

Planning Advisory Committee Report

Report Number: ENG2023-025

Meeting Date: November 8, 2023

Title: Municipal Infrastructure Design Guidelines Annual Update

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Description: To ensure the Municipal Infrastructure Design Guidelines

are current, relevant, and supportive

Type of Report: Regular Meeting

Author and Title: Christina Sisson, Manager, Development Engineering

Recommendation(s):

That Report ENG2023-025, Municipal Infrastructure Design Guidelines Annual Update, be received;

That Staff be directed to continue to update and to add to the information available on the City's website, including templates and details, to facilitate engineering design submissions for development; and

That Staff be directed to continue to monitor for any communication improvements and for any current legislative or regulatory enhancements requiring updates to the existing guidelines on the City's website.

| Department Head: | | |
|-------------------------------|------|------|
| Legal/Other: | | |
| Chief Administrative Officer: | | |
| | | |

Background:

Further to report ENG2017-007 - Municipal Infrastructure Guidelines 2017, and subsequent annual updates, ENG2018-016, ENG2019-016, and ENG2020-014, ENG2022-002, and ENG2022-048, the Development Engineering Division provides this annual update for inclusion in the 2024 website posting.

In order to facilitate the timely review and approval of all of the development proposed within the City, it is important to ensure the design guidelines are clear, current, and supportive. The goal is to ensure fewer submissions are required to reach approval.

Throughout 2023, the Development Engineering Division have been improving the presence, location, and accessibility of the information on the City's website.

The City's website analytics have been confirmed through Communications staff. For the period of January 1, 2023 to October 4, 2023, there were a total number of page views to the City's Planning and Development website location of 26,050 total (20% increase over 2022), with approximately 82% from direct Google searches. The Development Engineering Page received direct contact of 2,756 viewers (set up mid-year). The Development Engineering Division continues to monitor to provide more information and support through the website.

In addition, continued consultation has occurred with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) to confirm design guidelines and to inform the Consolidated Linear Infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approval the City has been successful in receiving and updating for sanitary and storm and stormwater infrastructure.

Rationale:

In an effort to provide continuous improvement and efficiencies, the following updates are recommended:

- Add the most recent MECP guidelines
- Add the Consolidated Linear Infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approvals as issued by MECP, including forms, etc. and drinking water licensing agreement

Water Guidelines Updates:

- Reflect date of 2024 as current.
- Confirm the drinking water design submissions as per existing drinking water licensing process (Ministry section of the City website)

Sanitary Guidelines Updates:

- Reflect date of 2024 as current
- Confirm sanitary design submissions as per CLI ECA (Ministry section of the City website)

Roads Guidelines Updates:

- Reflect date of 2024 as current
- Include the tolerance for maintenance hole lids consistent with capital
- Include a cross-section for a 26.0 metre road allowance with centre median to support new development, Low Impact Development, and traffic calming
- Concrete design reference to OPSS to avoid any confusion for sidewalk and curb

Stormwater Management Guidelines Updates:

- Reflect date of 2024 as current
- Confirm storm and stormwater management design submissions as per CLI ECA (Ministry section of the City website)

Through review of the Ontario Provincial Standards (OPSS and OPSD), there have been no updates to the OPSS and OPSD that require changes or updates to the City's guidelines or details. All engineering design submissions to the City are reviewed with the latest provincial standards.

Therefore, additional supporting documentation has been included on the City's website.

Other Alternatives Considered:

Council could choose to continue with the status quo and maintain the existing guidelines without any additional review. This would not represent current and continuous support for the increased demand for growth and development in the City.

The annual updates are a continuous improvement opportunity to ensure the efficacy, veracity, completeness, helpfulness, and relevance to support responsible growth and development in our community, using the City's website. The City remains open to continuous and practical improvement.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities:

Municipal infrastructure is renewed or constructed as part of development or the capital projects program. In addition, the shared working knowledge of the engineering review of both the development applications and the capital program provides for consistent standard work and customer service. Through the City's project management of the implementation of the municipal infrastructure, the City supports the Guiding Principles:

- Fiscally Responsible review for and support sustainable, reasonable, acceptable designs and infrastructure and timely engineering reviews
- Open and Transparent provide and update guidelines for compliant and consistent submissions
- Partner and Collaborate utilize, communicate, and source all available information and support
- Service Excellence provide regular and routine opportunities for improvement and communication

Financial / Operation Impacts:

To facilitate development and to ensure efficient use of City resources, the City continues to take a proactive approach to providing updated, current, and supportive engineering information by annually reviewing infrastructure guidelines and confirming the regulatory and customer requirements. By providing access through posting on the City's website, the City is promoting successful development by providing the engineering requirements in advance to improve and reduce the number of engineering design submissions required for implementation. Any reduction in the number of engineering design submissions reduces the timelines for development and ultimately the cost of development. Achieving the CLI ECAs has provided for even more timely reviews, utilizing the guidelines and pre-authorized infrastructure. The City has realized these savings previously through the licensing agreement with MECP for review of municipal drinking water infrastructure.

Servicing Comments:

Through continuous improvement review of the City's guidelines, the City's servicing implications are better reviewed through complete engineering submissions being provided. Continued review and encouragement of sustainable infrastructure will benefit the designers coming into the community with guidance, will reduce the amount of infrastructure being proposed and installed, and will better the environment (phosphorus reduction, water balance, safety measures, etc.).

Consultations:

Communications

Parks and Recreation

Public Works

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks

Ministry of Transportation Library - Ontario Provincial Standards (OPSS and OPSD)

Engineering and Corporate Assets – Infrastructure Design and Construction Division

Attachments:

Appendix 'A' – Urban Collector with Median Concept Plan (26.0 metre road allowance)



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