

Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-Committee

August 2026

IS Update Regarding Capital Projects and General Operations

The following Infrastructure Services update on capital projects and general operations is an extension of the proposed key deliverables identified in the Engineering, Environmental, Fleet, Public Works and Climate Divisions' respective annual workplans.

Special Projects can be found on the City page, www.EngageStratford.ca

Studies

- Stormwater Master Plan Update
 - Update to existing storm model and consolidation of all existing storm master plans and EA reports, climate change adaptation to be included.
 - RFP for consulting services awarded to Greenland Consulting Engineers.
- Sanitary Master Plan Update
 - RFP for consultant services awarded to Civica, work nearing completion.
 - New sanitary model to be used to update existing Sanitary Master Plan and incorporate all lands annexed since 2004.
 - Council presentation of final report by Fall 2026

Capital Projects - Ongoing

- Queen Street Reconstruction – Regent Street to Brunswick Street
 - Full reconstruction with new watermain, storm and sanitary sewers.
 - Construction ongoing.
- McCarthy Road East Reconstruction – Mornington Street to Romeo Street.
 - Road widening, bike lane addition, sidewalk improvements, ditching.
 - Design phase. Virtual open house held from March 23 – April 3rd.
 - Project tender to be posted in fall, with construction planned for 2027.
- Daly Avenue Reconstruction
 - Full reconstruction with new watermain, storm and sanitary sewers.
 - Contract awarded, construction ongoing.
- Concrete and Asphalt Restoration
 - Continuation of multi-year tender to replace damaged concrete sidewalk, curbs and asphalt road cuts, including restoration works.
 - Work commenced for 2026.
- Albert Street Reconstruction Phase 2 – Front to King Street
 - Full reconstruction with new watermain, sanitary and storm sewers.
 - Stage 1, from Front to Queen, complete.
 - Stage 2, from Queen to King, commenced for 2026.
- Downtown Intersection Improvements
 - Intersection improvements to enhance pedestrian safety in accordance with the Downtown Traffic Study.
 - Construction ongoing.

- Consulting Services RFP for Erie/Ontario/Downie Intersection Upgrades, to be tendered in fall.
- TJ Dolan Retaining Wall Replacement
 - Project awarded to Kieswetter Excavating
 - Construction to start late summer 2026
- 2026 New Sidewalk, Collector and Arterial Roads
 - Douro Street Multi-Use Trail from Burritt to C.H. Meier, south side.
 - To be tendered in late August.

Capital Projects – 2025

- Avon and Avondale Reconstruction
 - Avon Street from Avondale to John, Avondale Street from the Cemetery bridge to Huron Street.
 - Full reconstruction with new watermains, sanitary and storm sewers.
 - Construction substantially complete, top lift of asphalt planned for Summer 2026.
- Huron Street Reconstruction Phase 2 – John to Roadhouse Drain
 - Subject to Connecting Link funding, Full reconstruction with new watermains, sanitary and storm sewers.
 - Stage 1 Construction ongoing between Huntingdon and Matilda.
- Erie Street Multi-Use Trail Rehabilitation– Lorne Avenue to the south
 - Full reconstruction of existing deteriorated trail. Work also includes new sidewalks on the east side of Erie Street from Lorne Ave south to connect to the existing sidewalk.
 - Project substantially complete, deficiency work ongoing.
- Lorne and Downie Intersection
 - Intersection improvement to include left turn lanes on Lorne Avenue, in both directions.
 - Design being finalized, with tender planned for mid-2026.
- O’Loane Avenue Trunk Sanitary Sewer Extension
 - Consulting services awarded to MTE Consultants in 2024 for the design and tender of the trunk sanitary sewer from its current terminus south of Huron Street, to approximately Galt Street, by micro-tunnelling.
 - Project is substantially complete, deficiency work ongoing, surface asphalt planned for summer 2026.
- Pedestrian Crossing Improvements 2026
 - Currently in design phase
- Bridge and Culvert Repairs 2025
 - Tender for concrete works on various structures awarded to VanDriel Excavating Inc
 - Project locations include the John Street Bridge (at Avon River), Waterloo Street Bridge (north of Lakeside Drive), Lakeside Drive East Bridge (Avon River) and Romeo Street rail underpass
 - All bridge work is complete. Handrailing repairs at the Romeo Street rail underpass are ongoing.
- Various Sidewalks

- Gordon Street from Ontario Street to Willow Street, John Street South from Easson Street to West Gore Street.
- 2025 Project substantially complete.
- Lorne Avenue Trunk Sewer Condition Assessment and Rehabilitation
 - Consultant services to assess the condition of the Lorne Avenue CSP storm sewer which is past its service life. Rehabilitation options will be evaluated for 2026 implementation.
 - Inspection complete, assessment report and recommendations to be provided.

Divisional Updates

Engineering Division Works

- Red Light Enforcement approach to be reviewed.
- 40 km/h Speed Reduction in Residential Neighbourhood Pilot Program
 - Collecting pre-pilot speed study data & preparing public engagement campaign and implementation plan.
 - Planned to implement summer 2026.
- Review of development engineering plans and reports for various proposed subdivisions.
- Review of formal consultations, site plan applications, zone change applications, and various other planning matters.
- Inspection services for subdivision construction are ongoing.
- Municipal consents are ongoing, for the review and approval of utility infrastructure installation within the City's right-of-way.
- Compiling data for asset management initiatives.
- Supporting Corporate special projects, Grand Trunk Community Hub servicing, attainable housing, new industrial subdivision development.
- Advisory Staff committee representations provided:
 - Active Transportation Advisory Committee
 - Accessibility Advisory Committee, and
 - Energy and Environment Advisory Committee.
- Ongoing Infrastructure Services Specific Internal Working Groups:
 - Asphalt and Paving Working Group.
 - CCTV Sewer Condition Assessment Working Group.
 - Growth and Parking Standards Working Group.
- Survey and design ongoing for 2026 and future projects.

Environmental Services Operations Update: Water

- One watermain break occurred during this reporting period (July 16/26 – August 12/26). The total number of watermain breaks thus far in 2026 is 27. The total number of breaks for 2025 was 44.
- Ongoing water service repairs are being completed throughout the city.
- Zero HSA were completed during the reporting period, two are scheduled to be completed in the upcoming weeks. Three HSA have been completed thus far in 2026.

- Minor Hydrant maintenance has been completed as identified during spring flushing.
- Efforts to clear backlogged service orders with regards to broken water meter touchpads and stopped meters are ongoing in coordination with Festival Hydro. Meter replacement appointment bookings are increasing with the help of the ES Summer Student.
- Albert St - Phase 2 reconstruction is ongoing. Temporary watermain between Queen St and King St. Commissioning for permanent watermain to begin in the next 2 weeks.
- Huron Street – Phase 2 – Stage 1 – temporary watermain between Roadhouse Drain and Forman installed, commissioned and in service. Stage 2 temporary watermain has been installed, commissioned and placed in service during this reporting period. Cut and caps of watermain at the intersection of Huron St. and Huntingdon Ave. Watermain and storm sewer construction ongoing.
- Queen Street reconstruction – Temporary watermain installed, commissioned and placed in service in this reporting period. Watermain shutdowns and cut and caps at Queen and Brunswick and Queen and Douro have been completed.
- Daly Ave reconstruction – temporary watermain installed and commissioned during this reporting period. Contractor to switch services and complete cut and caps in the upcoming week.
- 48 Riddell – Phase 1 Final connections completed. Phase 2 commissioning plan has been submitted and will be scheduled in the upcoming weeks.
- Valve Exercising program is ongoing. Valve exercising has been approximately 90% completed in Zone 1 (NW section of the City) and has not yet begun in Zone 5 (Huron, Ontario and Erie Streets). Progress has remained steady in the past month, despite increasing watermain commissioning activities and clearing of backlogged water meter changes.

Environmental Services Operations Update: Wastewater

- Follow up sanitary sewer cleaning from Round 2 of Acoustic Sewer Assessments (RATs) has been completed.
- Round 2 follow up Acoustic Sewer Assessments (RATs) of cleaned sanitary sewers is complete.
- Erie SPS retrofit (new pumps, piping and valves) still pending pump and valve arrivals.
- Currently halfway through the Odour Control Pilot project at Quinlan SPS and Stratford Landfill. Monitored on a weekly basis by the contractor for efficacy.

Environmental Services Operations Update: Stormwater

- 2026 Invasive Species Management Program (mapping, treatment & monitoring) to start in the coming weeks - Phragmites Australis (Common Reed) *SWM Ponds, Ditches & Landfill.

Environmental Services Operations Update: Water Pollution Control Plant

- Three (3) Primary Treated Overflows have occurred during the reporting period. The events occurred due to heavy precipitation
- Equipment selection for the Digester Roof and Mixing System Replacement is being finalized with CIMA, tender slated for Fall 2026.

Public Works Operations

- Painting continues with focus now on arrows and stalls.
- Grass mowing and line trimming 2nd round completed.
- Sweeping on 3rd round.
- Less temporary and more defined asphalt repairs with grinder ongoing. (Bruce, Mornington and Princess)
- 3 sinkholes in queue (West Gore, McNabb and Cooper Lot), waiting for locates and scheduling.
- Speed reduction signage continuing on schedule.
- Participation with Destination Stratford with new feature at bandshell.
- We performed emergency afterhours repairs to Huron after significant event.
- Core garbage task has been daily due to use and weather.
- Continuing support with ongoing encampment clean ups.
- Health and Safety concerns raised over encampments. We paused a couple of tasks until extra PPE is in-house. The concerns were poke, cut and sharp potential to forearms and hands during refuse collection. We will be reviewing all our "litter/debris/garbage" SOP's to improve.

*Public Works staff have already taken reasonable steps to reduce direct hand contact during waste and encampment clean-up, including the use of tools, machinery, lifting ropes, and sharps containers. However, these controls do not eliminate the hazard because needles, razors, broken glass, and contaminated sharp objects are often hidden inside bags, barrels, bedding, clothing, and debris.

The work may appear simple, but the risk is complex. A single needlestick or contaminated cut can result in immediate medical assessment, incident investigation, stress for the worker, follow-up testing, and potential exposure to bloodborne pathogens.

Arm sleeve protection, used together with cut-/puncture-resistant gloves, eye protection, tools, training, and existing sharps procedures, is a reasonable additional precaution. It protects the wrist and forearm area, which remains vulnerable even when workers avoid hand contact. This is not about making routine work more complicated; it is about recognizing the real limitations of "straight forwards" work when the contents of waste are unknown.

Public Works Operations Update: Waste Management

Key Updates/Highlights

- Waste Rate Study Complete and Presented to Council August 10.
- Proposals have been received for Blue Box Material Processing are being reviewed and evaluated.
- Maintenance work on methane system and cell liner pumps ongoing.
- Receiving impacted soils from Huron Street construction and Albert Street reconstruction and using those soils for daily cover.
- New Bag Tags have arrived.
- Continuation of Leachate Odour Trial.

Citizen Reporting and Issue Management

- Leachate Odour Trial began with State Chem, where three different additives are injected into the leachate at the bottom of pumphouse 3. Some improvements to odour profile have already been noted by staff.

Materials and Equipment

- The new BOMEG landfill compactor has arrived on site.

Weather and Prioritization

- A few lightning events in July and August triggered the Landfill Lightning Policy which shuts down the active landfill face until 30 minutes of no weather.

What Council Can Expect

- RFP for non-eligible Blue Box Collection is expected to be released in early September.
- Next Household Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled for **September 12**.
- We expect to receive brick from Downie Street road construction which will be crushed and use for road building at the landfill.

Fleet Operations Division Update

- Landfill's new compactor has arrived and is being assembled, training scheduled for week of Aug 24th.
- Holiday season is continuing, garage repairs have slowed down due to limited staff, but service levels are staying strong.
- Kress Voyager Autonomous Electric lawn mower is being demoed at the Packham Ball park and at the Avondale Cemetery.
- Regulatory Compliance: CVOR is continually monitored.
- Maintenance: PM's and Annual Safety Inspections are underway for August.
- Interview for a Transit Technician and Afternoon maintenance person for Transit garage is underway, meanwhile we are continuing with the streamlining of the workload with existing technicians at PW along with outside vendors (on going).
- Airport Fuel System is complete, and testing is underway (on going).
- Annual inspections of ladders and lifting devices are completed and the reports and repairs will be communicated throughout the city facilities.

- Annual inspection of the air quality system at Transit is completed and passed.
- Drain flushing at the Transit garage is scheduled for August 24th week.

Climate Action Division

- Engagement on the City's adaptation and resilience strategy, funded through Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), is nearing completion, with public engagement activities wrapping up in the fall.
- An application is underway for the FCM Study: Municipal Fleet Electrification in hopes of securing funding to complete studies that assess the feasibility of the transition of municipal and transit fleets to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs).
- Annual reporting on the Corporate Energy Emissions Plan is underway, with a management report in the coming months.
- A CCAP Report Card is being developed to provide annual updates on some areas of community emissions and climate action achievements, to be available in the coming months.
- Content development and website refresh in progress for the Climate Action webpage.

Special Projects – Erie Street Parking Lot Redevelopment

Tentative Internal Workplan as of May 2025:

1. Resurface Erie Street Parking Lot - complete
2. Public Engagement (Spring/Summer 2025)
 - a. Survey's / Open House / Pop Up
3. Reflecting and Addressing Easements (2025-2027)
4. Environmental Assessment Review
 - a. Existing Study Review (Spring 2025)
 - b. Additional Studies to Residential Standard (TBD)
5. Downtown Parking Study (2026-2027)
 - a. Budget line included for 2026 draft budget deliberations
6. Municipal Services Feasibility Study (Fall 2025)
7. Comprehensive Review and Report (2027)
8. Expression of Interest or Request for Proposal (TBD)

Project Updates:

- Review Existing Environmental Phase 1 and 2
 - Completed. Results are promising in that minimal soil impacts appear to be present, however, historical standards no longer apply requiring that a Phase 1 and 2 be redone. Additional boreholes and sampling may be required if the intent is to change the site to a more sensitive use (e.g. residential). Changing the site to a more sensitive use would require a Record of Site Condition.
 - Next Step. Continue with further Environmental Investigations as required.
- Engaged Consultant for Phase 1 Environmental Assessment

- Completed March 2025.
 - Completed additional sampling required to meet current regulations.
- Engage Consultant for Phase 2 Environmental Assessment
 - Engineering Consultant Engaged.
 - Investigative drilling complete.
 - Findings and assessment draft complete, additional work assigned, draft reporting complete.
- Manage Report Seeking Direction – June 24 Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-Committee
- Information gathering related to procurement, logistics, operations and design of parking structures.
- Waiting for Downtown Parking before proceeding with next steps.