

Staff Report

Report To: City Council
Report From: Heidi Jennen
Meeting Date: November 7, 2022
Report Code: OP-22-045
Subject: Remembrance Day Road Closures 2022

Recommendations:

THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-22-045 respecting Remembrance Day Road Closures 2022, City Council approves the road closure in the River District as outlined below, to accommodate the Remembrance Day parade and ceremony on Friday, November 11, 2022.

Highlights:

- In 2020 and 2021, to comply with the ever-changing COVID-19 restrictions, the Owen Sound Remembrance Day ceremony was available to watch and listen live on various outlets.
- Crowds visit Owen Sound from all over Grey and Bruce County to watch the Owen Sound Legion's Remembrance Day Ceremony.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

This report supports the delivery of Core Service.

Background:

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 6 has reached out to City staff requesting a change to their Remembrance Day closure route. Since 2019, the Legion has had to alter its Remembrance Day road closure routes. In 2019, changes were required to accommodate reduced traffic flow in the River District because of the 10th Street Bridge closure. In 2020 and

2021, the Branch altered its traditional Remembrance Day ceremony to comply with the ever-changing COVID-19 Provincial restrictions at the time of their Remembrance Day ceremony. The public had the option of watching the ceremony live on Rogers TV, online on The Rogers TV Grey County website, Live on the City of Owen Sound's Official Facebook Page, and the event was broadcasted live on the radio and online through 560 CFOS.

It is expected that the pre-pandemic crowds will line the streets surrounding the cenotaph again this Remembrance Day.

The Legion is expecting approximately 100 marchers in its parade this year.

As with all events occupying City streets or boulevards, the Organizer must provide the City with a liability insurance certificate in the amount of \$2,000,000 naming the City of Owen Sound as additional insured.

Analysis:

This year, the group has requested a shorter route for their traditional Remembrance Day parade, beginning in front of the Royal Bank at the corner of 9th Street and 2nd Avenue East to accommodate all marching participants.

The Legion has asked that the 800 block of 2nd Avenue East be closed at 7:00 am to allow for parking of buses and vehicles dropping off marchers. All parked vehicles are required to park in the marked parking spaces. The participants will begin their march at the Royal Bank and travel along the 800 block of 2nd Avenue East to 8th Street East, then westbound along 8th Street to the cenotaph in the 800 block of 1st Avenue West.

To accommodate the Remembrance Day parade, the following road closures will be in place:

From 7:00 am to 12 noon or until everyone has left the area:

- 1st Avenue West from 8th St to 9th St West
- 2nd Avenue East from 8th Street to 9th Street East
- City Hall parking lot
- 1st Avenue East from just south of the Tim Hortons drive-thru to 8th Street East

To allow the morning traffic rush in the River District, from 9:00 am to 12 noon or until everyone has left the area:

- 8th Street from 2nd Avenue East to 2nd Avenue West

- Left turn on 2nd Ave West, turning onto 8th Street West
- 1st Ave/7th Street East just North of Parking Lot 8

Financial Implications:

None.

Communication Strategy:

The Owen Sound Remembrance Day ceremony is well known throughout Grey and Bruce Counties. [Municipal 511](#) will be updated to include the road closures for this event.

Consultation:

Ed Yates, The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 6; Director of Public Works and Engineering; Manager of Engineering Services; the Art Gallery; Owen Sound Police Services; Community Development Coordinator (merchants in the 800 block of 2nd Avenue East and 1st Avenue East); Owen Sound Fire Services; St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church; Owen Sound and North Grey Public Library and McKerroll and McKerroll Law.

Attachments:

None.

Recommended by:

Chris Webb, Manager of Engineering Services

Mike Crone, (A) Director of Public Works and Engineering

Submission approved by:

Tim Simmonds, City Manager

For more information on this report, please contact Heidi Jennen, Tax Collector, at hjennen@owensound.ca or 519-376-1440 Ext 1249.