

- **Reference Reports:**

- [Report PWES-2020-21](#), “Town of Tecumseh Road Needs Study 2019 Study Completion and Adoption”, April 28, 2020; Motion RCM-139/20.

A5. Boulevard Street Trees

Previously Approved	Requested for 2024	Future Costs	Total Project Costs
\$0	\$125,000	\$500,000	\$625,000

Well-maintained and healthy trees act as our “green infrastructure”. Trees and (urban) forests reduce stormwater runoff by capturing and storing rainfall in the canopy and releasing water into the atmosphere through evapotranspiration. Other benefits include, cleaner air, cooler temperatures, increased property values, and energy savings. In an urban context, street trees define the space of the street, and when mature, provide canopy. They demarcate the pedestrian space, calm traffic and help protect the pedestrian from motor vehicles. When laid out with consistent sizes and alignment, street trees bring order to the street, visually soften the streetscape, and reintroduce nature to the urban street.

On May 30, 2017, Bill 68 entitled “Modernizing Ontario’s Municipal Act”, 2016, received royal assent. This bill included an amendment to Section 270 of the Municipal Act, 2001, which requires all municipalities to adopt and maintain policies with respect to the protection and enhancement of the tree canopy and natural vegetation in the municipality.

Section 270(1) requires that:

A municipality shall adopt and maintain policies with respect to the following matters...

7. The manner in which the municipality will protect and enhance the tree canopy and vegetation in the municipality.

At the December 8, 2020 Policies and Priorities Committee Meeting, the Committee adopted the Tree Maintenance and Removal Policy No. 108 which was included in Report PWES-2020-20. Adoption of this policy broadened the protection and enhancement of the Town’s tree cover by providing direction with regard to tree planting, maintenance and removal in accordance with amended Section 270 of the Municipal Act, 2001.

In December 2019, Council approved the recommendations of Report CAO-2019-12 which declared a Climate Emergency and directed Administration to work towards the reduction of emissions and preparing for our climate future.

In consultation with Community & Recreation Services (CRS) and acknowledging the benefits of healthy “green infrastructure” as a climate adaptation measure, Administration recommends that the Town move forward with a boulevard street tree enhancement program to improve the tree canopy within Town road right of ways and further address the requirements of the Municipal Act, 2001. To achieve this objective it is recommended that, in addition to the approximately 100 trees that are planted by CRS annually, an additional 250 boulevard trees be planted annually. Project inspection and administration will be carried out by PWES in consultation with CRS staff upon award of a Contract by Council.

Funding for this project is to be provided from the Road Lifecycle Reserve in the amount of \$125,000.

• **Reference Reports:**

- [Report PWES-2020-20](#), “Tree Maintenance and Removal Policy”, December 8, 2020; Motion PPC-14/20.
- [Report CAO-2019-12](#), “Climate Change Emergency Declaration”, December 10, 2019; Motion RCM-390/19.

A6. County Road 46 Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

Previously Approved	Requested for 2024	Future Costs	Total Project Costs
\$70,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$80,000

The County of Essex is proceeding with a Class EA for CR46 from the City of Windsor limits to CR19. This Class EA will analyze all modes of transportation within this corridor and recommend improvements to the infrastructure based on the interim and long-term needs.

In January 2023, Council approved the recommendations of Report PWES-2023-01 that authorized Administration to partner with the County of Essex on the Class EA, with an expanded scope to include the 8th & 9th Concession Roads (from CR46 to City of Windsor limits). This will ensure the integration between the CR46 Class EA and the Sandwich South Master Servicing Plan currently being undertaken by the City of Windsor.

The County of Essex completed a Request for Proposal process with BT Engineering Inc. being the successful proponent. In November 2023, Council approved the recommendations of Report PWES-2023-71 that authorized retaining BT Engineering Inc. for the Engineering Consulting Services specific to the Town’s portion of the CR46 Class EA.