

Monday, August 26, 2019
PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Forks Road Bridge – Update # 4 – August 26, 2019

Welland, ON – The City of Welland has finalized an agreement with the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation to use the Canal Service Road from Humberstone Road to the southern tip of Dain City for emergency purposes only.

Key Points:

- Fire and Emergency Services maintain constant contact with Trillium Railway and have access to the gates to the Canal Service Road for emergency response should Canal Bank Road be blocked by a motor vehicle collision or rail emergency
- The Canal Service Road will be accessible to the public in the event of an evacuation or during an extended closure of Canal Bank Road
- City staff have been in contact with Regional staff to ensure provisions are included for access to the Canal Service Road during force main installation work. The Canal Service Road will be available for evacuation prior to the force main construction.
- City staff made an application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP). This application is reviewed by the Provincial and Federal governments. Staff are awaiting an announcement on the status of the application which is expected by Fall 2019.
- A funding application was also submitted to the National Trade Corridors Fund (NTCF) in May 2019. The NTCF program is a Federal program with no Provincial component.
- Staff were notified in June that the NTCF application did not meet essential assessment criteria and was ineligible for a comprehensive project proposal submission
- An application to the Small Communities Fund (SCF/Rural and Northern Stream) was not submitted as staff were advised that the funding for this program was fully committed

Next Steps:

- City staff will perform road maintenance to improve the current condition of the Canal Service Road
- Fire and Emergency Services will perform an emergency simulation with Niagara Regional Police and Niagara EMS using the Canal Service Road
- In addition to the numerous meetings held with Federal and Provincial officials over the past 2 years, the Mayor and Corporate Leadership staff will continue to advocate for bridge funding with key decision makers at the Provincial and Federal levels of government.

Updates regarding the Forks Road Bridge will be added to the City of Welland website at welland.ca and to the public engagement platform, YourChannel.welland.ca.

Contact:

Chris Anders
Manager, Engineering Services
905-735-1700 Ext. 2210
chris.anders@welland.ca