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20 January 2017  
Project: 150850

Jennifer Juste  
City of Guelph  
1 Carden Street  
Guelph ON N1H 3A1

Dear Ms. Juste:

## **RE: SIDEWALK NEEDS ASSESSMENT ADDENDUM – METCALFE STREET**

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The Guelph Sidewalk Need Assessment Study report was finalized in December 2016. The purpose of the report was to document streets without sidewalks on both sides, and to assess and recommend a priority order for implementation of new sidewalks on existing roads. In the report, 463 streets were identified as having at least one segments missing a sidewalk. The intention of the report was to provide guidance to the City of Guelph to be able to prioritize the installation of sidewalks where they would be most effective. The highest ranking segments were divided into six categories:

- ▶ High Priority – Shorter Segments
- ▶ High Priority – Longer Segments
- ▶ Tied to Development
- ▶ Part of Reconstruction Plans
- ▶ Medium Priority
- ▶ Ranked High, but unlikely priority candidate

More descriptive information on the categories can be found in the report.

### **Metcalfe Street**

After publicizing the report, a member of the community sent the City correspondence that a missing sidewalk was overlooked in the report, which was Metcalfe Street between Lemon Street and Grange Street. This letter provides analysis of this segment and recommendations of its placement in the priority categories.

The segment of Metcalfe Street that was identified has two sections with different characteristics: between Lemon Street and Palmer Street, and between Palmer Street and Grange Street. These two sections were analysed separately.

## Between Lemon and Palmer

The segment of Metcalfe Street between Lemon Street and Palmer Street had the following characteristics that affected its scoring and rank:

- ▶ Classification of Metcalfe Street is an Urban Collector with an existing sidewalk on the west side,
- ▶ Located near an elementary school (King George Public School, north of Lemon Street),
- ▶ On a transit route (although the current bus route that uses this segment only travels southbound, which is the side the sidewalk exists),
- ▶ The surrounding land use is classified as Low Density Residential.

Using the scoring system outline in the main report, this segment scores 26 points, which ranks it between 16 and 18 of all missing segments in the city.

Currently on the east side of Metcalfe Street in this segment, many properties have landscaping (including large trees) that would likely have to be removed if a sidewalk was implemented.

Therefore, given the ranking along with the potential planning issues with the properties, this segment is categorized in the “Medium Priority” category, which the report describes as segments that do not score as high as the “high priority” segments, and should be considered for construction after the “high priority” segments have been addressed.

## Between Palmer and Grange

The segment of Metcalfe Street between Palmer Street and Grange Street had the following characteristics that affected its scoring and rank:

- ▶ Classification of Metcalfe Street is an Urban Collector with an existing sidewalk on the east side,
- ▶ On a transit route,
- ▶ Adjacent to a park,
- ▶ Has a visible “beaten path”
- ▶ The surrounding land use is classified as Low Density Residential.

Using the scoring system outline in the main report, this segment scores 27 points, which technically ranks it higher than the segment above. However, the priority classification in the report were not based on scores alone, and each ranked segment was analysed to determine if the rankings priority category were logical. In the case of the segment between Palmer and Grange, the missing segment is on the west side, which is along St. Georges Park and while a beaten path is visible along the side of the road, indicating pedestrian usage, the need for a sidewalk is likely less of a priority, as it is generally expected to have to walk on unpaved areas within parks (paved trails notwithstanding, which there are none in St. Georges Park). Therefore, this segment is categorized in the “Ranked High, but unlikely priority candidate” category. This category is described in the report as “the missing link segments in this category ranked high, but upon further review, are unlikely candidates for



construction. Further evaluation is recommended to determine if these locations would be suitable for a sidewalk.”

## Conclusions

It is concluded that the segment of Metcalfe Street between Lemon Street and Palmer Street should be categorized in the “Medium Priority” category and the segment between Palmer Street and Grange Street should be categorized in the “Ranked High, but unlikely priority candidate” category.

It should be noted that the rankings provided in the main report and this addendum are meant for guidance for City of Guelph staff in determining which sidewalk segments should be constructed first. As situations change over time, so can priorities, and the actual construction of sidewalks is up to the discretion of City of Guelph staff

Please contact us if you have any questions or require further clarification.

Yours very truly,

**PARADIGM TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS LIMITED**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Mallett', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

**Jim Mallett**  
M.A.Sc., P.Eng., PTOE  
President

