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**To:** Mayor and Members of Council  
**From:** Stephen Brake, Director of Public Works  
**Date:** March 29, 2021  
**File No.:** RR.60.42  
**Re:** Whistle Cessation Update – Cobbledick Road and Bennett Road  
Railway Safety Improvement Program Application Funding Status

During the July 6-7, 2020 Council meeting, Council passed resolution #C-349-20 directing Staff to report back with potential funding options pertaining to safety improvements at the Cobbledick Road and Bennett Road CN Rail grade level railway crossings in the pursuit of whistle cessation at these crossings. As part of this resolution, Council directed Public Works Staff to submit a Rail Safety Improvement Program – Infrastructure, Technology and Research (RSIP-ITR) funding Application to Transport Canada for the proposed safety improvements that would need to be implemented. Public Works Staff submitted an application to the Program on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. The application was seeking contribution funding in the amount of 80% of works that would remain Municipal assets and 50% of works that remain railway assets. As per the preliminary design cost estimate that was completed in support of the application, contribution funding of approximately \$697,000 was requested as eligible expenses under the RSIP-ITR program. Staff had requested funding over a 2-year period due to the substantial amount of coordination that will be required with CN Rail and the overall amount of work required. This was to provide a sufficient buffer in the project's lifecycle to mitigate risk of not meeting constrained RSIP timelines and of lapsed funding.

On March 22, 2021 Public Works Staff received notice from Transport Canada that the application for this project was not successful and that the Municipality would not be receiving any funding for the proposed improvements. A copy of the e-mail notice received has been appended to this memo for information. The RSIP-ITR application for projects for the 2022-2023 implementation period is currently open with an application deadline of August 1, 2021.

The 2021 Budget that was passed included funding in the amount of \$1,194,000 in addition to the approximate \$140,000 that remains from the 2020 Budget. From the 2021 Budget amount, \$497,000 was to be funded from Rate Stabilization while the remaining \$697,000 was contingent on being a successful recipient from the RSIP-ITR program. With the majority of funding having not been received, Public Works Staff are unable to advance this project as per the previous implementation timeline. It is Public Works' intention to resubmit

the project application for 2022-2023 RSIP-ITR funding and it is anticipated that successful applications would be notified in Spring 2022.

It is respectfully requested that Council provide Staff with confirmation to continue to pursue contributions for this project under the 2022-2023 RSIP-ITR funding cycle OR that Council decide if alternative funding arrangements should be approved in the interest of time OR if the pursuit of whistle cessation at the grade level crossings at Bennett Road and Cobbledick Road should be removed from the 2021 Budget and the allocated Rate Stabilization funding released.

Should you have any questions or need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Brake'.

Stephen Brake  
Director  
Public Works

SB/RB

Attachment: RSIP-ITR 2020 Transportation Canada Response

cc: Sean Bagshaw, Manager of Infrastructure, Public Works  
Robert Brezina, Capital Works Engineer, Public Works

**From:** [Rail Safety Improvement Program 1 / Programme d'amélioration de sécurité ferroviaire 1 \(TC\)](#)  
**To:** [Brosina, Robert](#)  
**Subject:** RSIP-ITR 2020 Application Submission  
**Date:** March 22, 2021 7:55:21 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

EXTERNAL

Dear Recipient,

Thank you for submitting your application for the project shown in the table below for funding consideration under the Rail Safety Improvement Program (RSIP).

Transport Canada received numerous applications requesting federal contribution for this year. The applications were evaluated and ranked according to the degree of impact on improving rail safety. Regrettably, this project was not selected for funding.

See table below for project information and status.

Applicant Name	Application Number	Mile Marker	Project Description	TC Contribution	Application Date
The Corporation of the Municipality of Clarington	3874	287.26	The application is to correct existing deficiencies along the Cobble Dick Road and Service Road road corridor approaches to the Canadian National Rail grade level crossing as well as to provide proposed safety enhancements to the grade level crossing itself.	\$ 697,255.20	2020-07-31

We encourage you to reapply immediately to be considered for the 2022-23 funding cycle as cost are made eligible, subject to approval, as of the date of the original application. Re-applying would give you the opportunity to make changes in the scope and/or associated Project costs.

Please feel free to contact us at [TC\\_RSIPITR-PASFITR.TC@tc.gc.ca](mailto:TC_RSIPITR-PASFITR.TC@tc.gc.ca) should you have any questions.

Thank you again for your interest in RSIP.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Farley  
Director, Transportation and Infrastructure Programs  
Transport Canada