

November 20, 2019

Report To: Planning and Development Executive Committee

From: Operations and Facilities Executive Committee

RE: Request from Rick Socholotuk RE: Use of ATV on Town Roads

At the September 9, 2019 meeting of Council, a request from Mr. Rick Socholotuk to amend the Traffic Control By-Law to permit the use of All Terrain Vehicles on Town Roads was referred to the Planning and Development Executive Committee with input from the Operations and Facilities Executive Committee and Traffic Safety Committee.

Attached you will find a report and additional materials from the Traffic Safety Committee regarding this request. The recommendation from the Traffic Safety Committee is that the request be denied.

One key consideration brought forward from the Traffic Safety Committee is the safety of these vehicles for use on roadways. Simply put there are no safety standards these vehicles have to meet like a car would, how can we be sure that they are safe to use on the roads. One simple example is lights, not all vehicles, especially older vehicles have lights, in addition until recently brake lights were not available on ATV's. Having these vehicles on the roads with motor vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists, etc. raises too much risk. In many communities that permit the use of ATV's, there exists a network of trails for the riders to use necessitating the need to move about the Town to acquire services such as food or gas. In Fort Frances, this is not the case.

The other impact to this potential change would be the increased opportunity for these machines to get into our parks. Right now, we do, from time to time, have issues at both the Point and St. Francis Sports Fields with ATV's damaging the turf in these areas. Allowing these vehicles throughout the Town would undoubtedly increase the frequency of these issues.

It is the recommendation of the Operations and Facilities Executive Committee to support the recommendation of the Traffic Safety Committee and recommend that the request to allow All Terrain Vehicles to be used on Town roads be denied.

Respectfully Submitted

Rick Wiedenhoeft

Chair, Operations and Facilities Executive Committee