

Meeting Date: February 3, 2020
Department: Economic Development
Prepared By: Demetri Makrakos, Economic Development Officer
Report: ED 2020-01
Reviewed By: Fred Tranquilli, Chief Administrative Officer
Submitted By: Demetri Makrakos
SUBJECT: **INTERCITY TRANSIT SERVICE**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT: Report ED 2020-01 be received for information; and

THAT: Council approve the service stop locations in Strathroy; and

THAT: Council authorize the Economic Development Officer to make a formal request of the County of Middlesex for the implementation of the bus stops locations proposed herein for Mount Brydges.

BACKGROUND

Strathroy-Caradoc is part of a group which received grant funding of \$1,450,000.00 from the Ministry of Transportation Ontario (MTO) for an intercommunity public transportation project that will connect Sarnia, Strathroy, Mount Brydges and London. The project has been funded for a period of three years.

RECENT PROGRESS

A public release and media event took place in December 2019 announcing that Voyago, a London based transportation company, was awarded the contract and would be the service provider for the project. It was also announced that the service will run three round trips daily on weekdays and two round trips daily on weekends. The service will run between the London Airport and a location to be determined in Sarnia, through Strathroy and Mount Brydges. One of the objectives of the service is to provide a transportation option for individuals wishing to work in Strathroy or Mount Brydges. A flex stop serving major employers in Strathroy is also being developed. The service is set to launch April 1, 2020.

The next steps are to finalize the stop locations, fares, fare collection and schedules. The locations for the pickup and drop off locations will have regard for the space requirements related to the

extendable ramp device on the buses used for loading and unloading. In order to accommodate the extendable ramp, we have been working with Voyago to identify suitable location options in Strathroy and Mount Brydges. The reconstruction of Caradoc Street also complicates stop location choices since the route is planned to use Hwy 81.

The favoured Strathroy stop for year one is on Frank Street in front of City Hall and the Library. The second option being considered for Strathroy is on Front Street East between Caradoc and Head Street (see **Appendix A**).

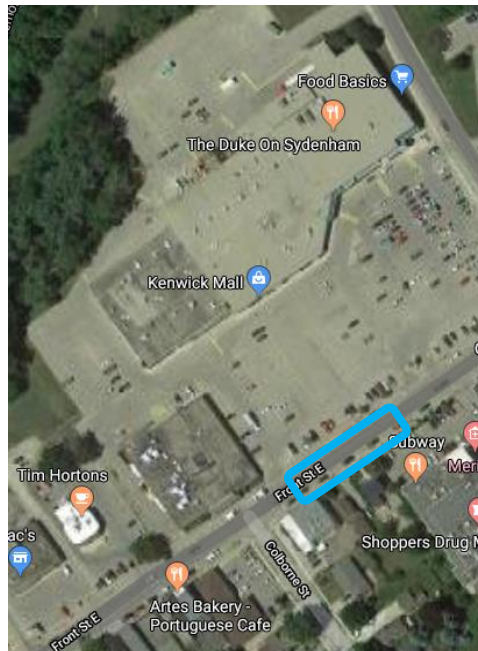
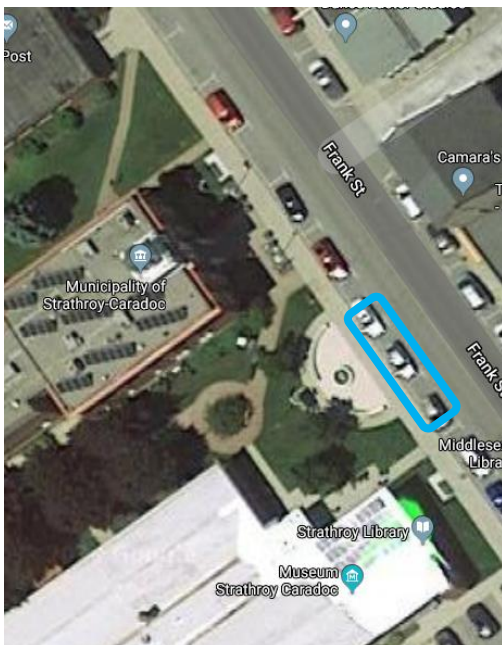
The Mount Brydges stop is proposed to as close as possible to the intersection of Adelaide Road and Glendon Drive. To confirm this location Municipal Council are required to support a formal request to Middlesex County identifying this preferred location. The County Engineer has been contacted and is aware that a request is forthcoming for our Municipal Council. See **Appendix B** for the proposed areas for the Mount Brydges stop.

Director Elliot has been a part of these discussion and has confirmed that the proposed stop locations are feasible.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The service will operate within the budget the MTO has provided for this project. No additional funding from Strathroy-Caradoc, Sarnia or London is contemplated.

APPENDIX A – STRATHROY STOP



APPENDIX B – MOUNT BRYDGES STOP

