

Town of Riverview

COUNCIL REPORT FORM



Presented to: Mayor & Council

Department: Engineering & Public Works

Date: October 24, 2023

Subject: Traffic Signal Controller @ Gunningsville Intersection

BACKGROUND

A new traffic controller system was installed at the Gunningsville intersection in 2018. The smart sensor technology allowed the intersection to function beyond using time of day timers for each phase of movement across the intersection. The unit functioned well until September of 2023. We discovered then that the unit had failed, was not repairable, and the warranty had expired. Since then, newer technology has been made available and since the cost of this device (approx. \$30,000 installed) is considerably more than what our operating budget covers (operating budget for traffic signal repairs for all of 2023 is \$7,000) we now have two options:

1. Purchase the new replacement unit now (2023) as an un budgetary capital expense, or;
2. Add the item to the 2024 capital budget for deliberation.

If ordered now, the delivery time, once ordered, is approximately 2 weeks and it may take our contractor a day to install.

The closure of the Causeway Bridge and the traffic congestion this created on Coverdale Road and the Gunningsville intersection made us realize how vulnerable this intersection is to our traffic network. The smart sensor technology helps recognize changing patterns of traffic and adjusts the timing of the signals. This would have helped with traffic that day.

If ordered in 2024, the contractor has expressed concerns with installing the unit in the winter as they may need to run new wires in the conduits and the conduits being full of ice during the winter months.

CONSIDERATIONS

Financial:

The budget request to purchase and install is \$30,000. In speaking with Director Parlee, the plan would be to absorb the cost within the 2023 projected operating surplus.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

The purchase and installation of this un-budgetary item was discussed with the CAO and the Director of Finance and Information Technology.

Communication Plan:

N/A

OPTIONS

Option 1 – Proceed with the purchase and installation of the unit in 2023.

Option 2 – Bring the request to Council during budget deliberations as a 2024 Capital budget expense.

RECOMMENDATION FROM STAFF

We recommend that council direct staff to proceed with OPTION 1 for the purchase and installation of the unit in 2023.

Prepared by: _____ Michel Ouellet _____