Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton

Report to Council

Report Title: Riversdale Bridge Correspondence
Prepared By: Gregg Furtney, Director of Operations
Department: Operations
Date: June 23, 2020
Report Number: PW2020-17
Attachments: Letter from Mr. Billington, Letter from Mr. Batte, Letter from Lamonts, Letter from G.M. Blue Plan Engineering

Recommendation:
That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number PW2020-17 - Riversdale Bridge Correspondence, prepared by Gregory Furtney, Director of Operations for information purposes.

Report:

Background:
As per G.M. BluePlan Engineering’s letter, dated May 11th, that recommended to Municipal Council and staff that the Riversdale Bridge be closed, immediately, due to superstructure deterioration and associated liability concerns, staff closed the bridge on Monday, June 1st, 2020. A letter, outlining the decision of Council, was mailed to residents in Riversdale and on Side Road 20 South Greenock on Tuesday, May 19th, 2020. The mail-out catchment area (addresses) was set at 500 meters surrounding the bridge and was produced using Bruce County Maps.

During the process of closing the bridge on June 1st, 2020, a number of area residents were present to voice their concerns. During that discussion with residents, staff agreed to have GM BluePlan re-assess the bridge and advise whether a further “Load Restriction” could be applied to the bridge instead of a full closure. Staff have followed up with GM BluePlan and their response is attached to this report.

Staff are aware of one (1) formal letter, sent via email, from Mr. Billington, dated May 31st, 2020, one (1) email letter from Mr. and Mrs. Batte, dated June 5th, 2020, seven (7) mailed form letters from various residents, and a petition with 198 signatures, all addressed directly to Members of Council. Correspondence is attached for Council’s review. Although there are 198 signatures on the petition, there are a number of signatures that come from the same household. The petition itself has not been attached, as municipal staff spoke with
representative of the petitioners who confirmed that many of the signatories would not have been aware/consented to their personal information appearing on a public agenda on the website.

Mr. Billington provided staff with a copy of his letter to Council, via email, on Tuesday, June 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 2020 along with some additional comments and concerns. That email was sent to the Director of Operations. Staff responded to the email portion of Mr. Billington’s correspondence but did not speak on behalf of Council. Staff have had no correspondence with Mr. and Mrs. Batte but as this correspondence was directed to Council we have brought it forward. The seven (7) letters and the petition arrived at the Municipal office on June 18\textsuperscript{th}, 2020, all addressed to Council. Staff have not corresponded with residents that sent these seven (7) letters in.

**Analysis:**

Staff have received a letter of recommendation/ response from GM BluePlan regarding the possibility of a further “Load Restriction” instead of a full bridge closure. That letter is attached to this report. GM BluePlan’s recommendation is to keep the bridge closed and await the results of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. Staff is able, if directed by Council to do so, to forward that letter to Mr. Billington as he appears to be the point person for the concerned Riversdale residents.

Staff will respond to the other letters and correspondence with Council’s comments as directed.

**Sustainability Checklist:**

What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? \( \text{N/A} \)
- Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy? \( \text{N/A} \)
- Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? \( \text{N/A} \)
- Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity? \( \text{N/A} \)
- Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity? \( \text{N/A} \)

**Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:**

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? \( \text{N/A} \)

There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

**Reviewed By:**

Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer
Respectfully Submitted by:

[Signature]

Gregg Furtney, Director of Operations

Reviewed By:

[Signature]

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer