

**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SARNIA**  
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**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

**OPEN SESSION REPORT**

TO: Mayor Bradley and Members of Sarnia City Council

FROM: J.P. André Morin, P.Eng., City Engineer

DATE: April 23, 2014

SUBJECT: Cull Drain Pedestrian Bridge

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**Recommendations:**

For Council's information

**Background:**

The Cull Drain Bridge was closed in September 2012 when the Consulting Engineer undertaking the bi-annual structure survey recommended the bridge be closed due to significant structural defects.

During the review of the structure and through collaboration with the area residents, concerns were raised about the access to the bridge on the east side of the Cull Drain. The old Lakeshore Road right-of-way is impassable with a number of restrictions and erosion deficiencies, and the new access would be over private property.

At a public meeting held at the Bright's Grove Public School in June 2013, the general consensus with the residents in attendance (almost 200) and through a mail-in/e-mail poll, was that the bridge needed to be re-opened with the rehabilitation or replacement of the structure.

**Comments:**

The Engineering Department did have a Consulting Engineering firm complete a preliminary cost analysis to rehabilitate the structure using 'Heritage' methods for rehabilitation.

With this report now complete, the Engineering Department is also reviewing the cost to rehabilitate versus replacement with a prefabricated structure which may accommodate pedestrian and/or vehicular traffic, the requirement of shoreline improvements and obtaining an easement

agreement with property owners to provide connectivity to the structure on the east side of the Cull Drain.

Engineering staff is working to gather the final details such as a heritage status report and access agreements with adjacent landowners, as well as finalizing cost estimates and reviewing possible funding opportunities. Staff will hold a follow-up public meeting in late May with affected Bright's Grove residents prior to presentation of our final report to Council on June 9, 2014.

**Consultation:**

Engineering staff have been working with Planning Department staff on heritage issues and consulting engineers to gather the necessary information for this report.

**Financial Implications:**

Not applicable at this time.

Reviewed by:



J.P. André Morin, P.Eng.  
City Engineer

Approved by:



Margaret Misek-Evans  
City Manager

This report was prepared by Mike Berkvens, C.E.T., Development Manager

Attachment(s): None