

# Minutes

## Urban Road and Road Exchange Task Force

March 20, 2025

Present: Councillor Scott Greig, Councillor Sue Carleton, Councillor Scott Mackey, Warden Andrea Matrosovs, Councillor Paul McQueen, Councillor Brian Milne, Councillor Shirley Keaveney, Councillor Sue Paterson

Regrets: Councillor Kevin Eccles

Staff Present: Kim Wingrove, CAO, Randy Scherzer, Deputy CAO, Tara Warder, Clerk, Pat Hoy, Director of Transportation Services, Sharon Melville, Administration Manager, Trevor Ireton, Project Planning Engineer, Shaun Anthony, Operations Manager, Mary Lou Spicer, Director of Finance, Sean Potter, Supervisor of Capital Assets, Rayburn Murray, Deputy Clerk

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### 1. Call to Order

The Urban Road and Road Exchange Task Force met at the County Administration Building on the above date.

Chair Scott Greig called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

### 2. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

### 3. Delegations

None.

### 4. Items For Direction or Discussion

#### 4.a TR-UR-06-25 - Urban Road and Road Exchange Task Force Recommendations

Pat Hoy, Director of Transportation, summarized the status of the urban road and road exchange project and the proposed recommendations. Mr.

Hoy indicated that staff have recommended the transfer of road sections in Primary and Secondary urban areas, totaling approximately 50 km, and are seeking approval to finalize agreements on transition plans with municipalities including timing, funding, and maintenance plans. He further noted the response and feedback received from the lower tiers. At this time, the next steps include, developing new urban road agreements, hosting public information sessions this year, and drafting memorandums of understanding to identify the support required for each municipality. It was noted that the dates are simply targets, given the complexities required (by-laws, legal processing, surveying, civic addressing, and more). Mary Lou Spicer, Director of Finance/Treasurer indicated that approval of the recommendation would inform the 2026 budget and give staff direction to proceed at this time (\$1.24 million increase to the levy resulting in an overall 1.56% increase to the levy for 2026). Trevor Ireton, Project Planning Engineer, referred to the engineering requirements and responded to questions regarding road maintenance requirements. Staff indicated that comments and feedback from members of the community can be submitted to roads@grey.ca.

Members of the Task Force provided questions and comments. Discussion occurred on whether there is benefit to retaining existing road names, while transferring ownership, and further outlined actions to support the public with any changes to road naming. Staff provided comments in support of changing road names for clarity, while providing support to the communities. Staff explained that the Asset Management data has been the guide used to support the funding proposals, rather than the 10-year capital. It was acknowledged that the project timelines provided by member municipalities for urban areas are variable in their planning horizons (i.e. 3 year plan, 5 year plan, etc.). As a result, relying on the 10-year capital plan to guide financial support may not accurately reflect actual needs.

Additional discussion surrounding Ministry of Transportation consultation process, varying maintenance levels, and positive and negative impacts to the exchange/transfers to lower tier municipalities were discussed by the Task Force (ie. changes levels of services, budget and staffing changes/impacts). Members referred to the consideration of delaying transfers and phased in approaches to minimize the impacts on the tax base. The Task Force noted the purpose of the proposed changes - to increase the level of service and enhance efficiencies on roads throughout the County of Grey.

UR01-25

Moved by: Councillor Milne

Seconded by: Councillor Carleton

**That report TR-UR-06-25 be received; and**

**That the funding model presented for the urban road and rural road transfers be approved; and**

**That a levy increase of \$1,240,901 to support the funding model for the road transfers be included in the 2026 draft budget for Council's consideration; and**

**That staff be directed to negotiate new road agreements with the affected municipalities in accordance with the activities in the report; and**

**That the corresponding draft agreements come forward for consideration.**

Carried

## **5. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

## **6. Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **7. Next Meeting Date**

To be determined.

## **8. Adjournment**

The Urban Road and Road Exchange Task Force adjourned at 11:55 a.m. to the call of the Chair.