

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE** **OCTOBER 7, 2002**

**UPDATE OF POPULATION SIGNS IN THE CITY OF VAUGHAN**

**Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends that this report, including the report entitled "Update of Population Figures on Road Signs In Area Municipalities" circulated by the Region of York Council to area municipalities for comment be received.

**Purpose**

To advise Council that the Region of York intends to update the figures on population signs in the City of Vaughan to 210,000.

**Background - Analysis and Options**

The City of Vaughan recently requested the Region of York to update the figures on population signs in the City of Vaughan (Attachment #1). Subsequently the Region has adapted a new policy respecting updating figures on road signs in area municipalities (Attachment #2). The new policy provides that the Region will report annually in February or March to area municipalities respecting updated population figures. Area municipalities will be given an opportunity to comment before the signs are updated in March or April. The Region intends to update the figures on population signs in the City of Vaughan to 210,000.

**Conclusion**

The Region has responded to Vaughan's request and the new policy provides for the timely update of figures on population signs with input from the City.

**Attachments**

1. Extract from Council Meeting – Item 2, Committee of the Whole Report No. 70
2. Extract from Region of York

**Report prepared by:**

J. D. Leach, City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

J.D. Leach  
City Clerk

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CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 12, 2001

Item 2, Report No. 70, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on November 12, 2001.

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UPDATE OF POPULATION SIGNS IN THE CITY OF VAUGHAN

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated November 5, 2001:

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

THAT the following resolution requesting the Region of York and the Province of Ontario to update the number on population signs in the City of Vaughan be endorsed:

WHEREAS the City of Vaughan is one of the fastest growing municipalities in Ontario, if not the fastest growing; and

WHEREAS the population signs on Regional Roads and Provincial Highways in the City of Vaughan are considerably out of date; and

WHEREAS the Region of York Planning Department has estimated Vaughan's population to be 202,836 as of September 30, 2001; and

WHEREAS Vaughan's population is currently, or will be in the very near future, 205,000; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Region of York has a policy whereby it will update the population numbers on area municipality signs once a year upon receipt of a resolution from an area municipality stating the population to be used;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Region of York be requested to post the number of 205,000 on population signs on Regional Roads in the City of Vaughan; and

THAT the Minister of Transportation be requested to post the same number on population signs on Provincial Highways in the City of Vaughan.

Purpose

To update the number on population signs on roads in the City of Vaughan.

Background - Analysis and Options

It has been some time since the number on population signs on highways in the City of Vaughan has been updated. The Region has a policy whereby it will update the number on signs on Regional Roads upon receipt of a resolution from an area municipality advising of the number to be used. The Region's Planning Department has supplied data estimating Vaughan's population to be 202,836 as of September 30, 2001.

It would be appropriate to request the Region and the Province to update the number on population signs in the City of Vaughan.

Conclusion

As the population signs in Vaughan are out of date and the City has grown at a significant rate in recent years, it would be appropriate to have more current numbers on population signs in Vaughan. Consequently the above-noted resolution is being presented for consideration. .../2

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 12, 2001

Item 2, CW Report No. 70 – Page 2

**Attachments**

None

**Report prepared by:**

John D. Leach, City Clerk



Clause No. 21 embodied in Report No. 6 of the Planning and Development Committee was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting on June 27, 2002.

**21**  
**UPDATE OF POPULATION FIGURES ON ROAD SIGNS IN AREA MUNICIPALITIES**

The Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends the following:

1. The presentation by Allister McIveen, Manager, Traffic Systems, Transportation and Works Department, be received.
2. Recommendation 1 contained in the following report, be deleted and replaced with the following:
  1. Road signs at the entrance to all area municipalities display the area municipal current population figure and regional gateway signs display the Region's current population figure, as outlined in Table 1 of this report.
3. Recommendations 2, 3 and 4 contained in the following report, May 30, 2002, from the Commissioner of Planning and Development Services and the Commissioner of Transportation and Works be adopted:

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that:

1. Road signs at the entrance to all area municipalities display the area municipal and regional population figures as outlined in Table 1 of this report.
2. Staff of the Planning and Development Services Department produce and circulate an annual report to area municipalities in the spring indicating up-to-date population figures to be used in the updating of population signs.
3. The Region of York revise 1993 road sign policy as per *Attachment 1*.
4. This report be circulated by Planning and Development Services to area municipalities.

**2. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the intent to revise policy for updating population figures on road signs at the entrances to the area municipalities.

### 3. BACKGROUND

On July 8, 1993 Regional Council adopted Clause No. 1 of Report No. 14 of the Regional Transportation and Environmental Services Committee which recommended that York Region be responsible for the installation and maintenance of area municipal signs on regional roads. This policy states that York Region will update the population numbers on area municipal signs once a year (in March or April) upon receipt of a resolution from an area municipality stating the population to be used. (See Attachment 2). It has been some time since the population figures on regional road signs have been updated.

There are in the order of 144 local municipal population signs throughout the Region that require updated population numbers, 37 of these signs are located at the entrance to the Region, the other 107 are located within the area municipalities. A map indicating the location of the population road signs through the Region will be presented at the Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting on June 12, 2002. It is recommended that the road signs display both the regional and area municipal populations. The sign designs will also be presented at the June 12 Committee meeting.

On November 12, 2001 (Item 2, Report No. 70) the Council of the City of Vaughan resolved that the Region of York be requested to post the number of 205,000 on population signs on regional roads in the City of Vaughan (See Attachment 3). The Transportation and Works Committee referred this matter to the Planning and Development Services Committee for a report.

#### 3.1 Rapid Population Growth

York Region is one of the fastest growing municipalities in all of Canada. In 2000 and 2001 the Region grew at an average annual rate of 5.4%, approximately 40,000 people per year. York Region's Planning and Development Services Department monitors population growth in area municipalities on a monthly basis. It has been some time since the population signs have been updated to reflect the Region's rapid growth.

### 4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

#### 4.1 Updates to Population Figures

In the past, York Region Staff required a resolution from area municipalities before updates were made to the population figures on road signs. As a result, the population figures in some municipalities are more current than in others. Therefore, it is proposed that the 1993 policy outlining the process for updating population signs in area municipalities be replaced with a more streamlined policy to help ensure that population figures are updated on a regular basis (See Attachment 1).

In keeping with this revised policy, Regional staff will produce an annual report with up-to-date population figures that will be used on road signs. This information will be forwarded to all 9 area municipalities providing them with the opportunity to comment before Regional staff change the population figures on road signs.

#### 4.2 Methodology for Calculating Population Estimates

York Region's Planning and Development Services Department monitors population growth for each of the nine area municipalities. The Region's population figures for each area municipality are estimates only and are calculated using Census data as a base and applying CMHC housing completion data to the Census base to provide updates. As of April 1, 2002 the Region's population was estimated to be approximately 805,000.

#### 4.3 Proposed Population Figures

Based on the Region's April 2002 population estimates, the following figures are proposed for each municipality's signs (*See Table 1*).

**Table 1**  
Area Municipal Population Estimates as of April 2002

Area Municipality	Population
Town of Aurora	43,000
East Gwillimbury	22,000
Georgina	42,000
King	19,500
Markham	230,000
Newmarket	70,000
Richmond Hill	145,000
Vaughan	210,000
Whitchurch-Stouffville	23,500
York Region	805,000

#### 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The normal cost of updating population signs on regional roads is provided for in the approved Transportation and Works budget. However, the cost of producing new Regional population signs will be in the order of \$20,000. Although sign changes were not budgeted for, the cost can be accommodated in the approved 2002 budget.

#### 6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

This report will be circulated to the area municipalities for their information on the revisions to the existing policy for updating population figures on road signs. They will also be given the opportunity to comment on the recommended population figures prior to Regional staff changing the road signs (*See Table 1*).

Clause No. 21  
Report No. 6  
Planning and Development Committee

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**7. CONCLUSION**

It is proposed that a streamlined policy be put in place to update population figures on road signs in the Region in order to ensure that population figures are updated annually.

This report has been reviewed by the Senior Management Group.

*(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing is attached to this report and is also on file in the Office of the Regional Clerk. A copy of the slide presentation is also on file in the Office of the Regional Clerk.)*

## POPULATION SIGNS POLICY 2002

The following policies apply to population signs at the entrances to area municipalities and the Region.

1. the Region of York will be responsible for the installation and maintenance of area municipal signs on Regional roads at the area municipal boundaries consisting of a York Region sign and a standard G-6 municipality sign that identifies the area municipality, its population and the Region's population per the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices of Ontario;
2. the Region of York will produce and circulate an annual report to area municipalities in February or March indicating up-to-date population figures to be used in the updating of population signs. Area municipalities will have an opportunity to comment on the figures before Regional staff update the population signs in March or April;
3. the Region of York will supply, install and maintain standard tab signs below each area municipal sign located on Regional roads at the request of the area municipality;
4. the legend on the tab sign shall be limited to one or two lines with white lettering on a blue background with the legend on the sign to be approved by a Council resolution of the area municipality;
5. if the area municipality requests a non-standard tab sign, the sign shall conform in general with the requirements of clauses 3 and 4 and the area municipality shall supply and maintain the sign; and
6. the Commissioner of Transportation and Works will be authorized to approve the design and legend of the tab signs requested by the area municipalities.



Clause No. 1 embodied in Report No. 14 of the Transportation and Environmental Services Committee was adopted, as amended, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting on July 8, 1993.

## 1

**POLICY - POPULATION SIGNS  
AREA MUNICIPALITIES**

The Transportation and Environmental Services Committee recommends the adoption of the following report, June 16, 1993, from the Commissioner of Transportation:

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that:

1. the Region of York adopt the following policy regarding population signs for area municipalities:
  - a) the Region of York will be responsible for the installation and maintenance of area municipal signs on Regional roads at the area municipal boundaries consisting of a 0.30 metre high by 1.8 metre long York Region sign and a standard G-6 municipality sign that identifies the area municipality and its population per the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Ontario;
  - b) the Region of York will change the population figures on the area municipal signs, once each year in March or April, upon the receipt of a resolution from each area municipality stating the population to be used, except those years when the Ministry of Treasury & Economics issues its official population estimates, when the Ministry's figures will be used;
  - c) the Region of York will supply, install and maintain one standard tab sign below each area municipal sign located on Regional roads at the request of the area municipality;
  - d) the legend on the tab sign shall be limited to one or two lines with white lettering on a blue background with the legend on the sign to be approved by a Council resolution of the area municipality;
  - e) a one line tab sign shall be 0.30 metres high and 1.8 metres long and a two line tab sign shall be 0.60 metres high and 1.8 metres long;
  - f) if the area municipality requests a non-standard tab sign, the sign shall conform in general with the requirements of c), d) and e), above and the area municipality shall supply and maintain the sign;

2. the following population figures be used on each municipality's signs for 1993:

Area Municipality	Population
Town of Aurora	30,000
Town of East Gwillimbury	18,500
Town of Georgina	30,000
Township of King	18,500
Town of Markham	161,000
Town of Newmarket	46,000
Town of Richmond Hill	86,000
City of Vaughan	112,000
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville	18,500

3. the Commissioner of Transportation be authorized to approve the design and legend of the tab signs requested by the area municipalities; and
4. a copy of this report be forwarded to each of the area municipalities by the Regional Clerk.

#### Background

On August 27, 1992, Clause 4 of Report No. 14 of the Transportation and Environmental Services Committee was deferred by Regional Council and referred to each area municipality for comment prior to further consideration by the Committee. The Clause recommended a policy regarding population signs for area municipalities (see attachment). The comments from the various municipalities have now been received:

#### Town of Aurora

On September 30, 1992, the Town of Aurora Council adopted the following resolution:

That Council endorse the policy as recommended in the attached report to the Transportation and Environmental Services Committee as amended by the minor comments of staff;

That upon municipal authorization from MTO to alter population signs on provincial highways, the Region will implement the requirements;

That the Clerk be authorized to provide notification of same to the Regional Commissioner of Transportation; and

That the MTO be requested to permit the Town to add an informational tab to indicate that the Town is "Twinned with Leksund Sweden" on the population signs."

The tab signs requested by the Town have been installed on Aurora Road.

#### Town of East Gwillimbury

On March 1, 1993, the Council of the Town of East Gwillimbury adopted a report from the Town Engineer that recommended, in part:

- "1. That the Town of East Gwillimbury support the Region of York's proposed policy for Population Signs on Regional Roads, as reported in Clause 4 of Report No. 14 of the Regional Transportation and Environmental Services Committee.
2. That the Region proceed to install population signs for the Town of East Gwillimbury at the intersections of Regional roads with Town border crossings at their expense, and reflect the Official 1992 Population Figures from the Ministry of Treasury and Economics at 18,500."

#### Town of Georgina

On September 24, 1992, the Council of the Town of Georgina passed the following resolution:

"That the Region of York be requested not to remove any community signs in the Town of Georgina and,

That the Region of York be further requested to include the words "Twinned with Redford, Michigan" as a tab sign below the area municipal sign for Georgina at the Town's cost."

#### Township of King

Clause 4 of Report No. 14 of the Transportation and Environmental Services Committee was considered at the Township's Public Works Committee on September 14, 1992. The Council of the Township of King accepted the recommendations of the report.

The Council also expressed concern that the part of the policy calling for the removal of non-conforming area municipal signs would be applied to the special historical signs which have been installed to denote the founding of various communities within the Township.

Town of Markham

On May 11, 1993, the Council of the Town of Markham adopted Item number 13 of the Ninth Planning and Development Committee Report that stated:

"That the Planning and Development Department staff report dated May 4th, 1993, entitled 'Senior Government Requests for a Revised Town population Figure for Highway Signs' be received;

And that a population for the Town of Markham of 161,000 as at January 1st, 1993 be approved for use on highway signs;

And that the Ministry of Transportation for Ontario and the Region of York be so advised."

The requested population figure is about 7,000 people higher than the 1992 population figure of 154,000 stated in the previous Regional report.

Also on May 11, 1993, the Council of the Town of Markham adopted Item Number 7 of the Fourth Works Committee that stated:

"That the report dated April 7th, 1993 from the Director of Roads advising of the referral to area municipalities for review and comment of Clause 4 of Report No. 14 of the Transportation and Environmental Services Committee by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held August 27th, 1992 recommending the adoption by the Region of York of a policy accepting responsibility for the installation and maintenance of area municipal population and tab signs located on Regional roads, be received;

And that the Council of the Town of Markham approve the proposal of the Transportation and Environmental Services Committee of The Regional Municipality of York to adopt a policy whereby the Region will be responsible for the installation and maintenance of Town of Markham population and tab signs located on Regional roads;

And that Council of the Town of Markham consider the installation of thirteen additional tab signs in 1994 to be placed below the population signs bearing the slogan 'Leading While Remembering' as depicted in Schedule 'A' attached hereto;

And that the cost of the tab signs referred to herein in an amount not to exceed \$1,300.00 be considered in the 1994 capital budget process;

And that The Regional Municipality of York be requested to install the Town of Markham tab signs bearing the aforementioned slogan on the population signs in accordance with the Regional design standards;

And further that The Regional Municipality of York be responsible for the care and maintenance of said tab signs."

## Town of Newmarket

A letter, dated September 28, 1992, has been received from the Town of Newmarket advising that "Newmarket Council has no objections to the proposed policy concerning Municipal Population Signs on Regional Roads".

## Town of Richmond Hill

On February 8, 1993 the Council of the Town of Richmond Hill adopted a motion that read:

"That Council confirm the official population of the Town of Richmond Hill to be 86,000 and direct staff to notify the necessary agencies to have the population signs changed at the various entrances to the Town."

The requested population figure is about 5,000 people higher than the 1992 population figure of 81,000 stated in the previous Regional report.

## City of Vaughan

On February 1, 1993, the Council of the City of Vaughan adopted Item 22, Report No. 2 of the Committee of the Whole, which recommended:

- "1) Approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Director of Engineering;
- 2) That Staff be requested to look into the possibility of adding a tab sign containing the City's slogan; and
- 3) That this item be circulated to the Vaughan Chamber of Commerce for their notification."

The Director of Engineering's report recommended:

- "1) That the Region of York be advised of the City of Vaughan's comments on the Region of York's proposed policy regarding population signs for area municipalities.
- 2) That the Region of York consider incorporating the City of Vaughan corporate logo in the population signs proposed by the Region.
- 3) That the Region of York consider approval of other City identity signs within Regional Road allowances at locations to be approved by the Region.

4) That the following resolution be enacted:

Whereas the City of Vaughan wishes to have the Region of York annually update the population figure displayed on the City identity signs on Regional Road allowances at the municipal boundary, and;

Whereas the City of Vaughan proposes to produce annual updates of its estimated population utilizing data provided from the Ministry of Revenue year end reports.

Now therefore be it resolved that City of Vaughan staff having developed a methodology for the calculation of annual population estimates are directed to provide the population estimates annually to the Region of York for use in changing the population shown on the Region's signs."

Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

On November 24, 1992, the Council of Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville received a report from Town staff that basically endorsed the draft sign policy outlined in Clause 4 of Report No. 14 of the Transportation and Environmental Services Committee.

Discussion

All of the area municipalities have indicated either support and endorsement of or no objection to the proposed policy regarding population signs.

Certain municipalities, i.e. Aurora, Georgina, and Markham, have indicated that they would like specific tab signs installed as well, as follows:

Area Municipality	Tab Sign Legend
Town of Aurora	Twinned with Leksund, Sweden
Town of Georgina	Twinned with Redford, Michigan
Town of Markham	Leading While Remembering

The City of Vaughan is investigating the possibility of adding a tab sign containing the City's slogan. The design of such signs has yet not been submitted for approval.

The populations to be shown for 1993 on each of the signs are:

Area Municipality	Population
Town of Aurora	30,000
Town of East Gwillimbury	18,500
Town of Georgina	30,000
Township of King	18,500
Town of Markham	161,000
Town of Newmarket	48,000
Town of Richmond Hill	86,000
City of Vaughan	112,000
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville	18,500

It should be noted that it was not the intention of the proposed policy to remove any of the hamlet or community identification signs. These signs are installed at the entrance to specified communities in each area municipality and are not considered to be area municipal signs, which are installed on the borders of the area municipalities.

(A copy of the attachment referred to in the foregoing has been forwarded to each Member of Council in the June 29, 1993 Transportation and Environmental Services Committee agenda, and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the Regional Clerk.)

(Regional Council at its meeting on July 8, 1993 amended the foregoing clause with Recommendation No. 2 revised to indicate a Town of Newmarket population of 48,000.)

Clause No. 4 embodied in Report No. 14 of the Transportation and Environmental Services Committee, which Council on August 27, 1992, deferred and referred to the Regional Clerk for circulation to each Area Municipality for comment prior to further consideration by the Transportation and Environmental Services Committee.

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**POPULATION SIGNS  
AREA MUNICIPALITIES**

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The Transportation and Environmental Services Committee recommends the adoption of the following report, July 30, 1992, from the Commissioner of Transportation:

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that:

1. the Region of York adopt the following policy regarding population signs for area municipalities:
  - a) the Region of York will be responsible for the installation and maintenance of area municipal signs on Regional roads at the area municipal boundaries consisting of a 0.30 metre high by 1.8 metre long York Region sign and a standard G-6 municipality sign that identifies the area municipality and its population per the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Ontario;
  - b) the Region of York will change the population figures on the area municipal signs once each year in March or April, upon the receipt of a resolution from each area municipality stating the population to be used, except those years when the Ministry of Treasury & Economics issues its official population estimates, when the Ministry's figures will be used;
  - c) the Region of York will supply, install and maintain a standard tab sign below the area municipal sign at the request of the area municipality, at the area municipality's cost;
  - d) the legend on the tab sign shall be limited to one or two lines with white lettering on a blue background, with the wording on the sign to be approved by the Commissioner of Transportation or his designate;
  - e) a one line tab sign shall be 0.30 metres high and 1.8 metres long and a two line tab sign shall be 0.60 metres high and 1.8 metres long;
2. all non-standard area municipal designation signs that do not conform to the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Ontario be removed from Regional roads; and
3. a copy of this report be forwarded to each of the area municipalities by the Regional Clerk.

**Background**

The Region has received a resolution from the Town of Richmond Hill requesting that the Region update the official population signs on Regional road allowances to reflect the current population of 81,000. At the same time, it was requested that population signs be installed at certain locations.



Population Signs 6

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The typical population sign installation consists of a 0.3 metre x 1.8 metre YORK REGION sign located over a 0.9 metre x 1.8 metre Area Municipality Sign (see attachment 1). At three locations, there is a third sign below the other two. Two of these are on Aurora Road and read "TWINNED WITH LEKSUND SWEDEN". The third is on Stouffville Road east of Highway No. 404 and reads "TWINNED WITH CARPENTRAS FRANCE".

The Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Ontario states that the population figures should be changed only once per year, usually in March or April. It also states that the population figure to be used should be the one supplied by the Ministry of Revenue. The official Ministry of Treasury & Economics 1992 population figures for each area municipality in the Region and the corresponding numbers to be used on the population signs are:

Area Municipality	Population	
	Actual	To Be Signed
Town of Aurora	29,454	30,000
Town of East Gwillimbury	18,367	18,500
Town of Georgina	29,896	30,000
Township of King	18,121	18,500
Town of Markham	153,811	154,000
Town of Newmarket	45,474	46,000
Town of Richmond Hill	80,142	81,000
City of Vaughan	111,359	112,000
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville	18,357	18,500

Since the Ministry of Treasury & Economics' population figures are released every third year, it would be necessary for the area municipalities to provide their population estimates for the intervening years via a council resolution, if they wanted to have the numbers up-dated more frequently. The area municipalities should be aware that if the Ministry of Treasury & Economics figures are lower than the last estimate, the Ministry numbers will be used.

Under the current Regional practice regarding population signs, the Region is responsible for installing signs identifying the Region and the area municipality wherever a Regional road crosses an area municipal boundary. The area municipality is responsible for changing the population numbers on the signs for its municipality.

The area municipality is also responsible for installing and maintaining any additional tab signs, once they have been approved by the Transportation Department. Such signs should be limited to a single line only, with white lettering on a blue background.

It is felt that the Region should be responsible for the installation and maintenance of all guide signs on the Regional roads rights-of-way, since the signs are installed to assist the public travelling on the Regional road system. Therefore, it is proposed that the Region adopt the policy that the Region shall be responsible for the installation and maintenance of municipal identification and population signs on Regional road allowances and that the population figures should be changed once each year, as per the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices of Ontario.

The York Region and Area Municipality signs that are currently used cost approximately \$400.00 each to install. The tab sign would cost an additional \$100.00 to install.

Existing Signs

The request from the Town of Richmond Hill identified a number of locations where additional signs should be installed. An inventory of municipal identification signs at the locations where Regional roads crossed area municipal boundaries was undertaken. There were 30 locations of the 97 locations inventoried where there were no signs. There were also a number of other signs which were not in good condition. The installation of the additional signs, the replacement of signs in poor condition and the up-dating of the populations on the remaining signs is underway.

The City of Vaughan has installed a number of its own identification signs along its boundary. These are multi-coloured signs (white, red, blue and black) which do not conform to any sign in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices of Ontario. Therefore, it is proposed to remove these signs. If the City wishes to install one-line tab signs on the Regional identification signs, the tab sign design should be submitted to the Transportation Department for approval.

(A copy of the attachment referred to in the foregoing has been forwarded to each Member of Council in the Transportation and Environmental Services Committee agenda of August 18, 1992, and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the Regional Clerk.)

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Attachment 3  
Council Report Attachment

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Clerk's Department  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Vaughan, Ontario  
Canada L6A 1T1

Tel (905) 832-8504  
Fax (905) 832-8535



**FOR INQUIRIES: PLEASE QUOTE ITEM & REPORT NO.**

November 16, 2001

Mr. Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk  
The Regional Municipality of York  
17250 Yonge Street, Box 147  
Newmarket, ON  
L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Kelly:

**RE: UPDATE OF POPULATION SIGNS IN THE CITY OF VAUGHAN**

Attached for your information is **Item 2, Report No. 70** of the Committee of the Whole regarding the above-noted matter which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan at its meeting of November 12, 2001.

In dealing with this item, Council resolved as follows:

*WHEREAS the City of Vaughan is one of the fastest growing municipalities in Ontario, if not the fastest growing; and*

*WHEREAS the population signs on Regional Roads and Provincial Highways in the City of Vaughan are considerably out of date; and*

*WHEREAS the Region of York Planning Department has estimated Vaughan's population to be 202,836 as of September 30, 2001; and*

*WHEREAS Vaughan's population is currently, or will be in the very near future, 205,000; and*

*WHEREAS the Council of the Region of York has a policy whereby it will update the population numbers on area municipality signs once a year upon receipt of a resolution from an area municipality stating the population to be used;*

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Region of York be requested to post the number of 205,000 on population signs on Regional Roads in the City of Vaughan; and**

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*THAT the Minister of Transportation be requested to post the same number on population signs on Provincial Highways in the City of Vaughan.*

In accordance with the Region's policy respecting the change of population figures on our Municipal signs, a copy of which is enclosed for ease of reference, it would be appreciated if you would forward this request to the appropriate staff for action. In the event that the Region's policy in this regard has changed, please advise accordingly.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely

  
J. C. Beach  
City Clerk

Attachment:  
Extract

JDL/pa

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Attachment 4  
Council Report Attachment

Clause No. 9 embodied in Report No. 5 of the Planning and Economic Development Committee was adopted, as amended, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting on May 16, 2002.

**9****UPDATE OF POPULATION FIGURES ON ROAD SIGNS IN AREA MUNICIPALITIES**

The Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, April 23, 2002, from the Commissioner of Planning and Development Services and the Commissioner of Transportation and Works:

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that:

1. Road signs at the entrance to all area municipalities display the area municipal and regional population figures as outlined in Table 1 of this report.
2. Staff of the Planning and Development Services Department produce and circulate an annual report to area municipalities indicating up-to-date population figures to be used in the updating of population signs.
3. The Region of York revise 1993 road sign policy as per Attachment 1.
4. This report be circulated by Planning and Development Services to area municipalities.

**2. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the intent to revise policy for updating population figures on road signs at the entrances to the area municipalities.

**3. BACKGROUND**

On July 8, 1993 Regional Council adopted Clause No. 1 of Report No. 14 of the Regional Transportation and Environmental Services Committee which recommended that York Region be responsible for the installation and maintenance of area municipal signs on regional roads. This policy states that York Region will update the population numbers on area municipal signs once a year (in March or April) upon receipt of a resolution from an area municipality stating the population to be used. (See Attachment 2). It has been some time since the population figures on regional road signs have been updated.

There are in the order of 125 local municipal population signs throughout the Region that require updated population numbers. It is recommended that these signs display both the regional and area municipal populations.

On November 12, 2001 (Item 2, Report No. 70) the Council of the City of Vaughan resolved that the Region of York be requested to post the number of 205,000 on population signs on regional roads in the City of Vaughan (See *Attachment 3*). The Transportation and Works Committee referred this matter to the Planning and Development Services Committee for a report.

### 3.1 Rapid Population Growth

York Region is one of the fastest growing municipalities in all of Canada. In 2000 and 2001 the Region grew at an average annual rate of 5.4%, approximately 40,000 people per year. York Region's Planning and Development Services Department monitors population growth in area municipalities on a monthly basis. It has been some time since the population signs have been updated to reflect the Region's rapid growth.

## 4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

### 4.1 Updates to Population Figures

In the past, York Region Staff required a resolution from area municipalities before updates were made to the population figures on road signs. As a result, the population figures in some municipalities are more current than in others. Therefore, it is proposed that the 1993 policy outlining the process for updating population signs in area municipalities be replaced with a more streamlined policy to help ensure that population figures are updated on a regular basis (See *Attachment 1*).

In keeping with this revised policy, Regional staff will produce an annual report with up-to-date population figures that will be used on road signs. This information will be forwarded to all 9 area municipalities providing them with the opportunity to comment before Regional staff change the population figures on road signs.

### 4.2 Methodology for Calculating Population Estimates

York Region's Planning and Development Services Department monitors population growth for each of the nine area municipalities. The Region's population figures for each area municipality are estimates only and are calculated using Census data as a base and applying CMHC housing completion data to the Census base to provide updates. As of April 1, 2002 the Region's population was estimated to be approximately 805,000.

#### 4.3 Proposed Population Figures

Based on the Region's April 2002 population estimates, the following figures are proposed for each municipality's signs (*See Table 1*).

**Table 1**  
 Area Municipal Population Estimates as of April 2002

Area Municipality	Population
Town of Aurora	43,000
East Gwillimbury	22,000
Georgina	42,000
King	19,500
Markham	230,000
Newmarket	70,000
Richmond Hill	145,000
Vaughan	210,000
Whitchurch Stouffville	23,500
York Region	805,000

#### 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The normal cost of updating population signs on regional roads is provided for in the approved Transportation and Works budget. However, the cost of producing new Regional population signs will be in the order of \$20,000. Although sign changes were not budgeted for, the cost can be accommodated in the approved 2002 budget.

#### 6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

This report will be circulated to the area municipalities for their information on the revisions to the existing policy for updating population figures on road signs. They will also be given the opportunity to comment on the recommended population figures prior to Regional staff changing the road signs (*See Table 1*).

#### 7. CONCLUSION

It is proposed that a streamlined policy be put in place to update population figures on road signs in the Region in order to ensure that population figures are updated annually.

This report has been reviewed by the Senior Management Group.

*(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing is included with this report and is also on file in the Office of the Regional Clerk.)*

Clause No. 9  
Report No. 5  
Planning and Economic Development Committee

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*(Regional Council at its meeting on May 16, 2002, referred the foregoing Clause back for consideration at the June 12, 2002 Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting.)*