

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - APRIL 4, 2005**

### **EXEMPTION TO THE NOISE CONTROL BY-LAW CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY ALONG HIGHWAY 407 AT CENTRE STREET**

#### **Recommendation**

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

1. 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 construction operations related to the widening of Highway 407 eastbound and westbound bridge structures over Centre Street **for one weekend** (excluding holiday long weekends) from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. between the period from April 25, 2005 to July 11, 2005 and from 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight **weekly, Monday to Friday** between the period April 25, 2005 to August 12, 2005; and
2. That the Region of York – Transportation and Works Department be so notified of the approval of the Noise Control By-law exemption related to the subject location.

#### **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 widening of Highway 407 eastbound and westbound bridge structures over Centre Street proposed by the 407 ETR Concession Company Limited (407 ETR).

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

407 ETR is undertaking the widening of the central section of Highway 407 from Highway 404 to Highway 400. The proposed improvements include the inside widening of Highway 407 from the existing 3 lanes to 4 lanes in both eastbound and westbound directions. A total of eight existing bridge structures within the project limits will be widened to the ultimate lane configuration. The Highway 407 bridge structures scheduled for widening within the City of Vaughan include the crossings over the CN MacMillan Yard, West Don River, Centre Street and Yonge Street.

The 407 ETR is requesting an exemption from the City's Noise Control By-Law for its construction operations related to the widening of the Highway 407 eastbound and westbound bridge structures over Centre Street (see Attachment 1). Key bridgework activities proposed outside the hours of work stipulated by the By-Law (7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday) include:

- Pile driving for the pier footings of bridges;
- Placement of precast concrete girders for bridge decks; and,
- Concrete pours in connection with the bridge abutments, piers and decks.

The construction equipment to be used during the work includes compressors, generators, pile driving equipment, excavators, backhoes, mobile cranes and a variety of trucks, including flatbeds and concrete trucks. Construction for the widening of the Highway 407 structure over Centre Street are scheduled to be initiated in mid-April 2005 and completed by November 15, 2005.

The proposed periods and hours for construction to which 407 ETR is seeking an exemption from the City's Noise Control By-Law are as follows:

Period	Hours of Operation
<u>Weekend</u> <sup>(1)</sup> One weekend (excluding holiday long weekends) between April 25, 2005 and July 11, 2005.	8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. one consecutive Saturday and Sunday
<u>Daily/Evenings</u> <sup>(2)</sup> April 25 to August 12, 2005.	7:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight weekly, Monday to Friday

**Notes:**

- (1) A specific date for the weekend work is not provided at this time, as a detailed construction schedule and contractor are still to be determined. 407 ETR will provide a minimum of seven days notification to the City prior to the initiation of weekend construction operations.
- (2) The actual construction operations affecting the closure of Centre Street are estimated to be approximately 8-10 weeks.

The construction operations during the weekend period are to accommodate the pile driving activities for the bridge piers and will require complete closure of the westbound lanes and single lane closure of the eastbound median lane of Centre Street. The works would be undertaken during daytime hours on one weekend only.

The construction operations on weekdays at off-peak traffic hours include placing reinforcing steel and pouring of concrete for the footings, piers and pier caps and will require closure of the median westbound lane and/or closure of the median eastbound lane to minimize traffic disruption to the public as per the agreement between 407 ETR and the Regional Municipality of York, as the subject section of Centre Street is under Regional jurisdiction. The launching of the girders is also proposed in off-peak traffic hours by rolling closures of the eastbound and westbound lanes of Centre Street.

Construction operations in the evening during the weekdays and on the one weekend are expected to compress the overall construction schedule and hence minimize traffic disruption to the public.

This area is in relatively close proximity (500 to 800 metres) to several residential neighbourhoods (i.e.: Glen Shields subdivision, King High Drive and the Hillside Avenue/Baldwin Avenue area). Although the work is scheduled early in the construction season, part of it will take place at a time of year when some residents may wish to leave their windows open during the night if ambient temperatures are favourable. Staff, in considering this request and the resultant local impacts, has determined that work can still proceed on a fixed schedule as requested, 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 fair and equitable manner. These operations are to be restricted to the Monday through Friday period only for the duration of the project, the only exception being the one weekend requested.

**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 407 ETR will be proceeding with the widening of Highway 407 eastbound and westbound bridge structures over Centre Street. 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 on one weekend (excluding holiday long weekends) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. between the period from April 25, 2005 to July 11, 2005 and from 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight Monday to Friday between the period April 25, 2005 to August 12, 2005. Should Council concur, the recommended resolution should be passed.

## **Attachments**

1. Location Map

## **Report prepared by:**

Tom Ungar, Design Engineer, ext. 3110

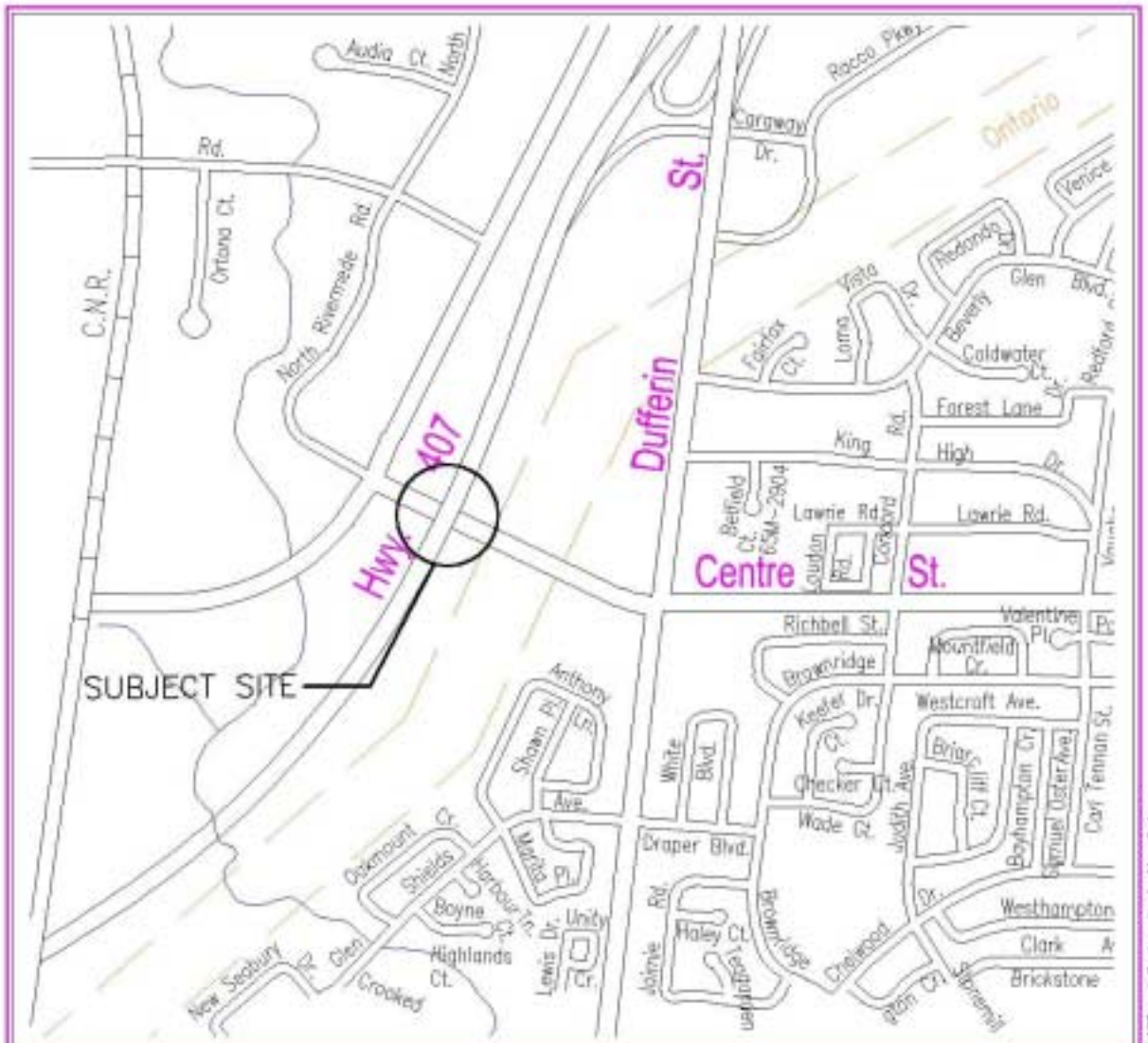
Respectfully submitted,

Bill Robinson, P.Eng.  
Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works

Gary P. Carroll, P.Eng.  
Director of Engineering Services

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# ATTACHMENT 1



## HIGHWAY 407 BRIDGE WIDENING

### LEGEND



SUBJECT SITE



NOT TO SCALE