

Meeting Date: Monday, May 29, 2023

To: Mayor Mills and Members of Council

From: Denyse Morrissey, Chief Administrative

Officer

Report: CAO 2023-13

Subject: Pride Cross Walk – Pride Month 2023

Recommendation

Be it Resolved that Council receives report CAO 2023-13 Pride Cross Walk – Pride Month 2023 for information and that Council approves the location for the Pride Cross Walk at Victoria Street and Main Street.

Background

A potential new cross walk and intersection painting program was discussed at the May 19, 2022, meeting of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. Staff provided information on the plans and process.

The link to the May 19, 2022, DEI meeting minutes is provided:

https://calendar.shelburne.ca/meetings/Detail/2022-05-19-1830-Shelburne-Diversity-Equity-and-Inclusion-Committee3/70b2f85b-43cd-4b73-a0d1-b00600efdd92

The following is extracted from the DEI meeting minutes, May 19, 2022:

"Staff provided background and information on the cross walk/intersection painting project/program, about 10 or more locations, which are being developed and in the very early stages.

All locations that would be approved by Council via a future staff report. Locations would be painted with various symbols to facilitate opportunities to educate, communicate and celebrate diversity equity and inclusion. Locations could be part of a walking tour with QR codes used to enhance the experience. The project also can support business within the Downtown core - BIA district via a walking tour for cross walks.

The plan is still exploratory and would not start until Fall 2022 or otherwise be included in the draft 2023 budget. The plan is to also work with the high school and other community partners. The committee asked about project costs.

Staff clarified that the project would be incorporated into the Town's operating budget. The Chair suggested that based on the current DEI workload, the committee would not become too involved. Staff clarified that the project is intended to be Town managed, and a staff report will be presented to Council recommending locations for Councils approvals.

It is expected to be a multi-year project budget. Staff wanted to make the DEI committee aware of the program and request support in principle.

Recommendation:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we receive the general overview of cross walk/intersection painting project plan, as presented by Staff, and the DEI committee supports the initiative in principle, and the committee believes the project is consistent and a great reflection of DEI committees' values and what DEI hopes to achieve with the community."

Analysis

In fall 2022 the first painted cross walk was installed for Every Child Matters Cross Walk for Orange Shirt Day 2022. The location approved by Council was William Street and Main Street. The 2023 repainting, to be done again in-house by staff, was included in the 2023 budget.

With the severe winter and road maintenance, the crosswalk appearance deteriorated more drastically than was originally anticipated whereby no paint or feather images remain. It is expected that all crosswalks will require a full repainting each year and be included in the annual operating budget. Due to the road repairs that will be completed on William Street from the water main break this location will likely need to change for 2023 and then be re-instated in 2024.

A second cross walk is recommended for Pride Month at the corner of Victoria Street and Main Street. It is expected it can be completed by May 31, 2023, pending the location approval by Council. This location is in close proximity to Town Hall and Jack Downing Park. The Pride flag is also scheduled to be raised on June 1, 2023, at 12 noon in Jack Downing Park. Incorporating the opening of the Pride cross walk could be added to the flag raising ceremony on June 1, 2023.

Additional 2023 to 2026 recommended cross walk locations and themes/images would be provided in future staff reports for the consideration of Council. Based on a potential of 10 cross walks over the next five or more years, the following are the locations, in alphabetical order, that have been considered to date:

- Adeline Street at Main Street
- First Avenue at Owen Sound
- Greenwood Street at Robert Street
- James Street at Main Street (South side)
- Jelly Street at Main Street (North side)
- Jelly Street at Main Street (South side)
- Simon Street at Main Street
- William Street at First Avenue
- William Street at Main Street (existing Every Child Matters)
- Victoria Street at Main Street (recommended in this report for Pride)

Financial

The estimated costs for the Pride Cross Walk are:

Paint \$1,000

The project would be completed during regular hours so that no staff overtime is incurred. Paint costs were included in the 2023 approved budget for operations, parks and facilities division of the Operations and Development Department.

The design of the Pride cross walk was completed by staff and included the review of various Pride cross walks in other municipalities. The design is provided in Appendix 1.

Policies & Implications

Not applicable

Consultation and Communications

Review of designs of other municipalities with Pride cross walks.

Council Priorities

Council's Priorities has three Pillars - Sustainable, Engaged and Livable.

There is a total of 14 Priorities within the three Pillars. This report aligns with the Livable Priorities of:

- L1 Promote diversity, equity and inclusion
- L2 Support and celebrate arts and culture

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Denyse Morrissey, CAO

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