



City of
Peterborough

To: **Members of the General Committee**

From: **W.H. Jackson,
Commissioner of Infrastructure and Planning Services**

Meeting Date: **August 20, 2018**

Subject: **Report IPSTR18-021
Traffic Signals at Fairbairn Street and Highland Road**

Purpose

A report to recommend the implementation of Traffic Signals at the intersection of Fairbairn Street and Highland Road.

Recommendation

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report USTR18-021 dated August 20, 2018, of the Commissioner of Infrastructure and Planning Services, as follows:

That Traffic Signals be installed at the intersection of Fairbairn Street and Highland Road.

Budget and Financial Implications

The implementation of traffic signals at the intersection of Fairbairn Street and Highland Road will cost approximately \$140,000, funds for which are available in the uncommitted balance in the 2018 Capital Budget for Traffic Signal Infrastructure (Project Reference 5-13.02).

The cost of these signals will be recovered from the Developers of Lily Lake Community via direct contributions prior to the issuance of building permits as outlined in Report

PLPD16-077 Application for Draft Plan of Subdivision Approval 15T-14502 and Zoning By-law Amendment 1418SB approved by Council October 24, 2016.

Background

In February 2018, staff received a request from the Principal of Highland Heights Public School to consider the implementation of a pedestrian crosswalk on Fairbairn Street in the vicinity of the intersection of Fairbairn Street and Highland Road where the Parkway Trail meets the east entrance of Jackson Park. Highland Heights' staff regularly conducts class field trips to Jackson Park and are concerned for the safety of the students and the public crossing Fairbairn Street at this location. This request was supported by a letter from Vision Loss Rehabilitation, a CNIB organization in Peterborough, and 76 letters, pictures and traffic study data from the students at Highland Heights Public School.

Site Details

Fairbairn Street is a two-lane low capacity arterial road running north-south from Lily Lake Road to Parkhill Road. Highland Road is a two-lane low capacity collector road running east-west from Chemong Road to Fairbairn Street. The two-way vehicle volume on Fairbairn Street is approximately 10,000 vehicles per day with approximately 3,500 vehicles per day on Highland Road. Highland Road intersects Fairbairn Street at a sharp curve in the road creating a 'T' intersection with stop sign control on Highland Road. The intersection also serves as the starting point of The Parkway Trail and the east entrance into Jackson Park via a gravel trail. The speed limit on both roads is 50km/h and there is a concrete sidewalk on the east side of Fairbairn Street and on both sides of the road on Highland Road. Highland Heights Public School is located on Highland Road approximately 360 metres east of the intersection. A sketch of the subject area is shown in Appendix A.

Lily Lake Road Development

On October 24, 2016 Council in considering Report PLPD16-077 approved the Draft Plan of Subdivision and Zoning By-law Amendment 1418SB for 821, 825, and 829 Lily Lake Road. These lands consist of approximately 42.1 hectares (104 acres) located along the south side of Lily Lake Road, approximately 300 metres west of Fairbairn Street and extend south from Lily Lake Road to Jackson Creek.

Through the application review process traffic impact studies identified that significant external road network improvements are required to accommodate not only growth in background traffic but also traffic generated by the development of the Lily Lake Planning area. An assessment of the road network determined that an initial phase of 600 units could proceed in the Lily Lake Planning Area subject to completion of improvements to the Lily Lake Road / Fairbairn Street intersection, the installation of traffic signals at the intersection of Fairbairn Street and Highland Road, and the

construction of a sidewalk along the west side of Fairbairn Street, between Highland Road and Parkview Drive.

Pursuant to Section 51(25) of the Planning Act, Council has the Authority to impose conditions of approval for subdivisions that are reasonable and have regard to the nature of development proposed. As such, condition #16 of Conditions of Draft Plan of Subdivision states:

“That Prior to Final approval of the first phase of development, the Owner shall agree to install temporary traffic signals at the intersection of Fairbairn Street and Highland Road and a temporary pedestrian facility along the west side of Fairbairn Street, between Parkview Drive and Highland Road, to the satisfaction of the City Engineer prior to the availability of building permits. Responsibility for funding for these temporary facilities shall be shared among development proponents in the Lily Lake Secondary Plan area.”

Discussion

In addition to managing vehicular traffic, the Fairbairn Street / Highland Road intersection serves as the connecting link between The Parkway Trail and Jackson Park. The Principal, faculty and students of Highland Heights Public School along with staff at Vision Loss Rehabilitation (a CNIB organization) have requested a pedestrian crossing be implemented on Fairbairn Street at the intersection of Fairbairn Street and Highland Road to address pedestrian safety concerns.

Based on the proposed development in the immediate area, Report PLPD16-077 identified the need for the installation of temporary traffic signals at the intersection of Fairbairn Street and Highland Road in addition to other area improvements. The traffic signals were, at the time, identified as being temporary because, with the implementation of The Parkway, the intersection of Fairbairn Street and Highland Road would be closed. With the present uncertainty of The Parkway, it is expected that the subject traffic signals will be permanent. The implementation of these signals now would provide a protected crossing for pedestrians and provide students, teachers, and neighbourhood residents' full access to The Parkway Trail and Jackson Park.

To expedite the implementation of the traffic signals, staff recommends the design and construction of the signals be advanced ahead of the Lily Lake development to better serve the needs of the community today. Funding from the Traffic Signal Infrastructure Capital Budget will allow the City to advance these traffic signals, with cost recovery associated with development in the Lily Lake Planning Area used to replenish this Capital account.

Implementation of the missing section of sidewalk along Fairbairn Street will require additional planning and detailed design effort, and can be initiated once funding has been confirmed through the development approval process.

Timelines

If the recommendation is approved, it is anticipated that construction of the traffic signals could be completed before the end of October 2018.

Summary

The implementation of traffic signals at the intersection of Fairbairn Street and Highland Road has previously been approved by Council as part of Report PLPD16-077. Installation of these signals in advance of the new development in the Lily Lake Planning Area will improve connectivity within the trail network, improve safety, and enhance neighbourhood access to Jackson Park.

Submitted by,

W.H. Jackson, P. Eng.
Commissioner, Infrastructure and Planning Services

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Attachments:
Appendix A: Fairbairn Street / Highland Road Area Sketch

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