

September 30, 2013

Report To: Mayor and Council

From: Doug Brown, Manager of Operations & Facilities

SUBJECT: 2014 Budget Consideration – New Sidewalk Extension- West Side – Keating Avenue from JW Walker School property to First Street Intersection



A letter dated September 20, 2013 from Anne McCoy – Fort Frances Traffic Safety Committee was referred to the Operations & Facilities Executive Committee for review and recommendation. See attached a copy of the letter. This sidewalk extension is approximately 124 meters long located along the west side of Keating Avenue. I have taken the liberty to list some Pros and Cons in regards to the proposed sidewalk extension;

PROS

- Can be included in the 2014 tender package for construction works
- Will improve safety for students walking to JW Walker School
- There appears to be financial partners to participate in funding this project based on information in the September 20th letter.
- Achieves the long term objective set out in the Town's 2011 Official Plan for sidewalk requirements within the right-a-way for new or reconstruction, sidewalks shall be provided as follows: On at least one side of all local roads (except cul-de-sacs, unless the cul-de-sac can connect to a destination such as a school, park etc... in which case the sidewalk will be required on the side of the street which provides the most effective pedestrian route to the destination)
- This sidewalk extension project can be funded under the federal gas tax revenue funding program.

CONS

- Might be perceived as a negative impact to the 5 homeowners abutting the new sidewalk extension – i.e.- loss of front yard lawn, trimming of trees and possibility of creating a dam effect – ponding of water as very little relief.
- Might have to relocate hydro poles to construct sidewalk extension depending on sidewalk location with the right-a-way
- There is a financial cost to construct the new sidewalk extension

Based on Wagner's 2013 tender unit prices (low bid) submitted for the Huffman School Subdivision project, a cost estimate has been prepared. (see-attached spreadsheet). A preliminary cost for the sidewalk extension is estimated at \$65,000.

The Operations & Facilities Executive Committee recommends the following;

- 1) That the construction of 124 meters of new sidewalk along Keating Avenues West Side – from JW Walker School property to First Street Intersection will be referred to the 2014 budget process with the understanding that the Town might consider funding 50% of this project if the proponents of the letter dated September 20, 2013 signed by Ann McCoy (Rainy River District School Board, the OPP and the Northwest Catholic District School Board) fund the other 50% of the costs.
- 2) That the proponents of the letter dated September 20, 2013 signed by Ann McCoy have a duty to consultant with all 5 abutting property owners which will be impacted by the construction of the new sidewalk to ensure these property owners are in support of this sidewalk.

Respectfully Submitted
Operations & Facilities Division,

Doug Brown

Doug Brown, P. Eng.
Operations & Facilities Manager

RECOMMENDED

OCT 09 2013

DIV. ENG. Doug Brown

EXECUTIVE COMM. _____

Council approval of this report will ensure the following:

- 1) That the construction of 124 meters of new sidewalk along Keating Avenues West Side – from JW Walker School property to First Street Intersection will be referred to the 2014 budget process with the understanding that the Town might consider funding 50% of this project if the proponents of the letter dated September 20, 2013 signed by Ann McCoy (Rainy River District School Board, the OPP and the Northwest Catholic District School Board) fund the other 50% of the costs.
- 2) That the proponents of the letter dated September 20, 2013 signed by Ann McCoy have a duty to consultant with all 5 abutting property owners which will be impacted by the construction of the new sidewalk to ensure these property owners are in support of this sidewalk.

- FORT FRANCES TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE -

September 20, 2013

Mayor and Council
Town of Fort Frances
322 Portage Ave.
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3P9

Re: Budget Request for 2014- construction of a sidewalk on Keating Avenue between JW Walker School and First St. West.

Dear Mayor and Council,

Since 2009, a collaborative of community partners, groups, residents, parent councils and schools have worked together to improve traffic and pedestrian safety within the Town of Fort Frances. These on-going collaborative efforts have resulted in significant positive changes particularly in our school zones.

In September, 2013, we officially launched the Kiss 'n Ride Program to reduce identified traffic/pedestrian concerns arising at three schools. In moving through the implementation phase of the Kiss N Ride project we have seen great success and this is due largely to the great partnerships, in particular, the support we have seen from Town staff (planning and operations, bylaw), our media partners and volunteers. Please accept our thanks.

Through a daily debrief over the past few weeks, there has been one traffic/pedestrian safety concern identified that we feel requires the consideration of the Town if it is to be remedied in the area of Keating Avenue. Currently, there are children who are walking to and from school along the Keating Avenue corridor. The children are walking along the grass area in front of west side of Keating Avenue residences to stay off the roadway but come winter we will have snowbanks in that area which we anticipate will move the children onto the roadway. As much as we will continue to work with our partners to address the snow removal situation and will try to ensure the banks are pushed down/removed, there will always be some form of a snowbank during the winter months and safety, accessibility and a lack of a level surface will remain a concern unless there is a sidewalk.

A motion was presented to the Traffic Safety Committee and approved. Subsequently, the Committee is submitting this letter as a formal request to the Town of Fort Frances to consider constructing a sidewalk on Keating Avenue between JW Walker School and First Street West.

The Town of Fort Frances is encouraged to continue discussions with the Traffic Safety committee so together we may investigate ways to reduce costs. We invite you to attend any of our upcoming meetings and encourage you to engage in discussions prior to the budget decision.

We applaud the Town of Fort Frances staff and council, key stakeholders, media partners and volunteers for their ongoing support related to active and safe routes. We will continue to work on a comprehensive approach that will ensure that the best design and safety features are in place to create a supportive environment where it will be easier for all populations to be safe and active.

Regards,

Anne McCoy
Fort Frances Traffic Safety Committee

September 30, 2013 - 2014 Capital - Proposed Keating Avenue Sidewalk Extension

Item No.	Description	Estimated Quantity	Units	Unit Price	Total
A.001	Earth Excavation (Grading)	65	m ³ (P)	\$ 12.00	\$780.00
A.002	Concrete Sidewalk	186	m ²	\$ 225.00	\$41,850.00
A.003	100 mm Top Soil and Sod	250	m ²	\$ 13.00	\$3,250.00
A.004	Curb Cuts	2	ea	\$ 200.00	\$400.00
A.005	Relocation of Hydro Poles	1	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$10,000.00
A.006	Subtotal				\$56,280.00
A.007	Portion of Bonds, Insurance and (de)mobilization				\$1,226.90
A.008	Engineering Costs -10%				\$5,750.69

A.009 Subtotal \$63,257.59

A.010 Town's portion of HST \$1,113.33

A.011 Total \$64,370.93

Say \$ 65,000

2014 Capital: Proposed Keating Avenue Sidewalk Extension

