

August 30, 2016

Report To: Mayor and Council

From: Travis Rob, Manager of Operations and Facilities

**RE: Selection of capital project for application to the Ontario Community Improvement Fund (OCIF)
Top-Up Component**

In early summer of 2016 the Ministry of Agriculture, food and rural affairs announced an expansion to the Ontario Community Improvement Fund (OCIF) program whereby the program will provide annual stable formula based funding with the application based portion being seen as a "top up" allowing smaller municipalities with critical infrastructure projects to submit proposals to bring their total OCIF funding up to \$2 Million over 2 years. The Application for the top up portion of the funding has to be submitted no later than October 21, 2016.

In 2014 the reconstruction of Highway 11/71 from just east of Cornwall Avenue to Wright Avenue was submitted and \$2 million in funding was secured. For the 2016 application the two highest priority road works projects to be considered for application are Colonization Road West from 1302 to 1452 Colonization Road West and Reconstruction of Sinclair Avenue from Armit Avenue to Victoria Avenue.

The Colonization Road project was the subject of an application to the Small, Rural and Northern Infrastructure Fund (SRNIF) in early 2014 due to the number of failures of the 2-bolt connections in the water main. The project includes 500m of total road reconstruction. The watermain is 1967 vintage ductile Iron with 2-bolt joint connections, the sanitary sewer is 1964 Asbestos Cement and the storm sewer is 1989 mix of PVC and corrugated steel pipe. The road surface is also 1989 vintage but is in extremely poor condition due to the number of spot repairs to the water main along this section. For this project, the Engineering work has already been completed by Hatch and it is deemed 'construction ready'. The construction cost estimate for this work in 2015 was \$1,774,802.52 plus applicable taxes.

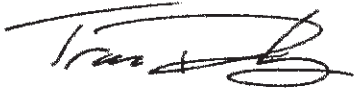
The Sinclair Avenue project consists of approximately 220m of total road reconstruction. The water main is 1916 vintage cast iron and clay tile sanitary sewer installed in 1932. There is minimal storm sewer along this entire stretch of roadway, what is there is corrugated steel pipe installed in 2000. The road surface was installed in 1968, has poor grading and a few patches from spot repairs. The water main on this stretch of roadway services the hospital. For this project, the Engineering work has already been completed by Hatch and it is also deemed 'construction ready'. The 2015 cost estimate for this work was 1,219,418.30 plus applicable taxes.

Both of these projects have been utilized in past funding applications, and both have been denied. The 2017 top up portion is only available for those municipalities who did not receive OCIF Funds in 2016, the Town's application for 2016 was denied. The total eligible funding for the Town of Fort Frances in 2017 is \$1,278,494.00 based on the Town's formula allocation which can be used to fund a maximum of 90% of the project costs.

Given the above information, it is the recommendation of the Operations and Facilities Executive Committee that:

1. The reconstruction of Colonization Road West from 1302 to 1452 be submitted under the Ontario Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund top up component for completion in the 2017 construction season.
2. That administration submit the application to the OCIF program to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs before the October 21, 2016 Deadline.

Respectfully Submitted



Travis Rob, EIT
Manager of Operations & Facilities

Council Approval of this report will ensure the following:

1. That Council endorses the reconstruction of Colonization Road West from 1302 to 1452 be submitted under the Ontario Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund top up component for completion in the 2017 construction season.
2. That administration submit the application to the OCIF program to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs before the October 21, 2016 Deadline.

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RECOMMENDED

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EXECUTIVE COMM.