

Consultants hired to begin King's CIP

By Mark Pavilons

King Township wants its villages to be a source of pride.

To that end, King council recently launched the process of creating a Community Improvement Plan (CIP) by hiring consultants. MMM Group Limited will begin the project, which is estimated to cost \$35,410, \$25,000 of which will come from the general operations budget of the economic development department.

The CIP is intended to nurture village revitalization and improving village vitality and prosperity, according to a staff report by Jamie Smyth, King's economic development officer. The CIP will help boost the physical landscapes of King's communities - primarily King City, Nobleton and Schomberg.

Public benefits can be achieved in the medium and long-term that results in more socially cohesive, environmentally friendly and economically sound communities, Smyth pointed out. In short, municipalities are finding ways to become more sustainable through the use of community improvement plans.

CIPs are deemed as useful land use planning tools and economic development tools.

A CIP project team will be created in King, from planning and finance departments, with Smyth overseeing the project.

Proposal bids were accepted in February and six were received. MMM Group was deemed to have the highest score.

The work on a CIP works well with both the Economic Development Strategy and Integrated Community Sustainability Plan.