

The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes

Council Report

Report Number PRC2018-004

Date: February 13, 2018

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Place: Council Chambers

Ward Community Identifier:

Subject: Consolidated Trails By-Law 2007-107 Review

Author Name and Title: Jenn Johnson,
Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture

Recommendation(s):

That Report PRC2018-004, **Consolidated Trails By-Law 2007-107 Review**, be received, and;

That a By-Law to amend By-Law 2007-107 being a by-law to regulate and govern trail uses along the Victoria Rail Trail Corridor in the City of Kawartha Lakes be presented to Council for adoption.

Department Head:_____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other:_____

Chief Administrative Officer:_____

Background:

At the Council Meeting of June 23, 2015, Council adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED THAT the June 10, 2015 correspondence from Steven Del Duca, Minister of Transportation, regarding Off-Road Vehicle Use in Ontario, be received; and,

THAT the matter be referred to staff for review with a report to Council.

CARRIED CR2015-694

This report addresses that direction.

Rationale:

The correspondence received from Minister Del Duca announced the existing on-road access rules for 'single-rider' ATVs will be extended to additional ORV types which meet specified voluntary off-highway industry standards (see Appendix A). These changes took effect on July 1, 2015, and allow two-up all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), side-by-side ATVs and utility terrain vehicles (UTVs) on permitted provincial highways and municipal roads where bylaws permit their use. Minister Del Duca encouraged municipalities to review existing bylaws to ensure they applied to these new ORV types.

Staff, at the request of Council and community members, has considered the possibility of extending the access to the Victoria Rail Trail Corridor.

Currently, By-Law 2007-107, A By-Law to Regulate and Govern Trail Uses Along the Victoria Rail Trail Corridor (VRTC) in the City of Kawartha Lakes indicates that no person shall operate a motorized vehicle on the trail except for snowmobiles or all-terrain vehicles, subject to certain conditions. Staff are recommending that a pilot project be initiated for 2018 that allows the use of UTVs along the VRTC north of Northline Road. The pilot program would be in effect during the permitted ATV season (May 1 – November 20, 2018). Access to the Somerville Forest Tract would not be included in the pilot program.

Consultation with the Kawartha ATV Association (KATVA), MLEO and other appropriate parties have taken place and will continue on the topics of finance, infrastructure, enforcement, etc. Monitoring, control and enforcement of the motorized use on the north section of the VRTC will be completed in partnership between municipal staff and the KATVA. The pilot program will be reviewed and evaluated early in 2019. Staff will prepare a report detailing the success and improvement areas of the pilot program in 2019.

Other Alternatives Considered:

Council could choose to prohibit the use of UTVs along the entire VRTC. Staff are not recommending that option as there is a significant desire in the community to allow access on the trail. It is felt that a test to evaluate this use along a small section of trail in 2018 will provide the preliminary analysis needed to inform future decisions regarding permitted use.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

The financial impact to the municipal operating budget as a result of the pilot program is minimal. Adjustments will need to be made to the gate system along the northern section of the VRTC in order to allow the larger UTV units to pass through. Staff feel that these temporary adjustments can be made at a reasonable cost. Further to that, during conversations with KATVA it was indicated that the community group would cover the cost of any/all expenses related to the gate system in order to allow UTV access.

Another small expense (less than \$500) will be needed to cover the cost of communicating the change to the public. Municipal staff will prepare information and release through social media, media advisories and other printed material.

Relationship of Recommendation(s) to the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan:

This report addresses Goal 1 of the City's Strategic Plan.

- Goal 1 – A Vibrant and Growing Economy

Through this action the City is working in partnership with the local community to build a stronger more diversified economy.

Review of Accessibility Implications of Any Development or Policy:

N/A

Servicing Implications:

N/A

Consultations:

Central Parks and Open Spaces, Supervisor

MLEO, Manager

Public Works, Director

Attachments:

Appendix A – Correspondence from Minister Del Duca, dated June 10, 2015
Brief Description



Department Head E-Mail: cshanks@kawarthalakes.ca

Department Head: Craig Shanks