



## Staff Report

**Report Title: Transportation November 2022**

**Prepared By: John Yungblut, C.E.T., Director of Public Works**

**Department: Public Works**

**Date: Nov. 7, 2022**

**Report Number: PW-2022-11-74**

**File Number: E06 EPC 20  
T11 H66 22  
T07 SPE 22  
T04 VIC 22  
E04 TRE 22**

### **Attachments:**

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#### **Recommendation:**

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information, Report Number PW-2022-11-74, prepared by John Yungblut, Director of Public Works.

#### **Background:**

##### Southern Bruce Natural Gas Project

Construction of a natural gas pipeline in southern Bruce County began in 2019. EPCOR is the owner of the project and Aecon Utilities is the Contractor.

##### Huron Road Speed Limit Signs

On Oct. 17, 2022, Deputy Mayor Murray requested that staff bring forward information regarding the possibility of installing additional speed limit signs along Huron Road in the Point Clark area, which has current speed limit of 40 km/hr.

##### Structure H66 Rehabilitation

The tender for the rehabilitation of structure H66 was awarded to Vandriel Excavating on May 16, 2022. This rigid frame bridge is located on Con. 8 between Lake Range Dr. and Highway 21. The project includes repairs to the concrete soffit, deck edge, wingwalls and deck. New waterproofing will be applied over the bridge deck and new asphalt will be paved.

### Bruce Beach Road Repairs

For the past two winter seasons, Bruce Beach Road has had issues with road washouts in two locations that are unrelated to the Bruce Beach Municipal Drain project. These areas are located north of the area impacted by that project, and they appear to be the result of French drains that are no longer functional.

### Victoria St. and Wheeler St. Reconstruction

On June 20, 2022, the tender for the reconstruction of Victoria St. and Wheeler St. in Lucknow was awarded to Omega Contractors Inc. The scope of work includes a new watermain and services, minor storm sewer upgrades, new sidewalk and curb and gutter. This contract also includes the construction of a new sidewalk on Bob St. from Campbell St. to the Lucknow Central School and the replacement of sidewalks on both sides of Havelock St. between Willoughby St. and Elgin St.

### Tree Clearing of Municipal Road Allowance

On Sept. 7, 2022, Council was informed of the unauthorized clearing of an unopened road allowance known as Sideroad 5 between Bruce Road 86 and Con. 2 in the former Huron Township. During the meeting Council informed staff that they do not support the installation of a page wire fence along the east side of the road allowance as a means of protecting young trees that will be planted to replace the trees that were removed by a neighbouring landowner. During the discussion, staff agreed to install steel stakes to mark the road allowance instead.

Council also asked staff to look into partnering with the Pine River Watershed Initiative Network (PRWIN) to see if tree planting in an alternate location would be more beneficial.

### **Discussion:**

### Southern Bruce Natural Gas Project

The installation of gasmains in the Ripley and Lucknow is still in progress. EPCOR has informed Township staff that they intend to have completed the installation of gasmains in Huron-Kinloss by the end of November. The installation of services will continue into 2023, however. It is also unclear how much hard surface restoration will be completed before winter.

### Huron Road Speed Limit Signs

For northbound traffic, there is currently a speed limit sign on Huron Road at Lake Range Dr. and on Con. 2 east of the point where Huron Road becomes Con. 2. For southbound traffic, there is a speed limit sign on Con. 2, west of Lake Range Dr.

Township staff refer to the Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) when installing signage on Township roads and according to OTM Book 5, speed limit control devices are to be located no more than 900m apart in built up areas longer than 1.5 km, which Point Clark is. The current speed limit signs on Huron Rd/Con. 2 are approximately 3,000m apart, so additional signage is required based on this standard.

Township staff could install additional speed limit signs on Huron Rd, but we would suggest that it would be better for the Township to first develop a signage strategy

for the entire Lakeshore rather than responding to specific sign requests. The reason for this approach is there may be areas that the distance between speed signs is greater than Huron Road, so they should be a higher priority. Furthermore, Township staff have conducted multiple speed radar studies on Huron Road and Con. 2 and have not found speeding to be an issue.

The first task for our GIS summer student next year will be to record all the locations of road signs in the Township to determine where additional signs are required and if some signs should be removed or relocated. This includes not only regulatory and warning signs, but other signs that have been installed for various other purposes.

Sign pollution, especially along the Lakeshore, is increasingly becoming a concern of Township staff, so it is important that we strategically install signs in locations that won't cause drivers to ignore the important regulatory and warning signs and thereby defeating the purpose of protecting public safety.

#### Structure H66 Rehabilitation

Bridge deck paving was completed on Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> and Con. 8 was open to traffic on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>. The two road cuts on Lake Range Dr., north of Con. 8 were paved on Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> as well.

#### Bruce Beach Road Repairs

Township staff are planning replace the French drains and install two new catch basins on the east side of the road. This work is scheduled to be completed on November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### Victoria St. and Wheeler St. Reconstruction

The street reconstruction project began on Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> with the installation of a temporary watermain system and the removal of excess material along the slope at the Lucknow Standpipe property. The new watermain, water services and storm sewers have been installed and the contractor is expecting to have water samples available on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>. If the results are clear of any contamination, the watermain and services can be connected into the water system. The installation of concrete curb and gutter and sidewalks is expected to begin during the week of Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>.

A gravel base for the new sidewalks on Bob St. and Havelock St. is now in place and ready for concrete forming, which may begin during the week of Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>.

The original completion date for this project was Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, however, Township staff did grant an extension to Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### Tree Clearing of Municipal Road Allowance

Township staff have been informed by PWRIN that they are in favour of working with the Township on this project and would be willing to provide tree planting services to reinstate the 1.2 hectare area, although they are unable to provide a cost estimate at this time. PWRIN referred Township staff to the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) for alternate planting locations.

MVCA is not able to provide tree planting services, however, they are able to partner with SVCA for this project at a rough cost estimate of \$11,275 plus HST to plant 2,050 seedlings. MVCA were unable to provide an alternate planting location that would be more beneficial than the Township road allowance.

Township staff have reached out to the landowner with this information, but we have not received a response at this time.

**Financial Impacts:**

The rehabilitation of H66 and the Victoria/Wheeler project are included in the 2022 Capital Budget. The repairs to Bruce Beach Road will be funded through the Operating Budget.

Tree planting costs in the unopened road allowance will be the responsibility of the landowner.

**Strategic Alignment / Link:**

We are an accessible community by being open and transparent.

We are a prosperous community that continues to grow in a sustainable manner by investing in infrastructure.

Action Item P5.1 – Natural Gas

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

John Yungblut, Director of Public Works

**Approved By:**

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer