



The Corporation of the City of Stratford Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee MINUTES

Date: January 29, 2025
Time: 4:30 P.M.
Location: Council Chamber, City Hall

Sub-committee Present: Councillor Burbach - Chair Presiding, Councillor Nijjar - Vice Chair, Councillor Beatty

Regrets: Councillor Hunter, Councillor McCabe

Staff Present: Taylor Crinklaw - Director of Infrastructure Services, Nathan Bottema - Project Engineer, Nick Sheldon - Project Manager, Emily Skelding – Supervisor of Waste Operations, Audrey Pascual – Deputy Clerk, Miranda Franken - Council Clerk Secretary

Also present: Members of the Public

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the Meeting to Order.

Councillor Hunter and Councillor McCabe provided regrets for this meeting.

Land Acknowledgment

Moment of Silent Reflection

Respectful Conduct Statement

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

The *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* requires any member of Council declaring a pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof, where the interest of a member of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of Council and otherwise comply with the *Act*.

Name, Item and General Nature of Pecuniary Interest

No disclosures of pecuniary interest were made by a Member at the January 29, 2025, Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting.

3. Delegations

3.1 Request for Delegation by the Army Navy Air Force Unit 261

Motion by Councillor Beatty

THAT Linda Scammel and Jodi Nakluski, representing the Army Navy Air Force Unit 261, be heard.

Carried

Linda Scammel and Jodi Nakluski, representing the Army Navy Air Force Unit 261, spoke to Sub-committee to request that the installation of a Memorial Veterans Crosswalk be permitted at a crosswalk leading to the Stratford Cenotaph. Highlights of the presentation included the following:

- a social media post in autumn 2024 having shown many crosswalks installed across Canada to acknowledge Veterans and the Army Navy requesting approval of a similar crosswalk in Stratford;
- the Army Navy working with a local artist to create a design for the crosswalk unique to Stratford;
- the project having community support;
- the project being funded through donations with no expectation of financial contribution from the City; and
- the speakers seeking location approval and guidance in budget requirements and materials required for the safety of the crosswalk installation.

Discussion on this matter occurred between Sub-committee, Staff and the speakers. Highlights of the discussion included:

- the design to feature the Perth Regiment Logo with drawings to be completed quickly for Council approval;
- the desired timeline being to paint the crosswalk in Spring 2025 with installation in time for Remembrance Day 2025;
- considerations of the project being materials for the longevity of the crosswalk, the location and the cost;
- crosswalks located near the Cenotaph being traditional pedestrian crossovers with signs and signals required to meet provincially recognized engineering standards, and these to be reviewed before a location is considered;
- the cost of crosswalks like Romeo Street being 30-50 thousand dollars for a more elaborate installation;
- staff recommending discussions with Engineering Staff to ensure the location meets requirements and addresses cost and safety considerations; and
- to confer with Public Works Staff once a location and design has been verified to discuss options for materials that can be replicated annually or biannually in anticipation of the effects of winter maintenance.

Motion by Councillor Beatty

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT Staff be directed to work with Army Navy Air Force Unit 261 to prepare a report outlining a location and suitable materials for the installation of a Memorial Veterans Crosswalk.

Carried

3.2 ADDED - Update on Recycling Services and Options for Non-Eligible Sources (NES) Starting January 2026 (ITS25-002)

Motion by Councillor Nijjar

THAT Jamie Prichard, General Manager of the Downtown Stratford BIA, be heard.

Carried

Jamie Pritchard, General Manager of the Downtown Stratford Business Improvement Area (BIA), spoke to Sub-committee in support of the staff recommendation and to request recycling services to Non-Eligible Sources (NES) be included as a multi year budget item going forward to lessen the impact to downtown businesses. Highlights of the delegation included the following:

- the Director of Infrastructure Services having requested the BIA circulate information and notices of the upcoming changes on the Engage Stratford Survey Link and through BIA Social channels to ensure a representative cross section of Stratford business;
- response from BIA members in the core being strong with over 100 responses for the survey having been received;
- the BIA supporting Option 1 of the report, being a staff recommendation to continue to support recycling services for NES and maintain the current approach until the waste collection contract expires in November, 2026;
- Option 1 making the most fiscal sense to complete the contract and pay for something not nothing;
- requested the City's continued support in recycling services to Stratford Businesses for NES be included in the multi-year budget; and
- Option 2 being a financial penalty shifting costs directly to Stratford Businesses with the financial impact and time to transport materials to collection stations at the landfill making the solution undesirable.

4. Report of the Director of Infrastructure and Development Services

4.1 Update on Recycling Services and Options for Non-Eligible Sources (NES) Starting January 2026 (ITS25-002)

Staff Recommendation: THAT Council approve the Change in Scope to Contract T2019-18 Waste Collections Contract with Canada Waste Management to provide Recycling Services to Non-eligible Sources (NES) for the period from January 1, 2026, to October 31, 2026, for a cost of up to \$355,000, including HST.

Sub-committee Discussion: The Supervisor of Waste Operations reviewed the report, highlighting the following:

- beginning January 1, 2026, the City of Stratford no longer being responsible for delivery of the residential blue box program with the responsibility moving to producers in Ontario province wide;
- the change being a financial benefit to the municipality and tax payers, with the municipality no longer responsible for the cost of residential recycling;
- the City no longer determining the level of recycling service;
- the most significant impact affecting Non-eligible Sources (NES) who do not qualify for residential curbside program;
- those eligible for services under the change being single dwelling residents, multi res buildings, elementary schools, public nursing homes and retirement homes,
- NES including businesses, industrial or community properties considered for profit, churches and municipal buildings;
- Council to determine if the City will continue to provide services to NES and established a framework going forward;
- this report aiming to bridge service delivery between January 2026 and November 2026 when the current waste services contract ends;
- staff to seek an RFP in coming months for desired waste services with the RFP including options for bidders to bid on cost of picking up NES for November 2026 onwards;
- Option 1 being the continued support of collection services to NES until the contract expires November 2026;
- the cost of Option 1 being \$355,000 for the 10-month period, with this cost including contractual adjustments resulting from the reduction in scope of the contract;
- Option 2 being for NES to be responsible for the collection and processing of their own blue box materials; and
- the cost of Option 2 being a penalty of \$182,800 to break the 2019-2026 waste collection contract with the current collection contract;

A member of Sub-committee noted Option 1 being environmentally responsible in keeping recyclables out of landfills and in helping people to retain the habit of recycling.

Motion by Councillor Nijjar

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT Council approve the Change in Scope to Contract T2019-18 Waste Collections Contract with Canada Waste Management to provide Recycling Services to Non-eligible Sources (NES) for the period from January 1, 2026, to October 31, 2026, for a cost of up to \$355,000, including HST.

Carried

5. Report of the Project Engineer

5.1 Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Pilot Project (ITS25-003)

Staff Recommendation: THAT the Report titled, "Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Pilot Project" (ITS25-003), be received;

THAT Council authorize Staff to negotiate and finalize the terms and enter into an agreement with Global Traffic Group as the ASE service provider and the corresponding partnering processing centre municipality for a 24-month pilot program;

THAT Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the finalized agreement with Global Traffic Group as the ASE service provider and the corresponding partnering processing centre municipality for a 24-month pilot program;

THAT outcomes from the pilot will be reported to Council;

AND THAT any subsequent agreement will be subject to Council approval and executed by the Mayor and Clerk.

Sub-committee Discussion: The Project Engineer reviewed the report, highlighting the following:

- Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) being an automated system using cameras and speed measuring devices to detect speeding vehicles, capture vehicle information and enforce;
- the goal being to improve safety for all road users by reducing vehicle speeds;

- under the Highway Traffic Act, ASE is permitted in two designated areas, school zones and community safety zones;
- school zones are defined as street segments connected to the entrance or exits to a school and within 150 metres of the property line;
- community safety zones are defined as street segments where public safety is of special concern and the posted speed limit is under 80km/hr.;
- the definition allows for community safety zones to be established near hospitals, parks, community centres, schools, places of worship, sports fields and retirement centres;
- establishing an ASE program requires the creation of designated zones, partnership with a joint processing Centre, and entering into agreements with the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and the Ministry of Attorney General;
- staff having received a full proposal from Canadian service provider Global Traffic Group to assist in implementing a 24-month pilot program;
- the service provider to supply the necessary equipment, system maintenance and administrative tasks to operate an ASE program with no upfront costs to the City;
- the program having revenue potential based on program design with terms for a revenue sharing agreement; and
- if approved by Council, the goal being for an ASE program to be operational in the fourth quarter of 2025.

Discussion on this matter occurred between Sub-committee and Staff. Highlights of the discussion included:

- members being in support of revenue generated through user technology;
- members interested in looking at the implementation of further safety measures like red light cameras if the ASE trial works to reduce speeds; and

- the ASE to alleviate pressures on Police Services to manage traffic and speed, allowing resources to be dedicated to more critical issues.

Motion by Councillor Beatty

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT the Report titled, "Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Pilot Project" (ITS25-003) , be received;

THAT Council authorize Staff to negotiate and finalize the terms and enter into an agreement with Global Traffic Group as the ASE service provider and the corresponding partnering processing centre municipality for a 24-month pilot program;

THAT Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the finalized agreement with Global Traffic Group as the ASE service provider and the corresponding partnering processing centre municipality for a 24-month pilot program;

THAT outcomes from the pilot will be reported to Council;

AND THAT any subsequent agreement will be subject to Council approval and executed by the Mayor and Clerk.

Carried

6. Report of the Project Manager

6.1 Albert Street Reconstruction Phase 2 – Open House and Recommendations (ITS25-001)

Staff Recommendation: THAT Council receive the report titled, "Albert Street Reconstruction Phase 2 – Open House and Recommendations" (ITS25-001);

THAT Council approve the design as presented at the Public Open House on Engage Stratford;

AND THAT Council authorize staff to proceed with construction tendering.

Sub-committee Discussion: The Project Manager reviewed the report, highlighting the following:

- the report outlining feedback from the Open House;

- the project being an extension of the Albert Street work previously reconstructed from Waterloo Street to Front Street;
- Phase 2 being reconstruction from Front Street to King Street;
- Phase 2 is included in the 2024 Capital Project budget at the cost of 4.1 million dollars;
- the scope of the project being 550 meters in length, replacing buried infrastructure, removing trees in poor health, street tree planting, extension of West East bicycle boulevard, previously constructed and identified in the Transportation Masterplan;
- the proposed road configuration to include two 1.5-meter sidewalks, a road width of 6.7 meters with a shared use lane for cycling and vehicles on the north side and an on street parking lane on the south side;
- staff hosted an Open House December 20, 2024, for all residents, Council and Mayor;
- the Open House was hosted virtually on Engage Stratford and open for two weeks;
- a questionnaire period receiving comments from 18 of the 83 properties, with 112 visits to the site; and
- the feedback being a mix of reviews with residents expressing support and objections to the same changes.

Discussion on this matter occurred between Sub-committee and Staff. Highlights of the discussion included:

- staff having observed traffic counts for volume and speeds;
- the traffic count being low and ideal for a bicycle boulevard;
- 5% of traffic speeds being higher than desired with staff hoping to reduce speeding with bump outs and reduced radius at intersections, pavement markings and signage; and
- staff having discussed monitoring speeds after the completion of the project and, to consider a 4 way stop at King or speed humps at the mid block bump outs, as necessary.

Motion by Councillor Nijjar

Sub-committee Recommendation: THAT Council receive the report titled, "Albert Street Reconstruction Phase 2 – Open House and Recommendations" (ITS25-001);

THAT Council approve the design as presented at the Public Open House on Engage Stratford;

AND THAT Council authorize staff to proceed with construction tendering.

Carried

7. Department Update

Sub-committee Discussion: The Director of Infrastructure Services provided the following highlights from the department update:

- high volume of feed back received from the public regarding winter operations;
- public works having fullest resources dedicated to winter operations with the large amounts of snow;
- the Director thanking staff for working additional hours and at all times of day to make roads as clear as they can be;
- a new section having been added for the Erie Street Parking Lot project;
- a local consulting engineering company having looked into phase 1 and 2 to provide an analysis and feedback;
- the results from the previous report looked good however regulations under this report are outdated requiring a new environmental Phase 1 and 2 assessments to move forward; and
- also noted, if the development intent is to include residential, a record of site condition would be required as an added step for the development.

8. Advisory Committee/Outside Board Minutes

The following Advisory Committee Minutes were provided for the information of Sub-committee:

- Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes of October 1, 2024
- Energy and Environment Advisory Committee Minutes of October 3, 2024

- Active Transportation Advisory Committee of October 23, 2024
- Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes of November 5, 2024
- Energy and Environment Advisory Committee Minutes of November 7, 2024
- Active Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes of November 27, 2024
- Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes of December 3, 2024
- Energy and Environment Advisory Committee Minutes of December 5, 2024

9. Next Sub-committee Meeting

The next Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting is February 26, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Councillor Beatty

Sub-committee Decision: THAT the Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee meeting adjourn.

Carried

Meeting Start Time: 4:30 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 5:00 P.M.