



Infrastructure Services Staff Report

Report Title: Special Service Levy Survey Results for the Unserved Areas of Breslau
Report Number: IS25-2021
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Recommendation:

That the Council of the Township of Woolwich, considering Report IS25-2021 respecting a special service levy survey for the unserved areas of Breslau:

1. accept the findings of the survey results from the unserved areas of Breslau and not enact a Special Service Levy for the extension of either municipal water and/or wastewater at this time;
2. protect wastewater design capacity for the unserved areas in Breslau and not allow development to utilize this allotment (10 l/s); and,
3. that a survey is not issued again by staff until significant road reconstruction work is planned at some point in the future (+/-15 years).

Background:

As identified in report IS20-2021, see appendix A, Staff engaged the unserved residents in Breslau seeking their input on the potential to extend municipal servicing through the use of a community survey. The survey was issued to 149 residential properties on eleven streets in Breslau without full municipal servicing. Of those, 127 properties provided input equating to an 85.2% response rate. An original deadline date of June 30th was offered; however, this was extended until July 30th to allow residents more opportunity to respond. Staff then followed up with a reminder notice and a phone call to elicit a greater response.

The survey results indicate that a majority of the property owners are not in favour of the extension of municipal servicing. Only responses received were counted and those who indicated that they were indifferent were not included in the overall tally. There were only

four properties that registered an indifferent vote, which had a slight dip in the percentage of tallied responses from 85.2% (127) down to 82.6% (123). Based on either 'For' or 'Against' municipal servicing, 37.4% (46) were in favour and 62.6% (77) were not – refer to Appendix B for the results of the survey based on streets.

Of the 11 affected streets that were surveyed, only one street, Sheridan Drive, was in favour and two others were split. Sheridan Drive has seven properties and responses were provided from six, with three in favour (60.0%) and two against (40.0%), one response was indifferent. The two other streets that were split included Berlin Street and Shields Street, all with 50% in favour and 50% against. Shields Street has two properties and Berlin Street has five properties with all seven providing a response to the survey.

Comments:

While Staff considered the survey to be appropriate based on all the reasons identified in Report IS20-2021, the results do provide a clear direction for Staff to move forward with regarding future infrastructure renewal projects.

The Municipal Drain work that is proposed and yet to be presented to Staff or Council, is only to address deficient stormwater drainage, predominately within the Elroy Acres Subdivision (Kennedy Rd, Sheridan Dr, Cooper Cres, Dovercourt Rd, Elroy Rd, and a portion of Woolwich St S.). The alignment of the underground stormwater sewer will be situated so as not to require realignment should a wastewater sewer system be installed at a future date.

In the absence of extending municipal servicing for all the areas canvassed, Staff will not be considering urbanization (the installation of curb/gutter and storm sewer) and will remain focused on maintaining the existing roadside environment when undertaking any future resurfacing work.

Staff appreciate that property ownership does change over time and are cognizant that these areas will receive municipal services at some point in the future, therefore, it is imperative that Council protect sewage capacity for these unserved properties. Based on the number of residential properties and associated population, Staff are requesting that Council set aside 10 litres per second specifically for the existing unserved properties in Breslau. This will ensure that as development continues to progress that these existing properties will have sufficient sewage capacity available when the time comes to extend wastewater servicing.

Interdepartmental Impacts:

None.

Financial Impacts:

None.

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Supports the Township of Woolwich's strategic direction to "*Manage and maintain all municipal infrastructure with an emphasis on continuous improvement and greater efficiencies*", with a goal to "*Optimize the Use of Municipal Infrastructure*".

Conclusion:

Staff are recommending that the Township of Woolwich not pursue the extension of municipal servicing in Breslau currently. Staff will proceed with renewal projects that do not include urbanization, however, protection of sewage allotment (10 l/s) and space within the subject roadways, for the future installation of water and/or wastewater, be provided.

Staff would not consider issuing another survey regarding the extension of municipal servicing until after resurfacing of the roadways have reached their useful life and require another renewal process, which could be 15 or more years out. This will maximize the resurfacing investment and limit any throw-away dollars. However, Council always has the ability to implement the extension of municipal servicing at any point in time.

Attachments:

Appendix A – Staff Report IS20-2021

Appendix B – Special Service Levy Survey Results