

THREE YEAR ROAD PROGRAM

Approved: 11/05/10

Resolution Number:

200/11

County Commissioner:

Policy Statement:

Sturgeon County will develop and adopt a policy for a long range road development and upgrading program to identify, evaluate and prioritize future capital road construction and surfacing requirements based on proposed or anticipated land use patterns and traffic demands.

The program will address the capital work requirements that are the funding responsibility of the municipality with the support of the regular road grant programs and other case specific assistance programs.

While it is the intent of the program to identify and prioritize required roadway improvements on a long-term basis, it is recognized that there is a limitation to how far into the future work commitments can be made based on the realistic anticipation of future circumstances. The program has therefore been limited to the identification of specific annual projects for a future period of three years based on identified budgetary limitations.

Required works beyond the three-year period will be indicated for further review and prioritization with each updating of the program. Once adopted, it is required that there be a reasonable ongoing commitment to the projects in the three year program with any modifications confined as much as possible to each annual review and update. Any changes in funding availability for capital road projects, either through municipal budgeting or grant assistance programs, will be a major factor in controlling adjustments to the three year program.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the three-year road development and upgrading program process can be summarized as follows:

1. To identify a long term requirement for road upgrading and improvements in the municipality taking into account the established or proposed land use patterns and the traffic generation that can ultimately be expected from such land use patterns.
2. To provide a means for assigning and agreeing upon priorities for the various upgrades and improvements required on an annual basis for a period of three years into the future based on a realistic balance between needs and funding availability.
3. To provide a basis for estimating and projecting the municipalities longer-term budget and revenue requirements to satisfy its capital road program needs.
4. To provide for more timely engineering studies and/or land acquisitions related to the capital road program and to allow for the more effective use of resources required.
5. To provide for planned and proper staging of major projects where such may be required for technical or financial reasons.
6. To provide a basis for the release of information with regard to the municipalities road and upgrading or improvement proposals to the municipalities residents or other interested or concerned parties.

IDENTIFICATION OF PROJECTS AND PRIORITIES

The identification of potential projects for the three-year program will be based on a review and evaluation of the projected long-term road infrastructure needs in the County taking into account various factors such as:

- traffic types and volumes;
- safety elements and existing road standards;
- road maintenance problems and costs;
- network importance;
- ratepayer consensus;
- construction feasibility; and
- environment and social concerns.

The allocation and prioritization of specific projects to specific years in the three-year program from the projected longer-term requirements will be based on the considered degree of urgency for each project, budgetary constraints, and an effort to maintain a reasonable degree of uniformity in the condition and upgrading of the road system throughout the County as a whole. The projected longer-term requirements that cannot be accommodated in the three-year program will be identified for first consideration during each future review and upgrade of the program.

REVIEW AND UPDATE PROCESS

Once this program has been initially accepted, the addition of works to the program should only be considered acceptable upon resolution of Council based on submissions from administration or requests from individual Councillors. The works would then be included for evaluation and appropriate prioritization during the next annual three-year program review and update. Where such works are of an urgent and pressing nature they would have to be considered with the limitations of the budget provisions for unanticipated works relative to other works of a similar nature.

It is proposed that the three-year program be reviewed, updated and accepted by Council by July of each year.

The format for presentation of the three-year road program will be on individual County map sheets identifying proposed road construction projects and proposed road surfacing projects for:

- Year One
- Year Two
- Year Three
- Future Years