maintenance of the west portion of Totem Ranch Rd.

In 2021, staff and council from both municipalities had received concerns on road condition from residents on Totem Ranch Rd. requesting that the east branch be considered for surface treatment. The road has drainage and base conditions that make it difficult to maintain.

Contact with NG was initiated by Township Staff and a partnership to budget for full depth reconstruction of Totem Ranch Rd. east was discussed. NG agreed to undertake lead of the project, (The Township and NG similarly have partnered on the multi-year Latimer Road surface treatment project with very positive results). Various treatment approaches were considered. It was decided to undertake the work over a two year period. The first year includes road base improvements, ditching and the addition of gravel. The second year would incorporate a 7 meter wide lift of asphalt to complete the project.

The work was authorised by EC Council in the 2022 budget but was deferred in NG's budget. Staff from both municipalities agreed to pursue the project in the 2023 budget year.

Options or Solutions Analysis

1. Remain status quo- continue to maintain the road by grading and addition of gravel. This is the least desirable option as the road has base and drainage issues that make it difficult and costly to maintain for any reasonable amount of time. It is located at the very north extent of the Township and travel time for the

maintenance is proportionally high as the grader needs to travel from the Pittston Public works facility.

2. Reconstruction Option- Reconstruction is the desired option. Reduced maintenance costs and a more consistent surface will be achieved to serve the residents and two commercial businesses along the road. Reconstruction also falls in line with the objectives of the Gravel Roads Study undertaken in 2022 to reduce travel time and costs associated with the most distant gravel road maintenance.

Financial and/or Non-Financial Benefits

The financial impacts for the two options are as follows:

1. Option 1, remain status quo- This option has no impact to budget directly but doesn't address residents concerns of the road maintenance. It does not address rising costs of maintenance in terms of materials, staff time, fuel and equipment wear and tare.
2. Option 2, full depth reconstruction – This option will increase residential and commercial level of service by providing a more consistently even road surface. It will reduce maintenance costs by reducing or eliminating the need for adding gravel, grading and associated costs.
The project is proposed to be undertaken over a two year period with a shared estimated costs of \$265,000.00, (\$132,000.00 from each municipality) in 2023 for base improvements and gravel and \$180,000.00 in 2024, (\$90,000.00 each), for Hot mix asphalt surface application.

Risk Analysis

The risk associated with remaining status quo is that we continue to spend valuable time, fuel and maintenance costs on a granular surface.

There is the risk that the project will not be accepted by NG council in their 2023 budget.

Recommendation

After a review the options, staff recommends that Council allocate \$132,000.00 to the 2023 budget for phase one of the project and enter into an agreement with North Grenville to split the cost 50/50 for the full depth reconstruction of Totem Road east.

Implementation Plan

Staff anticipate that phase one the project could start early in 2023 if NG includes it in their budget.

Documentation

Copy of the Boundary Rd. agreement with NG.

Acceptance Sign-off

Lead Department

Prepared By: Gord Shaw – Director of Operations **Date:** January 24, 2023

Signature: 

Approved By: Sean Nicholson - Treasurer **Date:** January 30, 2023

Signature: 

Approved By: Dave Grant - CAO **Date:** [month][day], [year]

Signature: 