



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS
Working Together Working for You!

REPORT

TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council

FROM: Kevin Okimi, Director of Parks and Open Space

DATE: June 18, 2021

REPORT NO.: RP-2021-0011

SUBJECT: Hungry Hollow Trail - Acquisition of Easement/License

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. RP-2021-0011 dated June 18, 2021, regarding Hungry Hollow Trail – Acquisition of Easement/License be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to negotiate the acquisition of an easement or license agreement over the Maple Avenue Well 1A located at 238 Maple Avenue with the Region of Halton as shown in Appendix B of Report RP-2021-0011 subject to the terms outlined in Report RP-2021-0011;

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute any documents required for the acquisition of a license or easement over the Maple Avenue Well 1A located at 238 Maple Avenue for the Hungry Hollow Trail system as shown in Appendix B of Report RP-2021-0011 subject to the terms outlined in Report RP-2021-0011.

KEY POINTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- A License or Easement is required to be obtained from Halton Region to permit the trail to cross Regional property.
- A portion of the trail crosses Regional Property at the Maple Avenue Well 1A (238 Maple Avenue).
- The permits for the first phase of construction for the Hungry Hollow Trail system have been obtained and the project has been tendered, with construction to start soon.

- Staff are recommending that Council authorize staff to negotiate an easement/license with Halton Region, and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign any necessary agreements.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to negotiate the acquisition of an easement or license agreement over of a portion of the property at 238 Maple Avenue (Maple Avenue Well) from the Region of Halton.

In July 2004, Council approved Recommendation No.GC-2004-0200 that identified the Hungry Hollow Management Plan (March 2004) as a guiding document for five key areas: resource management, trail development, permitted uses, monitoring plans, and implementation strategies.

Based on the Management Plan, a network of over 5.5km of trail has been constructed since 2007 within the Hungry Hollow Ravine, extending from Hall Road to West Branch Drive Park. The ultimate masterplan for the Hungry Hollow Trail system proposes an additional 1.7km of trails continuing from West Branch Drive Park to Main Street, Cedarvale Park and further north to Downtown Georgetown. Cedarvale Park is a key location within the trail network and would act as a formal trailhead destination (parking, information kiosk signage, park amenities). Currently the Hungry Hollow trail lacks a destination trailhead and is accessed by neighbourhood/local access points with on street parking.

Silver Creek within Hungry Hollow Ravine contains and is habitat for Redside Dace, which is an endangered species. Staff have been working through the approval process for the main trail from West Branch Drive Park to Cedarvale Park and Downtown Georgetown, with the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP), and the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVC). The CVC and MECP permits were obtained by staff in May 2021.

The Hungry Hollow trail is largely proposed to be constructed on Town owned open space and park lands. However, a small section of the trail just north of Maple Avenue leading to Downtown Georgetown is required to cross over the property located at 238 Maple Avenue which is owned by Halton Region and includes the Maple Avenue Well 1A, part of the Cedarvale Water Treatment Plant well field. The Town does not own any land at this location that would provide a suitable alternate trail alignment but owns the open space land just north of the property where the rest of the trail will be located. The overall trail and context/design is shown in Appendix A. This primary connection will allow Cedarvale Park to be used as a trailhead for the Hungry Hollow trail system and will allow a connection to Downtown Georgetown. Without the construction of this trail section, trail users would have to walk along Main Street North on the sidewalk to arrive at Downtown Georgetown.

Staff identified the preliminary land requirements which are shown in Appendix B. Staff have met with Regional Staff to confirm that the proposed trail is compatible with the

Region Operations, and that the Region is willing to permit the trail across Regional property. Region staff are seeking approvals concurrently from Regional Council to grant an easement or license agreement to the Town for the construction and operation of the trail. The terms of the easement/license would be to permit the Town to construct and operate the trail, with standard provisions for liability/insurance as required. Town and Region staff will finalize the form of agreement once both Town and Regional Council have approved.

Staff recommends that Council authorize staff to negotiate the final easement/license agreement with Regional Staff, and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign any agreements required to finalize the acquisition.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This report aligns to the Town's Strategic plan recognizing the value to provide responsive, effective municipal government and strong leadership in the effective and efficient delivery of municipal services.

This report also identifies transportation as one of the Town's Strategic priorities. Getting around is safe for residents of all ages through a combination of traffic calming and active transport priority routes and trails.

Sustainable Development Goals: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

RELATIONSHIP TO CLIMATE CHANGE:

This report impacts and/or helps address climate change and the Town's Net Zero target through climate mitigation. Providing additional trail linkages encourages residents to increase active transportation and reduce reliance on automobiles for travelling to destinations.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Public Engagement has been conducted as follows: The Hungry Hollow Management Plan, and Active Transportation Master Plans, which recommend this trail connection, included comprehensive public consultation.

INTERNAL CONSULTATION:

No internal consultation was required in the preparation of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This report is administrative in nature and does not have any financial implications. The Region of Halton has not requested any consideration for the granting of this easement/license. The capital budget for the trail construction has been approved as part of previous capital budgets and award of any tender is subject to Council approval.

Reviewed and approved by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Warren Harris".

Warren Harris, Commissioner of Recreation and Parks

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Mills".

Chris Mills, Acting Chief Administrative Officer