

Staff Report

Report To: Operations Committee
Report From: Michelle Palmer, Interim Director of Public Works and Engineering
Meeting Date: September 24, 2026
Report Code: OP-26-046
Subject: Veterans Memorial Crosswalk – 1st Avenue West

Recommendations:

THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-26-046 respecting a Veterans Memorial Crosswalk at 1st Avenue West, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council approve the painting of the crosswalk by the Scenic Order of Good Cheer as described within the report.

Highlights:

- Creation of a Veterans Memorial Crosswalk on 1st Avenue West will honour the sacrifices of Canadian veterans and provide a visible, permanent tribute within the community.
- The proposed design and location have been endorsed by both the Owen Sound Branch and National Headquarters of the Royal Canadian Legion, connecting the Cenotaph to the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library.
- Installation costs will be fully funded by the Scenic Order of Good Cheer and the Owen Sound Legion, with completion targeted before Remembrance Day 2026.

Vision 2050 - Strategic Plan Alignment:

[Strategic Plan](#) Priority: Fostering Mutually Beneficial & Respectful Relationships - Establishing, reconciling, and continually nurturing relationships that result in mutual benefit, trust and shared understanding.

Previous Report/Authority:

N/A

Background:

On September 9, 2026, the City received correspondence from the Scenic Order of Good Cheer regarding their partnership with the Royal Canadian Legion - Owen Sound Branch to fund a memorial crosswalk to be painted on 1st Avenue West from the cenotaph to the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library.

Analysis and Options:

Several municipalities across Ontario have installed Veterans Memorial crosswalks (often called Remembrance Day crosswalks) to recognize those who made the ultimate sacrifice. The proposed location (Attachment 2) will replace the current hatched crosswalk at 8th St and 1st Avenue W, and the proposed design (Attachment 1) has been approved by the Royal Canadian Legion - Owen Sound branch as well as the Royal Canadian Legion – National Headquarters.

Existing Pavement Condition:

This block is not identified in the 10-year capital plan for road rehabilitation.

Materials to Be Used / Installation Provider:

The Scenic Order of Good Cheer is gathering quotes from qualified service providers who have painted these types of crosswalks, and City staff have provided the specification for the road paint to be utilized. A temporary encroachment permit will be required for the street occupation, which requires a certificate of insurance with limits not less than \$5 million with the City as an additional insured, as well as a traffic protection plan.

Resource Alignment:

Financial Resources

The Scenic Order of Good Cheer and the Owen Sound Legion will be covering the cost of the installation, including the cost of materials and having a contracted service provider complete it.

Ongoing maintenance costs will be incorporated into the City's annual line painting budget.

Human Resources

N/A.

Time and Scheduling

It is the intent of the Scenic Order of Good Cheer to have the installation completed prior to Remembrance Day (November 11, 2026).

Technology and Infrastructure

N/A.

Climate and Environmental Impacts:

There are no anticipated climate or environmental impacts.

Communication and Engagement:

City staff will work with the Scenic Order of Good Cheer and the Owen Sound Legion to announce this installation to the community, including issuing a news release and social media announcements.

Report Developed in Consultation With:

Scenic Order of Good Cheer, Superintendent of Public Works and the Manager of Public Works and Engineering.

Attachments:

1. Attachment 1 - Proposed Design of the Veterans Memorial Crosswalk
2. Attachment 2 - Proposed Location of the Veterans Memorial Crosswalk

Reviewed by:

Tim Simmonds, City Manager

Submission approved by:

Tim Simmonds, City Manager

For more information on this report, please contact Michelle Palmer, Interim Director of Public Works and Engineering at mpalmer@owensound.ca or 519-376-4440 ext. 1246.