

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING ON JULY 17, 2017
FROM:	KELLY SCHERR, P.ENG., MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER
SUBJECT:	2017 ONTARIO MUNICIPAL COMMUTER CYCLING (OMCC) PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Environmental & Engineering Services and City Engineer, the following actions **BE TAKEN** with respect to the 2017 Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) Program:

- (a) the list of projects set out in Appendix B to this report **BE SUPPORTED** for application to the OMCC program;
- (b) the attached draft proposed by-law (Appendix A) **BE INTRODUCED** at the Municipal Council meeting to be held July 25, 2017 to:
 - i) authorize and approve the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) Program 2017 Application Declaration attached as Schedule A to the draft proposed by-law; and
 - ii) authorize the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute the Declaration authorized and approved in b) i) above; and
- (c) the Civic Administration **BE DIRECTED** to take all necessary steps to submit the City of London's application for OMCC funding in advance of the program deadline of August 18, 2017.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER
--

- Civic Works Committee – June 19, 2012 – London 2030 Transportation Master Plan
- Civic Works Committee – June 8, 2016 - London ON Bikes Draft Cycling Master Plan
- Civic Works Committee – September 7, 2016 - London ON Bikes Cycling Master Plan

2015-19 STRATEGIC PLAN

This report supports the objectives identified in the Strategic Plan by pursuing external funding to support the implementation of the London ON Bikes Cycling Master Plan. London ON Bikes contributes to Building a Sustainable City – Convenient and Connected Mobility Choices, by implementing and enhancing safe mobility choices for cyclists. These goals are consistent with the recently announced OMCC.

BACKGROUND

On May 29, 2017, the Government of Ontario introduced a four year, cost-shared fund for municipalities to use for commuter cycling infrastructure programs. This is in addition to significant existing investments from previous Provincial and Federal Government funds. Through the Province's Climate Change Action Plan, initiatives were identified to help municipalities reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The purpose of this report is to request support of projects for inclusion in a program application and enable the execution of a 2017 program participation declaration. Applications under this fund require support from City Council in advance of the August 18, 2017 application deadline.

Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) Program

Canadian cities have been growing at a rapid rate, leading to more traffic congestion, and long commutes that make it harder for people to get to work and for families to spend time together. The Province is looking to reduce both congestion as well as GHG emissions from transportation by encouraging residents to get out of their cars and onto bikes and transit for their daily commute and for other frequent trips.

The OMCC is a multi-year program that supports cycling investments funded through cap and trade proceeds that meet short-term commuter cycling priorities that will help municipalities such as London to:

- i. Provide better cycling networks across the province by targeting routes where high-commuting volumes can be established; and
- ii. Support the installation of cycling infrastructure that promotes safe cycling, such as grade separated routes as well as cycling signals.

Funding can cover costs associated with the design, implementation and construction work for new cycling projects. Projects must be identified in a cycling master plan. Fortunately, the City of London is well positioned, having recently completed the London ON Bikes Cycling Master Plan.

While the program extends for four years, the City will be able to choose to participate in the OMCC in any or all of the program years. The City will also be able to submit a request to update the approved project list semi-annually in future funding years.

The parameters with respect to utilizing the funding allocated to each municipality in 2017 are set out below:

- Municipalities must declare participation by August 18, 2017;
- Project costs can be incurred after May 30, 2017;
- Projects must be complete by December 30, 2020;
- Funding can cover up to 80% of costs for eligible projects, which can include costs associated with design/engineering, project management and construction.

Eligible projects include new commuter cycling infrastructure as well as enhancements to existing cycling infrastructure to better support commuting cyclists.

City of London's Potential OMCC Allocation

Specific to the initial round of available funding in Ontario, a total of \$40.5 million will be distributed in 2017 between the Ontario municipalities with a population greater than 15,000 citizens based on the following:

- A base amount of \$25,000;
- An amount allocated based on the municipality's population, compared to the populations of other applicant municipalities; and,
- An amount allocated based on the number of municipal commuting cyclists compared to the number of cycling commuters within other applicant municipalities. This is based on the 2011 National Census data.

Potential allocations have been estimated based on assumptions related to the parameters provided by the Province. It is suggested that with a declaration to join the OMCC program, the City of London may be eligible to receive a minimum 2017 provincial allocation in the order of \$1,350,000. The City would be responsible to contribute an additional minimum of 20% of the total program cost, resulting in a total 2017 program value of \$1,650,000. This allocation could increase dependent on how many and which municipalities do not participate in the program. Funds are available in capital budgets to support this application. The program relies on an undefined revenue source from Ontario's cap and trade program so specific future funding amounts beyond 2017 have not been provided.

Funding will be provided to participating municipalities after provision of a 2017 enabling bylaw and execution of a transfer payment agreement. Funds not used in one funding year can be carried over to be used in subsequent funding years provided projects are completed by December 30, 2020. OMCC funds and associated interest must be kept in a dedicated account and reported on annually.

Proposed Projects

Appendix B provides a listing of City projects and associated preliminary estimated costs for the four year Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program. The proposed projects are consistent with the recommendations in London's recently completed London ON Bikes Cycling Master Plan. The list proposes more project value than the anticipated minimum London funding in the hopes that more funding is available from under participation by other municipalities. This program will result in an increased rate of cycling infrastructure spending and construction, placing the City in an excellent position to meet or exceed the short term infrastructure goals of the Cycling

Master Plan.

The estimated total OMCC eligible cost for the identified cycling projects is \$23,000,000. The City investment would be \$4,600,000 if the OMCC funding level enables all projects to be implemented.

Submitting a large number of projects maximizes the City's potential allocation. The City can subsequently modify the project list and prioritize projects based on the OMCC allocations each year. Current priority projects are:

1. Thames Valley Parkway, North Branch Gap
2. Sarnia Road Bike Lanes, Sleightholme Avenue to Coombs Avenue
3. Downtown West Bike Parking Facility

Next Steps

The application and declaration forms need to be signed and submitted by the August 18, 2017 deadline.

The province has indicated that funding allocations will be announced on September 25, 2017. This would be followed by Council approval and execution of the program transfer payment agreement and flowing of funds. Municipalities must pass an enabling bylaw that commits municipal funding and identifies eligible projects on an annual basis to participate in the program.

CONCLUSION

The OMCC directs Ontario's cap and trade revenues to municipalities to provide better and safer commuter cycling networks. The program goal is to make cycling more appealing for commuting and frequent trips. This goal is in line with the objectives of the recently completed London ON Bikes Cycling Master Plan.

This report recommends that the City of London submits an application to join the OMCC program. Applications are due by August 18, 2017. Doing so will provide the City a large share of external funding. With continued participation, this program can help accelerate construction of numerous cycling projects identified in the London ON Bikes Cycling Master Plan. The projects include dedicated cycling facilities within municipal rights-of-way and portions of the parks pathway system.

Funds received from the program will be a significant benefit to help London connect and expand its cycling network, support environmentally friendly and healthy transportation choices and help meet the mode share targets set out in the Smart Moves Transportation Master Plan.

Acknowledgements

This report was prepared with the input of staff in the Transportation Planning & Design, and Environmental Programs and Parks Planning Divisions.

SUBMITTED BY:	CONCURRED BY:
DOUG MACRAE, P.ENG. DIVISION MANAGER TRANSPORTATION PLANNING & DESIGN	EDWARD SOLDO, P.ENG. DIRECTOR, ROADS & TRANSPORTATION
CONCURRED BY:	RECOMMENDED BY:
JOHN M. FLEMING, MCIP, RPP MANAGING DIRECTOR PLANNING AND CITY PLANNER	KELLY SCHERR, P.ENG., MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER

Appendix A: Proposed By-law

Appendix B: Proposed OMCC Application Projects

- c: Cycling Advisory Committee
 - Jay Stanford, Director, Environment, Fleet and Solid Waste
 - Andrew Macpherson, Manager, Environmental and Parks Planning
 - Ian Collins, Senior Financial Business Administrator, Finance

Appendix A

Bill No.
2017

By-law No.

A by-law to authorize and approve the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) Program 2017 Application Declaration and to authorize the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute the Declaration.

WHEREAS subsection 5(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides that a municipal power shall be exercised by by-law;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has introduced a program to promote commuter cycling in Ontario (“OMCCP”);

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Council wishes to seek funding through the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) Program, which requires the approval and execution of the 2017 Application Declaration;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

1. the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) Program 2017 Application Declaration attached hereto as Schedule A is hereby authorized and approved;
2. the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) Program 2017 Application Declaration authorized and approved in section 1, above.
3. This by-law shall come into force and effect on the day it is passed.

PASSED in Open Council , 2017

Matt Brown
Mayor

Catharine Saunders
City Clerk

First Reading – July 25, 2017
Second Reading – July 25, 2017
Third Reading – July 25, 2017

Schedule A

**Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) Program
2017 Application Declaration
Municipalities with a Population of 15,000 or Greater**

The Corporation of the City of London declares that it will participate in the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program (OMCC) for 2017 and requests funding to support the commuter cycling projects listed in this document.

The Corporation of the City of London declares that all the commuter cycling projects listed in this document and that use OMCC funding meet OMCC program requirements.

The Corporation of the City of London declares that it has a council approved cycling plan available at <http://www.london.ca/residents/Environment/EAs/Pages/London-on-Bikes.aspx> and that all projects submitted in this application for consideration for OMCC funding are supported by this plan.

Dated this ____ day of _____.

MATT BROWN
MAYOR

CATHARINE SAUNDERS
CLERK

**Appendix B
Proposed OMCC Application Projects**

Project Name	Project Description	Project Location	Start Date	Estimated OMCC Eligible Costs
Adelaide Street South Bike Lanes	Extension of new buffered bike lanes.	From Southdale Road East to Osgoode Drive	01-Sept-17	\$225,000
Thames Valley Parkway, North Branch Gap	New Multiuse path with two bridges across the Thames River.	Richmond Street to Adelaide Street	10-Nov-18	\$6,500,000
Lambeth Centennial Park Bridge & Pathway Rehabilitation	Bridge rehabilitation	Centennial Park	30-May-18	\$775,000
Thames Valley Parkway Rehabilitation	Pavement rehabilitation on North Branch	2A Grosvenor Street to 1250 Richmond Street North	07-May-18	\$500,000
Adelaide Street North Boulevard Path Improvements	Renewal & upgrades of in boulevard facilities and intersection crossings.	South of Kipps Lane to Windermere Road	01-Jun-18	\$800,000
Cheapside Street Bike Lanes	Construction of new bike lanes	Richmond Street to Adelaide Street	01-Jun-18	\$2,000,000
Improvements to bicycle detection at traffic signals and permanent bike counters	Traffic signal upgrades and cyclist counters	Various signalised intersections within the City of London	01-Jun-18	\$400,000
Egerton Street Bike Lanes	Construction of new Bike Lanes	From Dundas Street to Trafalgar Street	01-Jun-18	\$1,500,000
Downtown West Bike Parking Facility	Addition of new commuter bicycle parking	West side of downtown London (near Covent Garden Market & Bud Gardens)	01-Sept-18	\$500,000
North Commuter Area Bike Parking	Addition of new commuter bicycle parking	One or two locations to serve cyclists combined with major transit stations	01-Sept-18	\$100,000
Cheapside Street Bike Lanes	Construction of new bike lanes	From Sandford Street to Clarke Road	01-Jun-19	\$900,000

Project Name	Project Description	Project Location	Start Date	Estimated Project Cost
Oxford Street West Boulevard Path Improvements	Renewal & upgrades of in boulevard facilities and intersection crossings.	Hyde Park Road to Wonderland Road North	01-Jun-19	\$1,000,000
Sarnia Road Bike Lanes	Construction of new linear cycling facility	from Slieghtholme to Coombs Avenue	01-Jun-19	\$750,000
Colborne Street Bike Lanes	Construction of new bike lane	Horton Street to Grey Street	01-Jun-19	\$400,000
South Commuter Area Bike Parking	Addition of new commuter bicycle parking	One or two locations to serve cyclists combined with major transit stations	01-Sept-19	\$100,000
Downtown East Bike Parking Facility	Addition of new commuter bicycle parking	East side of downtown London (Wellington & King)	01-Sept-19	\$500,000
Colborne Street Bike Lanes	Bike lanes	Dufferin Ave to Oxford Street	01-Jun-20	\$800,000
Fanshawe Park Road Boulevard Path Improvements	Renewal and upgrades of in boulevard facilities and intersection crossings.	East of Wonderland Street North to Adelaide Street North	01-Jun-20	\$2,000,000
Hale Street Bike Lanes	Bike lanes	From Trafalgar Street to Dundas Street	01-Jun-20	\$900,000
Trafalgar Street Bike Lanes	Bike lanes	From Hale Street to Highbury Ave	01-Jun-20	\$350,000