

INFORMATION REPORT

To:	Mayor Stratthdee and Members of Council
Prepared by:	Jeff Wolfe, Asset Management and Engineer Specialist
Date of Meeting:	10 October 2017
Subject:	PW 54-2017 Floodwall Repairs Project Update

RECOMMENDATION

THAT PW 54-2017 Floodwall Repairs Project Update report be received for information.

BACKGROUND

The St. Marys floodwall was constructed in 1990 and is meant to protect the downtown core from the 100-year return storm. A 2014 engineering inspection was completed by BM Ross & Associates on the floodwall that recommended various maintenance related activities to repair and prevent accelerated degradation of the structure.

REPORT

The Town contributes an annual special project levy to the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) to build a reserve for the St. Marys floodwall. When repair works are required, the costs are pulled from the special reserve fund. When the work exceeds the value of the levy, the Town is responsible for financing the outstanding amount.

The 2014 engineering inspection report recognized the Town's financial constraints and made recommendations for maintenance related activities in smaller scoped projects so that work could be completed over a longer period as funds became available. The Town's Capital Plan reflected those recommendations and had planned for the full cost of the various work to occur in smaller projects from 2017-2023.

The UTRCA has been working with the Town and made several grant applications to funding programs in an attempt to reduce the financial burden of the work. The UTRCA and the Town were successful in receiving a grant from the Water Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) funding program for \$72,500 as well as the Natural Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP) funding program for \$395,000. Both programs will fund up to 50% of the eligible costs of the project.

By receiving these grants, the recommended work can be completed as a larger scoped project, which will result in efficiencies in engineering and contract administrative activities and should result in lower construction unit rate costs.

The UTRCA has engaged BM Ross & Associates to carry out engineering and contract administration for the project. The NDMP funding is a two year grant, expiring in 2019. The WECI funding is a one year agreement that expires March 2018 so there is a desire to carry out at least some construction activities on the floodwall prior to the winter months in order to maximize its use. As a result, UTRCA are currently working with BM Ross to expedite a tender for fall construction on a short section of floodwall. The majority of work would then be completed in 2018.

SUMMARY & IMPLICATIONS

The 2014 engineering report recommendations estimated the value of the required work at approximately \$660,000 in 2014 dollars. The WECl and NDMP grants total \$467,500 and will cover up to a maximum of 50% of eligible construction and engineering costs of the project. The UTRCA reserve dedicated to the St. Marys Floodwall currently has a balance of \$130,000 that will be utilized for this project. The remainder of the funding required from the Town for the project (\$200,000) will be presented in the draft 2018 capital budget. Any work completed in 2017 would utilize the UTRCA special reserve fund and grants.

While UTRCA will be the lead and responsible for project management, Town staff will stay involved and ensure construction related impacts to local residents are considered throughout.

STRATEGIC PLAN

- ☐ Not applicable to this report.
- ☒ This initiative is supported by the following priorities, outcomes, and tactics in the Plan.
 - Pillar # 1 Infrastructure:
 - 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.
 - Tactic(s): prepare an itinerary of planned projects that can be made shovel-ready in response to funding changes at the senior levels of government

OTHERS CONSULTED

UTRCA Water Management Unit

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