

# Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-Committee

March 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](http://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 is currently in the design phase. The public open house was held Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>.
- McCarthy Road East Reconstruction – Mornington Street to Romeo Street.
  - Road widening, bike lane addition, sidewalk improvements, ditching.
  - Currently in the design phase.
- Concrete and Asphalt Restoration
  - Continuation of multi-year tender to replace damaged concrete sidewalk, curbs and asphalt road cuts, including restoration works.
  - Work is on hold for winter season
- Albert Street Reconstruction Phase 2 – Front to King Street
  - Full reconstruction with new watermains, sanitary and storm sewers.
  - Design includes continuation of 'bicycle boulevard' and traffic calming.
  - Tender awarded to Van Bree Infrastructure, scheduled for completion fall 2026
  - Work is on hold for winter season.
- Downtown Intersection Improvements
  - Intersection improvements to enhance pedestrian safety in accordance with the Downtown Traffic Study
  - Construction tender to close on March 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Erie Street Parking Lot Repairs
  - Construction complete, bicycle parking to be installed in February.

## **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.
  - Construction tender to close on April 9<sup>th</sup>.
- 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
  - Work is on hold for winter season.
- Lorne and Downie Intersection
  - Intersection improvement to include left turn lanes on Lorne Avenue, in both directions.
  - Design being finalized, with tender planned for early 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 2025
  - Downie/West Gore PXO complete
  - West Gore/Mowat PXO complete
- 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 planned to start April 20<sup>th</sup>.
- East Gore Watermain
  - This project has been placed on hold now that the RFEOI Affordable Housing project at 161 East Gore Street has been cancelled.
- Various Sidewalks
  - Gordon Street from Ontario Street to Willow Street, John Street South from Easson Street to West Gore Street.
  - Tender awarded to 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.
  - RFP awarded to Andrews.Engineer

## **Divisional Updates**

### Engineering Division Works

- Red Light Enforcement approach to be reviewed.
- Evaluation of a potential pedestrian crossing near Huron Street Bridge, and safe cycling options for 2025 resurfaced streets for future reports to council.
- 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

- Eleven watermain breaks occurred during this reporting period (Jan 21/26 - Mar 16/26). The total number of watermain breaks thus far in 2026 is 16. The total number of breaks for 2025 was 44.
- Ongoing water service repairs are being completed throughout the city.
- There have been 16 frozen water services during this reporting period. Twelve of the frozen services were on the City owned side; four were Private side issues. Of the twelve City owned frozen services, eleven were successfully thawed using City owned equipment; 1 service could not be thawed and has been supplied by temporary hose connection.
- Aircraft warning light at Dufferin Tower was replaced and outstanding deficiency work at Forman Tower was completed by contractor.
- HMI and PLC upgrades completed at Forman Tower.

- Hydrant Flag installation is underway and ongoing; this activity will be completed throughout the City during Spring 2026 flushing. Hydrant flags to remain installed year-round and replaced as required.
- Chestnut Well has not been returned to service yet - Clearwell disinfection, instrument calibrations, sampling of Raw water and confirmation of SCADA communication using new cellular communication method to be scheduled in Spring 2026.
- A damaged Chlorine gas cylinder was safely capped and returned to the supplier. The damage was reported by Operators and appears to have been a material defect of the fusible plug; there was no gas leak as a result of the damage.
- Fabrication and installation has been completed for new pipe racking at Festival Hydro yard for indoor storage of 1 length of 4", 6", 8", 10" and 12" PVC pipe.
- Efforts to clear backlogged service orders with regards to broken water meter touchpads and stopped meters are ongoing in coordination with Festival Hydro.

#### Environmental Services Operations Update: Wastewater

- Pumping Station preventative maintenance assessments to continue next week.
- Two new submersible pumps will be installed within the collection system in the coming weeks.
- Two portable trash pumps to be delivered this month for bypass contingencies.
- Planning for second year of sanitary sewer acoustic assessments with contractor.

#### Environmental Services Operations Update: Stormwater

- Wastewater Operations and Public Works staff have been responding to recent road flooding occurrences as a result of fluctuating weather conditions.

#### Environmental Services Operations Update: Water Pollution Control Plant

- The Scoping Memo from CIMA has been received from CIMA+ for the Digester Roof and Mixing System Replacement Project. Final decisions on equipment and configuration are expected to occur this month to move the project forward.
- Two (2) Primary Treated Overflows have occurred during the reporting period. This occurred due to heavy precipitation and snow melting.

#### Public Works Operations Update: General and Road Maintenance

##### Key Updates/Highlights

- Potholing 24/7 unless performing winter maintenance
- Traffic sign work, addressing backlog due to winter break.
- Planning spring and summer maintenance.
- Meeting to create a robust storm plan for 2026.
- Team meetings over next two weeks.

#### Citizen Reporting and Issue Management

- We were caught up with Potholes and Jeremy had requested a post last week to be made to submit to online portal pothole concerns. It had a lot of success and used by the public to date.

#### Roadway and Sidewalk Operations

- Ongoing pothole maintenance.

#### Materials and Equipment

- Well stocked with salt and maintaining our sand supply.
- Cold mix used for temporary pot hole fixes being delivery bi-weekly as of late.

#### Weather and Prioritization

- Weather forecast and event discussions.
- Assessing potential events for DLA treatments, etc.
- Tailgate meetings.

#### Health & Safety and Compliance

- CVOR education has been successful with no incidents since.
- Review of Respectful Workplace by PWD this week.
- Planned tailgate safety meeting with H&S Co-chair Mark for Wednesday morning at Roll Call.

#### What Council Can Expect

- Ongoing pothole concerns during this fluctuating temperature and weather.
- Well planned spring and summer service. (Wastewater, Storm, Public Works).

#### Public Works Operations Update: Waste Management

- First HHW Event of 2026 is Saturday April 25, 9am-2pm at the City of Stratford landfill.
- Staff working on report for Mayor and Council regarding future of non-eligible blue box recycling (post October 31, 2026).
- RFP-2026-01 Source Separated Organics Processing awarded to Generate Upcycle for a term of April 1 2026-March 31 2029.
- Waste Rate Study 2027-2032 conducted by DFA Infrastructure Inc is underway.
- New federal regulations for Methane Assessment required for the landfill, application due June 10, 2026.
- Council approved the continued arrangement with Perth East and Perth South for participation in HHW events.
- MECP inspection January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026, still waiting for inspection report and results.
- MECP application to amend hours of operation for Household Hazardous Waste, still waiting for review and amendment.
- Biannual Report for 2024 & 2025 being drafted, to be submitted to MECP this year.

## Fleet Operations Division Update

- Procurement Efforts: Seven Light Duty vehicles have closed in Bids & Tenders and in review.
- Mini Excavator RFP has been sent out with four suppliers submitting pricing for analysis.
- Two Mid-Sized tractors with attachments RFP has been sent out, so far Four Suppliers have submitted pricing for analysis.
- Landfill Compactor – The award Management report has been submitted to council .
- Electric Forklift addition for the Rotary Complex has been delivered by Leavitt Equipment of Stratford.
- Regulatory Compliance: CVOR is continually monitored due to the excess number of incidents steaming from the heavy winter months.
- Maintenance: PM's and Annual Safety Inspections are underway for March 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 1<sup>st</sup>
- Transit garage will be losing one technician as of March 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Airport Fuel System is almost complete and testing is underway.

## Climate Action Division

- Work on the City's adaptation and resilience strategy, funded through Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), is underway. A climate risk and hazard assessment is currently in progress to help identify vulnerabilities within our community, infrastructure, and essential services. A community engagement plan is also being developed, with public engagement activities planned both online and in person throughout the spring and summer.
- 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.
- Staff are working on the development of a yearly report card for actions outlined in the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP). Looking to include yearly statistics such as those found in the ATAC Report Card.
- Applications for the Green Recognition Program closed on March 15. Submissions will be reviewed by staff and members of the Energy & Environment Committee.

## Special Projects – Erie Street Parking Lot Redevelopment

### Tentative Internal Workplan:

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.