

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE APRIL 3, 2006

WALKWAY FROM MAJOR MACKENZIE DRIVE TO STATION STREET IN MAPLE

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Planning recommends:

THAT the following report BE RECEIVED for information purposes.

Economic Impact

There are no requirements for new funding associated with this report.

Purpose

This report has been prepared in response to Council's request respecting the next steps to the construction of a pedestrian walkway access from the sidewalk on the north side of Major Mackenzie Drive to the end of Station Street in Maple.

Background - Analysis and Options

Item 22, Report No. 14, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by Council of the City of Vaughan on March 27, 2006, recommended:

"That staff provide a report on the next steps with respect to the construction of a walkway access from the sidewalk on Major Mackenzie Drive to the end of Station Street in Maple"

In 2003, Go Transit renovated the station area located in the Village of Maple core area on Station Street, a north-south street approximately .5 kilometres east of Keele Street, on the east side of the railway right-of-way and north of Major Mackenzie Drive. Station Street does not intersect Major Mackenzie Drive due to a seven metre grade difference between the two streets. Pedestrian and vehicular access to the station is only possible on the east side of the railway because at-grade track crossings are not provided east to west in the area. Vehicular access to the station is by way of Hill Street from Major Mackenzie Drive, however, there is no formal pedestrian route from Major Mackenzie Drive to the station currently. Pedestrians have created a desire path from the sidewalk on the north side of Major Mackenzie Drive up a slope on the east side of the railway overpass to Station Street, this is the most direct route possible, however, the slope presents a hazard for pedestrians.

As a component of the station renovation, Go Transit proposed to design and construct a pedestrian stair connection on the east side of the railway overpass from Station Street to the north sidewalk along Major Mackenzie Drive; thus formalizing and making safe, the existing informal pedestrian route.

The stairway connection could be built independently of any associated streetscape enhancements, however, it is intended by staff that the system be designed in conjunction with the design work for the streetscape and pedestrian system required for both sides of Major Mackenzie Drive adjacent to the proposed new Civic Centre. Go Transit has agreed to provide funding in the amount of \$50,000.00 to the City, for the design and construction of the stairs as a component of the proposed pedestrian system from Major Mackenzie Drive to Maple Go Station.

Staff is in the process of finalizing the Terms of Reference for the Major Mackenzie Drive Streetscape Study, and is scheduled to bring a report forward with a recommendation to the Committee of the Whole meeting on May 1, 2006.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities set forth in Vaughan Vision 2007, specifically 'A-5', "Plan and Manage Growth".

Conclusion

It is intended that the streetscape work and the provision of a pedestrian system linking the Go Station to the Civic Centre be integrated within the Major Mackenzie Drive Streetscape Study.

Attachments

1. Location Map

Report prepared by:

Rob Bayley, Senior Urban Designer, ext. 8254
Grant Uyeyama, Manager of Development Planning, ext. 8635

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN ZIPAY
Commissioner of Planning

MARCO RAMUNNO
Director of Development Planning

/RB

R:\SER\WORKING\BAYLEYRO\StationStreetWalkwayCWApril3Reviseddoc.doc



Attachment 1

Location Map

Part of Lot 21,
Concession 3

Development Planning Department

March 29, 2006