

PRIORITIES AND KEY INITIATIVES COMMITTEE – JUNE 11, 2012

TORONTO-YORK SPADINA SUBWAY EXTENSION PROGRESS UPDATE WARD 4

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends that this report be received for information purposes.

Contribution to Sustainability

The Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension (TYSSE) project will provide higher order transit infrastructure to support compact urban form and offer an alternative mode of transportation to the single occupant vehicle. In addition, the subway extension into the City will stimulate the establishment of transit orientated development in the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre and the Official Plan Amendment 620 (Steeles West Secondary Plan) area. The YYSSE is committed to applying sustainability standards in the design and construction of the subway project.

Economic Impact

There are no immediate economic impacts associated with the recommendations of this report.

Communications Plan

TYSSE and York Region will continue their communication efforts while construction advances to keep the public and stakeholders informed. The following communication plan will be used to ensure the public is fully aware of the current and upcoming construction activities associated with both the YYSSE and VivaNext projects:

- Printed advertisements in local/regional newspapers and newsletters;
- Radio and television reports via traffic reporters;
- Bi-annual project newsletters and quarterly VivaNext newsletters;
- On-street project signs showing the station design and a 1-800 construction information line for all public enquiries;
- Construction notices sent by email, social media, mail and posted on the project and City websites;
- Construction Community Liaisons and Project Information Centres for the public to learn more about the project and to make enquiries; and
- Direct communication with affected property owners and tenants.

In addition, media events will be hosted and communication issued to celebrate milestones of the project, including the launch of the tunnel boring machines, completion of the first leg of the tunnel boring, quarterly construction completion targets reached and grand opening event of the subway extension.

The City's Economic Development, Corporate Communication and Development/Transportation Engineering Departments are assisting and coordinating with the YYSSE project team on this communication plan.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension project.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension (TYSSE) project is an 8.6km extension from the existing Downsview Station northwest through York University within the City of Toronto and north to the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre as shown on Attachment No 1. The TYSSE is scheduled to open for full revenue service to the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (VMC) by the end of 2015.

The TYSSE project is now in the construction phase. The overall project is on schedule. Any schedule challenges encountered to date have been managed by the project team. The following provides a brief overview of the progress of the project's key components and the upcoming activities expected over the summer.

Vaughan Metropolitan Centre Station

The site plan for the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (VMC) Station was conditionally approved by Council on May 24, 2011. The construction contract for the VMC Subway Station was awarded in mid-June 2011 and heavy civil construction of the station is well underway.

The current status of the works is as follows:

- Construction of excavation support walls north and south of Hwy 7 are more than 80% complete
- One tower crane has been installed north of Hwy 7 for station construction
- Dewatering operation has commenced to lower water table for the station construction
- New sanitary and storm sewers are being installed in the new Millway Ave right of way

A current aerial photo of the VMC Station site is included as Attachment No.2 to this report.

The upcoming activities at the VMC Station site are as follows:

- A second tower crane is planned to be installed north of Hwy 7 this summer
- Excavation for the station box will continue throughout the summer as well as construction of the excavation support walls in the Toromont Yard
- Detouring of Highway 7 to the south side for the purpose of installing the excavation support walls within the Highway 7 right-of-way
- Construction of a dewatering holding facility for maintenance dewatering on the south side of Portage Pkwy

The parties continue to negotiate the arrangements for the VMC YRT bus terminal, underground pedestrian tunnel, Pick-up and Drop-off facility. These facilities will be included as part of a future site plan application, which should be submitted in late 2012 or early 2013.

The H2-VMC Viva Bus Rapidway Project along Highway 7 is in the tender stage, which should be completed in early June 2012. The award of the design/build contract is anticipated for late July 2012, with design work commencing shortly afterwards in August 2012. The necessary utility relocations associated with the project are expected to start in late 2012 or early 2013. Construction of the H2-VMC Viva Bus Rapidway Project along Highway 7 is expected to start in spring of 2013.

Highway 407 Station

The site plan for the Highway 407 Station was approved in 2010 and construction of the advanced contract, which included the realignment of the Black Creek, new 6 lane access bridge and the relocation of the existing sanitary trunk sewer, was substantially completed in 2011. A recent aerial photo of the Highway 407 Station site is included as Attachment No. 2 to this report.

The current status of the works at the Highway 407 Station is as follows:

- Station excavation is ongoing, including TBM launch shaft, and will continue through this year
- Station contractor has commenced pre-loading of ground, to minimize settlement, for the main bus terminal structure
- Station Access Road and bridge over Black Creek is complete and new signals have been installed at the intersection with Jane Street

A current aerial photo of the Highway 407 Station site is included as Attachment No.3 to this report.

Steeles West Station

In October 2011, Council approved the first phase site plan application for the Steeles West Station, which included the underground subway box, the main station entrance and the electrical substation. The York Region Transit (YRT) bus terminal, commuter parking lot, the passenger pick-up/drop-off (PPUDO) and the associated roadways will be included in the second phase site plan submission, which is expected to be submitted in the fall 2012.

The current status of the works at the Steeles West Station is as follows:

- Station excavation is proceeding north of Steeles Avenue
- Utility relocations are proceeding, including the realignment of Vaughan utilities in the Steeles Avenue ROW
- Road diversions and lane closures are in place to facilitate construction

Some of the upcoming activities at the Steeles West Station site will include the following:

- Excavation and foundation construction for TTC substation will commence during the summer.
- Station contractor will commence road widening on north portion of Steeles Ave. to accommodate contract staging
- Station construction to proceed south of Steeles Avenue

A current aerial photo of the Steeles West Station site is included as Attachment No.4 to this report.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

In consideration of the strategic priorities related to Vaughan Vision 2020, the recommendations of this report will assist in:

- The pursuit of excellence in service delivery;
- Planning and managing growth, and economic vitality; and
- The demonstration of leadership and promotion of effective governance.

Specific Strategic Plan Initiatives applicable to the recommendations made in this report include Vaughan's corporate priorities to support and plan high capacity transit at strategic locations throughout the City. Accordingly, this report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council.

Regional Implications

The Region of York is a partner in the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension project.

Conclusion

Heavy civil construction associated with the three TYSSE subway stations in Vaughan is now well underway. The overall project is on schedule. Tunneling in Vaughan is anticipated to commence in 2013 from the Highway 407 Station.

Attachments

- Attachment 1: Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension Location Plan
- Attachment 2: VMC Station (Highway 7/Millway) – Current Aerial
- Attachment 3: Highway 407 Station – Current Aerial
- Attachment 4: Steeles West Station – Current Aerial

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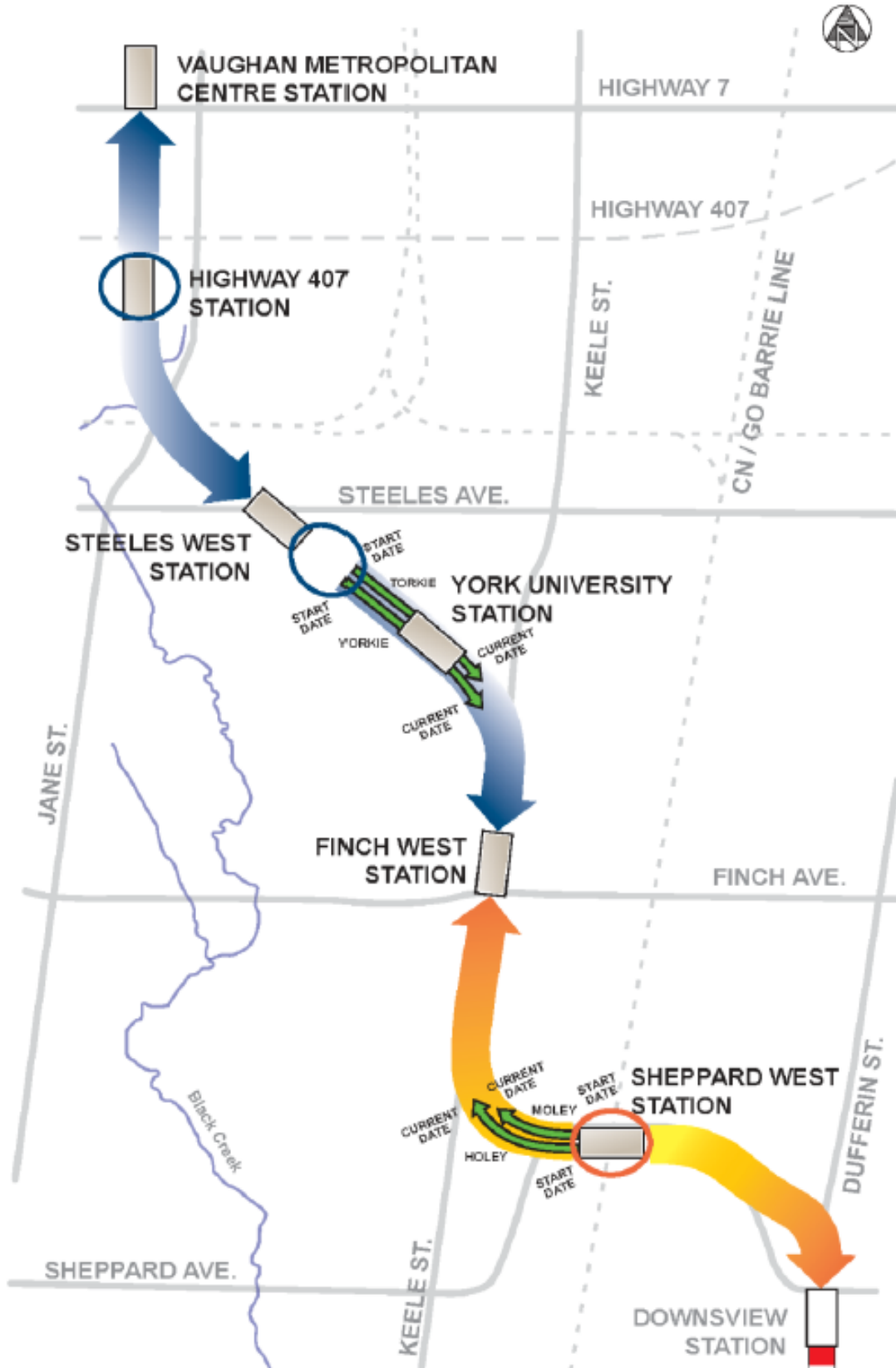
Respectfully submitted,

Paul Jankowski, P.Eng.,
Commissioner of Engineering
& Public Works

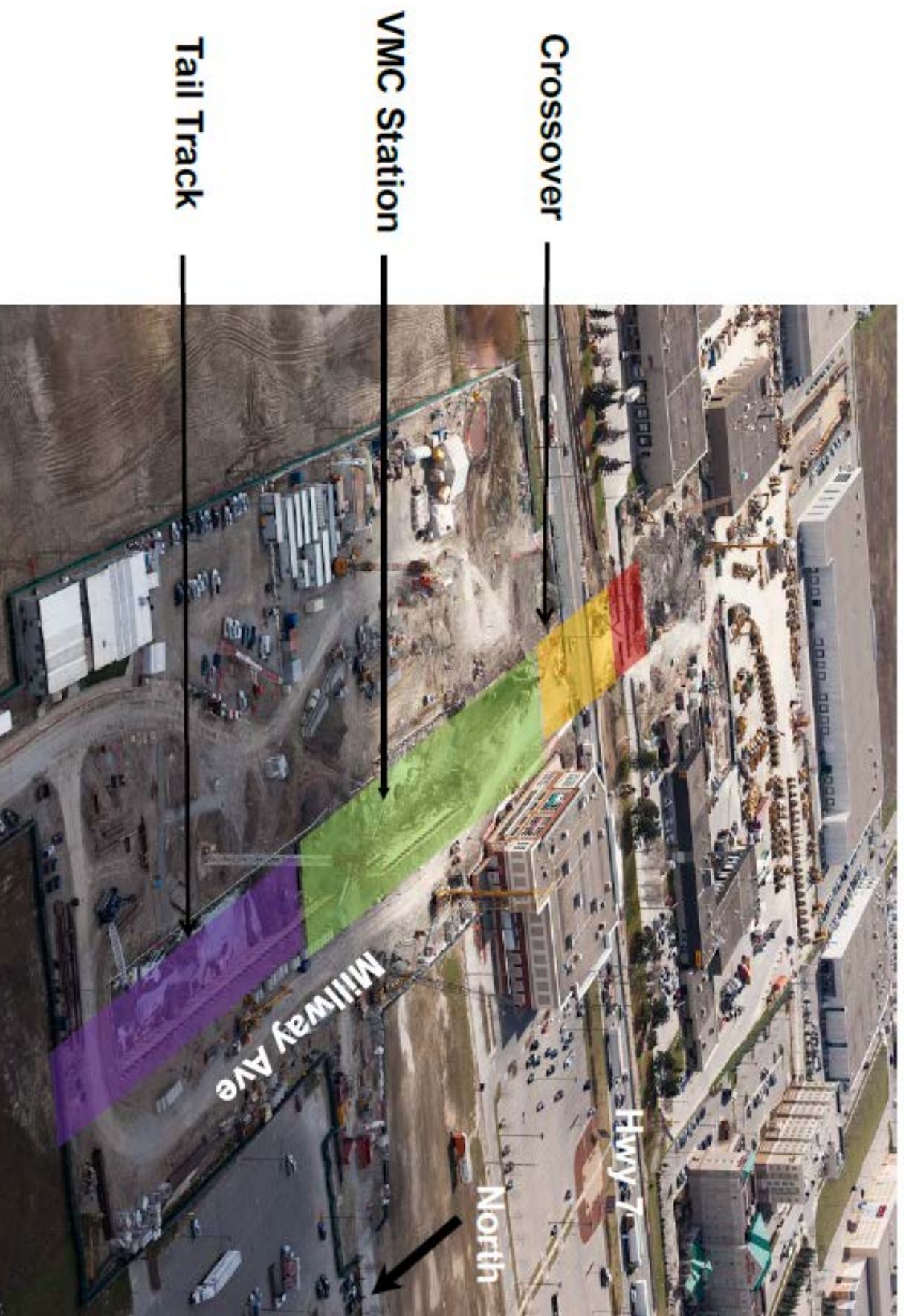
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Attachment No 1.

Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension Location Plan



**Attachment No. 2
VMC Station (Highway 7/Milway) - Current Aerial**



**Attachment No. 3
Highway 407 Station – Current Aerial**



**Attachment No. 4
Steeles West Station – Current Aerial**



Photo dated April 6, 2012.