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STAFF REPORT: COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT



REPORT TO: Committee of the Whole
MEETING DATE: February 3, 2014
REPORT NO.: DOR.14.02
SUBJECT: Event Temporary Road Closures for 2014
PREPARED BY: Shawn Everitt
 Director of Community Services

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR.14.02 titled “Event Road Closures for 2014” for their information, and

THAT Council authorize the temporary closure of certain Town highway portions as outlined in this report subject to approval through the Event Notification process; and,

THAT Council authorize Town Staff to assist proponents with the application process to the County of Grey for the temporary closure of certain County highway portions as outlined in this report subject to approval through the Event Notification process, being:

1. July 1st **Canada Day Parade**
Marsh Street north from John Street in Clarksburg to and including Bruce Street in Thornbury (Grey Road 13 to Highway 26 and Bruce Street north) to the Thornbury Harbour from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m, as well as the Hester Street parking lot in Thornbury from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
2. August 22nd **Country Hoedown**
Bruce Street south (Grey Road 13) from Highway 26 to Louisa Street from 5:00 p.m to 10:00 p.m.
3. September 5th & 6th – **Beaver Valley Fall Fair**
Victoria Street from Alice Street to Alfred Street, from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on September 5th and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on September 6th
4. September 12th, 13th, 14th **Centurion Cycling**
Gord Canning Drive from Jozo Weider Boulevard to Grey Road 19 Traffic Circle throughout the days during the programmed events
5. October 19th **Blue Mountain Marathon**
Victoria Street from Alice Street to Alfred Street, from 6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
6. December 10th **Old Fashioned Christmas**
Bruce Street south (Grey Road 13) from Highway 26 to Louisa Street from 5:00 p.m to 10:00 p.m.

B. Background

As of January 17, 2014 the Community Services Department is processing 13 events that require different levels of road use in 2014. Out of those 13 events, the 6 events as listed in the above recommendation have requested road closures. Each event drives increased community involvement and an increase in regional profile. An application to The County of Grey is also required for all temporary road closures of specified County Roads.

1. On Canada Day, July 1st, there is proposed a fourth annual parade down Marsh and Bruce Streets beginning in Clarksburg and finishing in Thornbury at the Highway 26 and Bruce Street intersection. The parade has been a great success and well organized.
2. The Thornbury BIA has proposed the continuation of the third annual Country Hoedown. Over the past two years this event has provided activities on Bruce Street themed to partner with the Cedar Run Rodeo weekend Event. The activities have been limited to music, food vendors as well as country themed demonstrations.
3. The Fall Fair has been presented in the Blue Mountains for over 140 years. The event has consisted of horse shows, crop competition and judging, food service, youth activities and entertainment. All these events happen over 2 days, Friday night and all day Saturday. It is a family oriented event and typically draws 1500 to 2000 people and has around 120 exhibitors on location. The Fall Fair showcases and focuses on our agriculture industry and community, which is unique to this event.
4. Centurion Cycling is in its fourth year. This event requires significant logistical planning and staff provide approval reviews from all neighbouring municipalities and Counties as well as all appropriate agencies.
5. For the second year, the Blue Mountains Marathon will be organized by the Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary Club. This year the event is proposed to also include a 10 kilometer route in addition to the existing 5 and 21 kilometer routes. All routes start and finish at the Beaver Valley Community Centre and require the Victoria Street road closure from Alfred Street North to Alice Street to allow safe start and finish line control. All other road use will be controlled via Police Lead and Tail vehicles.
6. Old Fashioned Christmas has been organized on Bruce Street for over 20 years. It is an annual event that brings out locals and visitors to downtown Thornbury and is viewed by some as the kick off to the Christmas season. Every year Bruce Street south (Grey Road 13) from Highway 26 to Louisa Street is closed to accommodate the festivities. It is requested this happen again in 2014. This is the historical location for the event and has proven its success.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

- Supporting the development of social and recreational programs to meet the broad range of needs in the community
- Preserving and enhancing natural and environmental features, and cultural heritage of the community

D. Environmental Impacts

These events will have very little environmental impact.

E. Budget Impact

Each event is subject to the Event Notification permit process and fee.

F. In Consultation With

Jim McCannell, Manager of Roads & Drainage
Charlie Watts, Blue Mountains O.P.P.
A.J. Lake, Deputy Chief, Blue Mountains Fire Department

G. Attached

None at this time

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Everitt, Director of Community Services
For more information, please contact:
severitt@thebluemountains.ca
519-599-3131 ext 281