

**STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE****Wye Road Functional Planning Study Overview and Capital Projects Update****Report Purpose**

To provide Priorities Committee with background and overview of the Wye Road Functional Planning Study, update on the completed or on-going related projects, and update of planned projects in alignment with the approved functional plan.

**Our Prioritized Strategic Goals**

Goal 2 - Manage, invest and plan for sustainable municipal infrastructure

Goal 7 - Provide opportunities for public engagement and communication

Continuously improving the way we work, as one organization, in an agile and sustainable manner

**Report**

Strathcona County is committed to providing a safe and efficient transportation network for the community.

The study limits for the Wye Road Functional Planning Study were from Ordze Road to Highway 21. The primary objective of the study was to determine a roadway configuration for the Wye Road corridor and intersections to maintain an acceptable level-of-service over the foreseeable future. This included assessing the needs for pedestrians in the area, providing motorists with safe and convenient access to businesses and private properties along Wye Road, and to evaluate the condition and needs of the roadway.

The study was initiated in 2006 with a mandate to identify future upgrade needs for Wye Road based on expected future development along the corridor. It was deferred in 2008 prior to completion based on Wye commercial area business owner concerns related to roadway upgrades and proposed traffic control concepts in the Wye commercial area.

In September 2012, Council approved reactivation of the project starting with a stakeholder engagement process specific to the Wye commercial area in proximity to the Sherwood Drive/Wye Road intersection, empowering business stakeholders to develop recommended concepts and plans for future roadway upgrades and traffic controls in the business precinct situated between Ordze Road and Hawthorne Street (see Enclosure 1, Business Stakeholder Engagement Area outlined in red).

Engaging the stakeholders was fundamental to creating a plan for the Wye Road corridor through the Wye commercial area. The engagement completed was at the highest level of engagement on the County's Continuum of Engagement: Empower. This level of engagement delegates aspects of decision making to citizens and stakeholders. It provides opportunities to the public to make decisions with assurances that they will be implemented. The engagement concluded by development of a plan with the final stakeholder recommendations. This plan was presented at two stakeholder meetings, where the majority of participants were positive and supportive of the recommendations, with a few stakeholders remaining in opposition.

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The business stakeholder recommendations were presented to Strathcona County's Priority Committee on March 11, 2014. The recommendations were subsequently reviewed and vetted by administration and then incorporated virtually unchanged (timelines were added) into the overall Wye Road Functional Planning Study. The overall planning study was approved unanimously by Council on March 10, 2015.

Throughout the Wye Road Functional Planning Study process and subsequent to its ultimate approval, continuing corridor development triggered various staged improvements to the Wye Road corridor to maintain an acceptable level of service to the roadway corridor users. Projects already completed based on the recommendations of the study include:

- construction of the widening of Wye Road to six lanes between Sherwood Drive and west of Brentwood Boulevard
- construction of Ash Street between Wye Road and Range Road 233 (behind the Wal-Mart)
- design of the widening of Wye Road to six lanes from Brentwood Boulevard to Clover Bar Road including the intersection improvements to the Hillshire development
- all related third party utility and pipeline removal and relocation work between Sherwood Drive and Clover Bar Road

Projects currently underway include:

- construction of the widening of Wye Road to six lanes from west of Brentwood Boulevard to Estate Drive
- design of the Sherwood Drive/Wye Road intersection improvements and design of the Sherwood Drive modifications from Fir Street to Ash Street (*Sherwood Drive Improvements Project*)
- removal of abandoned pipelines east of Clover Bar Road to Highway 21

In the near term, upcoming corridor upgrade projects include:

- the Sherwood Drive Improvements Project which implements the planning study recommendations for Sherwood Drive from Fir Street to Ash Street and the Wye Road/Sherwood Drive intersection pending Council budget approval
- construction of the widening of Wye Road to six lanes from Estate Drive to Clover Bar Road will be evaluated subject to the timeline of the adjacent development, pending Council budget approval
- design and implementation of the interim improvements required at the Ordze Crescent/Wye Road intersection to support the upcoming Wye Business Center development.

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### **Council and Committee History**

December 8, 2015	Council approved the 2016 Consolidated Capital Budget for Municipal, Utility and Library operations.
March 10, 2015	Council approved the Wye Road Functional Planning Study (January 2015) as the guide for future transportation improvements for the Wye Road corridor.
March 11, 2014	Priorities Committee was provided an update on the Stakeholder Engagement Summary Report (2012-2013) for the Wye Road Functional Planning Study.
September 11, 2012	Council was provided an update on the status of the Wye Road Functional Planning Study.
December 6, 2005	Council approved in the 2006 Budget, the Wye Road (Ordze Road to Highway 21) Urbanization Evaluation & Design Study here after referred to as the Wye Road Functional Planning Study.

### **Other Impacts**

**Policy:** Public Engagement Policy, GOV-002-025

**Legislative/Legal:** n/a

**Interdepartmental:** Communications

**Master Plan/Framework:** Integrated Transportation Master Plan, Public Engagement Framework

### **Communication Plan**

In early 2019, Transportation Planning and Engineering plans to move forward with public engagement on the project at the Inform level of the County's Continuum of Engagement, to advise both the business stakeholders and the general public of the upcoming Sherwood Drive Improvements Project (pending Council approval).

### **Enclosures**

1	Wye Road Functional Planning Study Overview and Capital Projects Update Presentation
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