
TO: GENERAL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: PILGRIMAGE ROUTES DESIGNATION

WARD: 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10

PREPARED BY AND
KEY CONTACT: W. LOEVENMARK, B.L.A., B.A.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL PLANNER (Ext. 4743) *W. Loevenmark*

SUBMITTED BY: J. WESTON, M.A.Sc., P. Eng., PMP
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING *J. Weston*

GENERAL MANAGER
APPROVAL: R. J. FORWARD, MBA, M.Sc., P. Eng.
GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE & GROWTH MANAGEMENT *R. J. Forward*

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER APPROVAL: C. LADD
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER *C. Ladd*

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That the designation of Pilgrimage Routes through the City of Barrie to Martyrs' Shrine in Midland on the Nine Mile Heritage Trail, the North Shore Trail, and the Trans Canada Trail, as per Appendix "A" and Appendix "B" in Staff Report ENG002-14, be endorsed.
2. That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute a trail user agreement with Simcoe County Trails in accordance with the following terms and conditions, as per Appendix "C" in Staff Report ENG002-14:
 - a) That Simcoe County Trails maintain a minimum of \$5 million liability insurance naming the City of Barrie as additional insured.
 - b) That Simcoe County Trails be responsible for all costs for installation, maintenance and upkeep of the signs in accordance with City of Barrie standards.

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

3. The purpose of this staff report is to request Council endorsement of the designation of permanently signed Pilgrimage Routes through the City of Barrie to Martyrs' Shrine in Midland on existing municipal trails in response to a request from Simcoe County Trails. A presentation and letter of support from Martyrs' Shrine on the proposed Pilgrimage Routes are available for review in the Councillor's Lounge.
4. Martyrs' Shrine in Midland receives visits from two to three thousand pilgrims annually, who walk an average of 140 kilometres from locations such as Cambridge, Burlington, and Toronto. Currently, the pilgrimages are carried out in organized groups that often travel on busy roadways. Martyrs' Shrine would like to establish permanent, signed pilgrimage routes using off-road trails wherever possible for safety and aesthetic reasons, and to allow individual pilgrims to travel to the Martyrs' Shrine by following the signs.
5. The City of Barrie has been asked to designate sections of the proposed Pilgrimage Routes as shown in Appendix "A". The proposed Pilgrimage Routes through Simcoe County are shown in Appendix "B".

6. Simcoe County Trails has already received permission for designation of the proposed Pilgrimage Routes from the Town of Midland, Town of Penetanguishene, Township of Springwater, Township of Oro-Medonte and Georgian Bay Islands National Park.

ANALYSIS

7. Simcoe County Trails proposes that the Pilgrimage Route enter Barrie's south boundary via Barrie's on-road route of the Trans Canada Trail (extension from the Thornton-Cookstown Trans Canada Trail in Innisfil) and continue northwards to the downtown core, where the route will split into a westerly route along the Nine Mile Portage Heritage Trail and an easterly route following the North Shore Trail. The ultimate alignment of the southern section of the City's trail route will shift onto future off-road recreational trails within the Salem and Hewitt's Secondary planning areas as identified in the Multi-Modal Transportation Master Plan. Refer to Appendix "A" for routing details.
8. Simcoe County Trails will supply and install the signs at their cost. City staff will provide oversight of the sign installations to ensure the work is acceptable to the City.
9. Simcoe County Trails will produce maps and a brochure to promote the pilgrimage routes throughout the County.
10. The Simcoe County Pilgrimage Routes are proposed to be in place for the Official Opening Day on June 21, 2014. Additional information on the Pilgrimage Route Opening will be made available to Council once received.
11. Simcoe County Trails has requested that the City enter into a User Agreement to govern the use of City trails and maintenance of the Pilgrimage Route signage, which includes the provision for \$5 million in liability insurance naming the City of Barrie as additional insured. Refer to Appendix "C" for a sample draft agreement.
12. Staff recommends that the Pilgrimage Routes Project be endorsed and that the City enter into a User Agreement with Simcoe County Trails for sign installation and maintenance along the designated trails.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

13. The following environmental matters have been considered in the development of the recommendation:
 - a) Expanding a user group on Barrie's trails would bring the benefits of increased user safety and deterrence of vandalism.
 - b) Waste containers are already in place throughout existing trail systems to capture any increases in garbage generated by trail users.

ALTERNATIVES

14. There are three Alternatives available for consideration by General Committee:

Alternative #1

General Committee could choose not to endorse the Pilgrimage Routes through Barrie.

This Alternative is not recommended as it represents a missed opportunity to promote use of the City of Barrie's existing trail system.

Alternative #2

General Committee could alter the proposed recommendation by requiring municipal management of Pilgrimage Route signs.

This Alternative is not recommended as it represents an annual operational cost and would require staff resources to maintain additional signage on behalf of Simcoe County Trails.

FINANCIAL

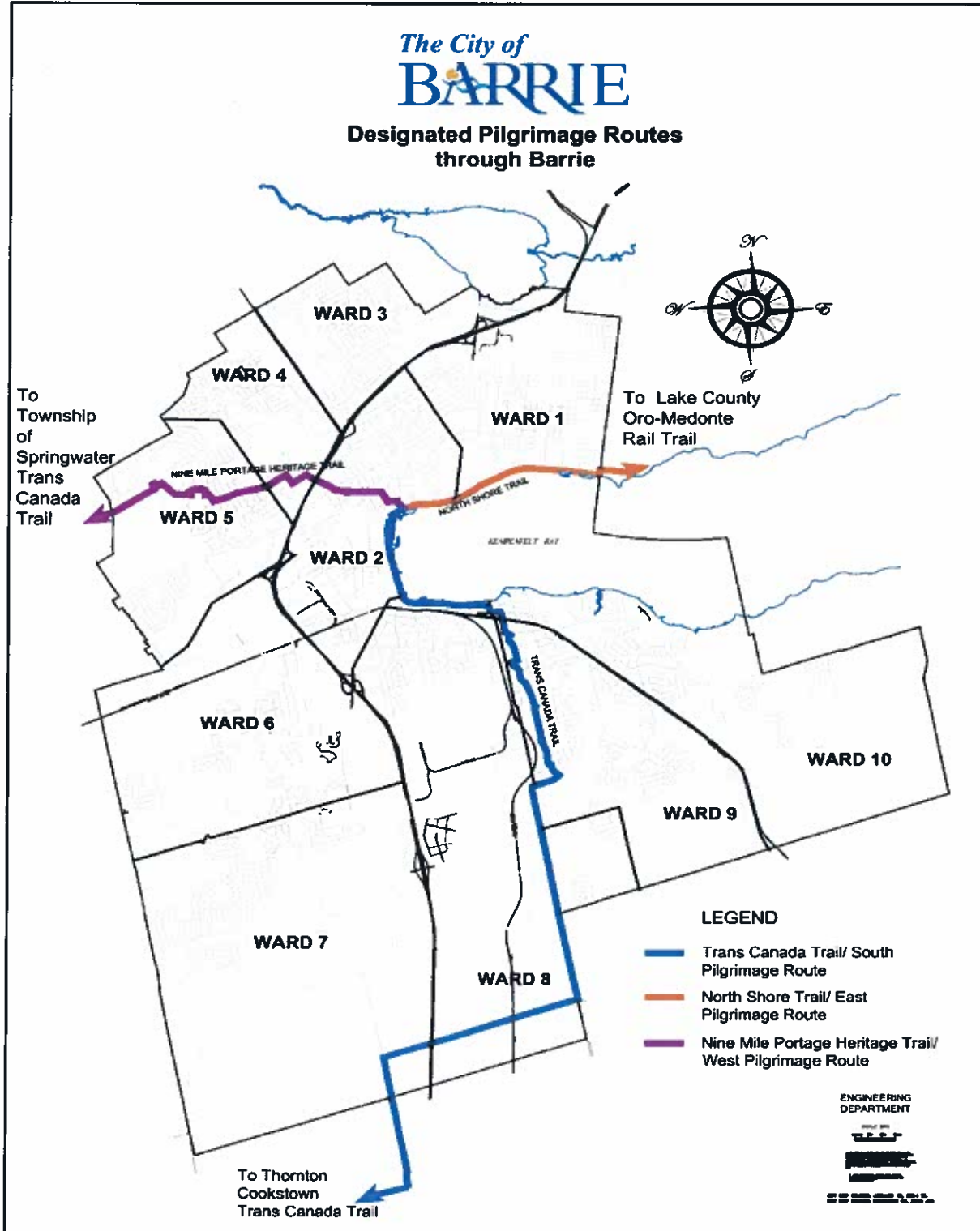
15. There are no financial implications associated with the recommendations. Simcoe County Trails will supply all materials and installation labour for the signs. City staff will assist by coordinating the execution of the User Agreement and overseeing installation of the signs; this can be accommodated in the 2014 department work plans.

LINKAGE TO 2010 – 2014 COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

16. The recommendations included in this Staff Report support the following goals identified in the 2010-2014 City Council Strategic Plan:
- Direct and Manage Economic Development
 - Create a Vibrant and Healthy City Centre
 - Improve and Expand Community Involvement and City Interactions
17. The Pilgrimage Routes proposal represents the development of a new tourism attraction with the potential for visitors spending money at local businesses within the City. The new signs would provide the opportunity for increased use of existing trails. The trail passes directly through downtown via Memorial Square, creating additional opportunities to explore the downtown and make purchases. Pilgrimage trails represent a cultural experience for users and will enrich the downtown by adding another conceptual dimension to the street fabric. This project also represents a partnership opportunity with a county-wide trails advocacy group.

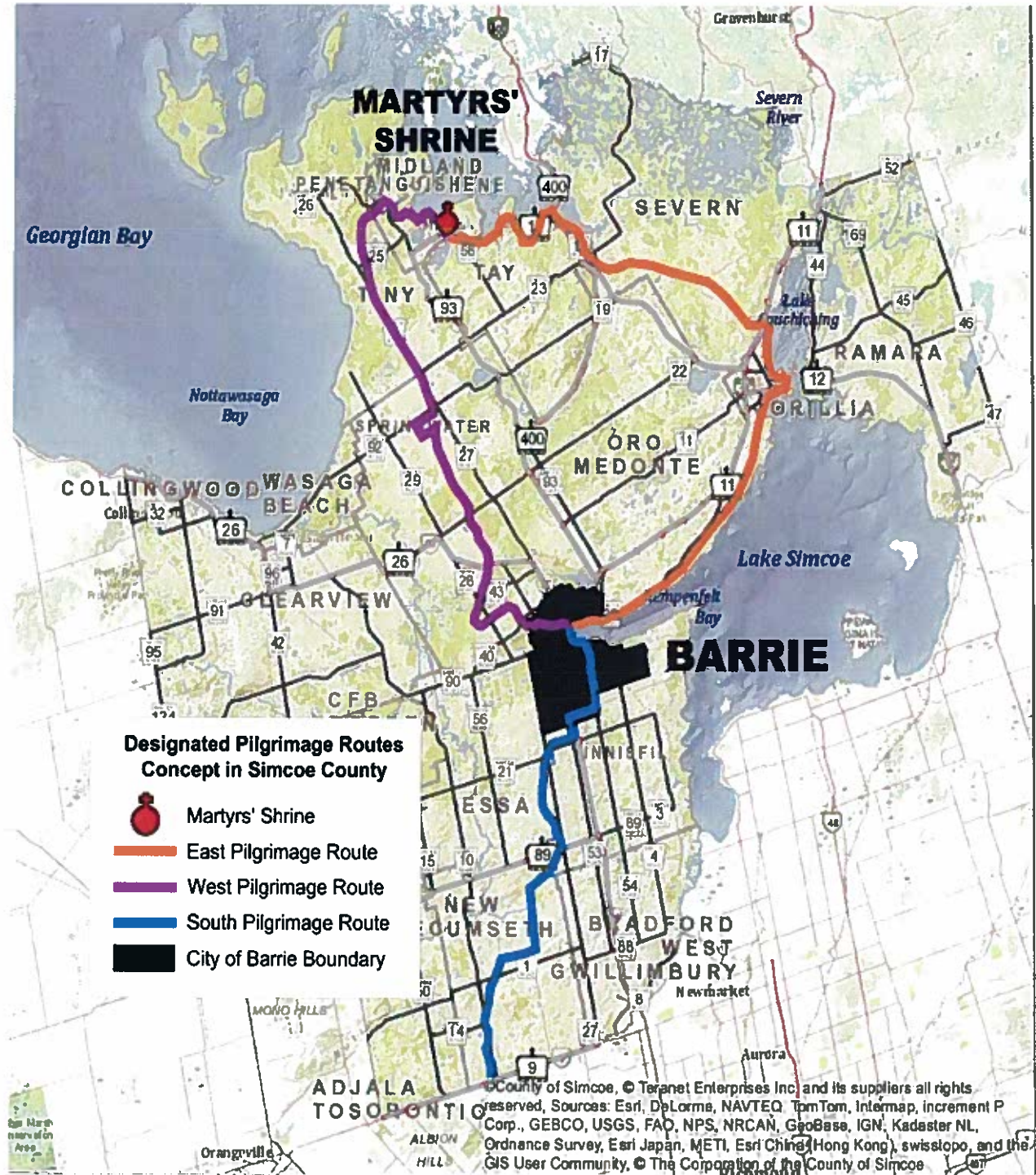
APPENDIX "A"

Proposed Designated Pilgrimage Routes in the City of Barrie



APPENDIX "B"

Proposed Pilgrimage Routes in Simcoe County



APPENDIX "C"

Sample User Agreement

PILGRIMAGE TRAIL

DESIGNATION, SIGNAGE AND USE AGREEMENT

DATED this ___ day of _____ 2014

Between:

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BARRIE ("the City")

and

SIMCOE COUNTY TRAILS ("SCT")

WHEREAS:

- a) SCT wishes to designate a portion of the City's recreational trails as a "Pilgrimage Route" as part of its permanent pilgrimage route to the Martyr's Shrine in Midland from various locations in Simcoe County.
- b) City Council, by Motion 14-G-____, has authorized the City to enter into this Pilgrimage Trail Designation, Signage and Use Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of TWO (\$2.00) DOLLARS and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, it is agreed by the City and SCT that:

Pilgrimage Route Designation and Use

1. The City hereby authorizes the following trails to be designated as part of the Pilgrimage Route:
 - a. The Trans Canada Trail from the City's south boundary to the Downtown core.
 - b. The 9-Mile Portage Heritage Trail from the Downtown core to the City's westerly boundary with Springwater Township and,
 - c. The North Shore Trail from the Downtown core to the City's easterly boundary with Oro-Medonte.

(as shown on Schedule A and collectively referred to as the "Route")
2. Designation of City trails as part of the proposed Pilgrimage Route does not replace the municipal trail names and designations but adds a new name designation within the municipal naming policy. The existing trail name and designations shall remain in effect.
3. The City hereby gives permission to SCT to use the Route for the purpose of producing maps and promotional brochures in the development of a Pilgrimage Route through Barrie.

Installation of Signs and Capital Start-Up Costs

4. The SCT shall be responsible for all costs related to the capital start-up components of the Route, including, but not limited to, all costs associated with the manufacturing, installation, maintenance and annual upkeep of the Route signage, all to be completed in accordance with City standards.

5. The parties agree that all components and equipment related to the Route signage shall be the property of the SCT.
6. The SCT shall provide to Barrie at least sixty (60) days prior notice of any potential changes to the alignment of the Route should modifications be required during the Term of this Agreement. The City will be required to approve all such modifications of the trail through addendums to this Agreement.

Termination

7. Either party may terminate this Agreement by giving the other party at least sixty (60) days written notice of the intent to terminate and the effective date of the termination.

Insurance and Indemnification

8. The SCT shall provide liability insurance naming the City as an additional insured party for an amount of not less than \$5,000,000 for the term of this agreement.
9. The SCT agrees to indemnify and save harmless the City and its officers, agents, employees, contractors and subcontractors from all claims for loss or damage to the person or property of others arising out of use of the Route.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this agreement as of the date first written above.

SIMCOE COUNTY TRAILS

Per: _____

Name: Robb Meier
Title: President, Simcoe County Trails

I have the authority to bind the corporation.

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BARRIE

Per: _____

Name: J.R. Lehman
Title: Mayor

Per: _____

Name: Dawn McAlpine
Title: City Clerk

We have authority to bind the corporation.