



## **KEY INFORMATION REPORT**

### **Transportation Services**

**November 15, 2021**

**SUBJECT:** Morrisburg Roundabout

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Progress on site is moving well. At the time of this meeting, it is anticipated that all major construction items should be at or near completion. The anticipated work remaining includes final touch-ups, line painting, cleaning and demobilization. The project is expected to be substantially complete on or before Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Based on current projections, staff are expecting to end the project very close to the approved budget.

As noted in the Key Information Report delivered by County staff at the October 18<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, staff have received a request to fill in the County's ditch at SDG's expense, along the front of their property, detailed below.

As Council may recall, the original plan included filled-in ditches along most of the project length, including at the subject location. When tenders were considered at the December 2020 regular Council meeting, it was confirmed that prices were in excess of the project budget. County staff were directed to work with the designer and find savings. One of the cost-saving measures that was carried forward within the project approved by Council was leaving as many of the existing ditches open as possible.

#### **COMMENTS:**

Through the project, staff have had to make on-site modifications to the tendered design to accommodate existing utilities, address roadside safety and/or provide for the new poles, lights and the multi-use path. These on-site adjustments have resulted in needing to 'fill' more areas than originally envisioned; however staff have proactively managed these necessary modifications to ensure that the project remained on-budget. Currently, the remaining open ditches include in front of MacEwen's and the OPP station, ditching along Upper Canada Motor Sales and Strader Motors and ditching along the south side of SDG 2 from Morris Glen Court to Laurier Drive. These ditches vary in depth but have acceptable and maintainable side slopes from a roadside safety perspective. It should be noted that open ditches serve a dual-purpose in providing stormwater storage capacity for significant rain events when compared to a piped storm system.

As noted above, the owner of Strader Motors is not satisfied with the open ditch within the County right-of-way in front of his property (see images below). County staff have reviewed the ditch from a safety perspective and found no issues. Rip-rap has been installed along the backslope to minimize maintenance demands and the asphalt at the top of slope (in the right-of-way, approx. 2m width) has been left to avoid any grassed areas adjacent to the property. Staff are additionally installing pre-cast curbing along the property line to ensure the parking lot is properly delineated.



*Figure 1: View of Ditch at Strader Motor Sales*

Although the property owner can complete a ditch-filling at their cost in accordance with By-law 5122, this option is not desired by the landowner. Staff have estimated the cost to fill the ditch to be approximately \$20,000, and, have asked the contractor to provide a firm estimate (will be verbally confirmed during the meeting).

Given that this ditch filling would be considered extra to the contract and will impact final costs, is not necessary from a stormwater management / roadside safety perspective and may create further requests for filling for those areas which remain 'open', County staff are looking for direction from Council on how to proceed.

Respectfully Submitted.