

October 26, 2019

City Council City of Kawartha Lakes 180 Kent St., West Lindsay, Ontario K9V 2Y6

Re: Plan of Action for Walking and Cycling (Active Transportation Plan) For the City of Kawartha Lakes

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute, in advance of your upcoming special council meeting on November 13, 2019 in Fenelon Falls, to the preparation of an Active Transportation Plan for the City of Kawartha Lakes (CKL).

Background

During the summer of 2016, Environmental Action Bobcaygeon (EAB) hired Cambium Consulting, to prepare an active transportation planning study to support the goals and objectives of the Bobcaygeon Secondary Plan in co-operation with the City. It was anticipated that such a plan, while intended to improve the village experience, could also act as a template for the larger CKL. At a meeting of EAB on November 28, 2016, after a lengthy and comprehensive public and agency input process, EAB received and approved the study's final report entitled "Plan of Action for Walking and Cycling". Formal notice and submission of the study for City Staff review occurred shortly thereafter. City of Kawartha Lakes Council endorsed the plan in 2017. All of the appropriate City departments received a copy of the full report.

The "Plan of Action for Walking and Cycling" was intended to be a comprehensive tool for the community to identify opportunities and examine ideas to progress toward a more walking and cycling friendly community and as a guide to City Council. The study contains an exciting array of projects for the Community and City Council to consider, ranging from safe pedestrian/bicycle street crossings, signage, streetscape and cultural projects with short and long term funding and implementation strategies.



Also at its November 28, 2016 meeting, EAB passed a resolution to encourage the City of Kawartha Lakes to review and expand certain significant public works projects proceeding in 2017. The Plan also included pedestrian/cycling features and streetscape improvements [e.g. tree planting, traffic calming features, boulevard beautification]. It was recommended that efficiencies in timing, design and costs will be realized if the design features of the Action Plan are implemented as part of these public works projects.

Progress

Since the ATP was endorsed, EAB has provided input to the following projects:

Main Street: Storm Sewer Project to install storm sewers and complete complementary curbs, gutters, catch basins and sidewalks.

Unfortunately, this project had been designed, budgeted, and was in the process of going to tender for construction as our ATP was being completed. Therefore, no improvements related to cycling lanes, street trees, or other related infrastructure improvements could be applied at that time. However, staff was supportive of our ideas and said they would consider them in the future.

Canal Street: To upgrade water and wastewater services, storm water controls including complementary curbs, gutters and road surfacing improvements.

EAB put considerable time into analyzing this project in 2017, including: walking audits, review of engineering drawings, suggestions for sidewalks, cycling lanes, street trees, road widening/reroutes, and street lighting. City staff was supportive of the ideas and have indeed included some of them in their final design to be reviewed once more at a public meeting this November.

New Cycling Hardware/Amenities

In 2018, EAB partnered with the City to apply for funding through Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) to purchase new cycling hardware for the village. The City was successful in obtaining approximately \$24,000 for the project. The items include bike stands, corrals, and repair stations.

EAB then prepared a comprehensive report to the City on the various styles, manufacturers, and prices for the items desired. The hardware should be in place in the village in 2020.



Summary

EAB appreciates that a plan that suits all of the City of Kawartha Lakes requires a more indepth analysis of the various communities however, it is hoped that the hard work that went into the plan carried out by EAB and endorsed by CKL Council will play an important role in preparation of both the city budget and the Active Transportation Master Plan.

Yours truly,

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For:

Richard Fedy, Co-President Environmental Action Bobcaygeon John C. Bush, Co-President Environmental Action Bobcaygeon

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Sent by email to: agendaitems@kawarthalakes.ca

c.c. R. Taylor, CAO

C. Marshall Director of Development Services

K. Seymour-Fagan, Councilor