RM of Stanley Field Shelterbelt Program 2017

# Purpose:

The Municipality values agricultural shelterbelts and the benefits that properly placed and maintained shelterbelts provide to the Municipality as a whole.

The Municipality would like to encourage the establishment of properly placed agricultural shelterbelts within the Municipality.

## Program:

The Municipality would like to provide a financial incentive to landowners who establish agricultural shelterbelts within the Municipality.

This program is aimed at increasing the number of agricultural shelterbelts and is not intended for rural residential areas or other smaller settings.

## **Policy:**

Applicants wishing to establish new agricultural shelterbelt trees will contact the Municipality. Proposals must be submitted on an approved application form and include:

- Tree species that grows well in local soil conditions
- Tree spacing
- Tree location
- Confirmation of ongoing maintenance to be performed
- Proposed timeline
- Other info as required by the Municipality

#### **Procedure:**

The Municipality will review each application taking the following factors into consideration:

- Road Safety and Visibility
- Roadway traffic, speeds
- Future works anticipated within the ROW
- Snow drifting
- Snow storage
- Spring snow removal for flood prevention
- Soil drift
- Drainage type/size/requirements of drainage impacted
- Species of trees
- Trees located adjacent to the subject property
- Other considerations the Municipality deems appropriate

### **General Requirements**

- Applications are to be received from the landowner, not from contractors or outside agencies
- Where trees will be located on part of/adjacent to the applicants land, approval of neighboring landowner may be required.
- Applications are to be on parcels of land 40 acres or larger, applications on smaller pieces may be considered by the Municipality.
- Appropriate site preparation (tilling, chemicals, planting methods).
- Appropriate location approved by RM.
- Rebate of up to \$500 per ½ mile available.
- Only projects that have been previously approved by the Municipality under this program will be rebated.
- Rebates will be issued upon final approval by the Municipality confirming requirements of the approved application were met.

### **Process:**

- Applicant submits proposal to the Municipality
- RM reviews/comments/adjusts
- If denied: no appeal
- If approved:
  - Issue approval
  - Applicant completes installation
  - Applicant requests funding from the Municipality
  - o The Municipality reviews finished project for conformity with approved plan
  - The Municipality issues cheque to applicant upon successful review