

Agenda Item: <u>E.10</u>

# **Request for Decision**

## Title 2016 Transportation Operations and Capital Plan

#### **Proposed Motion**

- 1. That Council approves the cancellation of the 2016 Capital Gravel Road Reconstruction of Township Road 562 from Range Road 244 to Range Road 251.
- 2. That Council approves the deferral of the 2016 Capital replacement of Bridge File 9421 replacement to 2017.
- 3. That Council approves the transfer of \$1,835,000 from 2016
  Transportation Capital Budget to 2016 Transportation Operating Budget to support the Gravel Road Maintenance Program and Drainage Operations.

# Administrative Recommendation

- 1. Administration recommends the cancellation of the 2016 Capital gravel road reconstruction of TWP Road 562 from RR244 to RR251 due to absence of ratepayer consensus and construction not being economically feasible.
- 2. Administration recommends the deferral of the 2016 Capital replacement of Bridge File 9421 to 2017.
- 3. Administration recommends the transfer of \$1,835,000 from 2016 Transportation Capital Budget to 2016 Transportation Operating Budget to support the Gravel Road Maintenance Program and Drainage Operations.

# Previous Council Direction

#### December 8, 2015

Council approval of the 2016 Operating and Capital Budget.

#### September 22, 2015

Council approval of the 3-Year Road Program as detailed in Attachment #1.

#### Report

### **Background Information**

#### 2016 Capital Plan execution challenges:

- TWP Road 562 (RR251 to RR244)
  - Challenges with securing borrow for the project
  - Execution of the project plan would require additional budget for hauling costs.
  - Lack of ratepayer consensus (key criteria).
  - Challenges with the plan were discussed during informal briefing (Sept.15) and analysis initiated based on October 29 BIR.

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- BF 9421 (RR10 South of TWP Rd 572)
  - Challenges with Alberta Environment approval in time for 2016 construction.
- Immediate Need:
  - 2016 Strategy to demonstrate value-added and responsible use of tax dollars (Res Sat Survey – Roads as key improvement area)
  - Zero budget impact.
- Long Term Need:
  - Improvement of the capital planning process.
  - Ensure the integrity of the long term capital strategy.
  - Addressing emergent capital transportation needs.

#### **2016 Operational Strategy – Immediate Action**

- 1. Cancellation of Capital Reconstruction of TWP Rd 562 (RR251-RR244).
- 2. Deferral of BF 9421 (RR10 South of TWP Rd 572) to 2017.
- 3. Transfer of 2016 Capital Construction Funds and demonstrate value added, responsible use of tax dollars with zero budget impact by:
- Supplement Gravel Road Maintenance Program
  - Invest in the gravel road network to improve resident's quality of life (\$1,173,000)
    - Increase in Shoulder Pull Program of 17 km.
    - Incorporate 2015 Program Lessons Learned:
      - Resident Communication,
      - Quality Assurance/Quality Control,
      - Supervision / Planning.
    - Estimated total Service-Level of 30 km.
- Supplement Drainage Operations
  - Invest in resolution of legacy drainage files (\$662,000)
  - Increase in contracted drainage operations
  - Increase in supervision/planning of County Forces and contracted services.
  - Incorporate of 2015 Program Lessons Learned:
    - Resident Communication,
    - Quality Assurance/Quality Control,
    - Supervision / Planning
  - Estimated Service-Level of 380 files closed.

#### Capital Strategy- Move from a 3 year to 4 year Capital planning cycle

- Ensure the financial feasibility analysis is done well before projects are scheduled to be built
- Ensure the integrity of the long term capital strategy while still addressing emergent capital transportation needs

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#### **External Communication**

None

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#### Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:

- Policy ENG-ROA-1 Roadway Functional Classification System
- Policy ENG-ROA-2 Three Year Road Program

### Implication of Administrative Recommendation

#### **Strategic Alignment:**

**Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership** –The proposed changes consider the current fiscal stability of the local gravel road reconstruction Capital program given the lack of borrow and ratepayer consensus in the area of TWP Road 562.

**Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities** – The additional program funding for shoulder pulling and operational drainage will have a positive impact on residents quality of life. (Many roads, many residents).

#### **Organizational:**

The one year transfer of Capital budget to Operating budget will allow the formation of a 2<sup>nd</sup> shoulder pulling crew, and increased service level for drainage.

#### Financial:

The increase in services will be completed within the approved budget.

#### **Key Assumptions:**

- That carryforward funding amount from taxes for Twp Road 562 reconstruction will be no less than the budgeted \$349,431.
- That 2016 Capital Project tenders for other road projects will be awarded within budgeted estimates.

# Alternatives Considered

1. Cancellation/Deferral of the Capital projects with no increase in Operating Service Level.

### Implications of Alternatives

#### Strategic Alignment:

 The cancellation of the Capital projects without a transfer to Operating would not be consistent with Council's direction to improve as many roads as possible, and to reduce the operating drainage legacy files.

#### Organizational:

 The implications of this alternative would better be addressed through an in-camera report.

#### Financial:

 The financial implication is unknown. Further Council direction on the scope of change would be required to calculate the financial implications.

#### **Follow up Action**

- Communicate Council's Decision regarding TWP Rd 562 and operating service levels in FYI and County website. (Communications, March 2016).
- 2. Plan and execute on the additional service levels for 2016 Operating programs (Transportation, Summer/Fall 2016).
- 3. Update Council's current 3 Year Road Policy based on 4-year planning cycle (Engineering, December 2016).

#### Attachment(s)

- 1. Roadway Classification System Policy
- 2. Three Year Road Plan Policy
- 3. Road Network Function Classifications Map

# Report Reviewed

by:



Stephanie Tamagi, Manager, Transportation Services

Brian Hartman, Manager, Engineering Services

Ian McKay, P. Eng, General Manager, Municipal Services

Stephane Labonne, General Manager, Integrated Growth

Rick Wojtkiw, General Manager, Corporate Support

Peter Tarnawsky, County Commissioner – CAO

### **Strategic Alignment Checklist**

**Vision:** Sturgeon County: a diverse, active community that pioneers opportunities and promotes initiative while embracing rural lifestyles.

**Mission:** Provide quality, cost effective services and infrastructure to meet the diverse needs of the Sturgeon County community, while improving competitiveness and sustainability.

Focus Areas	Not consistent	N/A	Consistent
Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership			
We promote consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)			
<ul> <li>Consistent with neighborhood role (see MDP), master plans,, policies</li> </ul>			
Considers fiscal stability and sustainability			
Has a positive impact on regional and sub-regional cooperation		×	
Respect the Natural Environment			
We acknowledge the importance of a healthy environment and will minimize and monitor our impact on ecosystems (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)			
Compliance with Provincial and Federal regulations and/or legislation			⊠
Ensure effective environmental risk management			×
Community Identity & Spirit			
We will build upon our strengths, where together we will create an inclusive, caring community (Strategic Plan, (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)			
<ul> <li>Promotes and/or enhances residents' identification with Sturgeon County</li> </ul>		×	
Enhances service provision through community partnerships		⊠	
Supports Sturgeon County's cultural history			
Planned Growth and Prosperity			
We encourage varied and integrated enterprises that enhance our strong economic base, while balancing the needs of the community and natural environment. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)			
<ul> <li>Does the proposal align with the Integrated Regional Growth Strategy (map/policies) pg. 26 MDP</li> </ul>		×	
Considers cumulative costs and long-term funding implications			$\boxtimes$
Targets growth around current or planned infrastructure		×	
Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities			
We are committed to a safe, secure community, where our residents are respected and provided with access to opportunities. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)			
Positive impact on residents' quality of life			$\boxtimes$
Supports and promotes volunteer efforts		$\boxtimes$	
<ul> <li>Provides programs and services that are accessible to all residents</li> </ul>			
Operational Excellence			
We have the organizational capability to deliver consistent and defined levels of			
service to all stakeholders in a professional, efficient, and cost effective manner			
<ul> <li>Staff have the knowledge, skills and capability to perform their jobs</li> </ul>			
Streamlines operational processes and policies			$\boxtimes$
Promotes engagement and professional interaction with stakeholders		×	
<ul> <li>Considers a cost-structure which allows Sturgeon County to remain competitive within a regional, national and global context</li> </ul>			

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