

# Staff Report

Presented By: Ruhul Amin, Manager, Engineering Services

Meeting Date: September 9, 2024

Subject: Revised Connecting Links Projects - Multiyear Plan and Intake 10 Projects

Attachment(s): None

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## **Recommendation**

That Council approve the Revised Connecting Links Projects - Multiyear Plan, supporting applications for funding to Intake 10 (2025-2026) for the following two projects:

1. Resurfacing of Highway 21 from South Street to Craig Street (Southampton Section).
2. Turner Street (Bruce Road 13) and Hwy 21 Intersection Improvements Project; and

That Council approve funding of \$449,900.00 for the municipal contribution component (10%) for 2025-2026 Connecting Links (Intake 10) planned projects; and

That Council authorize the Clerk and Mayor to sign the funding agreements for Connecting Links 2025-2026 (Intake 10), if approved by the Ministry.

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## **Report Summary**

This report updates the Town's Connecting Links Multiyear Plan approved by Council on September 25, 2023, and outlines the planned 2025-2026 Connecting Links application (Intake 10).

## **Background/Analysis**

### **Revised Connecting Links Plan:**

In a virtual meeting with the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) staff on May 29, 2024, discussions took place for the future Connecting Links applications and the Town expressed our intent to apply for the following two projects in 2025-2026 (Intake 10) fiscal year:

1. Resurfacing of Highway 21 from South Street to Craig Street (Southampton Section).

2. Turner Street and Highway 21 Intersection Improvements Project. The scope of the Turner Street and Highway 21 Intersection Improvements includes completing the Intersection Control Study, Detailed Design, and Construction.

Although the Connecting Links Grant Guidelines allow only one application for each section of Connecting Links, the MTO representatives indicated that the MTO may consider two applications from the Town of Saugeen Shores in 2025-2026 program as a special case.

Accordingly, staff revised the Connecting Links multiyear project plan to move the Turner Street and Highway 21 Intersection Improvements project ahead in 2025-2026 application process from the previous plan which had that project in 2026-2027.

Table 1 below outlines the revised application plan and financial information. Based on the revised plan, the Town will be applying for a total grant of \$4,049,100.00 (for 90%) in 2025-2026 under the Connecting Links program and will require a commitment of \$449,900.00 (10%) from the Town for these two projects.

In terms of the McNabb Street intersection, the next steps in the revised plan would include: the completion of a traffic count at McNabb Street and Highway 21 Intersection in 2026; re-evaluating the Warrant of Signal/Roundabout situation; and, reapplying for the grant in 2027-2028 if it meets the Warrant Criteria.

**Table 1: Revised Connecting Links-Multi Year Plan**

<b>Project</b>	<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>2025-2026</b>	<b>2026-2027</b>	<b>2027-2028</b>	<b>Total</b>
McNabb St and Hwy 21 Intersection (re-application)				\$1,500,000	<b>\$1,500,000</b>
Hwy 21 Resurfacing (PE)	\$2,999,000				<b>\$2,999,000</b>
Hwy 21 Resurfacing (SH)		\$2,999,000			<b>\$2,999,000</b>
Saugeen River Bridge Repair			\$200,000		<b>\$200,000</b>
Turner and Hwy 21 Intersection		\$1,500,000			<b>\$1,500,000</b>
Concession 6 and Hwy 21 Intersection			\$1,250,000		<b>\$1,250,000</b>
Concession 10 and Hwy 21 Intersection				\$1,000,000	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,999,000</b>	<b>\$4,499,000</b>	<b>\$1,450,000</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>	<b>\$11,448,000</b>
<b>Connecting Links (90%)</b>	<b>\$2,699,100</b>	<b>\$4,049,100</b>	<b>\$1,305,000</b>	<b>\$2,250,000</b>	<b>\$10,303,200</b>
<b>Saugeen Shores Contribution (10%)</b>	<b>\$299,900</b>	<b>\$449,900</b>	<b>\$145,000</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>	<b>\$1,144,800</b>

## **Financial Considerations:**

Following are the financial breakdowns for Connecting Links 2025-2026 (Intake 10) applications:

1. Resurfacing of Highway 21 from South Street to Craig Street (Southampton Section):

Total Project Costs:	\$2,999,000.00
Connecting Links:	\$2,699,100.00
Saugeen Shores:	\$299,900.00

2. Turner Street and Highway 21 Intersection Improvements Project:

Total Project Costs:	\$1,500,000.00
Connecting Links:	\$1,350,000.00
Saugeen Shores:	\$150,000.00

Total from Saugeen Shores: \$449,900.00

## **Linkages**

- Strategic Plan Alignment: Pillar 1: Meeting the Needs of a Growing Community
- Business Plan Alignment: Development Services Division Highlight

## **Financial Impacts/Source of Funding**

Cost associated with this program are contained within the Engineering Services proposed 2025 Business Plan.

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Prepared By: Ruhul Amin, Manager, Engineering Services

Reviewed By: Mark Paoli, Director, Development Services

Approved By: Kara Van Myall, Chief Administrative Officer