

To: Members of the General Committee

From: Richard Freymond, Commissioner of Corporate and

**Legislative Services** 

Meeting Date: April 3, 2023

Subject: Active Transportation Fund

Report CLSFS23-026

### **Purpose**

A report to advise Council of the successful application to the Active Transportation Fund (ATF) for the Rotary Trail and Lighting Project and to recommend the execution of a Transfer Payment Agreement, the establishment of a capital budget and associated budget transfers to fund the project.

#### Recommendations

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report CLSFS23-026 dated April 3, 2023, of the Commissioner of Corporate and Legislative Services, as follows:

- a) That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute a funding agreement and any subsequent corresponding agreements or amendments for the Active Transportation Fund on terms acceptable to the Commissioner of Corporate and Legislative Services, and in forms acceptable to the City Solicitor; and
- b) That a Capital Budget for the Rotary Greenway Trail Link Lighting and Safety Project be established for \$1,700,000 and be funded as outlined in Table 1 of this report.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

The total estimated project costs (net of HST rebate) is \$1,700,000 including design, construction, contingency allowance, and engineering overhead costs.

Table 1 summarizes the funding by source.

Table 1 - Proposed Funding Sources for the Rotary Greenway Trail Link Lighting and Safety Project

Ref	Description (1)	Funding (2)
1	Direct Revenue - Canada Grant (ATF)	\$390,000
2	Direct Revenue – Community Fundraising	\$50,000
3	Intersection Improvements (2023 Cap Bud Ref #5-9.06) Debt – Tax Supported (\$500,000) Debt – DC Roads and Related (\$500,000)	\$1,000,000
4	Various Multi-use Trails (2019 Cap Bud Ref #5-5.01 (ESW/0003)) Debt - Tax Supported \$107,000 Casino Gaming Reserve \$147,500	\$254,500
5	Multi-use Bike Lane Improvements (2017 Cap Bud Ref #5-13.02 (TRT/0007)) Capital Levy \$5,500	\$5,500
6	Total Funding	\$1,700,000

## **Background**

On February 10, 2021, the Prime Minister, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, and Minister of Environment and Climate Change announced \$5.9 billion in new funding for public transit and active transportation over 5 years, beginning in 2021-22, with a permanent annual envelope of \$3 billion ongoing beginning in 2026-27.

This funding included the creation of an Active Transportation Fund (the Fund), a \$400 million, 5-year investment to fund projects that expand and enhance active transportation networks in communities of all types and sizes, and support Canada's National Active Transportation Strategy.

Active transportation refers to the movement of people or goods powered by human activity. Active transportation includes walking, cycling and the use of human-powered or hybrid mobility aids such as wheelchairs, scooters, e-bikes, rollerblades, snowshoes and cross-country skis, and more.

The objective of the Fund is to increase the total amount, usage, and quality of active transportation infrastructure throughout Canada. The Fund will support capital and planning projects that encourage a modal shift away from cars and improve the safety and security of Canadians.

In advancing this objective, the Fund will also support the goals of the Strengthened Climate Plan and improve the resilience of communities. In recognition that almost every journey begins and ends with a form of active transportation, the Fund will seek to enhance the impact of other modes of transit by supporting first-and-last kilometre connections to existing and planned infrastructure.

#### Rotary Greenway Trail Link Lighting and Safety Project (the Project)

In April 2022, the City submitted two applications for ATF funding - the Lansdowne Street West – Spillsbury to Clonsilla multi-use trail (as part of the larger reconstruction project) and the Rotary Greenway Trail Link Lighting and Safety Project. The Lansdowne Street West project was not successful in securing ATF funding however, on December 22, 2022, the City was notified that the Rotary Greenway Trail Link Lighting and Safety Project was approved in principle. Federal funding of the project from the ATF is up to 60% of the total eligible project costs to a maximum contribution of \$390,000.

The project will provide infrastructure enhancements along the Rotary Greenway Trail link, making this a higher functioning and more efficient key north-south crosstown route. With these improvements, there will be an estimated 6.5 km of north-south, all ages and abilities, active transportation route linking the downtown, surrounding neighbourhoods, a secondary school and Trent University.

The project will include provision of lighting along 1.35 km of trail using 35-40 advanced LED technology luminaires and direct bury poles, one set of traffic signals and associated intersection safety improvements at the Hilliard Street/George Street intersection, 4 benches, multi-use trail pavement markings, and trail signage.

The City's 2022 Transportation Master Plan made recommendations for various intersection improvements for the 10-year planning horizon. The George Street and Hilliard Street intersection was one of those intersections. It is recommended to coordinate these projects to address the greater operational and geometric improvements at this intersection with one project. This includes a new set of traffic signals and related geometric civil works for improved pedestrian and trail user crossings. As a result, the project has increased scope and estimated costs but will benefit from the coordinated works.

When entering into the funding agreement, the City of Peterborough must confirm that all project funding has been secured. The project must be completed by September 30, 2025 with final reporting completed by March 31, 2026, the agreement expiration date.

# **Summary**

Establishing a capital project funded by the grant and various budget transfers from other projects is required. Council approval to pass a by-law to authorize the execution of the funding agreement is a necessary next step to enact this funding and move the project forward.

Submitted by,

Richard Freymond Commissioner of Corporate and Legislative Services

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