

**Subject:** 2022 LDD Moth Management Program

**Recommendation:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Report #2022-0057 - 2022 LDD Moth Management Program, for information;**

**AND THAT the blocks identified in Report #2022-0057 be aerially sprayed for the LDD Moth in 2022;**

**AND THAT Council consider repealing and replacing By-Law No. 4334(2021) with By-law No. 4433(2022) to allow for the implementation of an aerial spray program in 2022;**

**AND THAT Council approve the use of Zimmer Air Services to conduct the 2022 aerial spray program.**

**Background:**

In February, 2022, Council received Public Works Report 2022-0028 outlining the results of the LDD Moth egg mass surveys, management recommendations, and associated costs. This current report serves to fulfill the requirements of Policy S802-03 to inform Council of the proposed spray blocks, and present the by-law amendment required to implement an aerial spray program using the biologic control agent *Bacillus thuringiensis* subspecies *kurstaki* (Btk) in and around public trees and trees on private lands within the Town of Pelham.

**Analysis:**

Lallemand Inc. /Bioforest (BioForest) worked in conjunction with staff to develop aerial spray blocks to fit within the available spray budget. Consideration was given to Policy S802-03, as well as the 2022 defoliation forecast, and a number of other criteria.

The proposed spray blocks are attached to this report as Appendix A. The proposed program will spray a total of 108ha at a cost of \$973 (including applicable taxes) per Hectare. The mobilization and permitting fees are included in the unit cost. The cost of the 2022 LDD Moth Management Program is \$149,500. The breakdown is as follows:

- 1) Aerial Spray = \$106 000,
- 2) Egg Mass Surveys & Program Consulting = \$32,500,
- 3) Media, Communication, Postage = \$6000,
- 4) Specimen Tree Injections = \$5000

To allow the 2022 LDD Moth Aerial Spray Program to be implemented, and to allow for the aerial application of Btk to manage gypsy moth population on both public and private lands, the existing By-Law 4334(2021) is required to be repealed and replaced with By-Law 4433(2022) to include the spray blocks identified as attached in Appendix A.

The 2022 LDD Moth communication strategy includes the use of both print and digital methods to engage and educate the community about the impacts of the LDD Moth. The campaign will focus on the key messages of spraying, prevention and measures home owners can take to reduce the impact of LDD Moths. The 2022 campaign will have targeted social media to support the traditional advertisements and supplementary print material. Demonstrations and community outreach will be added to the campaign this year including partnership with the local scouting group in developing at home LDD kits, participating in the Kinsmen Home Show and the Earth Week community clean up event.

The implementation of aerial spray application over urban/residential areas is highly specialized. Low-level, aerial spraying over homes and roadways requires the use of a twin-engine helicopter, as well as, federal and provincial permits. Staff have explored options for aerial spray service providers, including competitors in the rural spraying industry. Zimmer Air Services have committed to providing aerial spray services to the Town of Pelham at the same unit price as the City of Hamilton, Mississauga and Toronto. Due to the specialized services, it is necessary to enter into a non-competitive procurement contract with Zimmer Air Services as done in 2009, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021.

#### **Financial Considerations:**

There are no financial considerations attributed to this report. An aerial spray program as proposed can be implemented within the limits of the existing \$150,000 operating budget.

#### **Alternatives Reviewed:**

As staff are following the Council approved policy, and Public Works Report 2022-0028, no further alternatives were considered in the preparation of this report.

#### **Strategic Plan Relationship: Strong Organization**

The tree canopy within the municipal boundary is vital to the high quality of life within the Town of Pelham.

**Consultation:**

Lallemand Inc./BioForest provided; Spray Block Mapping.  
Leah Letford, Communications and Public Relations Specialist.

**Other Pertinent Reports/Attachments:**

Attachments:

Appendix A – Spray Block Mapping  
See by-law 4433(2022)

Other Pertinent Reports:

Policy S802-03

Public Works Report 2022-0028 (Refer to February 7, 2022)

2021 LDD Moth Monitoring Program Report, Bioforest (Refer to February 7, 2022)

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