



Municipality of the District of Argyle

Item: subdivision road request

Date August 23, 24

Vision statement

Argyle is the community of choice to invest, live and play.

Mission statement

Argyle invests time & talent in growth opportunities in fishing, tourism, and renewable energy sectors.

Argyle provides affordable taxation while providing safe and healthy communities and strives to engage and inform our residents on decisions that affect them most.

Argyle provides high class, accessible recreational and cultural facilities and helps celebrate its unique heritage and culture and welcomes new residents to our region.

CAO's Recommendation:

That council consider the request from the province regarding 50-50% cost sharing on J-class roads, and provide a list of road or roads to submit to the province for consideration. There is no budget allocation for this work in 24-25, it would be an item for 25-26.

The repairing or paving of J-class roads was not included in the capital investment plan. Council may choose not to participate as an option for this year.

See attachment – J-class road listing and those requiring further condition assessment if council wishes to proceed.

Suggested motion:

Option one

Move that no J-Class subdivision road be submitted for cost sharing for 2024-25

Option two

Move that staff assess the condition of the remaining subdivision streets included in their road list and prioritize a list for Council's consideration for its September Regular Council meeting.

Background and history:

The cost sharing for subdivision roads has been in place for many years. The province commits to a set amount of road improvements each year and asks municipalities to prioritize roads for consideration. The 50% cost share arrangement was one that was part of the service exchange of 1999 and still exists today. In the current CAO's tenure, there has been one such request made and accepted by the province, and that was for Birch Drive in Plymouth. Riverside Drive was requested as consideration at the same time (about 5 years ago) and was denied. The request is for the province to consider the repair and may accept or reject that request. The cost of the repair depends on the length of the road and the type of repair desired or required.

We do not have engineers on staff to assess the condition of roads. Staff has collected visual data on roads in the past, and would, if it was the will of council, update the visual conditions observed on subdivision roads.

It should be noted that the cost sharing of roads is not yet contemplated in the long term capital investment plan, nor is it listed as a potential capital investment in the master capital plan. Should council wish to submit roads to the province, road repair should be added to our master list.

Birch Drive, Slocomb Crescent and Nakile Drive are all roads that have no visible issues. CAO has listed all J class roads, and noted the roads those that would require additional information before any decision should be made by Council. We have only received one request for J-class road repair and that was for Riverside Drive. A proper condition assessment of all roads fitting the definition would be a preferred route to response to complaints, however.

MGA considerations:

Contributions and cost sharing of roads are qualified expenditures under the MGA, and arranged through mutual service exchange between municipalities and the province.

Financial considerations:

Not yet determinable. Dependent on type of repair and length of road to be repaired.