



Memorandum

Date: April 9, 2019

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Chris Marshall, Director, Development Services
Juan Rojas, Director, Engineering & Corporate Assets
Craig Shanks, Director, Community Services

Re: Active Transportation Master Planning

Recommendation:

1. That the Memorandum from Directors Marshall, Rojas and Shanks concerning the Active Transportation Master Planning be received; and
2. That staff be directed to include funding for an Active Transportation Master Plan for the City of Kawartha Lakes in the 2020 budget.

Background:

There have been a number of public processes in the last couple of years dealing with the reconstruction of roads in Lindsay. The road reconstruction projects and informing corridor studies looked at a number of options for the movement of cars, bikes and pedestrians. The most recent meetings held by the City have been in relation to the reconstruction of roads in the Downtown area including Kent, Peel and Russell Streets. In these meetings and in a number of letters to the Mayor and Council, members of the public have questioned why bike lanes have not been included in the design of the street reconstruction works.

As the City does not currently have a long term detailed plan that outlines a co-ordinated approach to active transportation (and at a city-wide scale), staff and consultants are planning for and designing road reconstruction projects without the knowledge of how that one street might fit into the larger network of streets for pedestrian and bicycle movement.



The lack of an Active Transportation Master Plan has also been a hindrance for the City to be able to apply for grant money from the Province and Federal governments as there is a requirement that a Plan be in place so that the funding agencies can see that what is being applied for is a priority for the community. Council approval of an Active Transportation Master Plan would provide staff with clear direction on the incorporation of active transportation measures into new development proposals and future road reconstruction projects.

In 2020, staff is proposing an update to the Transportation Master Plan and updates to our Trails Master Plan(s). A community group in Bobcaygeon also led and completed a successful active transportation plan in that community. Given the interest from the community, the desire for a co-ordinated active transportation network, and support for such a plan through Provincial and City Policy, staff are recommending that Council include the development of a City-wide Active Transportation Master Plan in the 2020 budget.