

STAFF REPORT

Report #CAO2008-32

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of Council
From: Jeff Carswell, Chief Administrative Officer
Re: Extend Tavistock Drainage Disconnect Program
Date: December 9, 2008

Background:

In the spring of 2008, Council approved the Tavistock Drainage Disconnect Program. The program was rolled out in June 2008. Information on the program is available at <http://www.twp.ezt.on.ca/tfpwg/default.asp>. Uptake of the program has been slow, but consistent. To date, there have been 26 applications. 13 applications have been completely processed, paid and closed. 4 applications have been processed and paid. 8 applications have been submitted and are being reviewed. The majority of the 8 applications being reviewed were submitted in October, November and December.

The average payment amount under the program is currently \$1,134. Almost all applications have been for pre 2008 disconnects which are being funded 100% by the County. A financial report showing the costs to date is attached.

Discussion:

The program was approved to run until the end of 2008. While uptake of the program has been slower than anticipated, there have been positive comments about the program. Operation of the program is relatively streamlined and it does not take a significant amount of staff time to administer. Due to the small number of applications and the attempt by staff to batch applications for processing, turn-around time on the applications can be greater than the 4 – 6 weeks originally envisioned. As well, there have been fewer than anticipated disputes or challenges on what should be covered by the program which has contributed to the efficient operation of the program.

Based on the program operation to date, staff would recommend extending the program into 2009. A cut-off date for applications of September 2009

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would allow plenty of time for more applications in 2009 and permit the program to be wrapped up by the end of 2009. I have consulted the County Public Works Department and it would be agreeable to extending the program into 2009, subject to the Township also agreeing to the extension.

Based on the operation of the program in 2008, the Township and County will have to allocate budget funds in 2009. The Township has budgeted for drainage works over the last several and it is anticipated the continuation of this program can continue to be supported.

If approved, there will be additional promotion and advertising over 2009 to make residents aware of the program and give everyone an opportunity to apply. Hopefully, the extension will also encourage additional new disconnects which haven't been as common as anticipated.

Recommendation:

1. That Council approve extending the Tavistock Drainage Disconnect Program until September 30, 2009.

Report prepared
and submitted by:



Jeff Carswell, AMCT
Chief Administrative Officer

Township Of East Zorra-Tavistock
Tavistock Drainage Disconnect Program
For the Twelve Months Ending 2008/12/31

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Township Expenses		
Engineering		\$2,475.68
50% Disconnect Costs (2008+)		449.40
Total Township Costs		<u>2,925.08</u>
 County Costs		
Engineering		2,475.66
50% Disconnects (2008+)		449.40
100% Disconnects (Pre 2008)		19,076.13
Total County Costs		<u>22,001.19</u>
Total Program Costs		<u><u>24,926.27</u></u>