

October 23, 2009

Green Light for Hwy 19A Improvements

At its October 20 meeting, City Council gave formal approval for a consulting team to start design work for the Hwy 19A work. Tender documents are also to be prepared to allow construction to begin in the new year.

“The Hwy 19A upgrades will be priority work for the City over the next 18 months,” confirms Mayor Charlie Cornfield.

The highway upgrade project starts at Hilchey Road and continues north for almost one kilometre. Work includes the replacement of sewer, water, storm drain, conversion of all overhead utilities (hydro, telephone and cable) to underground, curbs, sidewalks, landscaping and street lighting – similar to the standard constructed through Willow Point. The project includes improved vehicle, transit, cycling and pedestrian routes as well as reconstruction of a major sewage pumping station and will fill in one more piece of the waterfront vision established by the community to encourage medium-high density residential in-fill along the corridor. The project will also upgrade utilities and infrastructure for eventual connection with Area D.

“Funding sources require that we complete the project by March 31, 2011,” the Mayor notes. *“This is an aggressive timeline, and we’re very pleased that work is already underway.”*

The combined Federal, Provincial and Municipal funds for this infrastructure project total \$13,140,750. Senior government funding amounts to two-thirds of the cost, and the City's share of the project is expected to be funded largely through reserves.

“These projects will enhance City infrastructure and provide an immediate and long-term boost to our local economy, and we continue to pursue additional funding to further reduce the impact on the City’s budget,” the Mayor concludes.

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