

To: Members of the Arts Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee

From: Erik Hanson, Heritage Resources Coordinator

Meeting Date: September 10, 2015

Subject: Report ACHAC15-026

Update on the Crescent Street EA and Land-Use Study

Purpose

A report to receive an update on the Crescent Street Environmental Assessment and Land-Use and Urban Design Study.

Recommendation

That the Arts Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee (ACHAC) approve the recommendation outlined in Report ACHAC15-026 dated September 10, 2015, of the Heritage Resources Coordinator as follows:

That an update on the Crescent Street Environmental Assessment and Land-Use and Urban Design Study, completed in preparation for the extension of the Otonabee River Trail and potential redevelopment of the area, be received for information and discussion.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budget or financial implications resulting from the approval of the recommendation in this report.

Background

In April of 2013 the City awarded AECOM Canada the contract to complete a Schedule "B" Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA), in preparation for the construction of the Otonabee River Trail around Little Lake from the George Street Wharf in Del Crary Park to Haggart Street beside the Little Lake Cemetery. In addition to the EA, the contract included a Land-Use and Urban Design Study for the area. The Official Plan (OP) identifies Crescent Street as a Special Policy Area and recognizes the potential of properties in the area to support a growing tourism industry through the establishment of bed and breakfast establishments/inn accommodations, café/tea rooms, and boutique retail establishments. The land use study was completed by Gladki Planning Associates.

In recent years, a process of property consolidation has begun and several development corporations have expressed interest in obtaining planning approvals to permit the development of higher residential density buildings on Crescent Street facing the lake. Currently the area mostly consists of dwellings no more than two storeys in height. The Official Plan calls for the City to undertake a detailed planning analysis, to be adopted by Council, prior to the passage of any Zoning By-law amendments for properties within the Special Policy Area.

The EA was to consider the recommendations of The Little Lake Master Plan which support the long-standing idea of completing the Otonabee River Trail extension around Little Lake. The Heritage Preservation Office requested that an archaeological assessment be completed. In addition, Arts, Culture and Heritage Division staff requested that a Cultural Heritage Landscape Assessment be included in the study. The full report to Council is attached as Appendix A.

Submitted by,

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Attachment:

Appendix A – Report PLPD15-040 – Land-Use/Urban Design Study