

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - APRIL 19, 2004**

### **EXEMPTION TO THE NOISE CONTROL BY-LAW CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY ALONG HIGHWAY 7 AT THORNHILL WOODS DRIVE**

#### **Recommendation**

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

That an exemption to the City's Noise Control By-Law 270-81 be granted to permit the operation of construction equipment in connection with asphalt paving, recycling, foam stabilization and double surface treatment on Highway 7 at Thornhill Woods Drive between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight from May 1, 2004 through July 31, 2004, on a Monday to Friday basis only.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval of an exemption to the City's Noise Control By-Law 270-81 to facilitate the road rehabilitation work proposed by the Regional Municipality of York on Highway 7 at Thornhill Woods Drive.

#### **Background - Analysis and Options**

The Regional Municipality of York will be undertaking a road rehabilitation project at Highway 7 and Thornhill Woods Drive. The project consists of foamed asphalt stabilization of the existing road structure and additional hot mix asphalt. The City has received an application from the Regional Municipality of York for Noise By-Law exemption to facilitate this work.

The tentative start date for this project is May 1, 2004, weather permitting, with completion scheduled for late July 2004. In order to realize significant cost savings and lessen societal costs due to impact on the traveling public, the Region proposes to perform the work between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

The exact location of the work is the eastbound lanes of Highway 7 from 1,000 metres west of Thornhill Woods Drive to 200 metres east of the intersection (See Attachment No.1). This area is a wide right-of-way with back-lotted homes on the North side of Highway 7. The work is restricted to the eastbound lanes only, that is, the lanes farthest from the residential development. The work is scheduled early in the season in order to take advantage of the closed windows and doors during the night when ambient temperatures are low. Work in the immediate vicinity of homes will be performed as early in the evening as possible prior to occupants retiring for the night.

Staff, in considering this request and the resultant local impacts, have determined that in order to reduce the effects to the immediate residential community, as well as provide for the roadworks, it is more appropriate to grant a limited exemption to the noise bylaw. In this fashion the work can still proceed on a fixed schedule while also accommodating the residents, with the majority of the overnight hours free from disturbance due to construction operations. This acknowledges both the need to undertake the project while respecting citizen privacy in a more equitable fashion. Further these operations are to be restricted to the Monday through Friday period only for the duration of the project.

#### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007**

This recommendation is consistent with Vaughan Vision 2007 in that it identifies and implements innovative traffic management alternatives to improve general traffic safety (1.1.3) and it supports regional and provincial initiatives on transportation infrastructure (3.2.4)

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council.

**Conclusion**

The Region will be proceeding with the rehabilitation of Highway 7 in the area of Thornhill Woods Drive. To facilitate this work plan, it is recommended that an exemption to the City's Noise Control By-Law 270-81 be granted to permit construction to proceed between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight from Monday through Friday only. Should Council concur, the recommended resolution could be passed.

**Attachments**

1. Location Map

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Respectfully submitted,

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Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works

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# ATTACHMENT No. 1

