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**Subject:** Town of Lincoln Waterfront Investment Program Extension Request

**Report to:** Planning and Economic Development Committee

**Report date:** Wednesday, December 9, 2020

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## **Recommendations**

1. That the Town of Lincoln's request for an extension of the Lincoln Museum and Cultural Centre project which was allocated funding through the Region's 2018 Waterfront Investment Program **BE APPROVED** by Regional Council; and
2. That a copy of this report **BE CIRCULATED** to the Town of Lincoln.

## **Key Facts**

- The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information regarding a request by the Town of Lincoln for a second extension under the 2018 Waterfront Investment Program (WIP) for the Lincoln Museum and Cultural Centre.
- In 2018, the Town of Lincoln was allocated \$250,000 by Niagara Region through WIP. The project was scheduled to be completed by December 2019 with final WIP reporting due no later than February 15, 2020.
- Per program parameters, staff have delegated authority to provide one extension per project. Following Regional staff inquiry in June 2020, the Town indicated the project was not complete and requested an extension, which was approved by Regional staff with a new completion deadline of December 18, 2020 (Appendix 1).
- The Town has now requested a second extension for WIP final reporting on this project to May 31, 2021 (Appendix 2), which must be reviewed and direction provided by Regional Council. Details of the project and this request are outlined below.

## **Financial Considerations**

A total of \$250,000 in funding for this project was allocated in 2018, to be disbursed on approval of final reporting following project completion. Approval of the Town of Lincoln's WIP 2018 project extension request would require a 2020 encumbrances of funding to support the 2021 disbursement. If required, this will be included in the 2020 Year End Results and Transfer Report.

## **Analysis**

In 2018, the Town of Lincoln was allocated \$250,000 in funding under the WIP for the Lincoln Museum and Cultural Centre project. This project was originally slated to be complete in December 2019, with final reporting due to the Region no later than February 15, 2020.

Regional staff contacted the Town in June 2020 requesting an update on the project, and the Town requested at that time an extension through December 18, 2020. The explanation provided was that it took longer to secure additional funding for the project, resulting in a delayed start and construction schedule. However the Town noted that despite pandemic-related shutdowns, it believed the project would be complete by December 2020. Under WIP parameters, Regional staff have delegated authority to approve one extension per project, which was immediately provided (Appendix 1).

In November 2020, the Town requested a second extension for the project based on information received from its general contractor. The rationale for this request, outlined in Appendix 2, includes supply chain issues delaying the delivery of key components and thus projected work and timelines, and limits regarding number of workers onsite due to covid-19 restrictions. The Town currently estimates that 77% of the project is complete, with 15% more expected to be completed by end of year. Total project completion is now estimated to be Q1-2 2021, with most of the remaining work anticipated to relate to trades and services as opposed to large, supply chain-related components. Given the nature of the remaining work and the impossibility of predicting potential pandemic-related policies which may affect it, the Town is asking for a new WIP final reporting extension date for this project of May 31, 2021.

## **Alternatives Reviewed**

Given the unforeseen effects of the pandemic on this project, the amount of work accomplished to date, and the clear and realistic workplan in place to complete it, it is recommended Council approve this request by the Town of Lincoln for a project extension and related WIP reporting requirements.

The alternative, which is not to approve, is not recommended.

## **Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities**

Capital projects funded under WIP such as the Town of Lincoln Museum and Cultural Centre align with Council Strategic Priority (1) Supporting Businesses and Economic Growth.

## **Other Pertinent Reports**

PDS 16-2018      Waterfront Investment Program 2018 Funding Recommendations

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### **Recommended by:**

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### **Submitted by:**

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Acting Chief Administrative Officer

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1   Letter to Director of Community Services, Town of Lincoln, June 17, 2020

Appendix 2   Letter from Director of Community Services Town of Lincoln, November  
11, 2020