



The Corporation of the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: July 11, 2022

Subject: SRW.22.23 15 Sideroad Cultural Heritage Evaluation Reports (CHER) and Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) Reports

Report from: Scott McLeod, Public Works Manager

Appendices: WSP CHER Executive Summary, correspondence, and quote

Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council hereby,

1. Directs staff to work with WSP under a reduced scope of the CHER and HIA Reports, and
2. Further that Council acknowledges that the Municipality is choosing not to follow the recommendation of the Cultural Heritage Report (CHR) and is willing to assume any associated risks.

Report Summary

While working with WSP to get approvals for the road project to replace the Young Bridges, the Municipality has been presented with added costs to the CHER and HIA reports.

Staff has been reviewing the option of reducing the scope of the CHER and HIA reports. The scope reduction could create associated risks from the scope of reports that are sent to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports. This has the potential to hold up the project.

It is staff's recommendation to proceed with the reduced scope in order to maintain the costs of the project. The risk of taking this approach is exposure to a delay in the project.

Background

The Municipality has been working on replacement of the Young Bridges with a roadway since prior to 2016. Last year the farmland was purchased and surveyed for the new roadway.

Presently, the Municipality is working on the Archaeological Assessment, the Culture Heritage Evaluation Report, the Heritage Impact Assessment along with the Hydro One Easement Reference Plan.

As noted in the attached documents, the preliminary CHER refers to BHR-2 and BHR-3, north and south Young bridges, as part of the proposed study. The report also addresses including CHL-2 the Salem cemetery and CHL-3 the Salem cemetery barn (shed). The addition of the cemetery should not be included at this time.

Analysis

The options being proposed for the Municipality are as follows:

- (1) To accept the increased cost for the increased CHER and HIA study, or
- (2) To accept the liability and associated risk by reducing the scope of the heritage work.

Municipal staff have reached out to other firms, seeking advice on the reduced scope of the project. Based on these discussions it has been determined that we should proceed with the reduced scope. The risk of this approach is it could result in the project being delayed. No confirmation could be given on receiving fines because of this proposal.

Link to Strategic/Master Plan

6.1 Protecting Infrastructure, Recreation and Natural Assets

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding/Link to Procurement Policy

Initial budgeting in 2021 for studies was \$10,000. Present Engineering and approval expenses in 2022 is \$15,700. Attached is an increased estimate for \$29,000 to do a complete scope on the CHER and HIA Reports. The 2022 Total Budget for this project is \$600,000.

Approved by: Christine Fraser-McDonald, Clerk