



## Infrastructure Services Staff Report

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Report Title:	Boundary Road Agreements – Guelph-Eramosa and Mapleton
Report Number:	IS27-2021
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Meeting Type:	Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	August 24, 2021
File:	T06 BG, BM
Consent Item:	Yes
Final Version:	Yes
Reviewed By:	Jared Puppe
Final Review:	Senior Management Team

### Recommendation:

That the Council of the Township of Woolwich, in accordance with Report IS27-2021 respecting Boundary Road Agreements between the Township of Woolwich and the Townships of Guelph-Eramosa and Mapleton, authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Boundary Road Agreements attached to the report in Appendix A.

### Background:

The Township of Woolwich and the Townships of Guelph-Eramosa and Mapleton share common municipal boundaries. The Township of Woolwich shares a portion of its south-east border with the Township of Guelph-Eramosa, between Side Road 14 and Kossuth Road, with Woolwich Guelph Townline, Pine Creek Road (Township Road 64A), Crowsfoot Road, and Splint Road acting as shared boundary roads. The Township of Woolwich shares a portion of its north-west border with the Township of Mapleton, between Regional Road 86 and Arthur Street North, with Reid Wood Drive, Yatton Side Road, 4<sup>th</sup> Line, and Floradale Road acting as shared boundary roads. Prior to the boundary road agreements being presented in this report, staff could not find any previous formal agreements on the cost sharing of maintenance and capital works on the subject boundary roads.

### Comments:

The Ontario Municipal Act, under Section 20(1) allows municipalities to enter into an agreement with an adjoining municipality to provide, for their joint benefit, any matter which all of them have the power to provide within their own boundaries. In the case of boundary roadways where two municipalities share joint jurisdiction, this allows municipalities to

share the responsibility in order to reduce the duplication of maintenance and repair services between adjoining municipalities.

Currently, the Township of Woolwich and the Townships of Guelph-Eramosa and Mapleton, have had an informal agreement for the routine maintenance and winter control maintenance of boundary roads for at least the last 10 years. Staff searched historical documentation and could not find any formalized agreement between the Townships for the cost sharing of maintenance and/or capital works.

The proposed Boundary Road Agreements clearly define each party's responsibilities for routine maintenance and winter control maintenance, for legal responsibilities, and for cost sharing of major maintenance or construction works for a period of 10 years. On the date of expiry of the original agreement, the agreements automatically renew for a further 5 year term and will continue in this fashion indefinitely. The agreement can be terminated by either party upon 180 days written notice, refer to Appendix A.

Essentially the proposed agreement formalizes the historic and equitable practice that has been occurring between the subject municipalities.

The proposed agreement states that each municipality will be responsible for maintenance of the following road segments, including bridge maintenance for structures located on those road segments:

### **Guelph/Eramosa**

- Township of Guelph-Eramosa:
  - Woolwich-Guelph Townline between Victoria Street North (Hwy 7) and Lerch Road (Township Road 76);
  - Crowsfoot Road between St. Charles Street East and Aris Valley Road;
  - Splint Road between Side Road 16 and its terminus;
  - Side Road 16 between Regional Road 86 and Splint Road.
- Township of Woolwich:
  - Woolwich-Guelph Townline between St. Charles Street East (Regional Road 30) and Victoria Street North (Hwy 7);
  - 360m section of Crowsfoot Road between St. Charles Street East and the Guelph-Eramosa / Woolwich Township boundary;
  - Pine Creek Road (Township Road 64A), up to Guelph Township Road 3.

### **Mapleton**

- Township of Mapleton:
  - Reid Woods Drive between Regional Road 86 and Third Line;
  - Yatton Side Road south of Sixth Line (approx. 2.2km).
- Woolwich Township:

- Reid Woods Drive north of Third Line (approx. 420m);
- Floradale Road (which continues as Yatton Side Road) between Arthur Street North (Regional Road 21) and Sixth Line;
- Fourth line north of Ruggles Road (approx. 400m).

Each party will be responsible for the necessary expenditures related to the works carried out on the above mentioned roadways. It is anticipated that costs to maintain the subject roadways will burden each municipality equally, thus no cost recovery for maintenance works is included in the agreement.

Finally, all of the proposed Agreements state that no new Capital work (as distinguished from routine maintenance) of any kind shall be undertaken on the boundary roads without having first been approved by the Councils of both municipalities. The cost for all new Capital work shall be shared equally between municipalities.

### **Interdepartmental Impacts:**

None.

### **Financial Implications:**

Capital costs associated with any of the identified boundary road segments will be equally cost shared between the municipalities when they are identified and approved by both municipalities. Items eligible for cost sharing are as follows:

- Municipal Class Environmental Assessments;
- Permits and Approvals;
- Contract Documents;
- Construction Costs.

Operational costs are not anticipated to be impacted by this agreement, as the subject Townships have been unofficially operating under this agreement for at least the past 10 years.

### **Strategic Plan Impacts:**

The Boundary Road Agreements between the Township of Woolwich and the Township of Guelph-Eramosa and Mapleton, allows for enhanced Infrastructure Maintenance and Transportation Planning through the optimized use of municipal infrastructure, with an emphasis on continuous improvements and greater efficiencies.

### **Conclusion:**

Staff recommend that Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Boundary Road Agreements, in order to formalize the cost sharing of works on boundary roads between the Township of Woolwich and the Townships of Guelph-Eramosa and Mapleton.

**Attachments:**

Appendix A – Boundary Road Agreements (Guelph-Eramosa and Mapleton)