
Subject: Oswego Creek Bridge Replacement Project

Report to: Public Works Committee

Report date: Tuesday, December 3, 2024

Recommendations

1. That Report PW 35-2024 **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to update Council on the progress of the Oswego Creek Bridge (structure No. 045205) Replacement Project.
- On March 21, 2024, Council approved the report to award the tender 2023-T-222, Regional Road 45 Oswego Creek Bridge (Structure No. 045205) over Oswego Creek, in the Township of Wainfleet, to Anthony's Excavating Central Inc.
- A Stage 3 Archaeological Investigation was completed and recommended that a Stage 4 investigation be undertaken, which is now being coordinated and will extend the duration of the bridge closure.
- Construction will commence following the site clearing of Archaeological significance, which is anticipated to be fall 2025.

Financial Considerations

The total Capital Project budget for this project is \$8,425,000 with Capital Levy Reserves of \$4,212,500 and Development Charges of \$4,212,500.

Council approved a total budget of \$8,425,000 in 2023 for the Oswego Creek Bridge Replacement under capital project 20001772. \$4,212,500 of the funding is from the Capital Levy Reserve and the remaining \$4,212,500 is funded by Development Charges – Roads.

Contract 2023-T-222 was awarded to Anthony's Excavating Central Inc., in the amount of \$5,255,812 (including non-recoverable HST).

Contract 2022-T-222 was awarded to Anthony's Excavating Inc. (PO 133674) in the amount of \$5,255,812 (including non-recoverable HST). The Contract scope included construction costs for the existing bridge demolition, new structure build, new road

approaches and the Stage 3 Archeological investigation. The Stage 4 investigation is planned to be coordinated under the contract 2022-T-222. Please refer to the Analysis section of this report for further details.

There are sufficient funds in the capital budget to address the additional fees associated with our consultants work for the Stage 3 and Stage 4 Archeological investigations.

The cost of a Stage 3 investigation, including costs associated with the participation of the First Nations, was included in the budgeting process; however, the Stage 4 archeological investigation and related First Nations participation was not initially contemplated. Therefore, a further report will be brought to Council, if required, to address any increase to the budget for the Stage 4 investigation and related costs. The final costs are not currently known.

Analysis

The Oswego Creek bridge is past its useful life and is scheduled for replacement. The bridge has been closed to vehicle and pedestrian traffic due to the deterioration of the structural elements of the bridge since 2022.

The replacement of the Oswego Creek bridge was recommended through the Municipal Class Schedule C Environmental Assessment completed in 2021.

The Oswego Creek bridge was closed to vehicle and pedestrian traffic in 2022 due to the deterioration of the structural elements of the bridge. A detour has been in place since this time and will remain until the bridge structure is replaced. The steps required for the bridge replacement such as design, property acquisitions, archaeological investigations and utility relocations have been progressing since the bridge closure.

A Stage 3 Archaeological Investigation was included in the overall scope of work for the bridge demolition and reconstruction (contract 2022-T-222).

The required Stage 3 Archaeological investigation work was included in the contract scope of work because it was anticipated that, at a minimum, the clearance of the Stage 3 Archaeological investigation would be required.

The need to complete a Stage 4 Archaeological investigation has been identified.

The Stage 3 Archaeological investigation concluded the need to undertake a Stage 4 Archaeological investigation. The Stage 4 investigation will be added to contract 2022-T-222 to achieve efficiencies and allow the contractor to assist the Archaeological consultant as required.

The Stage 4 Archaeological Investigation will have a significant impact on the timing to replace the bridge structure and reopen Regional Road 45 to traffic.

The detailed workplan to complete the Stage 4 Archaeological investigation is currently underway. The work is anticipated to start in 2024 or early 2025 and will take approximately one (1) year to complete. This work is also weather-sensitive and can only be completed during dry weather. The Stage 4 Archaeological works will have a significant impact on the timing to replace the bridge. Although every effort will be made to expedite the work to the greatest extent possible, with the unknown elements associated with this degree of archaeological investigation, it is not possible to accurately predict when the work will conclude. As the investigation progresses further, information will be provided to the public.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

The information contained in this report serves to support the following strategic priorities of Council:

- Effective Region
- Prosperous Region

Effective Region, the Regional road network serves to provide critical links for the movement of goods throughout the Region. Many transport services rely upon the Regional Road network to assist in the movement of goods to businesses across the Region. Businesses count on the continuity of the Regional Road system to effectively plan routing to minimize travel times and maximize efficiencies. The recommendations in this report are intended to restore the current link that is not available in the timeliest manner.

Prosperous Region, the current recommendation invests and enhances vehicular and pedestrian access in the Township of Wainfleet.

Other Pertinent Reports

[PW 6-2024 – Award of Contract 2023-T-222 Regional Road 45 Oswego Creek Bridge \(Structure No. 045205\) Over Oswego Creek, in the Township of Wainfleet.](#)

(<https://pub-niagararegion.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=eb802bff-5601-4420-83b8-113d139b10fe&Agenda=Merged&lang=English&Item=14&Tab=attachments>)

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This report was prepared in consultation with Graeme Guthrie, Associated Director Transportation Engineering, Brian McMahon, Program Financial Specialist, Janet Rose, Communications Consultant and reviewed by Frank Tassone, Director Transportation Services, Donna Gibbs, Director of Legal Court Services.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Key Map