

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING ON JANUARY 10, 2017
FROM:	KELLY SCHERR, P.ENG., MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER
SUBJECT:	2017 RENEW LONDON INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Environmental & Engineering Services and City Engineer, the following information report concerning the 2017 Renew London Infrastructure Construction Program **BE RECEIVED** for information.

2015-19 STRATEGIC PLAN

The following report supports the Strategic Plan through the strategic focus areas of *Building a Sustainable City* and *Leading in Public Service* by addressing the infrastructure gap, building robust infrastructure while improving safety for all road users in the city. Renew London 2017 is committed to delivering great customer experiences to residents, business and visitors by communicating projects in advance and coordinating all work to help build and deliver efficient infrastructure and minimize delays and inconveniences to the public during construction.

BACKGROUND

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Committee and Council with an overview of the planned City and development related major construction projects for 2017.

Context

The Environmental and Engineering Services Department undertakes approximately 200 capital works projects and programs on a yearly basis. Our goal is to provide safe, dependable, affordable and environmentally responsible services that help London's communities thrive and the city prosper.

The delivery of a sustainable infrastructure program through the provision of road, sewer, water, sidewalk, traffic signal and streetlight assets is managed through the 2017 Renew London - Infrastructure Construction Program. The program addresses existing lifecycle needs, system improvements, and growth related priorities.

The City is responsible for a transportation system that promotes the movement of goods and services while providing for transportation mobility choices for residents. An efficient transportation system promotes business, creates employment, provides social opportunities and saves lives. A key consideration in the delivery of the Infrastructure Construction Program is the efficiency of infrastructure delivery and minimization of delays and inconveniences to the public during construction.

DISCUSSION

A number of large construction projects are currently scheduled for implementation in 2017. The Key Map and Table 1 (below) provide a listing of projects which will have an impact on traffic flows around the City. A number of these projects will affect traffic and coordination has been carried out at project and program levels to reduce the impacts.

Table 1 – Top 10 City Projects

	Street/Project	Scope	Budget	Schedule	Traffic Impact
1	Western / Wharnclyffe Rail Diversion	Prerequisite to 2018 Road Widening - Rail diversion prep work	TBA	Aug 2017 – March 2018	Reduced lanes Road Closures
2	Dundas Street	Sewer, water, road	\$6 m	April – Oct 2017	Road Closure 2 of 3 phases Dundas
3	Veterans Memorial Parkway	Road	\$6 m	April – Oct 2017	Reduced lanes
4	Sarnia Road	2 Lane upgrade	\$6 m	April – Oct 2017	Reduced lanes
5	Wonderland / HWY 402	2 Lane upgrade	\$7.7 m	April – Oct 2017	Reduced Lanes / Intersection
6	Byron Baseline Road	Water, road, signals	\$3 m	May – Oct 2017	Reduced lanes / intersection impact
7	Baseline Road East Area	Sewer, water, road	\$3 m	April – Oct 2017	Reduced lanes
8	Queens Ave Bike lane	Bike Lane	\$1 m	May – Oct 2017	Reduced lanes
9	Beachwood	Road	\$2.6 m	April – Oct 2017	Road closed / intersection impact
10	Tributary C	SWM Works	\$8 m	April – Nov 2017	2-3 week Road closure Oxford W / Westdel Bourne

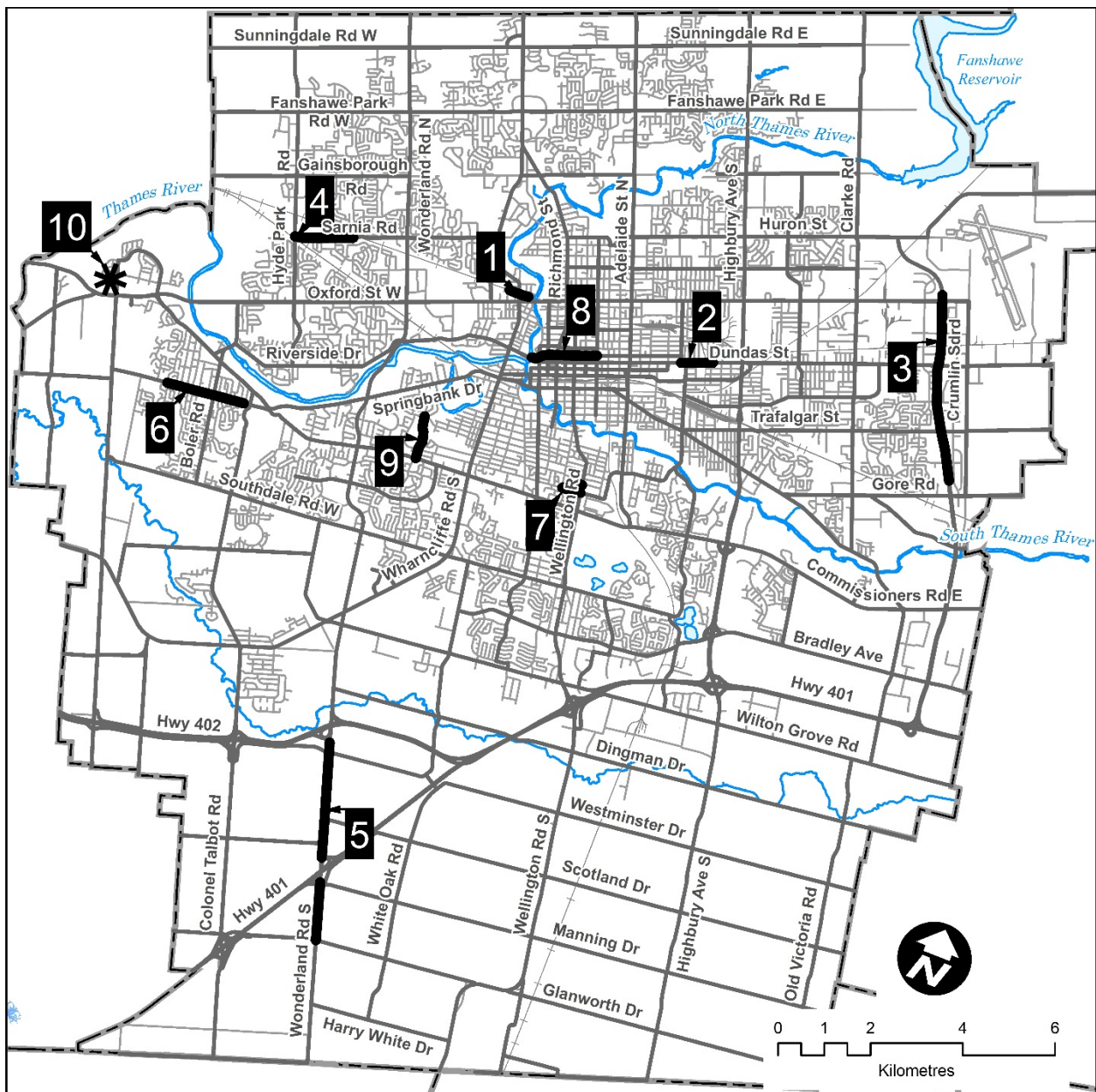
In addition to Table 1, there are a number of other medium scale reconstruction / resurfacing projects to rehabilitate infrastructure throughout the City which will have

local impacts and may require minor traffic detours. There will be 85 lane km of road reconstructed, 25 km of sanitary and storm sewers, and 13 km of watermain rebuilt. There will also be 10 km of watermain and 13 km of sewer trenchless lined. These trenchless programs allow for significant capital avoidance and minimized social impact by avoiding open cut construction.

The total of the 2017 capital infrastructure program is approximately \$179 M. It includes approximately \$67 M of road improvements, \$78 M of sewer improvements and \$34 M of water improvements.

All City projects are reviewed from a traffic and construction detour impact perspective. some locations will require road closures to complete the planned construction. Each closure will include a detour to safely redirect traffic around the disturbed areas and permit the work to be completed in a timely manner. The planned detours are as short a route as possible while keeping traffic on a similar class of roadway and not directing traffic through local streets. Notwithstanding the detour routes, residents should expect increased traffic volumes on some local roads near construction area as drivers look for shortest routes around the closures.

MAJOR 2017 CITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS



Traffic signal changes are made to accommodate changes in traffic flows as a result of construction and planned detours in order to help reduce delays. Routine maintenance undertaken by the City on roadways is scheduled in a manner to minimize impacts on traffic.

Table 2 shows some development projects that may affect City streets in 2017. It is difficult to identify exact timing at this point but the development projects will be coordinated with nearby City projects once better information is known.

In addition to City led projects, coordination is undertaken with known development projects that may impact traffic flows along City streets. It should be noted that the exact timing of these projects is dependant on the development industry. Some of the larger development projects that may affect public streets are as follows:

Table 2 - Development Projects

	Street/Project	Scope	Schedule	Traffic Impact
1.	Southdale/Bostwick Area Southwest Community Center	Southwest Community Center	2016 -17	Reduced lanes on Southdale for new infrastructure. Bostwick & Farnham road closures
2.	Talbot/Dufferin - High Rise	Mixed use development	2016 -17	Reduced lanes for construction access & servicing connections
3.	Fanshawe College (former Kingsmills) Carling Street	Institutional	2015 - 17	Reduced lanes & Road closures on Carling for construction access - staging

For 2017, our goal is to reduce traffic disruption on City-led construction projects on our roads by taking effective and responsible action to coordinate City projects in advance as much as possible. In addition to City projects, there are many other construction activities by third parties within the road that also impact the flow of traffic such as utility cuts for service repairs or new installations, street events and parades, and lanes closures to support development projects. All compounded by the hundreds of operational repairs (emergency and routine) from our Transportation, Water, Sewer and Forestry Operation teams. Advanced cumulative planning allows us to better respond to new and unplanned work and helps visualize the effects of all projects relative to others and promotes better definition of specifications around schedule for our contracts. Our aim is to ensure that construction is planned and sequenced in a manner that will minimize disruption to the public.

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Communications Plan

Every effort is being made to ensure Londoners are aware of construction zones and traffic detours resulting from road work. Daily updates are provided through the City’s website, www.london.ca/roadwork with information about road closures, ongoing and upcoming projects on city streets.

The social impact is being mitigated through coordination and communication. The specific communication strategies include:

- 2017 construction program media release;
- Operations meetings with Western University, LTC, Police, Fire, EMS, school boards and school bus providers and Canada Post;
- Public meetings for all major reconstruction projects;
- 3 letters to directly impacted residents for medium and large projects, 1 letter for short term work,
- special meetings for business areas;
- Social media (Facebook and Twitter);
- Renew London website (project updates, daily email to media and emergency services); and,
- Advanced warning signs.

Residents are encouraged to minimize their travel time impact by:

- Planning their commutes, using alternative routes;
- Utilize transit (<http://www.ltconline.ca>), car pool, ride your bike www.londonbikes.ca or walk; for assistance in finding a carpool, please visit <https://www.regionalrideshare.ca/en/my/> (Regional Rideshare (formerly London Carpools) is a free service that matches potential carpoolers. It is available to all Londoners and anyone who regularly commutes to and from London from surrounding communities.
- Adjusting their travel times to avoid peak periods.

CONCLUSION

The City has \$6.8 B of water/wastewater infrastructure and \$2.1 B of transportation Infrastructure, the timely replacement and upgrade of those assets is critical to ensuring long term sustainability of those services. The 2017 Infrastructure Construction Program has been planned to address asset needs for the lifecycle renewal while at the same time ensuring that the growth requirements of the community are met in a timely manner during the construction season.

While the projects have been scheduled in a manner to minimize social impacts on traffic, commuting around the city will be impacted and as such, residents are encouraged to plan ahead and exercise patience in construction zones.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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December 9, 2016

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cc: Transportation Advisory Committee c/o Betty Mercier
London Hydro