

Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-Committee

April 2026

IS Update Regarding Capital Projects and General Operations

The following Infrastructure Services update on capital projects and general operations is an extension of the proposed key deliverables identified in the Engineering, Environmental, Fleet, Public Works and Climate Divisions' respective annual workplans.

Special Projects can be found on the City page, www.EngageStratford.ca

Studies

- Storm Model and Master Plan Update
 - Subject to budget approval, update to existing storm model and consolidation of all existing storm master plans and EA reports, climate change adaptation to be included.
- Sanitary Master Plan Update
 - RFP for consultant services awarded to Civica, work nearing completion.
 - New sanitary model to be used to update existing Sanitary Master Plan and incorporate all lands annexed since 2004.
 - Council presentation of final report by Summer 2026

Capital Projects - Ongoing

- Queen Street Reconstruction – Regent Street to Brunswick Street
 - Full reconstruction with new watermain, storm and sanitary sewers.
 - Project currently out for tender. Tender closes April 17, 2026.
- McCarthy Road East Reconstruction – Mornington Street to Romeo Street.
 - Road widening, bike lane addition, sidewalk improvements, ditching.
 - Design phase. Virtual open house held from March 23 – April 3rd.
- Concrete and Asphalt Restoration
 - Continuation of multi-year tender to replace damaged concrete sidewalk, curbs and asphalt road cuts, including restoration works.
 - Work commenced for 2026.
- Albert Street Reconstruction Phase 2 – Front to King Street
 - Full reconstruction with new watermains, sanitary and storm sewers.
 - Stage 2, from Queen to King, starts April 20th.
- Downtown Intersection Improvements
 - Intersection improvements to enhance pedestrian safety in accordance with the Downtown Traffic Study.
 - Tender awarded to Steve Smith. Project to start April 20th.
- Erie Street Parking Lot Repairs
 - Construction complete, bicycle parking is to be installed at the end of April

Capital Projects – 2025

- Avon and Avondale Reconstruction

- Avon Street from Avondale to John, Avondale Street from the Cemetery bridge to Huron Street.
- Full reconstruction with new watermains, sanitary and storm sewers.
- Tender awarded to Elgin Construction, construction is substantially complete.
- Landscaping and other restoration will resume in April 2026.
- Huron Street Reconstruction Phase 2 – John to Roadhouse Drain
 - Subject to Connecting Link funding, Full reconstruction with new watermains, sanitary and storm sewers.
 - Tender closed April 9th. Construction is expected to start in May.
- Erie Street Multi-Use Trail Rehabilitation– Lorne Avenue to the south
 - Full reconstruction of existing deteriorated trail. Work also includes new sidewalks on the east side of Erie Street from Lorne Ave south to connect to the existing sidewalk.
 - Tender awarded to Armstrong Paving and Materials Group Ltd., construction ongoing.
 - Sidewalk construction has started on East side of Erie Street.
- Lorne and Downie Intersection
 - Intersection improvement to include left turn lanes on Lorne Avenue, in both directions.
 - Design being finalized, with tender planned for mid-2026.
- O’Loane Avenue Trunk Sanitary Sewer Extension
 - Consulting services awarded to MTE Consultants in 2024 for the design and tender of the trunk sanitary sewer from its current terminus south of Huron Street, to approximately Galt Street, by micro-tunnelling.
 - Tender awarded to Network Sewer and Watermain Ltd., micro-tunnel is complete and site restoration will commence in the spring.
- Pedestrian Crossing Improvements 2026
 - Currently in design phase (tentatively Downie and West Gore, West Gore and Mowat).
- Bridge and Culvert Repairs 2025
 - Tender for concrete works on various structures awarded to VanDriel Excavating Inc
 - Project locations include the John Street Bridge (at Avon River), Waterloo Street Bridge (north of Lakeside Drive) and Lakeside Drive East Bridge (Avon River).
 - Construction started April 13th
- Various Sidewalks
 - Gordon Street from Ontario Street to Willow Street, John Street South from Easson Street to West Gore Street.
 - Tender awarded Nicholson Concrete with construction in spring 2026.
- Lorne Avenue Trunk Sewer Condition Assessment and Rehabilitation
 - Consultant services to assess the condition of the Lorne Avenue CSP storm sewer which is past its service life. Rehabilitation options will be evaluated for 2026 implementation.
 - Inspection complete, assessment report and recommendations to be provided.

Divisional Updates

Engineering Division Works

- Red Light Enforcement approach to be reviewed.
- Review of development engineering plans and reports for various proposed subdivisions.
- Review of formal consultations, site plan applications, zone change applications, and various other planning matters.
- Inspection services for subdivision construction are ongoing.
- Municipal consents are ongoing, for the review and approval of utility infrastructure installation within the City's right-of-way.
- Supporting Corporate special projects, Grand Trunk Community Hub servicing, attainable housing, new industrial subdivision development.
- Advisory Staff committee representations provided for Accessibility, Active Transportation, and Energy and Environment.
- Compiling data for asset management initiatives.
- Ongoing Infrastructure Services Specific Internal Working Groups:
 - Asphalt and Paving Working Group.
 - CCTV Sewer Condition Assessment Working Group.
 - Growth and Parking Standards Working Group.
- Survey and design ongoing for 2026 and future projects.
- Support and guidance for the Accessibility Advisory Committee and Active Transportation Advisory Committee.

Environmental Services Operations Update: Water

- Five watermain breaks occurred during this reporting period (March 16/26 - April 15/26). The total number of watermain breaks thus far in 2026 is 21. The total number of breaks for 2025 was 44.
- Ongoing water service repairs are being completed throughout the city.
- One HSA has been completed thus far in 2026. Deposits have been placed on an additional four.
- Notices to stop running water have been distributed as of April 7th, 2026. Run water notices are sent out to select addresses each winter as a proactive measure to prevent frozen water services.
- HMI and PLC replacement at Dufferin Tower. Level and Temperature sensors require replacement after upgrade.
- Fire Hydrant Flushing has begun for Spring 2026 as of April 13th, 2026. Hydrant Flag installation will be completed and left in place throughout the year.
- Two hydrants were repaired and returned to service, closing out all 2025 Hydrant Maintenance items.
- Chestnut Well has not been returned to service yet - clearwell cleaning and troubleshooting of cellular communications has been completed. Clearwell disinfection, sampling of Raw water and instrument calibrations have yet to be completed.

- Efforts to clear backlogged service orders with regards to broken water meter touchpads and stopped meters are ongoing in coordination with Festival Hydro.
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods training was completed with all staff.
- Temporary Conditions ("Book 7") training was completed with several staff members.

Environmental Services Operations Update: Wastewater

- Two Godwin Portable Pumps added to fleet for bypass purposes.
- Emergency sewer repair made at Anne Hathaway Daycare.
- Devon St. Pumping Station emergency force main repair completed.
- Pumping Station preventative maintenance assessments have been completed; report summaries pending.

Environmental Services Operations Update: Stormwater

- Spring SWM pond inspections underway.
- Ditch and culvert maintenance has started.

Environmental Services Operations Update: Water Pollution Control Plant

- Three (3) Primary Treated Overflows have occurred during the reporting period. The events occurred due to heavy precipitation
- Equipment selection for the Digester Roof and Mixing System Replacement is being finalized with CIMA.

Public Works Operations Update: General and Road Maintenance

Key Updates/Highlights

- Spring work started
- Almost complete first round of city sweeping
- Planning a late-night shift core street cleaning
- Parking lot sweeping soon to follow

Citizen Reporting and Issue Management

- Pothole online submissions have lessened
- Turf repair from extensive sidewalk and road blowing ops. Recording now and repairs begin end of May into June (sooner if temps solicit growth early)

Roadway and Sidewalk Operations

- Removal of sidewalk stakes
- Sweeping of winter sand
- Planning painting

Materials and Equipment

- Prepped for street painting
- Cold mix for potholes stocked

Weather and Prioritization

- Rain has not been an issue to this point – still able to work between “drops”
- Warm temps should allow early stop bar and crosswalk painting (NOTE: Memorial Crosswalk will be gone over again this spring)

Health & Safety and Compliance

- No incidents
- Ongoing monthly inspections for ES and PWD

What Council Can Expect

- Under 30K RFQ for fence repairs now closed and being evaluated for a few tasks (one neighbourhood pathway fencing task and several spot repairs at landfill due to break and enters).
- More robust repairs for asphalt than temporary measures this summer.

Public Works Operations Update: Waste Management

Key Updates/Highlights

- Soils and Waste received in 2025 has caused some concern with longevity of our Landfill
- Navigation and planning in existing cell awaiting methane line installation
- Upcoming report for Waste Study

Citizen Reporting and Issue Management

- MOECP – notice that they are beginning our ECA review soon
- Bag Tags – illegal tags investigation ongoing

Materials and Equipment

- New compactor approved
- Better compaction, better machine, better service

Weather and Prioritization

- Rain rain rain – 24/7 pump running and monitoring by ES and Emily S.
- Liner pump – low
- Surface water – Gorman in cell

Health & Safety and Compliance

- Respectful Workplace review complete with Landfill team at last meeting
- Cover Ops have increased due to winds for litter cover
- Litter picking tasks

What Council Can Expect

- Household hazardous waste day is scheduled for April 24th
- Blue box drop off at the same event - Ad in paper and over voice

- Brush grinding tender out.
- Issues with vendors leaving waste in Downtown after events – addressed with BIA and Special events.
- Supply and delivery of compost to associations and non-profits (high school and Franklin Co-op)

Fleet Operations Division Update

- Procurement Efforts: Seven Light Duty vehicles have been awarded and PO's issued
- Mini Excavator has been awarded and PO issued
- Two Mid-Sized tractors with attachments has been awarded and PO's issued
- Landfill Compactor – The awarded and PO issued
- The 2nd Electric Zamboni has arrived and training and set up at the Rotary Complex is underway
- Two mobile 4" pumps for the Environmental Services group has been awarded and will be arriving for setup and training in early May
- The Landfill Dozer is almost complete its full refurbishment at Toromont Cat in London and will be returning to service if all goes well the week of April 27th and the rental unit returned
- Regulatory Compliance: CVOR is continually monitored and sent off to the Insurance company along with the Fleet policy renewal
- Maintenance: PM's and Annual Safety Inspections are underway for April, winter tire removal is well underway and equipment repairs along with some preparation for spring equipment have the garages busy
- Fuel contract for the Transit buses is currently being added to our existing Fuel contract with McDougall Energy increasing our existing savings beginning May 1st
- Transit garage is down two technicians now and we are streamlining the workload with existing technicians at PW along with outside vendors
- Airport Fuel System is almost complete and testing is underway
- Fleet Policy has been submitted to CLT

Climate Action Division

- Work on the City's adaptation and resilience strategy, funded through Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), is underway. A community engagement plan has been developed, with public engagement activities planned both online and in person throughout the spring and summer. Engagement will begin on April 25th at the Climate Momentum Earth Day event.
- Feasibility studies for retrofitting seven City facilities have been completed, and potential funding opportunities for retrofits through the FCM Green Municipal Fund have been identified. Further review of the capital projects forecast and budget is pending.
- Data collection for annual reporting on the Corporate Energy Emissions Plan has commenced.

- 15 applications were received for the Green Recognition Program. Site visits have been completed, and five applicants are invited to the council meeting on May 11th to receive their certificate.

Special Projects – Erie Street Parking Lot Redevelopment

Tentative Internal Workplan as of May 2025:

1. Resurface Erie Street Parking Lot - complete
2. Public Engagement (Spring/Summer 2025)
 - a. Survey's / Open House / Pop Up
3. Reflecting and Addressing Easements (2025-2027)
4. Environmental Assessment Review
 - a. Existing Study Review (Spring 2025)
 - b. Additional Studies to Residential Standard (TBD)
5. Downtown Parking Study (2026-2027)
 - a. Budget line included for 2026 draft budget deliberations
6. Municipal Services Feasibility Study (Fall 2025)
7. Comprehensive Review and Report (2027)
8. Expression of Interest or Request for Proposal (TBD)

Project Updates:

- Review Existing Environmental Phase 1 and 2
 - Completed. Results are promising in that minimal soil impacts appear to be present, however, historical standards no longer apply requiring that a Phase 1 and 2 be redone. Additional boreholes and sampling may be required if the intent is to change the site to a more sensitive use (e.g. residential). Changing the site to a more sensitive use would require a Record of Site Condition.
 - Next Step. Continue with further Environmental Investigations as required.
- Engaged Consultant for Phase 1 Environmental Assessment
 - Completed March 2025.
 - Completed additional sampling required to meet current regulations.
- Engage Consultant for Phase 2 Environmental Assessment
 - Engineering Consultant Engaged.
 - Investigative drilling complete.
 - Findings and assessment draft complete, additional work assigned, draft reporting complete.