



Update – April 2, 2020

### 1) Maintaining Physical Distancing

- Physical Distancing is imperative in reducing the spread of COVID-19, and the Town is ensuring our staff follow this guideline.
- For everyone's safety, we ask that the public practice physical distancing and maintain at least a 2-metre distance when meeting Town staff.
- A poster was added in each Town facility and to our website and social media sharing this message. To view the poster visit: [Physical Distancing poster](#)

### 2) Town launches Engaging Midland feature sharing services available in community

- With the goal of providing an accurate, up-to-date list of services within our community, the Town has launched a new feature on Engaging Midland called "COVID-19 – Status of Services in Midland."
- This list has been gathered from various sources to provide details on grocery, pharmacy, restaurant/food delivery and other services available during this pandemic.
- As a collaborative approach within the community, residents can assist us with providing accurate information by using the 'Submit a Change' feature.
- The 'Share some Good News' feature provides a forum for residents to highlight positive and uplifting local stories resulting from these trying times.
- To view the page please click [here](#).

### 3) Phase 2 of King Street work schedule updated

An alternative work schedule has been created to address the needs of the construction crews doing the Phase 2 work. Starting the week of April 6, the road closure will be extending south to Hugel Avenue. The new work schedule can be viewed [here](#).

There are a few reasons for this change:

1. *Additional Dewatering Required* - To draw the ground water down for installation of the underground infrastructure, crews need to complete the removals and install well points in both the current block and the next block ahead.
2. *Accelerate the Project* – With little activity downtown as most businesses are temporarily closed, we are taking this opportunity to move in a second crew ahead of schedule to accelerate the project.
3. *Increased Space for Safety* – Adding the extra block provides two crews the space required to work safely and efficiently within current COVID-19 spatial restrictions.

For more information on the King Street Rejuvenation project, please visit [Engaging Midland](#).

### 4) Ontario extends school closures until May 1.

- Due to the rapidly evolving COVID-19 outbreak, the Ontario government announced that schools and child care centres will remain closed to protect the health and safety of students and staff. This extension is being made on the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health.
- Today's announcement was made by Premier Doug Ford, Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, Ross Romano, Minister of Colleges and Universities and Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health.
- To ensure continuity of learning, the government is launching the second phase of Learn at Home. Developed in conjunction with education partners, the government is



establishing clarity for parents, enhancing education supports, and creating opportunities for teachers and educators to connect with students.

- For more details visit: [Ontario Extends School and Child Care Closures](#) [Learn at Home](#)

### **5) Approved! Council approved Community Relief Measures for Taxes/Utility Interest**

At last night's first-ever all-electronic/remote Council meeting, Council approved the Community Relief Measures proposed by staff.

- Residents will have tax payments deferred until June 29, and interest on all utility accounts as well as returned cheque fees on tax/utility payments waived until June 30.
- Residents on pre-authorized payments can request their April and May payments be paused and processed on June 29.
- Council is also requesting that the June 30 levy payment to the County be deferred to September 30, and that the County consider creating a short-term loan program to assist municipalities in need through this pandemic.
- Further updates on financial and economic conditions will be provided to Council at the May 20 meeting.

**Remember to pre-screen daily when entering any Town building.**

Any changes within a department will now be provided to Randy to be included in an update and copied to [HR@midland.ca](mailto:HR@midland.ca) for tracking.