



Town of Huntsville Staff Report

Meeting Date: January 26, 2026

To: Council

Report Number: OPS-2026-1

Confidential: No

Author(s): Michael Parniak, Civil Engineering Technologist

Subject: Noise By-law Exemption - District of Muskoka Infrastructure Project - King William Street

Report Highlights

- The District of Muskoka is undertaking an infrastructure project along King William from Scott St to Highway 60.
- The project is expected to begin in Spring 2026 and be completed prior to 2027.
- The project requires lane restrictions, traffic detours, and extended construction durations that impact businesses and traffic operations.
- Delegation of Authority By-law 2025-066 limits Noise By-law exemptions approved by the Director of Operations to four (4) consecutive days.
- Extended night-time and weekend work would reduce traffic impacts, improve safety, and expedite project completion.
- Council approval is required to authorize a Noise By-law exemption beyond delegated authority.

Recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Council approve an exemption to the Town of Huntsville Noise By-law No. 2018-155 to facilitate the District of Muskoka's King William Street infrastructure project;

AND FURTHER THAT: the exemption permit construction activities during night-time hours and weekends beyond the four (4) consecutive days authorized under Delegation of Authority By-law 2025-66;

AND FURTHER THAT: the exemption remain in effect for the duration of active construction of King William Street, subject to the discretion of the Director of Operations, ongoing coordination with Town staff, and the implementation of public notification and mitigation measures, and may be modified, restricted or revoked should conditions warrant.

Background

The District Municipality of Muskoka is undertaking a major infrastructure reconstruction project within a predominantly commercial area of the Town of Huntsville. The project includes the full removal and

replacement of traffic signal infrastructure, sanitary and storm sewers, watermains, curbs, sidewalks, boulevards, and the roadway along King William Street between Scott Street and Highway 60.

Noise By-law No. 2018-155 prohibits construction activities for the following periods:

- Monday to Sunday: 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. the following day
- Sunday: 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. the following day

Restricting construction to permitted daytime hours under the current permitted construction working hours would extend the overall project duration and prolong impacts to traffic operations and surrounding businesses.

Delegation of Authority By-law 2025-66 permits the Director of Operations to approve Noise By-law exemptions for a maximum of four (4) consecutive days. Given the anticipated duration and complexity of this project, this authority is ineffective to support an efficient construction schedule.

Discussion

Permitting construction during currently prohibited hours would allow the District to undertake critical works during period of reduced traffic volumes, particularly overnight and periods through the weekend.

Expediting construction and shortening the overall project duration would be beneficial to residents, businesses, and visitors by limiting the length and intensity of traffic disruptions and project duration.

Given the commercial setting, limited residential exposure, and seasonal traffic considerations, staff consider extended working hours to be reasonable and appropriate. Noise mitigation measures and advance notification by the contractor would be required and coordinated with the District of Muskoka and Town of Huntsville staff.

Options

Option 1 - Approve the Noise-by law Exemption(Recommended)

Permits night-time and weekend construction, expediting project completion and minimizing prolonged impacts.

Option 2 - Do Not Approve the Exemption

Restricts construction to standard permitted hours, resulting in extended construction duration and increased traffic congestion and business disruption during the summer season.

Capital

NA

Operational

There are no direct or operational financial implications to the Town associated with approval of the requested Noise By-law Exemption.

Relevant Policies / Legislation / Resolutions

- [Town of Huntsville Noise By-law No. 2018-155](#)
- [Town of Huntsville Delegation of Authority By-law 2025-66](#)
- Municipal Act, 2001

Council Strategic Direction

- Balanced Growth-1.2: Ensure a continued focus on maintaining and upgrading existing Town infrastructure as part of growth management planning.
- Balanced Growth-3.1: Explore opportunities to enhance construction and maintenance of our roads through improved practices.
- Balanced Growth-3.3: Partner with the District to find ways to improve efficiencies with roads engineering and improve coordination.

Consultations

The District Municipality of Muskoka - Engineering and Public Works Staff
Town of Huntsville - Director of Operations - Randy Bissonette

Respectfully Submitted: Michael Parniak, Civil Engineering Technologist

Manager Approval (if required): _____

Director Approval: Randy Bissonette, Director of Operations

CAO Approval: Denise Corry, Chief Administrative Officer