



The Corporation of the
City of Sault Ste. Marie

COUNCIL REPORT

June 2, 2025

TO: Mayor Matthew Shoemaker and Members of City Council
AUTHOR: Dan Perri, Director of Public Works
DEPARTMENT: Public Works and Engineering Services
RE: 2025 Ditching Program

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the proposed 2025 ditching program.

Background

Each year the ditching program is reported to Council for information. This year it is proposed that the program include the re-ditching of approximately 12,748 metres of ditches to improve drainage along municipal roadways. Attached is the listing of the 2025 locations. The program represents approximately 2.49% of the total 512,000 meters of ditches maintained by the City. The budget for this program is \$268,923.

Analysis

The program is compiled from requests received from Councillors, residents and staff. Budgetary constraints allow for a limited amount of work to be undertaken each year. It is necessary to prioritize the requests and normally not all requests can be accommodated. Prioritization of the list considers flooding issues as a much higher priority than cosmetic concerns. Some of the ditching requests may not be included on the final list due to physical constraints (lack of grade) in an area. The solution may require that a storm sewer be installed to address the drainage issues.

Financial Implications

The proposed program maximizes the assigned operational budget for ditching.

Strategic Plan / Policy Impact / Climate Impact

The ditching program is linked to the asset management, maintaining existing infrastructure component of the Corporate Strategic Plan.

Recommendation

It is therefore recommended that Council take the following action:

Resolved that the report of the Director of Public Works dated June 2, 2025 concerning the Public Works 2025 Ditching Program be received as information.

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Respectfully submitted,

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