



REQUEST FOR DECISION

MEETING DATE: March 20, 2023

TITLE: Trail and Sidewalk Connections Program

DIVISION: Planning & Infrastructure

SUMMARY:

During the Corporate Plan meeting on December 5, 2022, Council requested that Administration bring to Council an approach to address trail and sidewalk connections to better support pedestrian accessibility and walkability within the City, and that the approach include budget and recommended prioritization.

PROPOSED MOTION:

A motion is not required.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

The City has been completing missing pedestrian links since 2015. When the program was initially developed it was aimed at missing trails and sidewalks. These trail links were identified by staff, and sometimes residents, and were usually located in areas where developers missed linking the trails network together with some of the older neighbourhoods.

By 2018, most of these links within the trail network had been completed and the work slowly wrapped up. In order to continue to improve connectivity within the City, the Engineering department renamed the program to the "Pedestrian Walkways - Parks and Open Spaces Rehabilitation Program". This program now looked at trails, sidewalks, and bus stop connections throughout the City.

The program identified areas within the City that required additional connections either to existing trails, sidewalks, or to bus stop locations. The locations are placed on a list and work is completed based on the following needs:

1. Safety to the public;
2. Existing sidewalk and trail locations;
3. Usage;
4. Underground utilities; and
5. Right of Way (ROW) available to build the connection.

The program is budgeted bi-yearly with \$175,000 available for work in 2023, and \$200,000 available in 2025 (to show the funding through 2025).

Areas that have been identified for review and preliminary work are as follows:

- McLeod Avenue - Brebner Place heading west to the bus stop west of the church;
- Hillsdown Drive - Grove Drive to Haney Landing;
- East side of Jubilee Park entrance from Grove Drive to parking lot;
- Jennifer Heil Way - east and west sides from Dalton Link to Grove Drive with the east side being the priority;
- Spruce Ridge Road/Spring Gate/Tri Leisure Way - delineate the walkway (painting);
- McLeod Avenue - Nelson roundabout to Canadian Tire;
- McLeod Avenue and Oatway Street intersection;
- Highway 16a and Century Road - no existing sidewalk, lack of available space/grade concerns/high pressure line;
- Century Road - down to the Campground (future consideration - urban upgrades);
- McLeod Avenue and Century Road (South crossing) - needs to be reviewed;
- Jennifer Heil Way and Nelson Drive/Tri-Leisure - to connect the path to the south-east side;
- Calahoo Road to Mohr Avenue - upgrades - possibility to complete with the work in the City Centre;
- Century Road and Kings Link - median upgrades 2025;
- Walmart and RCMP - future consideration.

The following have been prioritized with estimates:

2023

McLeod Avenue/Oatway Street - \$70,000

Spring Gate/Tri-Leisure Way - \$5,000

McLeod Avenue - Brebner Place heading west to the bus stop west of the church - \$90,200

2025

McLeod Avenue - West Sobey's access, east to Nelson Drive roundabout - \$80,000

McLeod Avenue - Nelson roundabout to existing bus stop near mall - \$120,000

(both these locations in 2025 have space issues and utilities that need to be worked out)

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

n/a

CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT:

Public will be notified of any work begin completed in the area.

IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATION:

The work identified for each project will be completed that year. If there are some additional complex issues with a project, then preliminary work may need to be started earlier in order to have everything ready to go by the funding year.

IMPACTS:

Completion of each project increases the safety of pedestrians and the ease of which they can maneuver around the City without travelling on roads or uneven ground.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This program is funded in the approved 2023-2032 Long Term Capital Plan every two years as follows:

2023 - \$175,000

2025 - \$200,000

2027 - \$200,000

2029 - \$220,000

2031 - \$220,000