



Town of  
**East Gwillimbury**

**COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT  
CIES-2019-012**

To: Committee of the Whole Council

Date: May 7, 2019

Subject: Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP)  
Rural and Northern Communities Funding Stream

Origin: Community Infrastructure & Environmental Services, Capital  
Programs and Traffic Engineering Branch

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. **THAT** the Community Infrastructure & Environmental Services Report CIES-2019-012, dated May 7, 2019 regarding the “Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), Rural and Northern Communities Funding Stream” be received; and
2. **THAT** Council endorse improvements to Centre Street from Mount Albert Road to King Street, as the primary project for the grant application; and
3. **THAT** Council endorse the improvement of active transportation infrastructure in the communities of Holland Landing and Sharon, as a secondary project for the grant application, subject to clarifying its eligibility, of which will be determined during the application phase; and
4. **THAT** Council direct Staff to further scope and refine conceptual project cost estimates and complete and submit the application for grant funding through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, Rural and Northern Communities Funding Stream.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) for grant funding for near term transportation projects, establish a candidate project(s) and provide direction to Staff to make application through the Rural and Northern Communities Funding Stream.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **Overview of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) and the Rural and Northern Communities Funding Stream**

The ICIP is a federal program designed to create long-term economic growth, build inclusive, sustainable and resilient communities and support a low-carbon economy. The program is a cost-shared infrastructure funding program between the federal government, provinces and territories and ultimate recipients. This program will see more than \$30 billion in combined federal, provincial and other partner funding be made available under four application streams:

- Rural and Northern Communities
- Green Infrastructure
- Public Transit
- Community, Culture and Recreation

On March 12th, 2019 the Ontario Government announced the first stream of funding for Ontario municipalities from the ICIP and is rolling out its first intake with the Rural and Northern Communities Funding Stream. This stream supports municipalities with populations of 100,000 or less for projects that improve the quality of life. Approximately \$250 million in funding will be available over ten years starting in 2019 and targets near-term transportation improvement projects.

### **Project Conditions, Eligibility and Deadlines**

A single, connected road, bridge, air or marine infrastructure project is eligible for application and can include or be a combination of new construction, rehabilitation and/or replacement work. This intake is a competitive process and funding approval is not guaranteed. Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted through Grants Ontario by 11:59 p.m. EDT on May 14, 2019.

## **ANALYSIS**

### **Primary project for the grant fund application**

The Mount Albert Downtown Revitalization Strategy and Community Improvement Plan articulates a vision for Downtown Mount Albert and establishes a strategy for revitalization and economic development. Through Development Services Report ED2014-06, the Strategy and Plan was fully endorsed by Council on August 25, 2014 and on September 29, 2014, Council endorsed the Mount Albert Downtown Revitalization Implementation Plan. This initiative remains unfunded.

Centre Street, acts as the backbone for the community where residential, commercial and institutional uses converge. The proposed geographical project limits considered include Centre Street from approximately Mount Albert Road to King Street including portions of intersecting side streets at Elizabeth, Main, Bank and Mill Streets (see Attachment No. 1).

Staff are proposing this project as it improves transportation (road and active) infrastructure, removes barriers for accessibility (pole and substandard sidewalks), provides sidewalk connectivity, stimulates the economy through job creation and aligns with economic development strategy.

Staff propose, at a high level, the following scope of works for the purpose of the application:

- Mix of road resurfacing and full road reconstruction
- Bridge rehabilitation (minor)
- Storm sewer/road drainage improvements
- Upgrade sidewalks to current standards, infill missing links and improve connectivity
- Replace/upgrade/relocate overhead hydro poles and eliminate conflicts with sidewalks
- Public realm improvements including decorative streetlighting, street scape, amenities, etc.
- Formal lay-by parking
- Make sidewalk connections to adjacent trail network (where applicable)
- Provide on-road cycling lanes (if technically feasible)
- Stakeholder engagement and consultation throughout scoping and design project stages

### **Secondary project for the grant fund application**

In keeping with the primary project's theme, Staff propose to include a secondary project (also known as Part B) with the application. This part of the project proposes to improve active transportation infrastructure, complete connecting links and to revitalize downtowns' in the communities of Holland Landing and Sharon. The proposed geographical project limits (see Attachment No. 2) approximately include:

#### Holland Landing

- Yonge Street - Mount Albert Road to Doane Road
- Mount Albert Road - Yonge Street to 2nd Concession Road
- Bradford Street - Holland Landing Road to Yonge Street

### Sharon

- Leslie Street – North of Green Lane to Mount Albert Road
- Mount Albert Road (EL) - Leslie Street to EG Sports Complex
- Mount Albert Road (WL) - 2nd Concession Road to Leslie Street

Staff propose, at a high level, the following scope of works for the purpose of the application:

- Upgrade sidewalks to current standards, infill missing links and improve connectivity
- Replace 1 Pedestrian Bridge (within Yonge Street right-of-way)
- Make connections to adjacent trail network (where applicable)
- Replace/upgrade/relocate overhead hydro poles and eliminate conflict with sidewalks
- Public realm improvements including decorative streetlighting, street scape, amenities, etc.
- Stakeholder engagement and consultation throughout scoping and design project stages

### **Eligibility Criteria and Application Process**

The Rural and Northern Communities Funding Stream of the ICIP presents a unique opportunity for the Town to invest significant, granted financial resources to advance work, stimulate the economy and meet strategic and economic development objectives, all to the benefit of the community.

The eligibility criteria is clearly written with an emphasis on road, bridge, air or marine transportation projects and must be contiguous. Having said this, Staff note that should the secondary project (Part B) works not be eligible for grant funding, the Town has the ability to fund these works on its own.

The following is an overview of the application process:

- Applicants are to register on-line through the Province's "Grants Ontario" portal
- 1 complete application is to be submitted through the portal by 11:59 p.m. EDT on May 14, 2019
- Projects will be assessed by the Province and nominated for Federal government review (expected in summer 2019)
- Applicants will be notified of both successful and unsuccessful applications (expected in summer/fall 2019)

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are nominal costs associated with preparing and making the grant fund application for staff time and potentially consultant assistance if required.

Should the Town's application be successful and based on the maximum grant of \$5 million, the cost sharing in principle is apportioned as follows:

	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Value</u>
Federal share	50%	\$2,500,000
Provincial share	33.3%	\$1,666,500
Municipality's share	16.7%	\$833,500

Based on the maximum eligibility, the Town's share of approximately \$833,500, would be funded from various sources and reserves including and not limited to Gas Tax, General Capital, Infrastructure and potentially, Development Charges. Should the secondary project (Part B) works not be eligible for grant funding, the Town has the ability to fund these works on its own.

Staff will report back to Council with further information and costs if successful with the grant application or as required.

## **NEED FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

Due to the short deadline for submission of the grant fund application, no Public Consultation is proposed at this time. Should the Town be successful with the application, Staff envision a robust public consultation process during the design and construction stages of the project.

## **ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN**

The recommendations of this report align with the following Strategic Pillar(s):

- #1. Providing quality, affordable programs and services for a safe, accessible and livable community
- #2. Building a complete community that provides healthy places to live, work, play and learn
- #3. A high performance municipal organization committed to service and excellence

## **CONCLUSION**

The Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) and specifically, the Rural and Northern Communities Funding Stream provides the necessary financial resources to advance transportation infrastructure and economic development priorities through revitalization of the underlying infrastructure.

Prepared By,

*Original Signed By*

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Denny Boskovski, C.E.T.  
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Capital Project Manager  
Community Infrastructure  
& Environmental Services

Approved and Recommended By,

*Original Signed By*

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Mike Molinari, P. Eng.  
General Manager  
Community Infrastructure &  
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Approved for Submission By,

*Original Signed By*

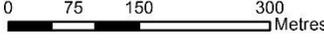
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Thomas R. Webster  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Attachment No. 1**




**Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP)**  
**Mount Albert Project Location**



**Attachment No. 2**

