

To: COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 11/28/2023

Subject: **Blenheim Road Local Improvement By-law**

Submitted By: Leah Walter, Director of Engineering

Prepared By: Jamie Croft, Manager of Infrastructure Engineering

Report No.: 23-326-CD

File No.: A/00514-30

Wards Affected: Ward 5

RECOMMENDATION(S):

THAT Report 23-326-CD Blenheim Road Local Improvement By-law be received;
AND FURTHER THAT the Local Improvement By-law included as Appendix B be approved;

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Purpose

To seek Council approval of Local Improvement By-Law for sanitary sewer extension on Blenheim Road.

Key Findings

A petition against the Local Improvement has not been received within the designated 30-day period from the official notice being delivered to impacted property owners. The work is planned to be partially funded by Local Improvement Charges, subject to the approval of the Local Improvement By-law included as Appendix B which was prepared in accordance with O.Reg. 586/06.

Financial Implications

There are no additional financial implications of this report. As part of Report 23-312-CD Council approved Local Improvement Charges Option 4, which recovers an estimated \$149,450 of \$300,000 cost for sanitary sewer extension on Blenheim Road from Local Improvement Charges to benefiting property owners.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

☒ Core Service

Program: Wastewater

Core Service: Wastewater Network Maintenance

The City provides reliable and environmentally responsible wastewater conveyance through a network of over 538km of sanitary sewers. Within an urban environment it is in the best interest of the public to have municipal sewage service for the protection of human health, safety, and the environment.

BACKGROUND:

Blenheim Road (Devils Creek to Mount view Cemetery) is planned for reconstruction in 2024, subject to budget approval. Following Council's approval of Local Improvement Charges Option 4 (Report 23-312-CD), official notice was delivered by registered mail to impacted owners on September 29th, 2023 (attached in Appendix A). In accordance with O.Reg. 586/06 the official notice outlined the City's intent to pass the local improvement By-law and included the estimated charges. Information was also provided on how special charges were assessed, and when and how they can be paid, including financing over a period of up to 20 years with interest. The official notice outlined the procedure for registering a petition with the City's Clerk's office against the work proceeding as a local improvement within the required 30-day period. No objections (petitions) were filed against the work proceeding as a local improvement.

ANALYSIS:

Options were outlined as part of reports 23-312-CD and 23-274-CD. These included different frontage thresholds to define the degree of municipal subsidization of the assessed local improvement charges. Council endorsed Option 4 which is for a 30m frontage threshold. The by-law presented for adoption as part of this report is necessary to authorize the work to be undertaken as a local improvement change based on the estimated cost set out in the by-law and to establish the financial means to fund the work.

EXISTING POLICY / BY-LAW(S):

As part of the process defined under O.Reg. 586/06, a By-Law is required to undertake the work as a local improvement. In accordance with the regulation the proposed By-Law attached in Appendix B specifies the estimated cost of the work, and the owners' share of this cost.

Once the construction is complete, O.Reg. 586/06 also sets out a process that must take place before the City can impose the special charge on the tax roll of each property. Following completion of the work, the Treasurer and City Engineer certify a statement which sets out the actual costs of the work. Then the local improvement roll is prepared allocating the appropriate share of the work to each property. Finally, a by-law to impose the special charge will be enacted by council through a future report.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There are no additional financial implications of this report. As part of Report 23-312-CD Council endorsed Local Improvement Charges Option 4, which recovers an estimated \$149,450 of \$300,000 cost for sanitary sewer extension on Blenheim Road from Local Improvement Charges to benefiting property owners.

PUBLIC VALUE:

In support of the City's public value principle of sustainability and to ensure that the City's wastewater reserve continues to primarily fund replacement of existing sanitary infrastructure, the partial cost of extending sanitary sewers on Blenheim Road is proposed to be assessed to benefiting property owners through Local Improvement Charges O. Reg. 586/06.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE INPUT:

Not Applicable

PUBLIC INPUT:

In addition to the public input outlined in Reports 23-274-CD and 23-312-CD, official notices were delivered by registered mail to impacted property owners. The notices outlined estimated charges and additional information as outlined above.

INTERNAL / EXTERNAL CONSULTATION:

Engineering staff have consulted with the City's Finance, Clerks and Legal divisions in consideration of Local Improvement Charges on Blenheim Road for the municipal sanitary sewer extension.

CONCLUSION:

The City will be proceeding with the reconstruction of Blenheim Road (Devils Creek to Mount view Cemetery) in 2024, subject to budget approval. A sanitary sewer extension is being proposed as part of the project scope of work with partial funding through Local

Improvement Charges. Following the designated 30-day period from official notices being delivered by registered mail, staff are seeking Council approval of the attached By-Law (Appendix B) for Local Improvement Charges on Blenheim Road.

REPORT IMPACTS:

Agreement: **No**

By-law: **Yes**

Budget Amendment: **No**

Policy: **No**

APPROVALS:

This report has gone through the appropriate workflow and has been reviewed and or approved by the following as required:

Director

Deputy City Manager

Chief Financial Officer

City Solicitor

City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 23-326-CD Appendix A – Official Notice Letter
2. 23-326-CD Appendix B – By-law to authorize the sanitary sewer construction on Blenheim Road as a local improvement charge.