

For Information Only

Update on the LaSalle Boulevard Corridor Plan and Strategy

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Resolution

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Relationship to the Strategic Plan / Health Impact Assessment

Completing the LaSalle Boulevard Corridor Plan and Strategy is identified as an action item to implement Council's priority of implementing the Downtown Master Plan and development of downtowns, and increasing the densification by conversion from commercial to residential. This priority rests under the Growth and Economic Development pillar.

Report Summary

This report provides the City with an update on the LaSalle Boulevard Corridor Plan and Strategy.

Financial Implications

The cost of LaSalle Boulevard Corridor Plan and Strategy of \$200,000 is included in the 2017 Approved Capital Budget with \$100,000 funded from senior levels of government through the Public Transit Infrastructure Fund.

Signed By

Report Prepared By

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Manager Review

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Financial Implications

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Ed Archer
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Staff Report:

The City of Greater Sudbury adopted a Nodes and Corridors Strategy in September 2016 (See Reference 1). This Nodes and Corridors Strategy will help revitalize and better connect our Downtown, the Town Centres, strategic core areas and corridors of the City. Such a strategy will help create new and distinctive corridors and centres, all featuring mixed uses, public realm improvements and public transit.

The Corporate Strategic Plan identifies the LaSalle Boulevard corridor from Notre Dame Avenue to Falconbridge Road, and the Chelmsford Town Centre node as the 2017 study areas for Greater Sudbury.

The LaSalle Boulevard Corridor Plan and Strategy builds on the momentum gained by Council's Maley Drive decision. It also capitalizes on the anticipated reduction in truck traffic along LaSalle Boulevard, giving the City an opportunity to establish a new framework to guide the future evolution of the boulevard.

Since September 2016, the City has secured funding to undertake the LaSalle Boulevard Corridor Plan and Strategy (the study). Funding this \$200,000 study is shared by the City (50%) and both the provincial and federal governments through the Public Transit Infrastructure Fund (PTIF). Under the terms of PTIF funding, the study will be completed by March, 2018.

The contract was awarded in May, 2017 to MMM Group, which is now part of WSP Canada Group Ltd. Through late Spring and throughout the Summer, City staff has worked closely with WSP to gain a better understanding of the corridor and to outline a work schedule to meet the required timeframe. Kick-off meetings and site visits were held in August 2017.

A first public consultation session, entitled 'Idea Jamming' is being held on September 14, 2017. City and WSP staff will take all ideas gathered as part of this event and will bring them back for discussion during a first design charrette in October, 2017. These will be further refined during a second charrette to be held in late November, 2017. Both charrette events will be followed by public open houses to provide an opportunity for more input into the plan and strategy. The process is collaborative, involving major land owners, citizens and businesses that use and live along this important corridor. All of these events are being held at the Terry Fox Complex, which will be the headquarters of this study for the length of its duration. A more detailed project schedule is included here:

Phase	Step	Date
Understanding	Initial meetings and initial site visits and analysis	August, 2017
	Public Launch Meeting –	September 14, 2017

	"Idea Jamming"	
	Public Multi-day Charrette	October 18 and 19, 2017
	Public Open House	October 19, 2017
Visioning	Continued analysis and preliminary design	October – November, 2017
	Second public multi-day design charrette	November 22 and 23, 2017
	Second Public Open House	November 23, 2017
Planning	Design Work and First Draft	December – January, 2018
	Completion of Strategy and Plan	February -March, 2018

Public engagement approach

The approach to public engagement will be innovative and meaningful, and will allow a full exploration and understanding of the issues, opportunities and constraints along the corridor. The engagement sessions will be personalized and diverse, and will include programs, events and activities that address different learning and communication styles. The sessions will be designed to build on local knowledge with creativity, storytelling, and iterative problem solving. The engagement strategy integrates social networks and online tools.

Anticipated outcomes

The anticipated outcome of the study is a new vision for the LaSalle Corridor. The plan and action will:

- promote positive change;
- recommend how appropriate land uses, densities and built form can be introduced, creating new economic opportunities;
- identify standards of urban design;
- complement ongoing work with the transit action plan;
- inform future capital planning;
- help create complete streets, safe for all users of the corridor;
- identify a series of actions implementable in year one; and,
- inform City policy, by-laws, and guidelines.

Next Steps

City Staff will provide updates to Council throughout this process. It is anticipated that a preliminary LaSalle Corridor Plan and Strategy will be presented in early 2018. The study will be finalized by March 2018.

References

1. City-Wide Nodes and Corridor Strategy
<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&agenda=report&itemid=9&id=992>
2. LaSalle Corridor Plan and Strategy Project Website

<https://www.greatersudbury.ca/do-business/planning-and-development/lasalle-corridor-planning-and-strategy/>