

COUNCIL - DECEMBER 14, 2010

REGION OF YORK'S REQUEST TO CONTINUE OPERATING THE ASIAN LONG-HORNED BEETLE YARD WASTE PROCESSING SITE AT THE CITY'S DUFFERIN STREET WORKS YARD

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends that Council formally approve the request from the Region of York to continue operating the Asian Long-Horned Beetle leaf and yard waste processing site at the City's Dufferin Street Works Yard, to December 31, 2013.

Contribution to Sustainability

The Asian Long-Horned Beetle regulated area in Vaughan is bounded by Steeles Avenue to the south, Rutherford Road to the north, Hwy. 27 to the west, and Dufferin Street to the east. Without a dedicated processing site located within the regulated area, provision of leaf and yard waste collection services to a large portion of Vaughan residents would be impacted, and the City's waste diversion tonnages would decrease.

Economic Impact

There is no economic impact associated with approving the request from York Region.

Communications Plan

The City continues to provide information about the Asian Long-Horned Beetle (ALHB), and the processing site itself, to residents and businesses through its web site and through various pieces of waste collection information. As long as the federal government continues to restrict movement of specific plant material within the above noted regulated area, staff will continue to provide such information to residents about the importance of properly handling these materials from within this area, and about the site itself.

Purpose

In response to the request from the Region of York, to seek formal approval to allow the Region to continue operating its ALHB processing operations at the City-owned Dufferin Street Works Yard, to December 31, 2013.

Background - Analysis and Options

Since 2005, the Region, in co-operation with the City, has operated the Asian Long-Horned Beetle (ALHB), leaf and yard waste processing site at the City's Dufferin Street Works Yard. The Dufferin Street Works Yard is located within the federally regulated area. This area is bounded by Steeles Avenue to the south, Rutherford Road to the north, Hwy. 27 to the west, and Dufferin Street to the east.

While the collection of leaf and yard waste materials is the City's responsibility, the processing of these materials is the responsibility of York Region. As part of the federal order concerning the control and eradication of the ALHB, specified plant materials must remain within the regulated area until such time as approval has been given for their removal. The leaf and yard waste materials collected from residents living in the regulated area are taken to the Dufferin Street Works Yard for processing. In order for these materials to be moved from this site, they must be ground to a size specified by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. This grinding/processing operation is performed by the Region.

On December 8, 2010, staff received a letter from Region staff requesting that the City allow the Region to continue its leaf and yard waste processing operations at the Dufferin Street Works Yard, until December 31, 2013. Attached to the correspondence from the Region, is a letter from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, indicating that the Ministerial Order for the ALHB regulated area would be in effect *“until at least the end of June 2013, unless the status changes.”*

In order for the Region to grind the ALHB materials, they had to apply for, and obtain, a Provisional Certificate of Approval (C of A), from the provincial Ministry of Environment. From time to time, this must be amended and/or renewed. The current C of A expires December 31, 2010. As such, it must be amended to reflect the CFIA’s 2013 anticipated closure date, and renewed prior to December 31, 2010. To renew the C of A, the Region again requires approval from the City to allow them continued use of the City owned lands for this operation.

A large portion of the City’s residents live in the ALHB regulated area. Without a processing site located within that regulated area, the City would have no means of handling leaf and yard waste materials generated by the residents living in this area. Currently, leaf and yard waste materials represent approximately 12% of the municipally collected waste. In order to ensure that leaf and yard waste collection service to the residents living in the regulated area is not interrupted, and to ensure the City maintains its high waste diversion standard, it is recommended that Council approve the Region’s request to continue operating the ALHB processing site at the City’s Dufferin Street Works Yard until December 31, 2013.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and ties into the following Vaughan Vision 20/20 Goals and Objectives:

Goal: Service Excellence
Objective: Lead and Promote Environmental Sustainability
Objective: Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health & Wellness

Regional Implications

Without the City’s approval, the Region will not be able to amend and renew its Certificate of Approval for processing ALHB materials at the City’s Dufferin Street Works Yard.

Conclusion

As long as the Ministerial Order concerning the Asian Long-Horned Beetle is in effect, and the transportation of specific plant materials within the regulated area is controlled, a processing site located within the regulated area is required to handle a portion of the City’s leaf and yard waste materials.

The ALHB processing site at the Dufferin Street Works Yard has been in operation since 2005, and allows the City to continue collecting leaf and yard waste materials from residents living within the federally regulated area. In order to continue leaf and yard waste collection service to residents living in the regulated area, it is recommended that Council approve the Region’s request to continue this operation until December 31, 2013.

Attachments

1. Location Map
2. Letter from York Region (2 pages)

Report prepared by:

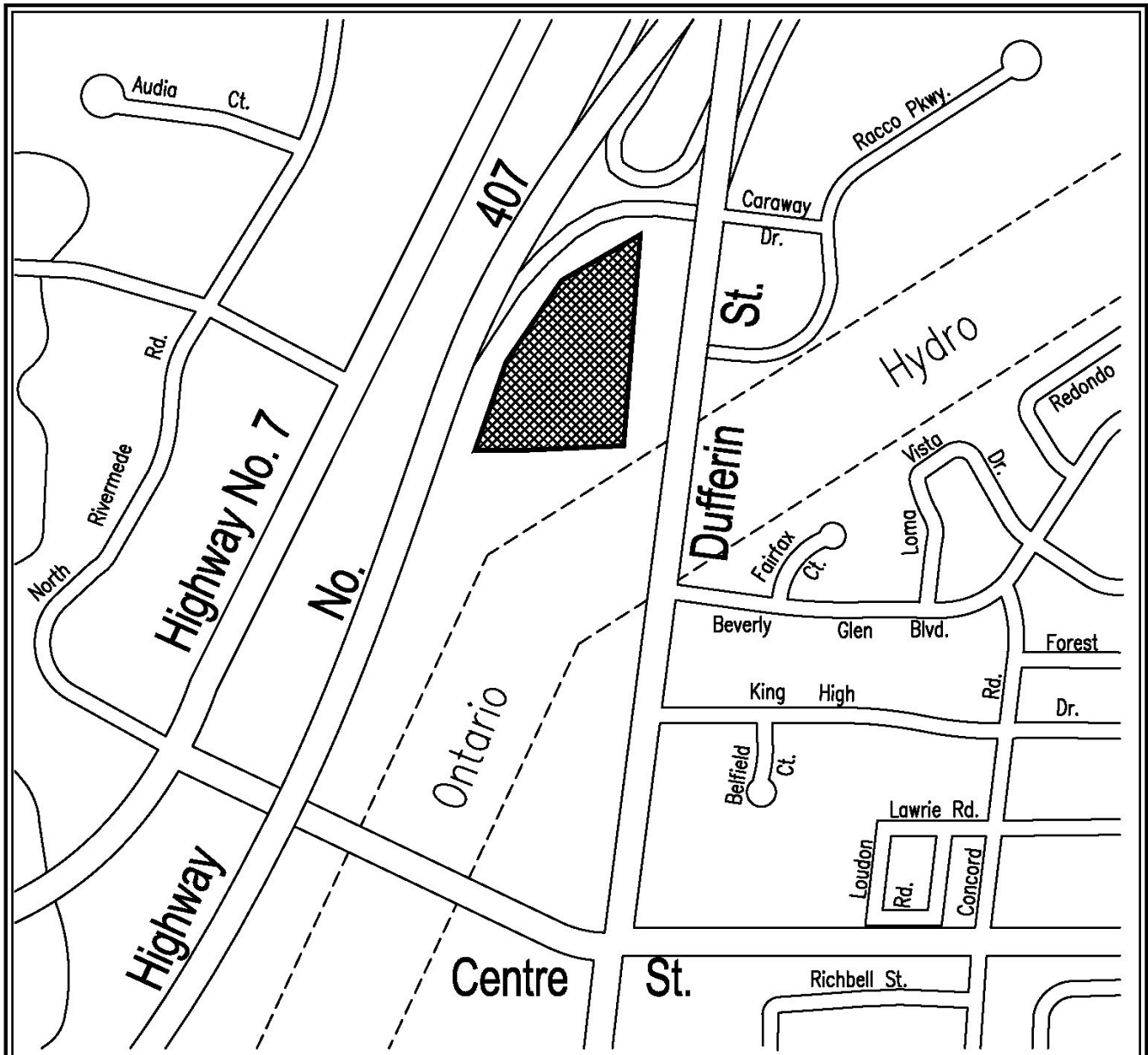
Brian T. Anthony
Ext. 6116

Respectfully submitted,

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

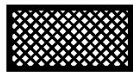
Brian T. Anthony, CRS-S, C. Tech
Director of Public Works

ATTACHMENT No. 1



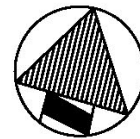
DUFFERIN STREET WORKS YARD

LEGEND



SUBJECT LANDS

LOCATION : Part of Lots 7 & 8,
Concession 3



NOT TO SCALE



Environmental Services

December 8, 2010

Brian Anthony
Director, Public Works
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, ON L6A

Dear Mr. Anthony:

Re: Extension to York Region's Responsibility to Process Wood, Leaves and Yard Waste from the Asian Long-Horned Beetle Regulated Area

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is responsible for determining the extent of the Asian Long-Horned Beetle regulated area and controlling the movement of Asian Long-Horned Beetle processed material. CFIA has communicated to York staff that the control of the current regulated area will continue until June 2013 barring additional beetle infestations during that time period.

For the past number of years, the Region has operated the site within the City of Vaughan to process wood, leaves and yard waste from the Asian Long-Horned Beetle Regulated Area at the City of Vaughan Dufferin Yard. Based on the program information provided by CFIA, the Region will be required to continue this program for duration of the 2011 – 2013 seasons, and is therefore asking for an extension to December 2013 to ensure the site has been cleaned and returned to the City of Vaughan in the same state as it was given.

We are in the process of preparing our request for amendment to the site Certificate of Approval from the Ministry of Environment to accommodate the program dates provided by CFIA. Submission of this request is dependent on the approval of the City of Vaughan, accordingly we request that this approval be considered by the City of Vaughan prior to December 31, 2010.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura McDowell".

Laura McDowell, P. Eng.
Director, Environmental Promotion and Protection

LM/hf

Attachment CFIA Program Extension Letter

Copy to: Bill Robinson, Commissioner Engineering & Public Works, City of Vaughan
Caroline Kirkpatrick, Manager, Solid Waste Management, City of Vaughan
Erin Mahoney, Commissioner, York Region Environmental Services
Ron Gordon, Manager, Solid Waste Operations and Optimization, York Region

#2956545

The Regional Municipality of York, 17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 6Z1
Tel: 905-895-1200, 1-877-464-9675, Fax: 905-830-6927
Internet: www.york.ca



Canadian Food Inspection Agency Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)
1124 Finch Avenue West
Unit #2
Downsview, Ontario
M3J 2E2

October 13, 2010

Mr. Robert Zander
Project Coordinator
Solid Waste and Administration Branch
Environmental Services Department
York Region
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, Ontario
L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Zander:

I am writing in response to your question regarding the area under Ministerial Order for the Asian Long-horned Beetle in the cities of Toronto and Vaughan, Ontario.

I understand that you require this information to amend the application for the Ministry of Environment Certificate of Approval for the waste disposal yard located at 8000 Dufferin Street, Vaughan, Ontario.

Currently, the CFIA anticipates the regulated area under Ministerial Order for the Asian Long-horned Beetle to be in effect until at least the end of June, 2013 unless the status changes. This date would need to be adjusted if we were to have additional detections of the Asian Long-horned Beetle in the future.

Yours truly,

Mary Orr
Lead Specialist - Asian Long-horned Beetle
Plant Health and Biosecurity Directorate - Ontario
Canadian Food Inspection Agency