

INFORMATION ITEMS

Week Ending September 26, 2014

REPORTS

1. Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) – Implementation Update Report

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Township of Greater Madawaska re: Protection of Public Participation Act, 2014
2. City of Kingston re: Reduction of speed limit on residential streets

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

1. Guelph Police Services Board re: 2015 – 2024 Capital Budget Estimates

ITEMS AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

1. None

INFORMATION REPORT



TO City Council

SERVICE AREA Operations, Transit, and Emergency Services

DATE September 26, 2014

SUBJECT Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) – Implementation Update Report

REPORT NUMBER OTES091437

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUMMARY OF REPORT

This report is to provide an update on the implementation of the City of Guelph Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP), adopted by council in the fall of 2012.

KEY FINDINGS

Of the 22 recommendations for the period 2012 – 2018, progress has been made on 15. The remainder of the recommendations are slated for 2015 or beyond for implementation (one will start in Q4 of 2014). The new technical/professional forestry staff positions have enabled this progress. Full and timely implementation of the plan relies on the realization of the full forestry staff complement laid out in the plan. Additional staff are recommended in the UFMP.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial implications are contained in the UFMP and include the addition of more staff (arborists and technologist), additional operating funds (contracted services, outreach and communications) and capital funding for the invasive species and pest management plan (including Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) plan), downtown tree technologies, and increase to tree planting and maintenance.

BACKGROUND

The City of Guelph Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) was adopted by Council in the fall of 2012, with immediate implementation envisioned. As is standard for forest management plans, it is a 20-year plan to be implemented in 5-year stages. The over-arching intent of this plan is to enable the City of Guelph to achieve its urban forest obligations, ambitions, and opportunities. The plan prescribes a program that transitions the City from reactive to proactive urban forest management, thereby increasing operational efficiency and effectiveness, improving tree health and diversity, reducing risk to the public, and increasing the wide-

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ranging benefits provided by a healthy and sustainable urban forest. This approach is essential if Guelph is to increase its canopy cover and optimize the “green infrastructure services” of the existing canopy as it relates to public interaction, development, engineering and maintenance of its urban forest.

The City of Guelph has adopted a 40% canopy target, alternately expressed as “the best canopy cover of comparable municipalities.” The goal is ambitious, considering canopy cover is currently estimated at 20%; however, this underscores the importance of the plan and its capacity-building impetus.

REPORT

Good progress has been made in implementing the 22 recommendations of the UFMP (see ATT-1 UFMP Recommendations and Status Aug 2014). Thirteen of the recommendations were slated for 2014 or earlier. Of these thirteen, 3 are complete, 5 are on-going, 4 have been partially achieved, and 1 is pending. Of the remaining recommendations slated for future years, 2 are on-going, 1 is partially implemented, and 6 are pending.

The addition of a Forestry Manager and two technical/professional forestry staff have significantly increased the capacity of the Forestry division to achieve the recommendations of the UFMP. Full and timely implementation of the plan relies on the realization of the full forestry staff complement laid out in the plan. It should be noted that not all of the staffing increase was attained in the time-frame the UFMP recommended, which has slowed progress.

Adjustments are required to the plan as it becomes realized. These adjustments in the form of changing priorities, volume of effort, and staffing requirements will be brought forth as part of normal staff processes leading up to *Recommendation #9 – Complete a State of the Urban Forest report every five years* in 2017. Unforecasted events, such as the December 2013 ice storm, will impact the progress of the UFMP recommendations as the focus shifts to providing a timely and appropriate response across the entire City.

Financial implications are contained in the UFMP and include the addition of more staff (arborists and technologist), additional operating funds (contracted services, outreach and communications) and capital funding for the invasive species and pest management plan (including Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) plan), downtown tree technologies, and increase to tree planting and maintenance.

The notable achievements to-date includes the following:

- added two technical/professional positions and one management position;
-

INFORMATION REPORT

- implemented the *Urban Forest Advisory Committee*, meeting quarterly fostering tree-related dialogue across external stakeholders;
- implemented *Tree Team* of internal stakeholders, meeting quarterly, fostering tree-related dialogue across departments;
- completed Guelph's EAB Plan and started implementation;
- advanced forest inventory significantly;
- increased GIS analysis and mapping capacity significantly; and,
- responded to the most damaging ice storm in a generation.

CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN

The UFMP is a comprehensive plan that has wide corporate implications. It addresses every one of the nine strategic directions in the Corporate Strategic Plan.

DEPARTMENTAL CONSULTATION

The *Tree Team* is the formal mechanism for departmental consultation on the implementation of the plan, and all things "tree-related." Informal cross-departmental dialogue and problem-solving have increased as a result of the plan and the added staff capacity in the Forestry division.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications initiatives were focussed to-date on the December 2013 ice storm response and Guelph's EAB Plan. As UFMP milestones are achieved, and effective synergies develop, the Corporate Communications staff will continue to be engaged to profile these accomplishments.

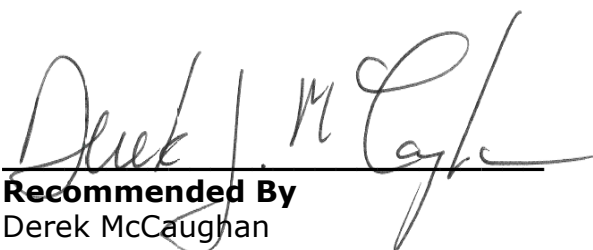
ATTACHMENTS

ATT-1 UFMP Recommendations and Status Aug 2014

Report Author: Martin Neumann, Forestry Manager



Approved By
Rod Keller
General Manager Public Works
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rodney.keller@guelph.ca



Recommended By
Derek McCaughan
Executive Director OTES
519 822-1260 x 2018
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Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) – Implementation Update Report

MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

| # | Recommendation | Target | Reached | Status | Comments |
|----------|---|---------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | Create a Senior Urban Forester position | 2013 | 2013 | Complete | November 2013 start for Manager of Forestry; driving growth through increased collaboration and staffing |
| 2 | Create an interdepartmental “Tree Team” of City staff | 2013 | 2014 | Complete; quarterly meetings | First meeting June 2014; cross-departmental dialogue and collaboration increasing |
| 3 | Increase capacity to complete an inventory of municipal street and park trees | 2013 | 2014 | Partial | Technical staff added; ash trees inventoried; resolving issues in GIS/ work order system interface |
| 4 | Undertake targeted vegetation assessment and management of City parks and natural areas | 2015 | n/a | Pending | Beginning with EAB Plan in late 2014; now reviewing forest management plan and thinning plan for Arkell Spring Grounds plantations |
| 5 | Expand the City’s capacity for planting and maintenance of municipal trees | 2013 | 2014 | Partial | Additional seasonal staff increased maintenance and tracking; expansion package submitted again for the recommended 2 additional arborists |
| 6 | Undertake an Urban Tree Cover (UTC) Potential Plantable Spaces Analysis | 2013 | Started 2014 | Partial | U of G thesis project in-progress; City staff currently focused on EAB |
| 7 | Develop and implement an Invasive Species and Pest Management Strategy, starting with an Emerald Ash Borer Strategy | 2013 | EAB 2014 Others pending | Partial: EAB Plan complete; remainder pending | Broader strategy (beyond EAB) will be a 2015 project |
| 8 | Develop tree risk management policy and train City Arborists in risk assessment | 2015 | n/a | Pending | |
| 9 | Complete a State of the Urban Forest report every five years | 2017 | n/a | Pending | |
| 10 | Establish a green infrastructure asset valuation | 2018 | n/a | Pending | |

ATT-1 UFMP Recommendations and Status Aug 2014
Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) – Implementation Update Report

PLANNING

| # | Recommendation | Target | Reached | Status | Comments |
|----------|---|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| 11 | Assess the effectiveness of current tree-related policies and legislation | 2013 | n/a | On-going | Project scoping late 2014 |
| 12 | Update City documents to be consistent with new tree-related policies, guidelines and legislation | 2014 | n/a | Pending | Project scoping late 2014 |
| 13 | Develop and implement a Public Tree By-law | 2018 | n/a | Pending | |

PROTECTION, ENHANCEMENT, PLANTING

| # | Recommendation | Target | Reached | Status | Comments |
|----------|---|---------------|----------------|---------------|---|
| 14 | Implement and assess use of the new Tree Technical Manual | 2013 | n/a | On-going | Considering engaging consultant to complete manual |
| 15 | Implement and monitor success of new rooting technologies | 2013 | 2012 | On-going | First “soil cells” installed on Carden St. in 2012; thorough investigation and report regarding tree decline completed late summer of 2014 |
| 16 | Develop a Greening Strategy building on the Potential Plantable Spaces Analysis | 2018 | n/a | Pending | |
| 17 | Track municipal tree removals and plantings | 2018 | 2014 | On-going | Started immediately when GIS staff capacity was added to Forestry in April 2014 |
| 18 | Expand the City’s capacity to undertake tree-related plan review and site inspections | 2015 | 2014 | Partial | Two new technologists increased capacity – more required and submitted to 2015 budgetary process as expansion package; small portion of tree by-law technical admin shifted from Planning to Forestry |

Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) – Implementation Update Report

COMMUNICATIONS

| # | Recommendation | Target | Reached | Status | Comments |
|----------|---|---------------|----------------|------------------------------|--|
| 19 | Create an Urban Forest Advisory Committee (UFAC) | 2013 | 2014 | Complete; quarterly meetings | Meetings in March, June, September 2014; providing a valuable “sounding board” and generating great ideas and collaborations |
| 20 | Pursue targeted urban forest education and outreach | 2012 | 2012 | On-going | Public Works Week; EAB communications; presentations to school classes; worked on EAB messages with the Healthy Landscapes program of City of Guelph Water, and also EABGuelph (NGO) |
| 21 | Increase municipal capacity for coordination of volunteers for stewardship activities | 2014 | 2014 | On-going | Continuing to work with GUFF and Trees for Guelph; also, with the City’s Community Engagement staff |
| 22 | Pursue targeted stewardship initiatives, partnerships and funding sources | 2015 | 2014 | On-going | Collaborations in-progress or pending with Arboretum, School of Landscape Architecture, U of G Catalyst Centre, and GRCA & Nature Guelph; supported City of Guelph Water staff (Healthy Landscapes) on Tree Canada funding application |



VIA EMAIL

September 19, 2014

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Cheryl Gallant, MP
John Yakabuski, MPP
Jim Wilson, MPP
All Ontario Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Please be advised that at its meeting held Tuesday, August 26, 2014 the Council of The Township of Greater Madawaska adopted the following resolution:

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACT, 2104 (BILL 83)

WHEREAS Bill 83, Protection of Public Participation Act, 2014, being “An Statutory Powers of Procedure Act in order to protect expression on matters of public interest” (hereinafter “Bill 83”), was introduced into the Provincial Legislature in June 2013;

WHEREAS Bill 83 was introduced by the government out of concern that Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP), being lawsuits brought before the court by one party against another party or individual as a tactic for silencing or intimidating the other party, are having a chilling effect on public participation on contentious matters of public interest in Ontario;

WHEREAS Bill 83 is intended to protect persons from being subjected to legal proceedings that would stifle their ability to speak out on public issues or promote, in the public interest, action by the public or any level of government;

WHEREAS the ability to engage in public participation forums is the foundation of a democratic society;

WHEREAS there exist a number of high profile environmental issues in Township of Greater Madawaska that are of public interest and that have generated a great deal of debate in the community;

WHEREAS Council is of the opinion that public participation in matters of public interest ought to be encouraged and not discouraged through tactics such as strategic lawsuits against public participation;

WHEREAS provision is made in Bill 83 to amend the Courts of Justice Act for such SLAPP legal proceedings to be dismissed at an early stage and for defendants subjected to such proceedings to be indemnified for incurred costs in such proceedings with the potential for additional damages to be awarded in appropriate circumstances;

WHEREAS provision is made in Bill 83 to amend the Libel and Slander Act to state that any qualified privilege that applies in respect of an oral or written communication on a matter of public interest between two or more persons who have a direct interest in the matter applies regardless of whether the communication is witnessed or reported on by media representatives or other persons;

WHEREAS provision is made in Bill 83 to amend the Statutory Powers Procedure Act to provide that submissions for a costs order in a proceeding must be made in writing, unless the tribunal determines that to do so is likely to cause a party to the proceeding significant prejudice;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of The Township of Greater Madawaska advise the newly elected Premier of the Province of Ontario, the Honorable Kathleen Wynne, Renfrew County MP's and MPP's, party leaders and all Ontario municipalities of its support for the Protection of Public Participation Act, 2014 and request that Bill 83 be re-introduced forthwith in the Legislature;

THAT the Association of Municipalities of Ontario be requested to support this resolution.

As per the above resolution, please accept this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Allison Holtzhauer
CAO Clerk-Treasurer



Office of the City Clerk

RECEIVED
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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

September 19, 2014

Stephen O'Brien, City Clerk
City of Guelph
1 Carden Street
Guelph, ON N1H 3A1

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

RE: KINGSTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

I would confirm that Kingston City Council at its regular meeting held on September 9, 2014, approved the following resolution, being New Motion 3):

Moved by Deputy Mayor Neill

Seconded by Councillor Osanic

Whereas the Ontario Ministry of Transportation is now considering lowering the speed limit on residential streets to 40 kilometres per hour from the current 50 kilometres per hour, and

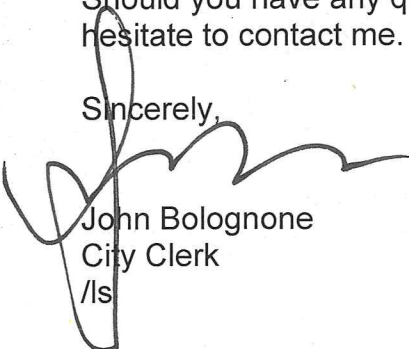
Whereas such a move would greatly enhance traffic calming and safety on residential streets;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the City of Kingston enthusiastically endorses this initiative, and

That the City forwards copies of this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transportation, the leaders of both Ontario Opposition Parties, to AMO, and all municipalities over 40,000 people.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


John Bolognone
City Clerk
/s/

The Corporation of the City of Kingston

216 Ontario Street, Kingston ON K7L 2Z3

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Guelph Police Services Board

PO Box 31038, Willow West Postal Outlet, Guelph, Ontario N1H 8K1

Telephone: (519) 824-1212 # 213 Fax: (519) 824-8360

TTY (519) 824-1466 Email: board@police.guelph.on.ca

September 18, 2014

Mayor Karen Farbridge
Guelph City Hall
1 Carden Street South
Guelph, ON N1H 3A1

Dear Mayor Farbridge:

The Guelph Police Service's 2015 – 2024 Capital Budget Estimates were approved by the Guelph Police Services Board at a public meeting held on Thursday, September 18, 2014. The following motion was made and unanimously carried by the Guelph Police Services Board:

WHEREAS the Guelph Police Services Board is committed to the corporate goals from the 2013-2015 Business Plan and to its responsibility for the provision of adequate and effective policing for the City of Guelph; and

WHEREAS the Guelph Police Services Board has conducted a comprehensive review of the 2015-2024 Capital Budget prepared by the Chief and Guelph Police Service staff; and

WHEREAS the Guelph Police Services Board has reviewed the proposed 2015-2024 Capital Budget in consideration of the City of Guelph's 2015 Budget guideline; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Guelph Police Services Board approves the Guelph Police Service 2015 Capital Budget in the amount of \$1,062,500; and

THAT the Guelph Police Services Board receives the Guelph Police Service Capital Forecast in the amount of \$2,662,800 in 2016, \$1,290,900 in 2017, \$1,307,300 in 2018, \$1,460,400 in 2019, \$1,742,100 in 2020, \$1,472,000 in 2021, \$1,324,300 in 2022, \$2,913,200 in 2023 and \$1,297,900 in 2024 to address new and replacement vehicle acquisitions, and replacement of police information technology hardware and equipment; and

THAT the Board forwards this information to the City of Guelph Council.

- **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** -

Kindly distribute this information to members of City Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Sorbara".

Judy Sorbara
Chair

Copies: Al Horsman, Executive Director/Chief Financial Officer
Ann Pappert, Chief Administrative Officer
Jeffrey DeRuyter, Acting Chief of Police
Kirsten Hand, Finance Manager