



Minutes

Operations Committee

March 16, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

City Hall - 808 2nd Avenue East - Council Chambers

MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Chair Scott Greig
Vice Chair Marion Koepke
Mayor Ian Boddy
Member Roger Bloom
Member Mike Crone
Member Lauren Donkersgoed (via video)
Councillor Brock Hamley (via video)
Member Edward Marchewka
Councillor Carol Merton (via phone)
Member Meghan Robertson

STAFF PRESENT:

Lara Widdifield, Director of Public Works and Engineering
Matt Prentice, Manager of Public Works
Chris Webb, Manager of Engineering Services
Rick Chappell, Associate Supervisor of Environmental Services
Heidi Jennen, Supervisor of Environmental Services
Peter Paquette, Engineering Technologist
Spencer Hammill, Engineering Technologist
Ashley Ford, Water and Wastewater Administrative Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Greig called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

2. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

There was no additional business.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.a Minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on February 16, 2023

OC-230316-001

Moved by Vice Chair Koepke

"THAT the Operations Committee approves the minutes of the meeting held on February 16, 2023."

Carried.

Councillor Merton joined the meeting at this time.

5. DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

5.a Public Engagement Session and Presentation by GM BluePlan Re: Alpha Street Reconstruction Municipal Class EA

Chair Greig introduced John Slocombe from GM BluePlan Engineering, who provided the Alpha Street Reconstruction Municipal Class EA presentation to Committee. During the presentation, Mr. Slocombe reviewed:

- The environmental assessment process;
- Background studies;
- Initial cross sections, alternative elements;
- Initial assessment;
- Preliminary recommendations; and
- Next steps.

Councillor Hamley joined the meeting at this time.

Chair Greig asked if any members of the public were in attendance who wished to speak to the Alpha Street Reconstruction Municipal Class EA.

Sue Graper, Owen Sound resident, expressed concerns with speeding at the top of Alpha Street to and from Nicols Gully and vehicles parking in the no parking zones which creates a bottleneck and unsafe passing. Ms. Graper suggested that a bench be placed halfway up the hill for pedestrians to take a break on.

Janet Hudson, Owen Sound resident, provided a letter to the City before the meeting with signatures of neighbours expressing concerns about the truck traffic along Alpha Street. Ms. Hudson explained that the large trucks continue to use Alpha Street Hill, which causes excess wear and tear on the roads and neighbouring homes are having issues with leaking basements.

Ted Stewart, Owen Sound resident, questioned if the active bike lane will replace an actual road lane. Staff explained that it would be off the roadway, meant for pedestrians and bicycles, as a multi-use trail system for non-vehicular traffic.

Edith Wright, Owen Sound resident, expressed concerns regarding the heavy truck traffic along Alpha Street. Ms. Wright also questioned what a geotechnical investigation was. Staff explained that a geotechnical investigation is a study of the type of soil and bearing capacity. It looks into the ability of the road and the

services that will be installed to be borne by the soils and whatever design comes out of that recommendation.

The Committee explained that the sidewalk is currently not AODA compliant and the City has previously received correspondence stating that the roadway needs to be addressed to use bikes along Alpha Street as the roadway has deteriorated at the curb.

Jill Umbach, Owen Sound resident, provided positive feedback advocating for a bike/transportation lane, especially for the young children who are trying to bike safely from the Alpha Street area to St. Basils School and is very excited to see a proposed safety plan for pedestrians/bicycles.

The Committee questioned staff if it is possible to restrict trucks from using Alpha Street until construction or after construction.

Staff explained that there would need to be studies done to assess if heavy trucks are, in fact, damaging homes and the roadway, as well as public meetings, would need to be held to have justification to change the truck route in the City's Master Plan if that is Committee and Council's wish.

OC-230316-002

Moved by Vice Chair Koepke

"THAT in consideration of the Public Engagement Session and Presentation by GM BluePlan provided on March 16, 2023 respecting the Alpha Street Reconstruction Municipal Class EA, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council:

- 1. Receive the presentation for information purposes;**
- 2. Include the feedback provided by the Operations Committee at the meeting into formulating the preferred alternative; and**
- 3. Direct staff and/or the consultant to bring a report back to the Operations Committee respecting the preferred alternative."**

Carried.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Sue Graper, Owen Sound resident, asked what the approximate cost of the Alpha Street Reconstruction Project is. Staff advised that the entire project would cost approximately \$8.5 to \$9 million dollars.

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR WHICH DIRECTION IS REQUIRED

7.a Dillon Consulting - Final Waste Management Strategy

The Committee questioned if residents could purchase their own bin without a City subsidy. Staff explained that these are the types of options that will be investigated when staff are working through the pilot program study.

Committee asked if any grants are available to the City for a green bin collection program. Staff confirmed that, at this time, they aren't aware of any.

OC-230316-003

Moved by Member Marchewka

"THAT in consideration of the Final Waste Management Strategy Report provided on March 16, 2023, from Dillon Consulting respecting the Waste Management Strategy Update, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council directs staff to:

- 1. Request that the consultant incorporate any feedback provided at the March 16, 2023 Operations Committee meeting into the final draft Waste Management Strategy; and**
- 2. Bring forward the final draft Waste Management Strategy to Council in May of 2023."**

Carried.

8. REPORTS OF CITY STAFF

The committee discussed Item 8.d.1 at this time.

8.d.1 Report OP-23-008 from Associate Supervisor of Environmental Services Re: Transit Update Report

The Associate Supervisor of Environmental Services provided a Transit Service update to Committee.

In response to a question from Committee, staff confirmed that there would be a promotion and marketing campaign for the new buses and it will include comparisons to the old buses and what the new upgrades are.

OC-230316-004

Moved by Member Bloom

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-23-008 respecting Transit Service Delivery, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council receive the report for information purposes."

Carried.

8.a Engineering

8.a.1 Report OP-23-012 from Director of Public Works and Engineering Re: Consolidated Linear Infrastructure ECA - Storm and Sanitary

The Director of Public Works and Engineering summarized the Consolidated Linear Infrastructure ECA - Storm and Sanitary report.

In response to a question from Committee, staff confirmed that a fee schedule would be implemented to offset some of the costs and burden on staff for the review process.

OC-230316-005

Moved by Member Crone

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-23-012 respecting Consolidated Linear Infrastructure Environmental Compliance Approvals for sewage works and stormwater, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council receive the report for information purposes."

Carried.

8.a.2 Report OP-23-013 from Director of Public Works and Engineering Re: Traffic By-law 2009-075 Amendment

The Director of Public Works and Engineering summarized the Traffic By-law Housekeeping Amendments report. Staff confirmed that the agenda would be republished after the meeting to update a typographical error regarding the address of 3rd Street West, west of 2nd Avenue East.

OC-230316-006

Moved by Councillor Hamley

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-23-013 respecting an amendment to the Traffic By-law, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council direct staff bring forward a by-law to amend Traffic By-law No. 2009-075 to amend Schedule 8 and add section 3.9.3.1 as outlined in the report."

Carried.

8.b Environment

8.b.1 Report OP-23-007 from Supervisor of Environmental Services Re: Compost Site - Control and Security Concerns

Councillor Hamley left the meeting at this time.

The Supervisor of Environmental Services provided an overview of the Compost Site - Control and Security Concerns report.

Committee questioned if there is an opportunity, cost-effectively without challenging the tax burden, to operate the Compost Facility by minimizing the costs but still providing the full service to Owen Sound residents.

Staff responded that they are looking at different alternatives to meet the needs of City residents without increasing the financial burden.

Committee expressed an interest in staff approaching other municipalities similar to the Hazardous Waste Program for a possible fee to use the site.

The Committee expressed concern about limiting the hours at the Compost Site and would like staff to re-assess the hours suggested in the report.

In response to a question from the Committee, staff confirmed that counters would be put in place at the site for staff to get a fulsome review on the number of visitors and the times it is being used.

OC-230316-007

Moved by Vice Chair Koepke

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-23-007 respecting Leaf and Yard Waste Compost Site – Interim Control and Security, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council direct staff to bring forward by-laws to:

- 1. Amend Waste Management By-law No. 2005-151, Schedule "H", Leaf and Yard Waste Composting Program, as follows:**
 - a. Delete section 1.2 and replace it with:**

"Brush, Branches, Logs and Stumps shall be defined as the remains of woody plants, trees, and shrubs and shall include logs and stumps up to 15cm (6 inches) in diameter and free of soil and rocks."; and
 - b. Remove Section 3, Commercial Use, in its entirety; and**
- 2. Amend Appointed Officers By-law No. 2015-054, Schedule "D", Appointed Municipal Law Enforcement Officers, to appoint Thomas Wheildon as a By-law Enforcement Officer authorized to enforce Waste Management By-law No. 2005-151 at the City's Leaf and Yard Waste Compost Site."**

Carried.

OC-230316-008

Moved by Vice Chair Koepke

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-23-007 respecting Leaf and Yard Waste Compost Site – Interim Control and Security, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council direct staff to bring forward a Verbal Report to the Operations Committee respecting a revision to the compost site hours of operation as proposed in the report".

Carried.

8.b.2 Report OP-23-014 from Manager of Engineering Services Re: Blue Box Transition Update

The Manager of Engineering Services provided an overview of the Blue Box Transition Update report.

Committee discussed the options for blue box purchase and how staff will differentiate between commercial and residential, especially in the downtown core.

Mayor Boddy left the meeting at this time.

OC-230316-009

Moved by Vice Chair Koepke

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-23-014 respecting Blue Box Transition Update – Opting Out, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council:

- 1. Support the City of Owen Sound opting out of entering into a direct contract for residential blue box collection during the Blue Box Transition period for the City, commencing July 1, 2023; and**
- 2. Approve Circular Materials Ontario, as the Producer Responsibility Organization, to enter into a direct contract with a service provider for the provision of blue box collection services for the City of Owen Sound, effective July 1, 2023."**

Carried.

8.c Public Works

None.

8.e Water and Wastewater

8.e.1 Report OP-23-011 from Manager of Public Works Re: 2022 Annual Water Report

The Manager of Public Works provided an overview of the 2022 Annual Water Report.

OC-230316-010

Moved by Councillor Merton

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-23-011 respecting the 2022 Annual Report – City of Owen Sound Water System, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council receive the report for information purposes."

Carried.

8.e.2 Report OP-23-010 from Director of Public Works and Engineering Re: WTP Walking Beam Flocculator Rehabilitation Update

The Director of Public Works and Engineering summarized the Walking Beam Flocculator Emergency Replacement report.

In response to a question from Committee, staff confirmed that they are watching the remaining flocculators very closely. Regarding replacement time, it is a custom-made piece of equipment but should be delivered within 14 weeks. Staff also explained that installation needs to work around the timelines of the current Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Capital Project.

OC-230316-011

Moved by Councillor Merton

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-23-010 respecting the Walking Beam Flocculator Emergency Replacement, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council receive the report for information purposes."

Carried.

9. MATTERS POSTPONED

There were no matters postponed.

10. MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE WAS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN

There were no motions for which notice was previously given.

11. CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION

11.a Climate Action Strategy - Education/Staff Engagement Session Summary -
March 6, 2023

11.b 2023-01-24 - Excerpt from Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes

OC-230316-012

Moved by Member Bloom

"THAT in consideration of correspondence provided for information purposes listed on the March 16, 2023 Operations Committee agenda, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council receive Items 11.a and 11.b for information purposes."

Carried.

12. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

There was no additional business.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no notices of motion.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The business contained on the agenda having been completed, Chair Greig adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.