



Administrative Report

Office of the Director, Infrastructure & Planning Services

To: Warden MacDonald and Members of Essex County Council

From: Allan Botham, P.Eng.
Director, Infrastructure & Planning Services

Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Subject: Highway #3 Widening Construction Update

Report #: 2023-1018-IPS-R35-AB

Purpose

The purpose of this Administrative Report (the "**Report**") is to provide County Council with the necessary background information for Council to direct the Warden and the Clerk to execute an Agreement with the Province of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Transportation ("**MTO**") for the further widening of Highway 3.

Background

The MTO has been progressively widening Highway 3 from a 2-lane highway to a 4-lane highway for a number of years now. During the 2024 construction season the MTO wants to proceed with expanding Highway 3 from 1.1 km east of County Road 23 to 1.1 km east of County Road 34 (the "**MTO Project**").

In order for the MTO Project to proceed, the MTO requires that a formal Agreement be entered into. The County Solicitor and I have been involved in negotiating the terms of the Agreement in the form appended to this Report as **Appendix "A"**.

The subject agreement defines and acknowledges typical project parameters such as:

- Lines of communication between the MTO and the County;
- Timely review and responses to questions from both parties;
- Technical design standards for areas of work on County roads required for transition or tie-in;

- Minimum maintenance of basic service such as garbage collection and winter control; and
- Permission to enter on and modify County roads as required for transitions and tie-ins.

Discussion

Representatives from the MTO will be in attendance during the presentation of this Report, and will (1) provide a presentation on behalf of the MTO and (2) answer technical questions Council may have with respect to the MTO Project.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications to the County, with the MTO Project being fully funded by the Province.

Consultations

I have consulted with the County Solicitor in negotiating the terms of the Agreement and in preparing this Report.

Recommendation

That Essex County Council authorize the Warden and the Clerk to execute an Agreement with MTO in substantially the form of Agreement appended to this Report.

Approvals

Respectfully Submitted,

Allan Botham

Allan Botham, P.Eng., Director, Infrastructure and Planning Services

Concurred With,

Sandra Zwiers

Sandra Zwiers, MAcc, CPA, CA, Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix	Title
A	Agreement