

Staff Report

Report To: City Council
Report From: Heidi Jennen, Engineering Services Administrator
Meeting Date: May 9, 2022
Report Code: OP-22-028
Subject: Owen Sound Pride Parade 2022

Recommendations:

THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-22-028 respecting the Owen Sound Pride Parade 2022, City Council approves the road closure as outlined in the report, to accommodate the 2022 Pride Parade on Saturday, June 18, 2022, from 12:00 p.m. until the parade completes its route.

Highlights:

- The first annual Pride Parade took place on Sunday, June 10, 2018. The parade route was approved by City Council at their April 9, 2018, meeting.
- The June 10, 2018, Pride Parade in Owen Sound sparked so much interest that organizer Ryan Brown received a congratulatory phone call from the Prime Minister.
- The second annual successful Pride Parade took place Saturday, June 8, 2019. Due to COVID 19 restrictions, there were no events in 2020 and 2021.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

This report supports the delivery of Core Service.

Previous Report/Authority:

At their April 9, 2018 meeting, Council approved [Report OP-18-017](#), which supported the road closure in the River District for the 1st Annual Pride parade in Owen Sound.

At their March 4, 2019 meeting, City Council approved [Report OP-19-009](#), which supported the road closure in the River District and moved the event from a Sunday to a Saturday.

Background:

The 2022 Owen Sound Pride parade will be on Saturday, June 18, 2022. Event organizers will be asking participants to register beforehand, but spectators and participant numbers are expected to be similar to previous years. Parade participants will be walking and riding on floats and in vehicles.

This year, organizer Rachel Paterson from Grey Bruce Pride approached the City requesting a change in the parade route. The goal was to begin and end the parade route at the same location, travel within the River District, and incorporate the rainbow crosswalk into the route.

Organizers Rachel Paterson and Karen Houle from Grey Bruce Pride met with City Staff, Police Services, and Farmers' Market representations to discuss route options.

Parade assembly will be facilitated at the west side of the Farmers' Market. Beginning at 2:00 pm, the parade will leave the Farmers' Market area, travel along 8th Street to 1st Avenue West, travel northbound on 1st Avenue West from 8th Street West to 10th Street West and then along 10th Street from 1st Avenue West to 2nd Avenue East. The parade will continue southerly along 2nd Avenue East back to 8th Street East and the Farmers' Market.

Analysis:

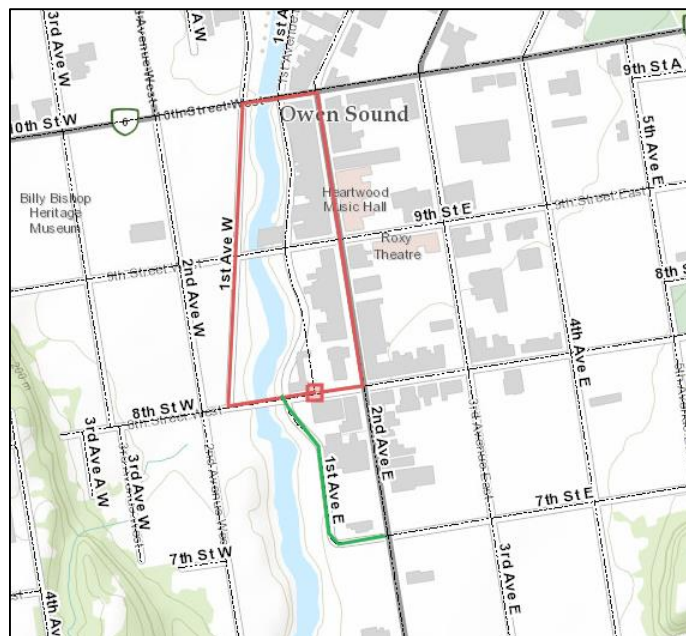
The Owen Sound Pride parade will take place Saturday, June 18, 2022, in the River District area along its route from 2:00 p.m. until approximately 3:30 p.m. or until the parade completes its route. Parade assembly will be facilitated at the west side of the Farmers' Market after the market is closed on that day. Any activities before the Pride Parade set up after the Farmers' Market is closed will be coordinated between Grey Bruce Pride and the Farmers' Market staff.

The 800 & 900 blocks of both 2nd Avenue East and 1st Avenue West will be closed beginning at 12:00 noon to allow any parked cars to move before the event takes place and avoid vehicles parking in that area. 7th Street East will be closed west of 2nd Avenue East to through traffic to prevent through travelling vehicles on 1st Avenue East from entering 8th Street East beginning at 12:30 pm. This will prevent turning vehicles from interfering with the parade while moving through. The City Hall parking lot will be closed at 12:30 pm to allow for additional parade setup space and reduce the number of vehicles entering 8th Street East from 1st Avenue East, north of 8th Street East.

8th Street, 9th Street, and 10th Street will remain open to traffic throughout the event to ease east-west traffic congestion through the City's core. Police Services will direct traffic and the parade to allow safe passage through the 8th Street and 9th Street intersections while the parade is in transit. The eastbound curb lane on 10th Street will be closed to accommodate the procession and keep participants safe.

Any costs associated with traffic control will be the responsibility of Grey Bruce Pride. As with any event, \$2,000,000 liability insurance naming the City as additional insured will be required.

2022 Owen Sound Pride Parade Route



Financial Implications:

Based on the average cost associated with special events road closures, including overtime costs for Public Works staff to set up and tear down the road closure, the cost to the City is estimated to be approximately \$2,000.

Communication Strategy:

The organizers are responsible for promoting their event. A Media Advisory will be issued to advise residents and visitors to the City of any road closures due to the event, and any related road closures will be posted on Municipal 511.

Consultation:

Rachel Paterson and Karen Houle from Grey Bruce Pride, Manager of Engineering Services, Public Works Superintendent, Manager of Community Development, Community Development Coordinator, Owen Sound Farmers' Market, and staff from Owen Sound Police Services. The Owen Sound and North Grey Union Public Library, Tom Thomson Art Gallery, CMHA Housing, and St. Andrew's Church offices have been notified of the 1st Avenue West closure.

Attachments:

None.

Recommended by:

Chris Webb, Manager of Engineering Services

Mike Crone, Director of Public Works and Engineering

Submission approved by:

Tim Simmonds, City Manager

For more information on this report, please contact Heidi Jennen, Engineering Services Administrator at hjennen@owensound.ca or 519-376-4440 ext. 3302.