

The Township of The Archipelago

Recommendation Report to Council

Report No.: Connectivity 2024-09

Date: November 21, 2024

Originator: Joe Villeneuve, Manager of Innovation & Technology

Subject: Connectivity – Request for Concurrence, Proposed Rogers Communication Tower

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council authorize staff to provide a Letter of Concurrence to FORBES Bros Inc and Rogers Communication for the installation of a 60-metre telecommunication tower on Blackstone-Crane Lake Road.
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OVERVIEW

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a summary of public consultation and a recommendation regarding a proposed Telecommunication Tower located on the lands municipally known as 445 Blackstone-Crane Lake Road.

BACKGROUND

Township Staff received a request for Municipal Concurrence on a proposed new telecommunications tower. The tower is proposed to be 60 metres in height and includes a fenced ground-level compound to house the tower base and associated equipment.

The subject lands are municipally known as 445 Blackstone-Crane Lake Road. The property is approximately 70 acres in area and currently contains an existing 50-metre telecommunications (BELL) tower on slightly higher elevated lands. A location map and aerial photograph of the subject lands are shown in Figures 1 and 2.

Figure 1



Figure 2



ANALYSIS

Telecommunication facilities are federally regulated by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada ('ISED Canada'). As a federal undertaking, the proponent is required by ISED Canada to consult with local land use authorities during the site selection process for new telecommunication facilities. The consultation process provides an opportunity for municipalities to review the proposal within the context of local land use issues and provide recommendations for conditions of approval to ISED Canada.

Preliminary Consultation:

- Township staff were engaged in the early summer regarding the interests by Rogers - through its consulting agent Forbes Bros Inc - to erect a new 60m tower on Blackstone-Crane Lake Road.
- A Justification Report for project C9350 was presented to Council at the July 19, 2024 meeting. Council passed resolution #24-144 that provided preliminary support for the public notification process and directed staff to engage the property owner to modify the existing Restrictive Covenant (50-meters) to reflect the new conditions for the proposed 60-meter tower.

Notice and Public Consultation:

- Staff received Rogers' public notification (as prescribed by ISED Canada) on September 9th and the notification was immediately distributed to property owners within 1000 meters of the proposed site. The notice was also posted on the Township's website and posted through local media (MyParrySoundNow.com).
- On October 17th, after the October 9th deadline to provide public comments, the proponent submitted a report to the Township staff detailing the consultation/notification process and tendering a Request for Concurrence to formally erect its Telecommunication Tower.

Staff Actions:

- Staff have engaged the landowner to modify the existing Restrictive Covenant and that undertaking is being addressed through the Township's Solicitor.

- The Township's Planning Department has indicated there are no planning concerns with the proposal or proposed property use associated with the current request.
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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

STRATEGIC PLAN

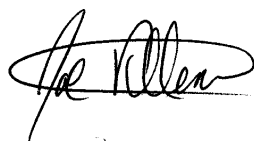
This direction is in alignment with the following Strategic Priorities contained within our Strategic Plan:

- Effective Relationships & Partnerships
 - Leadership & Communication
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CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Staff are satisfied that the proponent addressed ISED Canada's Protocol for Establishing Telecommunication Facilities. Furthermore, the proposed telecommunications tower is consistent with the intent and direction of provincial and municipal policy direction. Staff supports the request to Council for the provision of this Municipal Concurrence.

Respectfully Submitted,



Joe Villeneuve
Manager of Innovation & Technology

I concur with this report.



Shauna Lehtimaki
Director, Legislative & Information
Services



John B. Fior
CAO

ATTACHMENTS

Proponent's Justification Report for 60-metre telecommunication tower
Council Resolution #24-144
Proponent's Request for Concurrence