



Operational Update

Sixth Street Reconstruction Project

Tree Replacement Strategy

November 3, 2025



Project Scope and Funding

- Project limits:
 - Sixth Street from Hurontario Street to High Street
 - Hurontario Street from Hume Street to Sixth Street (watermain and restoration)
- Total project distance approximately 1.5 km
- Primarily funded through DCs and some reserve funds for infrastructure renewal
- Staff have applied for funding to help offset the cost of the tree component through the Growing Canada's Community Canopy program, outcome pending

Project Objectives

Primary Objective: replacement of existing undersized and deteriorated watermain, and installation of an additional transmission watermain to improve water supply and pressure to the Town's western side.

The project will also include:

- Replacement of aged sanitary and storm sewers
- Full road reconstruction, including new concrete sidewalk, curb and gutter
- Off road one-way cycle tracks on both north and south sides of the road
- Reinstatement of all disturbed areas



Project Status

2025 - Complete detailed design and tender of project

2026 - Utility relocation (late winter/early spring)

2026 - Phase 1 – Hume Street to Oak Street

- All users will be detoured (vehicles, cyclists, pedestrian)

2027 - Phase 2 – Oak Street to High Street

- All users will be detoured (vehicles, cyclists, pedestrian)

2028 – End of Construction





Background – Council Resolution 341-2023

On October 16, 2023, Council passes a resolution directing staff to design the road cross section with off-road one-way cycling pathway on both the north and south of Sixth Street:

WHEREAS Sixth Street is the main east-west cycling corridor through the Town of Collingwood;

AND WHEREAS the necessary reconstruction of Sixth Street presents opportunity for improvements to the active transportation facilities that reflect up to date best practices;

AND WHEREAS the objective of the proposed design is to create a “complete street” that cost-efficiently preserves the existing boulevards, trees and hydro poles, while improving active transportation conveyances on both the North and South sides of the street;

AND WHEREAS the proposed design would introduce a two-way raised cycle track on the south side of the street only, that would be shared with pedestrians;

AND WHEREAS industry best practice is to avoid two-way cycle tracks because of the significantly increased risk of conflict with motor vehicles in situations where there are a large number of driveways and intersections as exist on Sixth Street;

AND WHEREAS the same shared track would impact the travel experience and safety of pedestrians in that the majority of users are cyclists, and this form of transportation is likely to increase with the growing number of cyclists, plus users of scooters, e-bikes and other power-driven personal transport devices;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Staff reconsider the proposed Sixth Street Reconstruction design and implement one way cycle tracks on the north and south sides, and a separate pedestrian sidewalk on the north side;

AND FURTHER THAT the design ensure that active transportation crossings at all intersections reflect best practices which may include cycle track pavement markings, raised crosswalks or other treatments that cost efficiently reflect best practice and improve safety of all active transportation facilities on the reconstructed street.





Background Continued – Resolution 279-2024

Further on June 3, 2024, Council passed a resolution regarding the Sixth Street tree replacement plan:

WHEREAS there will be a significant loss of trees in the public right-of-way during reconstruction of Sixth Street;

AND WHEREAS there will be insufficient room in this public right-of-way as reconstructed to replace all the trees lost;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct Staff to develop a program which will include the following:

1. All the trees lost are to be replaced by planting of new trees on Sixth Street, at the rate of at least double the trees lost, or other rate of replacement calculated using a science-based formula, such that the net environmental benefit of the removed trees is not lost.
2. To achieve the goal of planting double the trees lost, that homeowners on Sixth Street be permitted to request a tree be planted on their private front yard at no cost to them. Homeowners to be provided instructions on watering and care to ensure survival of any such trees.
3. That the priority area for the planting of new trees be within the project boundaries.
4. That if additional areas are needed to accommodate all the new trees, that the program identify additional streets in the vicinity where the trees will be planted.
5. That recommendations on the tree caliper be returned to Council for decision.

AND THAT Staff report back to Council on the ability to require private property owners to maintain or replace trees (as per a method used for the original planting) that have been provided and planted as part of the Sixth Street road reconstruction project.



Trees & Community Well-being

- Trees are essential community assets:
 - They improve air and water quality, provide shade, reduce heat, enhance biodiversity, and contribute to mental and physical health.
- A healthy urban forest helps build resilient, livable neighbourhoods and supports climate change adaptation.
- Staff are working proactively to manage and protect the urban forest as a key piece of community infrastructure.
- The community has consistently voiced strong support for tree protection and greening efforts.

Tree Removal and Replacement

- Forty (40) trees in various states of health will be removed to accommodate the new cross section
- Proposed 3:1 replacement ratio - a total of 120 new trees will be planted
- Replacement trees will be 50mm in diameter
 - the recommended size with highest survival rate from transplanting shock to help reduce tree loss
 - 3-year warranty for new trees will be included in the tender document
- Tree removal - Early 2026
 - outside of bird nesting season
- Tree planting - Spring 2028
 - at the end of construction



Tree Planting Strategy

The proposed design can accommodate forty (40) trees within the new boulevard space. Options for the remaining eighty (80) trees:

1. Offer one tree per private property within the project limits
Property owners choosing to have a tree planted on their property will:
 - Sign to grant permission to the Town to plant the tree and promise to take care of it.
 - Be given instructions to properly care for the tree
 - Trees on private property will not be warranted.
 - Trees offered on first come first served basis
2. If any remain, plant trees on Fifth Street and Seventh Street within the Town ROW, as per the Town's Arborist
3. If any remain, plant trees on Walnut Street Park and Kinsmen Park, as per the Town's Arborist.



Thank you

