



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

Housing Enabling Water Servicing Fund

Office of Infrastructure Services

Prepared For: Committee of the Whole	Report No.: RW 2024-04
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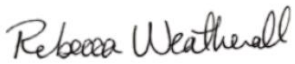
Report Purpose

The purpose of the report is to seek support from Mayor and Council to pursue the Housing Enabling Water System Fund (HEWSF) program to connect the existing watermains on Government Road and Regina Crescent along Tamarack Avenue, and to loop the existing watermains on Superior Avenue, Birch Street, Maple Street and Regina Crescent that terminate on Tamarack Avenue. This project and associated funding would address opportunities for residential growth and improve current operational efficiencies in the drinking water system, all while minimizing financial and operational risks to the Municipality of Wawa (Municipality). If successful, the HEWSF would cover 73% of the project cost, with the Municipality funding the remaining 27%. Preliminary cost estimates indicate a project value of \$2,619,834. To ensure sufficient funds to cover the Municipally funded portion of the project, Staff requests that Council approve a budget of \$750,000 if the funding application is successful.

Background

The Provincial Government has established the HEWSF to fund projects through the repair, rehabilitation and expansion of core water, wastewater, and stormwater projects to promote growth and enable housing. Projects that are eligible for this funding program are to enable growth and housing opportunities, increase access to potable water, and increase treatment/management of wastewater and stormwater. The Province is providing 73% funding for projects, requiring applicants to fund the remaining 27%. Applicants can choose to fund their projects by stacking funding from other applicable Federal and Municipal funding streams, as well as the Building Faster Fund (BFF) and the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) programs.

In 2022, the Municipality of Wawa (Municipality) completed its first Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan (WWMSP). This plan identified areas for residential and industrial growth, as well as opportunities to improve and expand existing infrastructure. More specifically, the WWMSP identified the plan of subdivision for Churchill Phase 5 as one of the preferred solutions for residential

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growth within the Municipality. To realize the opportunities for growth in Churchill Phase 5, a watermain must be installed on Tamarack Avenue connecting the existing watermains on Government Road and Regina Crescent. Further, the WWMSP illustrated that to improve the Municipality's drinking water system redundancy and operations, it would be beneficial to loop the ends of Superior Avenue, Birch Street, Maple Street and Regina Crescent that terminate on Tamarack Avenue. In addition, the WWMSP also identified looping the watermains that terminate on Algoma Street to support high density housing opportunities on the abandoned tennis court lot as a preferred growth solution. However, looping the watermains along Algoma Street does not make as many residential units available compared to extending a watermain along Tamarack Avenue. Further, the available property on Algoma Street does not currently have a high-density housing site plan, which renders it as ineligible for this funding application.

To take advantage of this funding opportunity and to ensure that the application submission deadline of April 19, 2024, is met, Municipal Staff have engaged Kresin Engineering Corporation (the Municipality's Engineer of Record for water and wastewater related servicing), to draft a preliminary cost estimate, and to gather information and complete the application on behalf of the Municipality. Municipal and Kresin Engineering Staff discussed a variety of options for servicing Tamarack Avenue which included:

- Installing a new watermain along Tamarack Avenue, connecting the watermains on Government Road and Regina Crescent (demonstrated by the green line in Figure 1);
- Looping the ends of Superior Avenue, Birch Street, Maple Street and Regina Crescent that terminate on Tamarack Avenue (demonstrated by the red line in Figure 1);
- Extend watermain from Tamarack extension to Hillcrest watermain within Municipal right-of-way, adjacent to sanitary sewer (demonstrated by the blue line in Figure 1); and
- Complete watermain for Churchill Phase 5 plan of subdivision and connect to watermain at Beck Avenue and Algoma Street intersection (demonstrated by the purple line in Figure 1).

The servicing options listed above are illustrated in Figure 1 below.

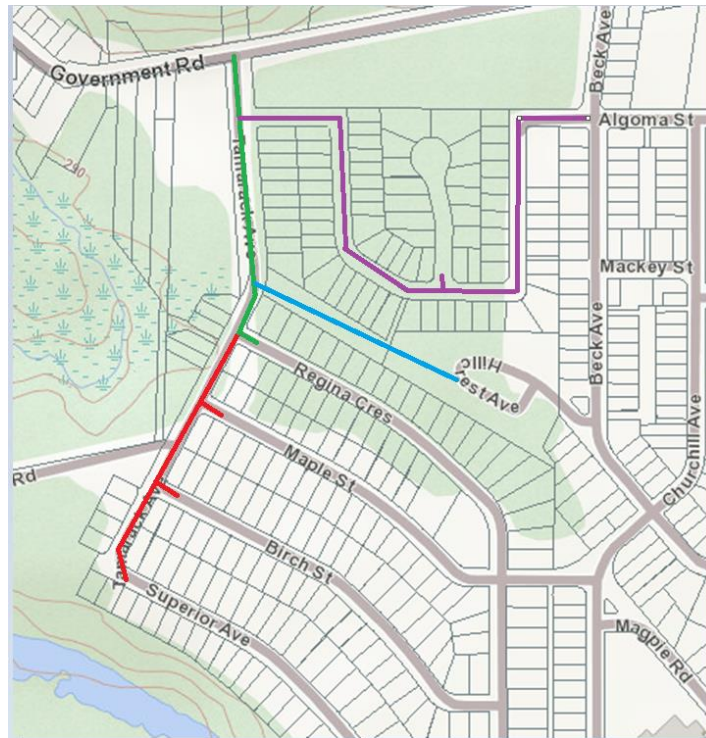


Figure 1: Water and Wastewater Servicing Options for Tamarack Avenue

All servicing options indicated above come complete with water/wastewater services, updated sanitary sewers, hydrants, and road resurfacing.

After careful consideration, it was determined by Municipal Staff that extending the watermain on Tamarack Avenue from Government Road to Regina Crescent (the green line in Figure 1) and looping the watermain on Superior Avenue, Birch Street, Maple Street, and Regina Crescent (the red line in Figure 1), are the highest priority for the Municipality. This is because extending and looping the watermain on Tamarack Avenue creates opportunities for building residential units directly adjacent to Tamarack Avenue, forms a more palatable opportunity for developers to connect to existing infrastructure in pursuing the construction of Churchill Phase 5, and ensures operational redundancy as identified in the WWMSPP. In addition to the benefits of water and wastewater servicing, this project also includes road resurfacing which means Tamarack Avenue will also be upgraded to a paved asphalt road (concrete curb/gutter and sidewalk are not included).

Kresin Engineering Corporation developed a preliminary cost estimate for the funding application. The total project cost to complete watermain and sanitary sewer construction, and road resurfacing was estimated to be \$2,619,834. With the Province providing funding for 73% of the project cost, the Municipality is responsible for 27% of the project funding at an estimated value of \$707,355.18. A summary of the cost estimate is summarized in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Preliminary Cost Estimate for Servicing Tamarack

Watermain	Sanitary Sewer	Storm Sewer	Road	Excess Soil, Rehabilitation & General Requirements	Sub-Total
Tamarack Loop					
\$462,000	\$327,000	\$0	\$543,840	\$299,889	\$1,632,729
Tamarack Extension					
\$361,500	\$73,500	\$0	\$370,800	\$181,305	\$987,105
Total Project Cost					\$2,619,834
Amount Covered by Provincial Funding (73%)					\$1,912,478.82
Municipality of Wawa Amount (27%)					\$707,355.18

To ensure there is sufficient funds for the project, Municipal Staff are asking that Mayor and Council approve a budget of \$750,000; if the application is successful. The Municipal portion of the funding for this project will come from the following sources:

- OCIF - \$400,000;
- Water General Capital Reserve - \$200,000;
- Federal Gas Tax - \$100,000; and
- Taxation in 2025 - \$50,000.

Staff Recommendation

Municipal Staff are recommending to Mayor and Council to support pursuing the HEWSF program and watermain extension and looping project to address not only opportunities for residential growth, but to improve operational efficiencies in the drinking water system, all while minimizing financial and operational risks to the Municipality.

Municipal Staff are asking Mayor and Council to receive and endorse the pursuit of the Tamarack watermain extension and looping project and HEWSF program initiative by resolution to be included in the funding application submission which is due April 19, 2024 and:

Recommend that Mayor and Council approve a budget of \$750,000; if the application is successful.

Recommended Next Steps

Pending Council's approval, Staff will continue collaborating with Kresin Engineering to submit the HEWSF application.

Attachments