



## Corporation of the Township of Brock

### Staff Report to the Mayor and Members of Council

**From:** Ben Kester

**Position:** Interim Director of Public Works

**Title / Subject:** Sidewalk Request Regional Road 12 Consideration to Council

**Date of Report:** March 21, 2025

**Date of Meeting:** April 14, 2025

**Report No:** 2025-OP-006

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#### 1.0 Issue / Origin

Durham Student Transportation Services has requested a sidewalk to be installed on Regional Road 12 from Brock Highschool east towards Side Road 18A and connecting to the existing sidewalk.

#### 2.0 Background

At the Council meeting held on March 11, 2025, Council directed staff to conduct further investigation on costing for engineering, construction and all other associated costs for the request. Shortly after this meeting staff received new information from Durham Student Transportation that staff believe Council should be made aware of, prior to performing with consultants.

#### 3.0 Analysis

N/A

#### 4.0 Related Policies / Procedures

Durham Student Transportation Services Policy states:

Students who live within 3.2 km from the school who have a safe walking route are not eligible for transportation services. Installing the sidewalks may jeopardize school bus transportation for most students living in Cannington.

## **5.0 Financial / Budget Assessment**

Preliminary cost estimate would be approximately \$403,425.00 for sidewalk installation. This does not include, design drawings, infrastructure (hydro poles, ditches and shrub/tree removal). A conservative estimate of \$250,000.00 of bell poles to be eliminated and have the utilities installed below grade. Furthermore, the Region's right of way is 20m this will give us limited space which will most likely require the Township to build retaining walls to support the sidewalks. The additional sidewalks will increase operating costs and should be forecasted into asset management. We would need to hire an additional casual operator to help maintain the sidewalk along with an additional sidewalk plow. Staff are estimating the total cost will be in excess of \$1,000,000.00.

### **5.1 Asset Management**

Additional sidewalk will have to be added to the existing sidewalk inventory and therefore added to asset management.

## **6.0 Climate Change Impacts**

N/A

## **7.0 Communications**

In correspondence with Durham Student Transportation Services, they have said;

"DSTS has a transportation policy that outlines walk distance eligibility for all students through the Region. Students residing more than 3.2 km from the school who have access to a safe walking route are not eligible for transportation services. DSTS will assess walking paths and distances for all affected students as part of this process. Families will receive advance notice should any transportation services be discontinued. The DDSB and DSTS are committed to collaborating with the Township. Should the sidewalk project be completed, we are open to discussing a transitional period and developing a coordinated plan to support all families during the adjustment." The DSTS have also confirmed that sidewalks are not in their mandate to contribute any funding towards.

## **8.0 Conclusion**

It should be noted to Council before we proceed with a full cost estimate that there may be a disruption to the residents of Cannington regarding bussing services in the community, should a sidewalk be constructed to Brock High School.

## **9.0 Recommendation**

Be It Resolved That Report No. 2025-OP-006 entitled "Sidewalk request Regional Road 12 Consideration to Council", be received; and

That Council respectfully decline the Durham Student Transportation Services' request to install a sidewalk on Regional Road 12 from Brock Highschool east towards Side Road 18A and connecting to the existing sidewalk.