

2024 Annual Update Transportation Advisory Committee

Transportation & Engineering Services

2024



Sturgeon
C O U N T Y

Chairperson's Remarks

Good afternoon, Mayor Hnatiw, Council members, Administration and members of the public. For the record my name is Brian Reed, Chairperson of the Transportation Advisory Committee and I'm here today to provide an annual report of the Committee's work over the past year.

The report itemizes recommendations by the Committee for Council's consideration, as well as endorsements on current operational and capital practices and programs that we consider as having a positive impact in the community, such as gravel road maintenance practices, pavement preservation strategies, community engagement, dust suppression, customer response, asset management, and drainage.

The Committee met five times over the year. The Committee was comprised of eight public members. Those were myself as the Chair, Aaron Bokenfohr (Vice Chair), Cory Paradis, Dave Kluthe, Don Levers, Hugh Allen, Allan Anthieren and Jason Gerun. Council representation consisted of Cllr. Dan Derouin and Cllr. Jason Berry.

Mandate Letter

- Provide input on rehabilitation techniques and prioritization strategies for the improvement of railway crossings on gravel roads.
- Provide advice on ongoing operational projects to help inform future capital and operating budgets.
- Provide input on best practices for increasing greater awareness and opportunities to residents on Transportation & Engineering Programs.
- Support the development of a network strategy focusing on the movement of agricultural equipment through the County's road network.
- Support the development of enhanced asset management, and service level criteria for paved and gravel roads.

Mandate Letter

- Provide input on innovative methods using applied and new technologies for advancement of operational and capital programs.
- Provide opportunities for increased engagement with youth, which may include attendance of Sturgeon County Youth Council representatives at Committee meetings to understand the mandate of the Committee and how youth can be involved in their community, now and into the future.
- Provide input on Sturgeon County's digital customer service priorities and roadmap.

Recommendations

- The Committee endorses continuation of the spring open houses for planned projects and recommends reducing them to two from three; or conducting them every other year.
- When considering future paving projects, the Committee recommends that proposed projects in proximity to existing County paved roads or provincial highways which offer comparable connectivity should not be given priority.
- With respect to movement of agriculture equipment in the County, the Committee recommends that the entire network remain available to agricultural producers with no limitations by way of the creation of agricultural corridors.
- The Committee endorses use of asphalt millings with the mineral oil product and recommends that the time duration between placement of the millings and mineral oil should be reduced to minimize washboards.
- The Committee recommends that engineering design of new road projects should account for wider farm approaches to accommodate wider configuration of agricultural equipment

Endorsements

- The Committee endorses the inclusion of high-quality seed mix, locally sourced topsoil, and weed control measures in tender specifications for County projects.
- The Committee endorses the Railway Crossing Improvement pilot, and the development of a sustainable program.
- The Committee endorses enhanced landscaping contract specifications for subdivision projects.
- The Committee endorses the gravel roads grader operator training as an ongoing requirement to improve the performance of gravel roads across the County.
- The Committee endorses the transition to bridge culverts where feasible as bridge culverts generally do not require guardrail which can limit large equipment movement.
- The Committee endorses the Gravel Roads Modernization Initiative which seeks to establish service levels and service delivery benchmarks.
- The Committee endorses the development of a Traffic Mobility Safety strategy that enhances shared user experiences in both urban and rural areas of the County.

Final Remarks

- In closing I would like acknowledge the efforts of Transportation & Engineering Services Administration, namely Tracy Cole, Stephen Hinton, Max Adu-Safo and Gord Cebryk for their ongoing support and guidance provided to the Committee.
- I would further like to commend the continuous engagement by Transportation & Engineering Services in their pro-active efforts taken towards the incorporation of continuous improvement strategies.
- I would also like to thank you to all members of the Committee for their participation and contributions over the past year.
- That concludes the TAC 2024 annual report and I would be happy to take any questions you may have.

Thank you!