

# **Response to Petition - Request for Sidewalk on St. Michel Street (Hanmer)**

## **Resolutions:**

This report is for information only.

## **Relationship to the Strategic Plan:**

This report refers to operational matters.

## **Report Summary:**

This report provides a response to a petition received by Infrastructure Capital Planning Services from Ste. Anne Catholic Elementary School requesting that a sidewalk be installed on St. Michel Street (Hanmer).

## **Financial Implications:**

This report has no financial implications.

## **Background:**

At the City Council meeting of July 11, 2017, Councillor Lapierre submitted a petition to the City Clerk requesting a sidewalk on St. Michel Street, Hanmer (Appendix A). The petition was subsequently forwarded to staff for review and response. A formal response to the petition was provided on January 26, 2018, in the form of a letter to the Principal of Ste. Anne Catholic Elementary School.

## **Response to Petition:**

The City of Greater Sudbury is actively working towards becoming a more pedestrian friendly community. Each year, the City receives a number of requests for sidewalks to be installed throughout the City. To determine where sidewalks are warranted, the City has recently developed a comprehensive and objective tool, the Sidewalk Priority Index (SPI), to prioritize locations where sidewalks should be installed, based on a variety of criteria, including road classification, speed and volume, proximity to parks and schools, and number of pedestrian collisions. This tool was presented to the Operations Committee on August 21, 2017 and can be accessed here:

<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&lang=en&id=1145&itemid=13668>

The SPI was developed based on best practices and considering the needs of the City's most vulnerable road users - pedestrians. The goal of the SPI is to review the City's road network as a whole to determine where pedestrians are travelling and where there are gaps in the pedestrian infrastructure to get them to their destinations safely. The SPI tool scores the entire road network against the warrant, with the highest priority locations receiving the highest score. This section of St. Michel Street scores high on several factors in the SPI, including adjacent land use percentage (100%), proximity to elementary school (< 1 km), proximity to secondary school (1.7 to 2.5 km), total number

of schools within 3 km (6) and proximity to other sidewalks (< 250 m). Despite scoring high on these SPI factors, St. Michel Street falls within the bottom third of the priority list of more than 3,500 road segments. To view the SPI warrant in its entirety, please refer to the Operations Committee report of August 21, 2017 linked above.

### **Conclusion:**

At this time, urbanization of St. Michel Street for the installation of a sidewalk has not been identified in the City's 5-Year Capital Budget Outlook. The St. Michel Street sidewalk ranking will be reevaluated and prioritized on an annual basis with all other potential sidewalk locations. In addition, should the urbanization of St. Michel Street be required due to other operational needs, the decision to install a sidewalk would be revisited at that time.

The City of Greater Sudbury has a number of initiatives to promote road safety, including:

Speed Watch Program

<https://www.greatersudbury.ca/live/transportation-parking-and-roads/roads/traffic-and-transportation/speed-watch/>

Traffic Calming Program

<https://www.greatersudbury.ca/live/transportation-parking-and-roads/roads/traffic-and-transportation/traffic-calming/>

Road Safety Community Sign Program

<https://www.greatersudbury.ca/live/transportation-parking-and-roads/roads/traffic-and-transportation/road-safety-sign-program/>

An offer has been extended to provide additional details regarding participation in any of these programs to the school community.

### **Resources Cited:**

Sidewalk Priority Index, Report to Operations Committee, August 21, 2017

Accessed online:

<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&lang=en&id=1145&itemid=13668>