



STATUS: Final  
Council Approved: Y  
CAO Approved: N/A

<b>TITLE: Municipal Streetscape Partnership</b>	<b>Edocs No.: 549892</b> <b>Original Approval Date: October 19, 2006</b> <b>Policy Last Updated: June 28, 2012</b> <b>Posted on Intranet: August 8, 2012</b>
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## **POLICY STATEMENT:**

The Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program policy sets out the criteria, conditions and review process for establishing cost-sharing agreements between local municipalities and the Region of York for the construction of locally-initiated streetscape designs within the Region’s road right-of-way.

## **APPLICATION:**

This policy applies to requests by local municipalities to cost-share with the Region in constructing locally-initiated streetscape designs within the Region’s road right-of-way.

## **PURPOSE:**

To provide a framework for the Region to consider a local municipality’s request to cost-share in the construction of a locally-initiated streetscape design within the Region’s road right-of-way.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

**Capital project:** any new construction, expansion, rehabilitation, or replacement project that improves or maintains a Region infrastructure asset.

**Local municipality:** municipalities located within the Regional Municipality of York, including the Town of Aurora, Town of East Gwillimbury, Town of Georgina, Township of King, City of Markham, Town of Newmarket, Town of Richmond Hill, City of Vaughan and Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

**Streetscape design:** projects that create distinctive street character through the comprehensive and detailed design of medians, boulevards, lighting, tree planting, street furniture, public art, and any other related element that contributes to street users’ safety and comfort.

**Streetscape Review Team:** Regional staff from areas relevant to streetscape design who are appointed to review, evaluate and approve applications, including but not limited to:

- Natural Heritage and Forestry Services
- Roads Maintenance
- Engineering – Capital Delivery
- Road Safety and Traffic Data Management
- Electrical and Traffic Design
- Traffic Engineering and Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Transit Facilities
- Community Planning

**DESCRIPTION:**

The Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program offers local municipalities the opportunity to cost-share on the construction of locally-initiated streetscape designs that are within the Region’s road right-of-way.

Regional Council has allocated \$1,000,000 annually for this program.

Streetscapes shall support the Region’s goal to enhance its urban structure through city-building, intensification and the development of compact and complete communities, by:

- Connecting major transit and transportation infrastructure with the local community by utilizing accessible and pedestrian-friendly design; and
- Promoting active transportation through the creation of safe and attractive public spaces within the Region’s road right-of-way.

The development of attractive and functional streetscapes will contribute to achieving a number of the Region’s strategic goals, which include:

**Vision 2051**

- A place where everyone can thrive in an environment that fosters healthy living; is safe, accessible, inclusive and supportive.
- A diverse urban form that provides a variety of interesting and exciting places to live, work and play. Communities are people-first and designed for healthy, active living and social inclusion, and are the heart of business, arts and culture, community life and services.
- A seamless network for mobility that provides accessibility to all destinations using diverse transportation options for people in all communities, promotes active and healthy living and safely and efficiently moves people and goods.
- Sustainability that can be practiced in everyday life through climate resiliency, innovative water conservation and re-use, water resource protection, waste reduction, energy conservation and greenhouse gas reduction.

**York Region Official Plan**

- To improve the health and well-being of residents and workers in the Region by planning and developing sustainable active communities.
- To create a competitive and flexible economic environment that encourages investment and a diversity of employment opportunities.
- To enhance the Region's urban structure through city building, intensification, and compact and complete communities.
- To provide the services required to support the Region's residents and businesses to 2031 and beyond, in a sustainable manner.
- To continuously engage and partner with communities, stakeholders and other levels of government.

**• Application**

A local municipality that applies to this program must ensure its application meets the eligibility criteria and conditions set out in this policy, its associated application guidelines and any additional program documents or other applicable requirements as amended.

**• Eligibility Criteria**

1. The proposed streetscape design must be located within the Region's road right-of-way.
2. The proposed streetscape design must support relevant objectives and goals included in:
  - the York Region Vision 2051 Strategic Plan; and
  - the York Region Official Plan.
3. The proposed streetscape design must meet Regional design and safety standards.
4. The application must be accompanied by a local council resolution that commits the applicant to cost-sharing, and to responsibility for the maintenance, repair and replacement of the proposed streetscape design.
5. The application must be supported by local-Council endorsed studies, plans and/or guidelines that provide a vision for the local community where the proposed streetscape design would be located.

**• Eligible Costs**

The following items are eligible for cost-sharing:

1. Capital construction costs
2. Cost of preparing tender documents

The following items are not eligible for cost-sharing:

1. On-going maintenance during the course of operations
2. Repair or replacement during the course of operations
3. Temporary or seasonal enhancements, including landscaping
4. Property acquisition
5. Municipal sidewalks within the Region's road right-of-way

• **Region Contribution**

1. Acceptance of applications is subject to the availability of funding.
2. Applications will be evaluated by the Streetscape Review Team.
3. The Region's contribution towards qualifying applications that will be completed with a Region capital project is a maximum of 50% of eligible costs.
4. The Region's contribution towards qualifying applications that will not be completed with a Region capital project is a maximum of 33% of eligible costs.
5. The Region will not provide additional funding amounts in excess of the approved final cost estimate.
6. Any unused funding amounts are to be returned to the Region on a proportionate basis.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

**Commissioner, Transportation and Community Planning Department**

- Apply the eligibility criteria for final approval of the proposed streetscape design.
- Authority to release funds for proposals which have been approved by the Streetscape Review Team.
- Report to Council annually on approved contributions.

**Program Manager, Streetscape**

- Administer and deliver the Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program.
- Lead function in relation to all Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program activities with the local municipalities and within the Region of York.

**Local Municipalities**

- Complete and submit required documents by the established deadlines.
- Communicate with the Program Manager - Streetscape and Project Manager (where applicable) on the design and construction scheduling of the approved streetscape design.
- Revise the proposed streetscape design as required by the Program Manager – Streetscape and/ or the Streetscape Review Team.
- Adhere to agreements made as a condition of approval under this policy.

**Streetscape Review Team**

- Evaluate applications using Regional design and safety standards.
- Provide constructive comments that demonstrate collaboration with local municipalities during the application review process.

**REFERENCE:**

Adopted by Regional Council on June 28, 2012; Transportation Services Committee Report 6, Clause 5.

**CONTACT:**

Program Manager, Streetscape

**APPROVAL INFORMATION**

**CAO Approval Date:** n/a

**Committee:** Transportation Services

**Clause:** 5

**Report No:** 6

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