

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - APRIL 4, 2005

ONTARIO SOCCER ASSOCIATION SITE AND ACCESS TO VAUGHAN GROVE SPORTS PARK

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

1. That Block 28 on Plan 65M-2464 be dedicated as Public Highway, named Casey van Maris Way.
2. That a by-law be enacted to prohibit parking at any time on the east side of Casey van Maris Way.
3. That up to four speed humps be installed on the access roadway internal to the soccer center site at locations to be determined in consultation with Ontario Soccer Association officials.
4. That a cost sharing arrangement for the speed humps between the Ontario Soccer Association and the City of Vaughan be negotiated.

Purpose

To dedicate as public highway the north access to the Ontario Soccer Association site.

Background - Analysis and Options

Block 28 on Plan 65M-2464 was conveyed to the Town of Vaughan for future road allowance under a subdivision agreement with Woodfield Developments Limited. The agreement is dated September 15, 1986.

In 2001, the City of Vaughan constructed a standard urban cross section road on Block 28. The purpose of the road was to provide a second vehicular access to the Ontario Soccer Association site and to Vaughan Grove Sports Park. Driveway access is also available off Martin Grove Road. The area is illustrated on Attachment 1.

Although the road on Block 28 has been in use for some time, it was never dedicated as public highway. Vehicles are being parked on both sides of this roadway restricting emergency vehicle access to the site. In addition, overnight parking of commercial vehicles on the roadway has been reported. In order to regulate traffic operations on the road in Block 28, it is necessary to dedicate it as public highway. In order to ensure that emergency vehicles have unimpeded access, it is recommended that parking be restricted to one side of the road.

The Ontario Soccer Association was consulted to identify a suitable name for the road. The OSA suggested the name, Casey van Maris Way and the Region of York has advised that it has no objection to the use of the street name.

A representative of the Ontario Soccer Association was consulted has provided the following background information: "Casey was the President of the Ontario Soccer Association from 1991 to 1995. He is acknowledged as the primary individual responsible for the creation of the Soccer Centre from the conception level through to the final stages of construction. He unfortunately passed away a day or two before the facility opened and consequently never was able to fully realize his dream. He was the Treasurer of the OSA for many years, as well as the President of York Region. His involvement in soccer spans over twenty years and he is a life member of the OSA. The important point is that even though he has a huge list of soccer activities and positions to his credit, his name is not being put forward because of them. The naming of the roadway is

solely based on his involvement with the Soccer Centre. It is widely acknowledged that without his contributions, the facility would not have been pursued by the OSA, and eventually realized. He was also the Chairman of the Soccer Centre Facility Task Force which oversaw the construction of the project.”

The subject access road extends east from Martin Grove Road connecting to Woodstream Boulevard to the north and to Vaughan Grove Sports Park and Villa Giardino to the south. The southerly road system accommodates the Amica Villa da Vinci Seniors Residence, the Villa Giardino Seniors Residence, the Shinning Through Autistic Children Centre, two soccer fields and a four baseball diamond complex at its easterly limit. (Refer to Attachment No. 1)

The subject road is not dedicated as public highway. The land on which it sits is former Parkway Belt West Land which is owned and controlled by the Province of Ontario. The road and the associated Vaughan Grove Sports Park uses are under a long-term lease between the City of Vaughan and the Province of Ontario through the Ontario Realty Corporation. This is a 50 year term lease that expires June 30, 2039. Through an agreement between the City and the Province road access is allowed for the soccer centre and the sports fields. The City of Vaughan entered into a lease agreement with the OSA for the construction of an indoor soccer centre and three outdoor soccer fields.

Due to the operational status of the access road, the City can construct such measures as speed humps on the access road it currently controls.

Consideration of Speed Humps

Officials from the soccer centre have expressed concerns regarding the vehicle speeds on this access road. The speeding concerns are associated with vehicles traveling to and from the sports field and parking lots. There are existing posted 30 km/h speed limit signs on the access road.

Since the access road is not registered as a City public highway, the warrant for the installation of speed humps cannot be used.

Due to the access road operations with pedestrian activity and the sports fields, it would be beneficial to install speed humps to control the speed of vehicles in this area. The intended 30km/h speed limit also cannot be enforced since the access road is not a public highway.

Engineering Staff have reviewed the access road and it is feasible to install speed humps at various locations. Legal Department staff has advised the City is within its rights to install speed humps on a private road that it controls.

Due to the narrow width of the access road, the estimated cost to install four asphalt speed humps is approximately \$9,500.

In 2004, Council authorized the installation of the two speed humps on the access road to the seniors residential area to the south. It is anticipated that if authorized by Council, the speed humps on the OSA lands would be constructed concurrent with those to the south.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have not been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

In order to regulate parking and traffic operations on the road constructed in Block 28 on Plan 65M-2464, it is necessary to dedicate it as public highway. A parking prohibition on one side of the road would ensure that unimpeded access is provided at all times for emergency vehicles.

The installation of speed humps on the internal roadway would be beneficial through the reduction in opportunities for speeding in an area where there are normally pedestrians and sports participants crossing the roadway at uncontrolled locations. Installation of speed humps would increase public safety in the area.

Attachments

1. Location Map

Report prepared by:

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Respectfully submitted,

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Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works

ATTACHMENT No. 1

