

# STAFF REPORT

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBOURG



<b>Report to:</b>	Mayor and Council Members	<b>Priority:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Low
<b>Submitted by:</b>	Jennifer Heslinga, Senior Financial Analyst, Finance-Corporate Services, jheslinga@cobourg.ca	<b>Meeting Type:</b>	Open Session <input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	February 16, 2021		
<b>Report No.:</b>	Corporate Services-023-21		
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**Subject/Title:** Amend By-law 009-2018: Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) Program agreement

## RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council authorize the amending agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in the right of Ontario represented by the Ministry of Transportation and the Corporation of the Town of Cobourg for the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling program to assist with funding claims for the Town's fiscal year 2020, including the purchase and installation of bicycle racks throughout the Town, and to extend the program for eligible claims for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021, pending the approval of the eligible project Kerr Street Multi-Use path that was previously approved in the 2021 Capital budget.

FURTHER THAT Council received this report for information purposes for an update on the status of the Town's Active Transportation capital project.

The eligible projects under this funding have improved the effectiveness of

## **1. STRATEGIC PLAN**

the Town's active transportation system, and the objectives of the Town's Strategic Plan.

## **2. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

NA

## **3. PURPOSE**

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## **4. ORIGIN AND LEGISLATION**

Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling (OMCC) program.  
By-law 009-2018

## **5. BACKGROUND**

In 2017, the Province announced a new Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling program for the building of new and enhancing existing commuter cycling infrastructure to help Ontario achieve its vision for commuter cycling under Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan. Investments in commuter cycling infrastructure will help promote safety for cyclists, making cycling more comfortable and appealing for day-to-day travel.

Town staff, in consultation with the Environmental Active Transportation Advisory Committee determined that the most critical location for a commute cycling facility to be installed was on Elgin Street between Strathy Road and Division Street. The Town was successful in this application for the Elgin Street multi-use path, for up to 80% of costs to be covered by the OMCC program.

Public Works staff prepared an application for OMCC funding with the Elgin Street improvements as the candidate project to be constructed over three (3) years. It was estimated that the cost of constructing the works would be \$300,000 for which the Town would be responsible for contributing 20% (\$60,000 total or \$20,000/year).

On February 5, 2018, Council passed bylaw 009-2018 to enter into the agreement with the Ministry of Transportation for the OMCC program, based off the Eligible Projects list (Elgin Street Multi-use path), and if further projects arise, the Town would be required to re-apply for additional funding.

## **6. ANALYSIS**

The Town received the funding for this eligible project during 2018 in the amount of \$202,855.50.

**Elgin Street Multi-use path: eligible project funding**

80% OMCC	= \$202,855.50
<u>20% Town/County</u>	<u>= \$50,714.00</u>
<b>Total Eligible Project</b>	<b>= \$ 253,569.50</b>

In conjunction with the Northumberland County funding, the project was successfully completed in 2020, with the total Elgin Street multi-use path Project costing \$231,880.26.

	80% OMCC program	= \$185,504.21
20%	9% County	= \$21,080.18
	11% Town/Gas Tax	<u>= \$25,295.87</u>
	<b>Total Actual Costs</b>	<b>= \$231,880.26</b>

The Elgin Street Multi-use path project came in under budget, at \$231,880.26. With only \$185,504.21 being covered by OMCC, the Town has approximately \$17,351.29 remaining of OMCC grant monies. If not spent, this money would be returned to the Ministry of Transportation, with accumulated interest.

Finance Staff have worked with MTO to request an extension on the program, in order to claim an eligible project for 10 bicycle racks in the amount of \$6,930.34 (80% or \$5,544.27 of that being covered by OMCC) that have been purchased and installed through the Town, in line with the active transportation capital project, and the Town's Strategic Plan.

After claiming the bicycle racks, that leaves approximately \$11,807.02 of OMCC monies to use on future projects in 2021. Factoring in accumulated interest for the funds received over the last three years, this figure is approximately now \$17,248.00.

It is the recommendation from Public Works staff (pending approval from MTO- OMCC program) that the remaining funds from the OMCC program be used towards the Kerr Street multi-use path extension from the west end of the trail to Ontario Street. Consequently, this will reduce the draw from the Federal Gas Tax Fund where it was previously budgeted.

## **7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/BUDGET IMPACTS**

In early 2018, Town staff budgeted the capital project for Active Transportation in the amount of \$100,000, with \$33,000 to come from Federal Gas Tax, and \$67,000 from OMCC. (with full OMCC funding opportunities known at the time)

An additional \$20,000 was budgeted from Federal Gas Tax in 2019 for Active Transportation.

On February 1st, 2021, council approved the Town's capital budget, which included a \$25,000 capital project for a multi-use path from the end of the

**Kerr Street trail to Ontario Street, to be funded from the Federal Gas Tax fund.**

## **8. CONCLUSION**

**That the Town of Cobourg Council authorize the execution of the amending agreement for the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling program to extend the program to December 31, 2021, to assist with funding of capital projects for active transportation, specifically bicycle racks and the Kerr Street Multi-use path extended to Ontario Street.**

## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Amend bylaw 009 2018 OMCC agreement - Corporate Services-023-21.docx
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Staff Report - Agreement with Ont. Municipal Commuter Cycling Program 2018.pdf</li><li>- bylaw 009-2018 Agree Ont Municipal Commuter Cycle (OMCC).pdf</li><li>- Cobourg Town of - OMCC Amendment Agreement FINAL Feb 3 2021.pdf</li><li>- LOA - OMCC Cobourg 2021 w signatures (2).pdf</li></ul>
Final Approval Date:	Feb 5, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Ian Davey, Treasurer / Director of Cooperative Services - Feb 5, 2021 - 8:59 AM**

**Tracey Vaughan, Chief Administrative Officer - Feb 5, 2021 - 2:56 PM**