

Downtown Dig – List of Questions from Darrel Perry and Responses by Cherie Leslie

As we're just one month away from the November 3rd completion date of the Downtown Dig construction phase, can we please get your feedback on the following DD deliverables, and if the intention is to have them in the 2024 MOK budget:

1. Lighting safety upgrade for the entire streetnicole – The municipality is not planning to replace the streetlight head fixtures as part of the downtown dig project, nor is it part of the 2024 budget. This was a provisional item in the tender and came in at a high cost. Initially we didn't think the lights were LED, but we later found out they had been replaced a number of years ago.

If the BIA feels strongly that they need to be replaced in the future to make the street brighter, I'd suggest adding this to a future agenda and have the Board draft a letter or presentation to Council for consideration. This work can be done at a later date, but like most things, cost is always a factor.

2. East car park safety upgrades (blind spot mirrors, directional arrows, speed humps, recharge stations etc). A replacement of the EV charging station is included in the draft 2024 budget. Corey/Adam have already agreed to painting arrows and a line delignating vehicle and pedestrian traffic through this lane and adding speed bumps. Was there a certain location that you feel an additional blind spot mirror(s) should be located? Suggest we arrange a meeting in the spring with them if this work hasn't been completed.

3. Support for hospitality businesses to modify their existing temporary decks. I've flagged this for the ec dev draft budget but need to arrange a meeting with the restaurant owners to better understand the modifications required to the existing patios. Also whether they own or rent their patio. There is also a new Ontario Traffic Council Guidelines which implements stronger safety measures for on-street patios, which may also result in different requirements for patios. Internally municipal staff have a meeting scheduled next week to review/discuss.

4. Final Downtown Dig construction deliverables (planned for Spring 2024), when are they scheduled to start/finish and expected street disruptions?

Adam is wanting to tender the new planters this fall so we have them for early spring. Sean from Pl.ural is working on the tender document. The trees and other items would be tendered early next year. We plan to have the items on the street in the spring. The only street disruption that I'm aware of would be when the final coat of asphalt would be applied – Adam suggested this likely won't happen until the fall of 2024.

5. BIA assets (chairs and planters) - Where do they fit within the plans for Queen Street and when can we have input?

From my recollection, the Board requested that we keep the existing blue chairs and blue planters in the new streetscape. Sean provided a draft concept for the location of furnishing but this hasn't been finalized. There is flexibility each year on where these items are placed as they are not fixed assets. However, I know the Accessibility Committee will insist that they not block the sidewalk.

If the Board is interested, I can have Sean attend the October or November BIA meeting to provide an update and gather input from the Board.

6. Queen Street seating (including library), when will a decision be made, purchase and delivery dates?

I believe the seating was confirmed and is as shown in the concept plans below on our website. I've just inquired about the timing for installation, as I'm not sure if this is happening in the fall or next spring.

https://www.kincardine.ca/en/build-invest-grow/resources/Downtown-Dig/MoK_DowntownDig_OpenHouseStreetscapePanels_March-8-2023.pdf

7. Garbage and Recycle bins and process

I believe Garbage cans replacements are included in the 2024 MOK budget. We need to have a further discussion around recycling, as of now the MOK indicated that they won't do recycling downtown as its frequently contaminated with non-recyclables and then won't get picked up by the recycling company. Until we have someone that is able to sort through all the recycling each week, I'm not sure this will be practical. Again we can have a further discussion around this.

8. Speakers – Looking at including these In the 2024 budget.

9. Parking on Queen Street - With the increased amount of general parking spots created by the new street design can we discuss how to use them (eg: do we need to create some short-term car parking spots, should we allocate parks to larger vehicles to encourage visitors towing trailers, smaller motor bike parking and of course large volume parking for regular bikes? We could have a further discussion on this at an upcoming BIA meeting if desired.