

COMMUNICATION 131088

Received From: Robin Daigle, Engineering Manager
Addressed To: Committee of the Whole
Date: August 11, 2020
Topic: Captain Roy Brown and Service Road Clearing

BACKGROUND

The Engineering Department accounted for clearing work of Captain Roy Brown Boulevard (CRB) from McNeely Avenue to Highway 15 in the 2020 Budget. The clearing work identified incorporated the width of the proposed asphalt platform of CRB plus 5m on either side of the road.

The Highway District Secondary Plan completed by the Town has identified the need for a North/South Municipal road ("Service Road") to be extended from CRB toward the North to provide rear access to properties fronting onto the south side of Highway 7. To proceed with the preparation of conceptual engineering plans and preliminary cost estimate for the Service Road, clearing of this future right of way must occur. Through preliminary discussions with the Ministry of Transportation (MTO), it is anticipated the Town will receive funding for this future Service Road project whereby clearing costs could then be recovered. At this time, no agreement with the MTO has been finalized, however it is necessary to first complete clearing work so that the Town may proceed with the completion of a conceptual design and preliminary cost estimate to be used in future negotiations with the Ministry.

In addition to the increase in scope for inclusion of the Service Road area, recent discussions with Hydro One have identified their intention to proceed with the extension of a hydro line along the north side of the CRB right of way. Construction of this line is anticipated to occur in 2021 and form a critical link in Hydro One's electrical distribution system. The location of this line has been accounted for in the Conceptual Design Plan completed for the development area South of Highway 7. Hydro One has committed approximately \$33,000.00 toward the Town's clearing project should the Town agree to include clearing required for their project in the Town's scope of work. The Town would have ultimately been required to complete 2/3 of the clearing work being requested by Hydro One for the construction of CRB regardless of Hydro One's clearing needs; the remaining 1/3 accounts for a 5m width adjacent to the CRB right of way on private property. The Town has received permission from the two (2) impacted private property owners for this proposed work.

COMMENT

The original intent of clearing only the asphalt platform width plus 5m on each side of CRB as accounted for in the current 2020 Budget was to give further opportunity to evaluate the feasibility of maintaining existing trees outside of these identified clearing limits. The feasibility of maintaining existing trees has since been further reviewed including on-site walkthroughs, review of the road design and a review of existing trees by the Urban Forest Committee. This review has concluded that there are no, or at most

very limited, locations within the right of way to maintain existing trees due to the extensive regrading required to construct the road, required ditching, pathways, sidewalks, clearances to the proposed hydro line and ultimate expansion of CRB to four (4) lanes. It is therefore recommended to expand the clearing limits to the entire right of way width of Captain Roy Brown Boulevard plus an additional 5m on the northern side of CRB to accommodate Hydro One's requirements.

In addition to the review completed by Staff as indicated above, the Town's engineering consultant will be contacted prior to the commencement of clearing operations to provide further input on whether select locations exist in the CRB right of way whereby grading alterations are minimal and conflicts to proposed infrastructure do not exist. Should any locations of this nature be identified by the Town's consultant, Staff will engage the Urban Forest Committee during clearing operations to assist in evaluating potential tree retention in these select areas.

Proposed clearing limits are as approximately shown in the attached Figure 1.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

With the anticipated contribution from Hydro One to the Town's clearing project no increases to the Town's current budget amount of \$21,000 for clearing work are anticipated; costs in excess of the \$21,000 approved budget will be addressed by Hydro One's anticipated contribution of approximately \$33,000.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Staff proceed with the preparation and issuance of a clearing Tender for approximately 3.39 ha of land as described in Figure 1 of the Engineering Manager's report dated August 11, 2020; and

THAT Staff enter into an agreement with Hydro One to receive a contribution in exchange for incorporating their required clearing limits into the Town's scope of work.

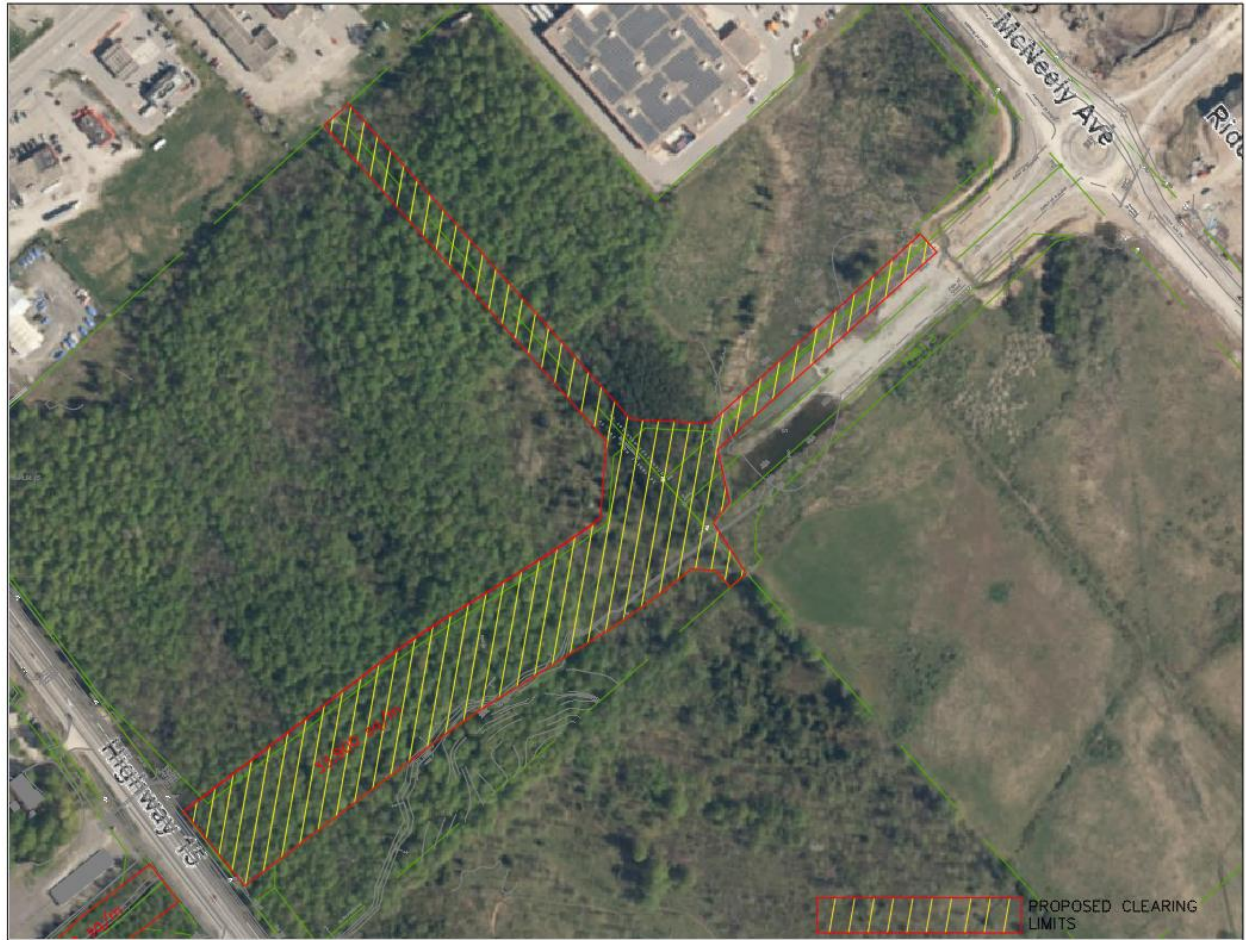


Figure 1. Proposed Clearing Limits