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APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE FOR A NEW PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IN OLD OTTAWA SOUTH

OTTAWA— In another step towards making Capital Ward the safest place for active transportation in Ottawa, the National Capital Commission (NCC) and the City of Ottawa have come to an Approval in Principle for a new intersection pedestrian signal (IPS) to facilitate crossings of Colonel By Drive at Seneca Street.

The crossing point will include a traffic signal to control vehicles on Colonel By Drive, and a pedestrian crosswalk and cycling crossride to access cycling and pedestrian facilities along Seneca street. This is a big improvement from original designs which only included a PXO (pedestrian crossing). There is also agreement in principle to reduce the traffic speed along that stretch of Colonel By. This will provide safe and comfortable means for residents to access the Multi-Use Path (MUP) on the south side of the Rideau Canal.

“The Old Ottawa South Community Association’s Traffic and Safety Committee has been working diligently for some time now to see a safe crossing implemented at this intersection. Once again, we see what communities can achieve when residents are motivated and properly supported by governments,” said Capital Ward Councillor Shawn Menard.

Because the canal MUP and Colonel By Drive fall under the purview of the NCC, the project required collaboration between the NCC, the City and the local community. The pedestrian signal will be constructed within the existing ongoing capital project which will be completed by early summer 2020.

“The Rideau Canal is a defining feature of Ottawa and Capital Ward, and I’m so glad the NCC, the City and the community have come together to create another access point to let people enjoy the path and linear park along the canal.”

The project is still subject to final approval by the Executive Committee of the NCC Board of Directors as part of the Federal Land Use, Design and Transaction Approvals (FLUDA) process.