



Committee of the Whole Report

Report Number: PW2021-004
Meeting Date: September 7, 2021
Title: Off Road Vehicle Task Force Recommendations
Description: Results of the survey requested by Council related to the Off Road Vehicle Task Force Recommendations of ATV use in Lindsay
Author and Title: Bryan Robinson, Director of Public Works

Recommendation(s):

That Report PW2021-004, **Off Road Vehicle Task Force Recommendations**, be received; and

That this recommendation be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

Report PW2021-002 was presented to the Committee of the Whole (Committee) on May 4, 2021. The report includes background on the formation of the task force, activities undertaken and initial recommendations from the Task Force. The Committee held a fulsome discussion on the recommendations from the Task Force and provided recommendation to Council. At the Council Meeting of May 18, 2021, Council adopted the following resolutions:

CW2021-121

That Report PW2021-002, **Off Road Vehicle Task Force Recommendations**, be received.

Carried

CW2021-122

That Council continue the discussion on a proposed amendment to By-Law 2019-077, being a By-Law to Regulate the Operation of ATV's and ORV's on Municipal Highways in the City of Kawartha Lakes, to allow more road access for ATV's only South of Road 8.

Carried

CW2021-123

That any Pilot Program that is initiated on the use of off road vehicles on City roads will have a two year term with a review after one year.

Carried

CW2021-124

That if off road vehicles are permitted on City Roads that access will be permitted between 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. from May 1st to November 30th, pursuant to By-Law 2007-107, being the By-Law to Regulate and Govern Trail Uses Along the Victoria Rail Trail Corridor in the City of Kawartha Lakes.

Carried

CW2021-125

That the use of off road vehicles on rural roads be referred to the Off Road Vehicle Use of City Roads Task Force for review in September, 2021, with a report back to Committee of the Whole Meeting in Q4, 2021.

Carried

CW2021-126

That specific road linkage leading from the Bethany Trail Head to the Ganaraska Forest be referred to the Off Road Vehicle Use of City Roads Task Force for review, in coordination with Staff, in September, 2021, with a report back to Committee of the Whole in Q4, 2021.

Carried

CW2021-127

That the issue of a route leading into commercial district of Bobcaygeon for off road vehicles be referred to the Off Road Vehicle Use of City Roads Task Force for finalization; and

That the Off Road Vehicle Use of City Roads Task Force report back on the Bobcaygeon route at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on June 1, 2021.

Carried

CW2021-128

That the recommendation pertaining to the all terrain vehicle ("ATV") route in Lindsay be deferred to the Committee of the Whole Meeting on June 1, 2021.

Carried

CW2021-129

That the issue of additional road linkage to provide all terrain vehicles with road access to and from any established ATV route through Lindsay be referred to the Off Road Vehicle Use of City Roads Task Force for review in September, 2021, with a report back to Committee of the Whole in Q4, 2021.

Carried

At the June 15 Council meeting, additional information was brought to Council for discussion and consideration via memos from Councillor Dunn. Council resolved to refer discussion about use of ORV's in Bobcaygeon to the ORV Task Force discussions when they resume in September, 2021. At the same meeting however, they resolved:

CR2021-287

That the proposed route for the Off Road Vehicle Pilot Project to provide access through Lindsay for all terrain vehicles, being the Victoria Rail Trail (VRT) trailhead at Logie Street to King Street, King Street to Lindsay Street, Lindsay Street to Wellington Street, Wellington Street to Victoria Avenue, Victoria Avenue to Elgin Street, Elgin Street to Angeline Street, Angeline Street to Thunderbridge Road, Thunderbridge Road to the VRT trailhead, be advertised for three (3) weeks with a link to the City's Jump In Page; and

That a report be brought back to Council at the Committee of the Whole Meeting in September.

Carried

This report addresses that direction.

Rationale:

The Communications Division lead the initiative to make the survey available to residents through the City's Jump In site. The survey was open from June 17, 2021 to July 30, 2021 and was advertised across all municipal platforms, including local newspapers, paid social media, radio and road signs. The survey questions and results of the survey are available in Appendix A of this report.

A summary of the survey results is as follows:

- Out of all 1632 responses, 66.2% live in Lindsay and 33.8% do not
- Out of all 1632 responses, 49.3% are in favour of an ATV connection route and 50.7% are not
- Out of the 49.3% that are in favour, 93.8% agree with the proposed route and 6.2% do not
- Out of the 6.2% that support an alternative route, 78% agree it should be in town and 22% prefer a bypass

A summary of the survey results when considering only responses from residents within Lindsay is as follows:

- Out of all 1080 Lindsay responses, 33.6% are in favour of an ATV connection route and 66.4% are not
- Out of the 33.6% that are in favour, 89.5% agree with the proposed route and 10.5% do not
- Out of the 10.5% that support an alternative route, 84.2% agree it should be in town and 15.8% prefer a bypass

In addition to the survey, the City also received a petition related to the proposed ATV usage within Lindsay. As of the writing of this report, a petition titled "Safety First - Say No to Proposed Road Access for ATVs in Lindsay" was filed through the municipality's Jump In platform with 167 responses. This petition will be forwarded to Council separately for their consideration.

Other Alternatives Considered:

No alternatives are being considered at this time as this report is providing results of a survey requested by Council.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities

The topic for consideration in this report touches all four strategic priorities within the 2020-2023 Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan as follows:

1. A Healthy Environment
 - a. The City has an obligation to implement change in an environmentally responsible way. Concerns over impacts have been raised (noise, emissions, chasing away animals) have been raised.
2. An Exceptional Quality of Life
 - a. Careful and strategic permission of use of roads can have positive impact on the quality of life. It can expand tourism and promote enhanced quality of life for those that take part in the activity. However, concern has been raised that this initiative could also negatively impact the quality of life due to noise.
3. A Vibrant and Growing Economy

- a. There is potential for increased tourism from expanding the capability for the public to access local restaurants and accommodation.
4. Good Government
 - a. It is the responsibility of municipal government to ensure all criteria and input when making policy decision. This report provides clarity on the process to date for Council consideration on the matter.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

There are no fiscal implications based on the recommendations as written.

Consultations:

Communications, Advertising and Marketing Officer

Attachments:

Appendix A – ATV Survey Results Tracking Report



Appendix A -
PW2021-004.pdf

Department Head email: brobinson@kawarthalakes.ca

Department Head: Bryan Robinson

Department File: C06-21 ORV Task Force