

Meeting Date: August 8, 2023
Department: Engineering & Public Works
Report No.: EPW-2023-45
Prepared by: Steve Morriss, Drainage Superintendent
Submitted by: Jake Straus, Director, Engineering and Public Works
Approved by: William (Bill) Dakin, Director of IT/Finance-Treasurer, Acting CAO

SUBJECT: **Saulsbury West Drain 2022 – Addendum Report - Meeting to Consider Engineers Report**

RECOMMENDATION: THAT: Council adopt the Engineers Report for the Saulsbury West Drain 2022 – Addendum Report, and give first and second reading to provisional By-law No. 59-23 for the project.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This matter is in accord with the following strategic priorities:

- Households and businesses in Strathroy-Caradoc are supported by reliable, financially responsible and well-maintained infrastructure networks.

BACKGROUND:

A request for drain improvement was filed with the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc on July 6, 2023 for the Saulsbury West Drain 2022. Council accepted the request on July 24, 2023 and appointed Spriet & Associates Engineering to prepare an Engineer's Report.

This report addendum has been submitted by the original affected landowner for the Saulsbury West Drain 2022 which was adopted previously by by-law on October 17, 2022. The affected landowner has revised their stormwater management strategy and therefore are required to revise the pipe design which was included in the previous report. These revisions have been reviewed and accepted by the municipality. The updated engineering drawings are to supersede the previous engineering drawings in addition to this report being added as an addendum to the previously adopted by-law 64-22.

COMMENTS:

Municipal drains have been a fixture of rural Ontario's infrastructure since the 1800's. Most municipal drains were constructed to improve the drainage of agricultural land by serving as the discharge point for private agricultural tile drainage systems. However, they also remove excess water collected by roadside ditches, residential lots, institutions, industrial lands, commercial lands and any other properties in rural areas. Drains are a vital component of the local infrastructure. Without them, many areas of the rural area would be subjected to regular flooding, reduced production from agricultural land and increased public health risks.

Most municipal drains are constructed on private lands and each drain is adopted under a By-Law when established. The Drainage Act provides access for drainage to have a legal outlet. Downstream landowners must accept flow of water from upstream landowners and must not impede or block the flow of water. As a result, downstream drains are larger and deeper on abutting property owners. Upstream landowners must contribute to the costs of downstream landowners for the allowance of a legal outlet. The landowners including road authorities (municipalities) and public utilities (Hydro One, Union Gas), within the defined drainage watershed, contribute for the construction of the municipal drain and the on-going maintenance of the drain.

CONSULTATION:

This report was reviewed in consultation with:

- Director of Engineering and Public Works
- Director of Building and Planning
- Drainage Superintendent
- Spriet Associates Ltd.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- None

ATTACHMENTS:

- Spriet Associates Ltd. – Report and Plans on the Saulsbury West Drain 2022 – Addendum
- Provisional By-Law 59-23 – Saulsbury West Drain 2022 - Addendum