

FORMAL REPORT

To:	Mayor Strathdee and Members of Council
Prepared by:	Jeff Wolfe, Asset Management and Engineer Specialist
Date of Meeting:	26 September 2017
Subject:	PW 51-2017 FiberMat Surface Treatment Deferment

PURPOSE

To update Council on deferring the application of the 2017 FiberMat Surface Treatment Program to spring of 2018 to be paid from 2018 budget funds, and to request the reallocation of 2017 budget funds in the amounts of \$45,000 to the 2017 asphalt resurfacing program and \$25,000 to the 2017 forestry program.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT PW 51-2017 FiberMat Surface Treatment Deferment report be received; and,

THAT Council authorize the reallocation of \$25,000 of the 2017 surface treatment funds to cover expected budget overages in forestry program; and,

THAT the balance of the 2017 surface treatment operating budget of \$45,000 be reallocated to asphalt resurfacing on arterial and collector roads.

BACKGROUND

The Town's annual road maintenance program utilizes surface treatment applications to extend the useful life of its asphalt roads. Historically, the Town has used low class bituminous surface treatment (BST), also known as "Tar and Chip" as an asphalt roadway preventative maintenance measure. Neighboring municipal roads departments use a proprietary high performance BST called FiberMat, a more expensive but enhanced BST consisting of shredded fiberglass and trap rock for aggregate. Following a comparative trial on Thames Road, whereby the Town utilized our standard surface treatment until Town limits, connecting with the Township of Perth South's FiberMat treatment it was determined FiberMat is a superior method for surface treatment for 2017.

PW 37-2017 requested the use of proprietary FiberMat surface treatment on Town roads in 2017; the report was received and approved by Council.

REPORT

The Town has been informed by the FiberMat distributor (NorJohn Contracting and Paving Ltd.) that there have been unforeseen delays receiving the necessary additives required to manufacture the FiberMat product. NorJohn anticipates FiberMat will be available later this fall.

However, when applying FiberMat, specific weather conditions are required to complete the sealing, including direct sunlight and heat. Based on current weather trends it is unlikely satisfactory weather will be in the forecast. It is imperative the application begins under such specific conditions to maximize the useful life of the surface treatment.

Therefore, staff are recommending FibreMat should not be applied this fall, and application should be deferred to the summer of 2018 after school is dismissed for the summer break. This delay will allow

for application in acceptable weather conditions and allow NorJohn contracting time to stabilize the material supply chain. Staff will plan for this surface treatment program in 2018 and will add the necessary budget funds to the 2018 draft operating budget.

With this deferral of the surface treatment program the \$70,000 budget for this program is now available within the approved 2017 operating budget. Staff recommends that \$25,000 be used to fund the variance that was approved by Council on September 12, 2017 for the forestry program.

Staff recommends that the remaining \$45,000 be reallocated to the 2017 asphalt resurfacing program that was awarded to COCO Paving. Public Works received lower than expected unit costing on asphalt resurfacing as detailed in PW 45-2017, and Council approved spending up to the budget limit to accomplish as much asphalt resurfacing as possible in 2017.

If the \$45,000 in additional funds are reallocated from the 2017 Surface Treatment Program the asphalt resurfacing program could be expanded further. Staff has confirmed with COCO Paving that they can complete the expanded scope within the original project completion date of October 31, 2017.

The proposed final scope would include:

1. Queen Street East from Charles St. to Cain St.
2. Queen Street East from Cain St. to Rd 120 (Northern 2 lanes) – Additional
3. East Lane Water Street South near the Town limit
4. Top Coat Application - St. Maria Street, Washington Street and Wellington Street South.

SUMMARY

The combination of delayed product delivery and unsuitable weather conditions have impeded the Town of St. Mary's 2017 surface treatment program. The department proposes the program be deferred until summer 2018 with application to occur in conjunction with the anticipated 2018 surface treatment program.

While the deferment prevents surface treatment application in 2017, it ensures quality and cost efficient road maintenance at a later date. Since this is a proactive preventative maintenance program, it is unlikely that delaying the process by a few months will have any negative impact on the well-being of Town infrastructure.

Staff are recommending \$25,000 of the approved 2017 surface treatment budget be used to cover the approved quadrant pruning variance (see report PW 47-2017) program and the remaining funds of \$45,000 be directed to expand the asphalt resurfacing of arterial roads planned for fall of 2017.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2017 operating budget allocates \$70,000 for asphalt surface treatment.

STRATEGIC PLAN

- ☐ Not applicable to this report.
- ☒ This initiative is supported by the following priorities, outcomes, and tactics in the Plan.
 - Pillar #1 Infrastructure: Strategic Priority for “Developing a comprehensive and progressive infrastructure plan”
 - Outcome: St. Marys is committed to developing a progressive and sustainable infrastructure plan that meets the infrastructure needs of today and tomorrow. This will require a balance between building and regular maintenance.

OTHERS CONSULTED

Jim Brown, Treasurer, Town of St. Marys

ATTACHMENTS

None

REVIEWED BY

Recommended by the Department



Jeff Wolfe
Asset Management, Engineering Specialist



Jed Kelly
Director of Public Works

Recommended by the CAO



Brent Kittmer
CAO / Clerk