



## **Administrative Report**

### **Office of the Director of Infrastructure Services**

**To: Warden Tom Bain and Members of County Council**

**From: Tom Bateman, P.Eng  
Director of Infrastructure Services/County Engineer**

**Date: September 5, 2018**

**Subject: County Road 22 – Corridor Study**

**Report #: 2018-0905-IS-R022-TRB**

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#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide County Council information and recommendations pertaining to a request from the Town of Lakeshore for improvements and a proposed corridor study on County Road 22 in the Town of Lakeshore.

#### **Background**

County Road 22 provides a critical transportation link from the City of Windsor through the Towns of Tecumseh and Lakeshore. This corridor continues to be impacted from development pressures that have resulted in significant increases in traffic volumes. The corridor has been the subject of several studies and an Environmental Assessments, as well as significant investments by the County of Essex to improve the safety and capacity of the facility. In the Town of Lakeshore these development pressures have recently accelerated raising concerns for residents along the corridor. Appendix 1 indicates the general location along County Road 22.

#### **Discussion**

The County has been diligent in monitoring and reviewing conditions along the corridor and undertaking site specific reviews as concerns have been raised. The reviews and analysis conducted have been mindful of the

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proposed improvements identified in the approved Environmental Assessment and its preferred alternative for future improvements.

In discussions with Lakeshore Administration, the County has suggested that the appropriate approach in responding to the development impacts on the corridor and concerns being raised by residents would be to conduct an area wide corridor study. The study would review current and future conditions along County Road 22 from Puce to Belle River, considering future development connectivity opportunities and the County's existing Corridor Management Strategy. Appendix 2 shows the area under review.

This study would provide a comprehensive review on an area wide basis to ensure proper traffic management for not only County Road 22 but the local road network, as opposed to considering installing traffic control signals in isolation.

In response to concerns raised by residents, Lakeshore Council recently adopted the following resolution:

- 1) That the Deputy Mayor request the County of Essex to expedite the proposed County Road 22 traffic study and,
- 2) Request the County of Essex to expedite the installation of traffic signals at County Road 22 and Emery Drive.

Attached to this report in Appendix 3 is a copy of the resolution and a report from the Town of Lakeshore Administration.

As County Council is aware, the County's analysis of intersections for potential signalization follows a formal and very technical process to determine justification established through the Ministry of Transportation. The Warrant Analysis provides a consistent and reliable review process that considers numerous factors including traffic volumes, delays, collision history and pedestrian demands.

The intersection of County Road 22 and Emery Drive was not identified for signalization in the County Road 22 Environmental Assessment. A Signal Justification review was conducted at this intersection in 2016, 2017 and again in 2018 and did not meet the minimum warrants for signalization. The intersection was also reviewed for a Pedestrian Crossover justification and again did not meet the minimum warrants.

It is a long standing policy of the County to not support the installation of unwarranted traffic control signals on intersections under its jurisdiction.

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To address the concerns the County's suggested methodology is to jointly conduct the "area wide" study of the corridor in lieu of addressing issues in isolation. The study will consider the improvements recommended in the 2006 Environmental Assessment, corridor management alternatives, status of area development pressures and associated timing an review opportunities through development to provide alternative access or bypass of County Road 22.

It is proposed that the 2019 Infrastructure Services Department Budget include funding to jointly undertake the area wide study as outlined. Upon completion of the study its recommendations will be used as a foundation for updating the 2006 Environmental Assessment and developing a strategy for undertaking improvements.

It is critical that this corridor be appropriately managed to protect its ability to provide an acceptable level of service for moving traffic while protecting all road uses including cyclists and pedestrians.

## **Financial Implications**

The costs of the study will be included in the proposed 2019 Infrastructure Services Department budget and shared with the Town of Lakeshore.

## **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the request from the Town of Lakeshore to signalize the intersection of County Road 22 and Emery Drive not be approved at this time, pending further analysis.

And further that the County and Town of Lakeshore jointly cost share and undertake a comprehensive area wide study to address development pressures along County Road 22 from Puce to Belle River.

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Respectfully Submitted

*Tom Bateman*

Originally Signed by

Tom Bateman P.Eng, Director of Infrastructure Services/County Engineer

Concurred With,

*Robert Maisonville*

Originally Signed by

Robert Maisonville, Chief Administrative Officer

<b>Appendix No.</b>	<b>Title of Appendix</b>
1	Location Map
2	Study Area
3	Town of Lakeshore Administration and Council Resolution