



Final Strategic Asset Management Policy

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1.0 Definitions

Unless otherwise noted, the definitions provided in this document align with those outlined in Ontario Regulation 588/17 (O. Reg. 588/17), Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure, under the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015*.

1. **Asset Management (AM)** – the coordinated activity of an organization to realize value from its assets. It considers all asset types, and includes all activities involved in the asset's life cycle from planning and acquisition/creation; to operational and maintenance activities, rehabilitation, and renewal; to replacement or disposal and any remaining liabilities. Asset management is holistic and normally involves balancing costs, risks, opportunities and performance benefits to achieve the total lowest lifecycle cost for each asset (ISO 55000).
2. **Asset Management Plan (AMP)** – Documented information that specifies the activities, resources, and timescales required for an individual asset, or a grouping of assets, to achieve the organization's asset management objectives (ISO 55000).
3. **Asset Management Program** – Is a combination of practices, processes, and procedures to manage the municipal infrastructure assets.

4. **Capitalization Threshold** – the value of a municipal infrastructure asset at or above which a township will capitalize the value of it and below which it will expense the value of it.
5. **Green Infrastructure Asset** – an infrastructure asset consisting of natural or human-made elements that provide ecological and hydrological functions and processes and includes natural heritage features and systems, parklands, storm water management systems, natural channels, permeable surfaces and green roofs.
6. **Level of Service** – parameters, or combination of parameters, which reflect social, political, environmental and economic outcomes that the organization delivers. Parameters can include, but are not necessarily limited to, safety, customer satisfaction, quality, quantity, capacity, reliability, responsiveness, environmental acceptability, cost, and availability (ISO 55000).
7. **Lifecycle Activities** – activities undertaken with respect to a municipal infrastructure asset over its service life, including constructing, maintaining, renewing, operating and decommissioning, and all engineering and design work associated with those activities.
8. **Municipal Infrastructure Asset** – an infrastructure asset, including a green infrastructure asset, directly owned by a township or included on the consolidated financial statements of a township, but does not include an infrastructure asset that is managed by a joint municipal board.
9. **Township** – The Corporation of the Township of Central Frontenac
10. **Core Assets** – municipal roads, bridges, water, wastewater, and storm water assets

2.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide leadership in and commitment to the development and implementation of the Township's asset management program. It is intended to guide the consistent use of **asset management** across the organization, to facilitate logical and evidence-based decision-making for the management of **municipal infrastructure assets** and to support the delivery of sustainable community services now and in the future.

By using sound asset management practices, the Township will work to ensure that all municipal infrastructure assets meet expected performance levels and continue to provide desired service levels in the most efficient and effective manner. Linking service outcomes to infrastructure investment decisions will assist the Township in focusing on service, rather than budget, driven asset management approaches.

This policy demonstrates an organization-wide commitment to the good stewardship of municipal infrastructure assets, and to improved accountability and transparency to the community through the adoption of best practices regarding asset management planning.

3.0 Background

The Township is responsible for providing a range of essential services to the community, including transportation networks, storm water management, emergency services, fire services, public facilities, recreation and more. To deliver these services, it owns and manages a diverse municipal infrastructure asset portfolio of roads, bridges, culverts, vehicles, machinery, facilities and much more. As the social, economic, and environmental wellbeing of the community depends on the reliable performance of these municipal infrastructure assets it is critical to implement a systemic, sustainable approach to their management.

Asset management is such an approach, and refers to the set of policies, practices and procedures that allow an organization to realize maximum value from its municipal infrastructure assets. An asset management approach allows organizations to make informed decisions regarding the planning, building, operating, maintaining, renewing, replacing and disposing of municipal infrastructure assets through a wide range of **lifecycle activities**. Furthermore, it is an organization-wide process that involves the coordination of activities across multiple departments and service areas. As such, it is useful to adopt a structured and coordinated approach to outlining the activities, roles and responsibilities required of organizational actors, as well as the key principles that should guide all asset management decision-making.

A comprehensive and holistic asset management approach will support efficient and effective delivery of expected **levels of service** and ensure that due regard and process are applied to the long-term management and stewardship of all municipal infrastructure assets. In addition, it will align the Township with provincial and national standards and regulations such as the Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015 and Ontario Regulation 588/17, enabling the organization to take full advantage of available grant funding opportunities.^[MS1]

The approval of this policy is an important step towards integrating the Township's strategic mission, vision and goals with its asset management program, and ensuring that critical municipal infrastructure assets and vital services are maintained and provided to the community in a reliable, sustainable manner.

4.0 Alignment with the Township's Strategic Direction

Our vision to maintain a safe community with sustainable growth requires alignment of the many initiatives underway in our organization at any given time in order for it to be achieved. This alignment is necessary to properly consider whether the level of service provided by our existing and planned assets is congruent and supports our vision.

Asset management planning therefore will not occur in isolation from other municipal goals, plans, and policies. Rather, an integrated approach will be followed to successfully develop practical asset management plans that align with the overarching accountabilities and aspirations of our community. The elements of our asset management planning approach keep us mindful of the goals described in our other plans such as our Strategic Plan, our Master Plans, and all other future plans. [MS2][GR3]

This policy aligns with the Township of Central Frontenac's Corporate Strategic Plan (2017-2020) and Official Plan (2008). The following passages outline key strategic priorities listed within these documents that the development of an asset management program will support:

1. Corporate Strategic Plan (2017-2020)

- i. **Asset Management**
Making the best possible decisions regarding the building, operating, maintaining, renewing, replacing and disposing of infrastructure assets
- ii. **Waste Management**
Managing of environmental services and initiatives that support future needs and interests of the community.
- iii. **Good Governance & Effective Administration**
To provide effective and efficient municipal governance and administration.
- iv. **Health, Recreation, Culture & Lifestyle**
To promote healthy lifestyles and to meet the broad range of community needs.
- v. **Infrastructure**
To effectively respond to the challenges of addressing the Township's municipal infrastructure needs.
- vi. **Protection and Health of Natural Environment**
To investigate means of protecting the natural features in the township

2. Official Plan (2008)

- i. **Infrastructure, Maintenance and Improvements**

Infrastructure and public service facilities shall be provided in a coordinated, efficient and cost-effective manner to accommodate projected needs.

Council will endeavour to create a Capital Works Projects List to provide direction as well as maintain an ongoing awareness and recognition of public needs.

Council will from time-to-time review the capital works projects list and update the list according to Township needs.

Council will utilize this list as a means of seeking grants/additional funds for public projects.

Asset management planning should endeavour to align with the strategic business objectives of the Township and [GR4] should be reviewed regularly to ensure that it aligns with the changing and emerging strategic goals and priorities of the organization.

5.0 Policy Statement

To guide the Township, the following [GR5] policy statements have been developed:

1. The Township will implement an organization-wide asset management program through all departments. The program will promote lifecycle and risk management of all municipal infrastructure assets, with the goal of achieving the lowest total cost of ownership while meeting desired levels of service.
2. The Township will implement continuous improvement protocols and adopt best practices regarding asset management planning, including:
 - i. Complete and Accurate Asset Data
 - ii. Condition Assessment Protocols
 - iii. Risk and Criticality Models
 - iv. Lifecycle Management
 - v. Financial Strategy Development
 - vi. Level of Service Framework
3. The Township will continue to maintain an asset inventory of all municipal infrastructure assets which includes unique ID, description, location information, value (both historical and replacement), performance characteristics and/or condition, estimated remaining life and estimated repair, rehabilitation or replacement date; and estimated cost repair, rehabilitation or replacement costs.

Schedule "A" to by-law # 2019-29

4. The Township will develop an **asset management plan** that incorporates all infrastructure categories and municipal infrastructure assets that meet the **capitalization threshold** outlined in the organization's Tangible Capital Asset Policy.
5. The Township's asset management plan will be updated at least every five years in accordance with O. Reg. 588/17 requirements, to promote, document and communicate continuous improvement of the asset management program.
6. The Township will integrate asset management plans and practices with its long-term financial planning and budgeting strategies. This includes the development of financial plans that determine the level of funding required to achieve short-term operating and maintenance needs, in addition to long-term funding needs to replace and/or renew municipal infrastructure assets based on full lifecycle costing.
7. The^[GR6] Township will explore innovative funding and service delivery opportunities, including but not limited to grant programs, public-private partnerships (P3), alternative financing and procurement (AFP) approaches, and shared provision of services, as appropriate.
8. The Township will develop meaningful performance metrics and reporting tools to transparently communicate and display the current state of asset management practice to Council and the community.
9. The Township will consider the risks and vulnerabilities of municipal infrastructure assets to climate change and the actions that may be required including, but not limited to, anticipated costs that could arise from these impacts, adaptation opportunities, mitigation approaches, disaster planning and contingency funding. Impacts may include matters relating to operations, levels of service and lifecycle management.
10. The Township will align all asset management planning with the Province of Ontario's land-use planning framework, including any relevant policy statements issued under section 3(1) of the *Planning Act*, shall conform with the provincial plans that are in effect on that date; and, shall be consistent with all municipal official plans affecting the Township.
11. The Township will coordinate planning for interrelated municipal infrastructure assets with separate ownership structures by pursuing collaborative opportunities with neighbouring municipalities and jointly-owned municipal bodies wherever viable and beneficial.

12. The Township will develop processes and provide opportunities for municipal residents and other interested parties to offer input into asset management planning wherever and whenever possible.

6.0 Roles and Responsibilities

The development and continuous support of the Township's asset management program requires a wide range of duties and responsibilities. The following passages outline the persons responsible for these tasks:

1. Council

- i. Approve the AM policy and direction of the AM program and its updates every five years through resolution.
- ii. Maintain adequate organizational capacity to support the core practices of the AM program
- iii. Prioritize effective stewardship of assets in adoption and ongoing review of policy and budgets
- iv. Establish and monitor levels of service

2. Senior Management Team

- i. Development of policy and policy updates
- ii. Provide corporate oversight to goals and directions and ensure the AM program aligns with the Township's strategic plan
- iii. Ensure that adequate resources are available to implement and maintain core AM practices
- iv. Provide departmental staff coordination
- v. Develop and monitor levels of service and make recommendations to Council
- vi. Track, analyze and report on AM program progress and results
- vii. Maintain compliance[GR7] with the asset management policy and provincial asset management regulation.

3. Executive Lead (Treasurer)

- i. Manage policy and policy updates
- ii. Provide organization-wide leadership in AM practices and concepts
- iii. Provide departmental staff coordination
- iv. Monitor levels of service
- v. Coordinate and track AM program implementation and progress

4. Departmental Staff

- i. Utilize the new business processes and technology tools in their area developed as part of the AM program
- ii. Participate in implementation task teams to carry-out AM activities
- iii. Implement and maintain levels of service
- iv. Provide support and direction for AM practices within their department and support others
- v. Track and analyze AM program progress and results

7.0 Key Principles^[MS8]

The Township shall consider the following principles as outlined in section 3 of the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015*, when making decisions regarding asset management:

1. Forward-looking

- a. Infrastructure planning and investment should take a long-term view, and decision-makers should take into account the needs of citizens by being mindful of, among other things, demographic and economic trends.

2. Fiscally Sustainable

- a. Infrastructure planning and investment should take into account any applicable budgets or fiscal plans.

3. Evidence-Based

- a. Infrastructure planning and investment should be evidence based and transparent, and, subject to any restrictions or prohibitions under an Act or otherwise by law on the collection, use or disclosure of information,
 - i. investment decisions respecting infrastructure should be made on the basis of information that is either publicly available or is made available to the public, and
 - ii. information with implications for infrastructure planning should be shared between the Township and broader public sector entities, and should factor into investment decisions respecting infrastructure.
- b. Infrastructure priorities should be clearly identified in order to better inform investment decisions respecting infrastructure.

4. Reliable

- a. Infrastructure planning and investment should ensure the continued provision of core public services.

5. Accessible

- a. Infrastructure planning and investment should promote accessibility for persons with disabilities.

6. Innovative

- a. Infrastructure planning and investment should foster innovation by creating opportunities to make use of innovative technologies, services and practices, particularly where doing so would utilize technology, techniques and practices developed in Ontario.
- b. Infrastructure planning and investment should promote economic competitiveness, productivity, job creation and training opportunities.

7. Health and Safety

- a. Infrastructure planning and investment should ensure that the health and safety of workers involved in the construction and maintenance of infrastructure assets is protected.

8. Strategically Aligned

- a. Where provincial or municipal plans or strategies have been established in Ontario, under an Act or otherwise, but do not bind or apply to the Township, as the case may be, the Township should nevertheless be mindful of those plans and strategies and make investment decisions respecting infrastructure that support them, to the extent that they are relevant.

9. Environmentally Conscious

- a. Infrastructure planning and investment should minimize the impact of infrastructure on the environment and respect and help maintain ecological and biological diversity, and infrastructure should be designed to be resilient to the effects of climate change.
- b. Infrastructure planning and investment should endeavour to make use of acceptable recycled aggregates.

10. Service-focused

- a. Infrastructure planning and investment should promote community benefits, being the supplementary social and economic benefits arising from an infrastructure project that are intended to improve the well-being of a community affected by the project, such as local job creation and training opportunities, improvement of public space within the community, and any specific benefits identified by the Community.
- b. The Township will consider all the assets in a service context and take into account their interrelationships as opposed to optimizing individual assets in isolation.

11. Value-based affordable:

The Township will choose practices, interventions and operations that aim at reducing the lifecycle cost of asset ownership, while satisfying agreed levels of service. Decisions are based on balancing service levels, risks, and costs.

12. Customer focused:

The Township will have clearly defined levels of service and apply asset management practices to maintain the confidence of customers in how Municipal assets are managed.

13. Risk-based:

The Township will manage the asset risk associated with attaining the agreed levels of service by focusing resources, expenditures, and priorities based upon risk assessments and the corresponding cost/benefit, recognizing that public safety is the priority.