

To: Members of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory

**Committee (ACHAC)** 

From: Erik Hanson, Heritage Resources Coordinator

Meeting Date: February 11, 2016

Subject: Report ACHAC16-007

**Urban Planning Initiatives Update** 

### **Purpose**

A report to recommend that the ACHAC receive a presentation from the Planner, Urban Design regarding planning activities in the Crescent Street area.

### Recommendation

That the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report ACHAC16-007, dated February 11, 2016 of the Heritage Resources Coordinator, as follows:

That the presentation from the Planner, Urban Design be received for information.

# **Budget and Financial Implications**

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with the recommendation.

## **Background**

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. However, 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.

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. The contract also included a Land-Use and Urban Design Study for the area. The land use study was completed by Gladki Planning Associates.

As part of the trail extension EA, 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 as part of the Land Use and Urban Design Study. The final drafts of these studies were provided to the ACHAC as part of a Crescent Street Update at its September 2015 meeting. At that time the Chair was directed to provide comment on behalf of the committee. That letter is attached as Appendix A of this report.

At the August 24<sup>th</sup> 2015 Planning Committee meeting, Council endorsed the Class Environmental Assessment for the Otonabee River Trail Extension and Shoreline Improvements around Little Lake and approved the preliminary design. Council also approved traffic calming measures for the area and directed staff to finalize the Otonabee River Trail Extension and Shoreline Improvements Environmental Study Report for public review. No objections to the EA's findings were received and the EA has been approved. The detailed design phase of the project will begin this summer.

At the August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, Council also adopted the Land-Use / Urban Design Study, directed staff to initiate the process to amend the Official Plan and the Zoning By-law to implement the study's conclusions, and receive the Cultural Heritage Assessment. Planning staff has begun the process of amending the OP and the Zoning By-law.

Brian Buchardt, Planner, Urban Design will provide a presentation on the proposed design of the trail extension and the status of the OP and Zoning By-law amendments.

Submitted by,

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#### Attachment:

Appendix A - Correspondence with Planning Division re: Crescent Street Study