

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: August 11, 2025

Subject: PWRDS-2025-18 - Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone Grant

Report from: Julie Fenton, Infrastructure & Development Coordinator

Carly Steinhoff, Park, Facilities and Recreation Manager

Attachments: Project Location Map

Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council hereby approves Report PWRDS-2025-18 - Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone Grant;

AND FURTHER endorses the submission of an application to the Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone (EASE) Grant Program to offset the costs associated with the Goldie Street, Paisley Sidewalk Replacement Project.

Background

The Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone (EASE) Grant funds projects that improve accessibility and support active lifestyles for people with disabilities and older adults. It supports these individuals to live more active, healthy, safe and socially connected lives within their communities.

Eligible projects may receive up to \$60,000 for small capital projects and retrofits that will help older adults and people with disabilities participate in community life.

Analysis

Staff reviewed the project eligibility requirements and have identified the replacement of the Goldie Street, Paisley sidewalk as an eligible project for this grant funding.

This area provides access to Knox United Church, the Paisley Legion, the current Paisley Firehall, and various downtown businesses.

The existing sidewalk is constructed of interlocking brick and does not comply with AODA regulations. It was identified as a priority for replacement in the 2022 Sidewalk Needs Study; however, the upgrade has been delayed due to budget constraints.

The project involves replacing approximately 347 metres of interlocking brick sidewalk with a 1.5-metre-wide concrete sidewalk that meets AODA compliance standards and includes tactile plates. The existing curb and gutter will remain in place. Since all underground infrastructure is located within the road section, the new sidewalk will not be impacted by future construction.

Based on current construction costs, the project is estimated to cost approximately \$200,000 in total. If the application is successful \$140,000 would be included in the 2026 capital budget to complete the work.

Link to Strategic/Master Plan

6.1 Protecting Infrastructure, Recreation and Natural Assets

6.2 Supporting Businesses and the Local Economy

6.4 Leading Financial Management

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding/Link to Procurement Policy

The total estimate project cost is \$200,000 and maximum grant funding is \$60,000, a net cost to the Municipality of \$140,000. If successful, this project would be included in the 2026 capital budget.

Approved by: Emily Dance, Chief Administrative Officer