

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (WORKING SESSION) FEBRUARY 10, 2004

**YORK RAPID TRANSIT PLAN
PROGRESS REPORT FROM YRTP STAFF**

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Planning recommends that the presentation by staff from the York Rapid Transit Plan (YRTP) BE RECEIVED.

Purpose

The purpose of the presentation is to provide Council with an update on the implementation of the York Rapid Transit Plan.

Background - Analysis and Options

Context

York Region Planning Initiatives:

Staff from the Region of York Planning Department made a presentation to the January 13, 2004 Committee of the Whole Working Session on a number of current planning policy initiatives which are designed to manage and direct growth to the centres and corridors that have been targeted in the Regional Official Plan.

Attachment 1 conceptually identifies Vaughan's Regional Centre (Vaughan Corporate Centre) and Regional corridors (Highway 7 and Yonge Street) as identified in the Regional Official Plan.

York Rapid Transit Plan:

York Region's land use response to urban centres and corridors is also being supported by significant transportation initiatives. The presentation this morning will provide an overview of the current status of higher order transit improvements that are also being undertaken.

Attachment 2 conceptually identifies the potential for higher order transit routes in Vaughan.

City of Vaughan - Land Use Policy Structure:

In addition to Vaughan's Regional Centre – the Vaughan Corporate Centre, the City has a sub-structure of 5 urban residential communities: Thornhill, Woodbridge, Vellore, Maple, and Carrville. Kleinburg, because of its limited servicing capacity and scale of development, is considered to be a "local" as opposed to "urban" centre. Each of the 5 urban communities has an urban centre that provides the surrounding community a focus of activity and sense of identity. This structure provides support for a local road and transportation/transit system, and over time, encourages a reduction in travel trip lengths to local community services, and employment areas. The Carrville District Centre Plan is currently being developed to further support the City's network of local centres. Vaughan also has two other sub-regional centres that are not directly related to the City's residential communities: Vaughan Centre, and the Highway 7/427 Centre.

City of Vaughan - Response to Regional Land Use Policy and Transit initiatives:

The Vaughan Planning Department is currently undertaking the following land use studies that will respond to these Regional planning and transportation initiatives:

- The Highway 7 Policy Review, including:
 - the Highway 7 Land Use Futures Study; and
 - the Jane/7 Employment Area Redevelopment Study
- The Steeles Avenue Corridor Land Use Review
- Centre Street Land Use Study
- Yonge Streetscape Study

Attachment 3 conceptually identifies the City of Vaughan study areas.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

Section 3 of Vaughan Vision establishes strategic priorities regarding Transportation and Transit Infrastructure. These include:

3.1 Support the TTC subway extension projects (Spadina and Yonge) with the Spadina line as the top priority.

3.1.1 Support the City of Toronto and the Region of York in the extension of the subway(s) to Vaughan.

3.2 Implement solutions to traffic gridlock.

3.2.1 Support the Region of York and other agencies to ensure higher order transit.

3.2.2 Encourage land use designations and urban form to support transit usage.

The Regional transportation initiatives and the Regional and City planning initiatives identified above are directly linked to these strategic priorities.

As well, Section 4 of Vaughan Vision establishes strategic priorities regarding Planning and Managing Growth. These include:

4.1. Promote and encourage investment in the Vaughan Corporate Centre

4.4.3. Explore opportunities to encourage and promote Brownfield re-development.

The policies being developed through the Highway 7 Policy Review are designed to directly support these strategic priorities. This report therefore, is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

It is expected that over the coming months Vaughan and York Region staff will continue to work together on these land use and transportation initiatives. City of Vaughan Staff will be bringing forward reports and draft Official Plan Amendments to future Working Sessions of Council.

Attachments

1. Regional Centres and Corridors in Vaughan
2. Regional High Order Transit Corridors
3. Current Land Use Studies in Vaughan

Report prepared by:

Rob Gibson, Senior Planner - Policy, ext. 8409
Paul Robinson, Senior Planner - Policy, ext. 8410

Respectfully submitted,

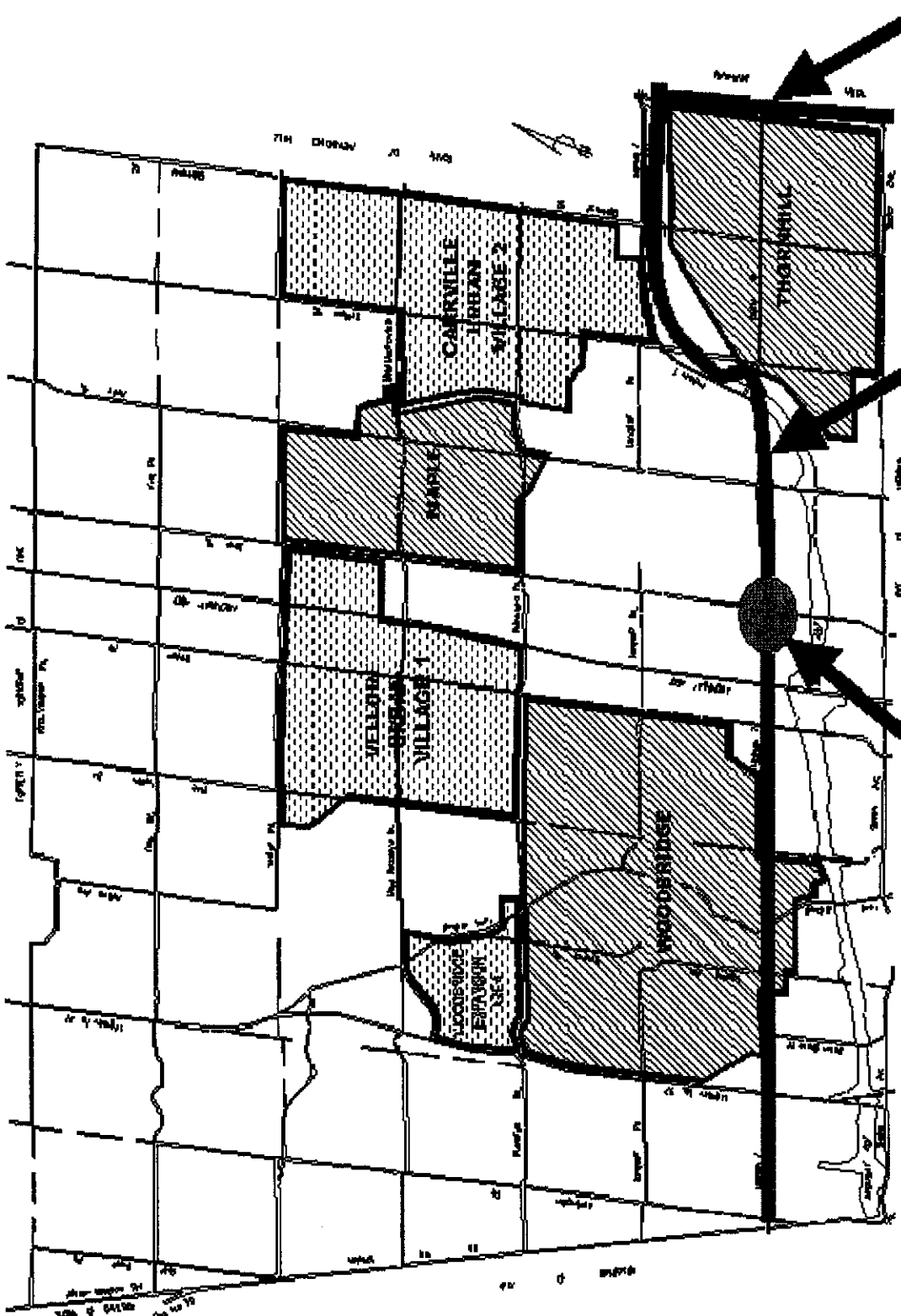
MICHAEL DeANGELIS
Commissioner of Planning

ROY McQUILLIN
Manager of Corporate Policy

WAYNE McEACHERN
Manager of Policy

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Regional Corridors

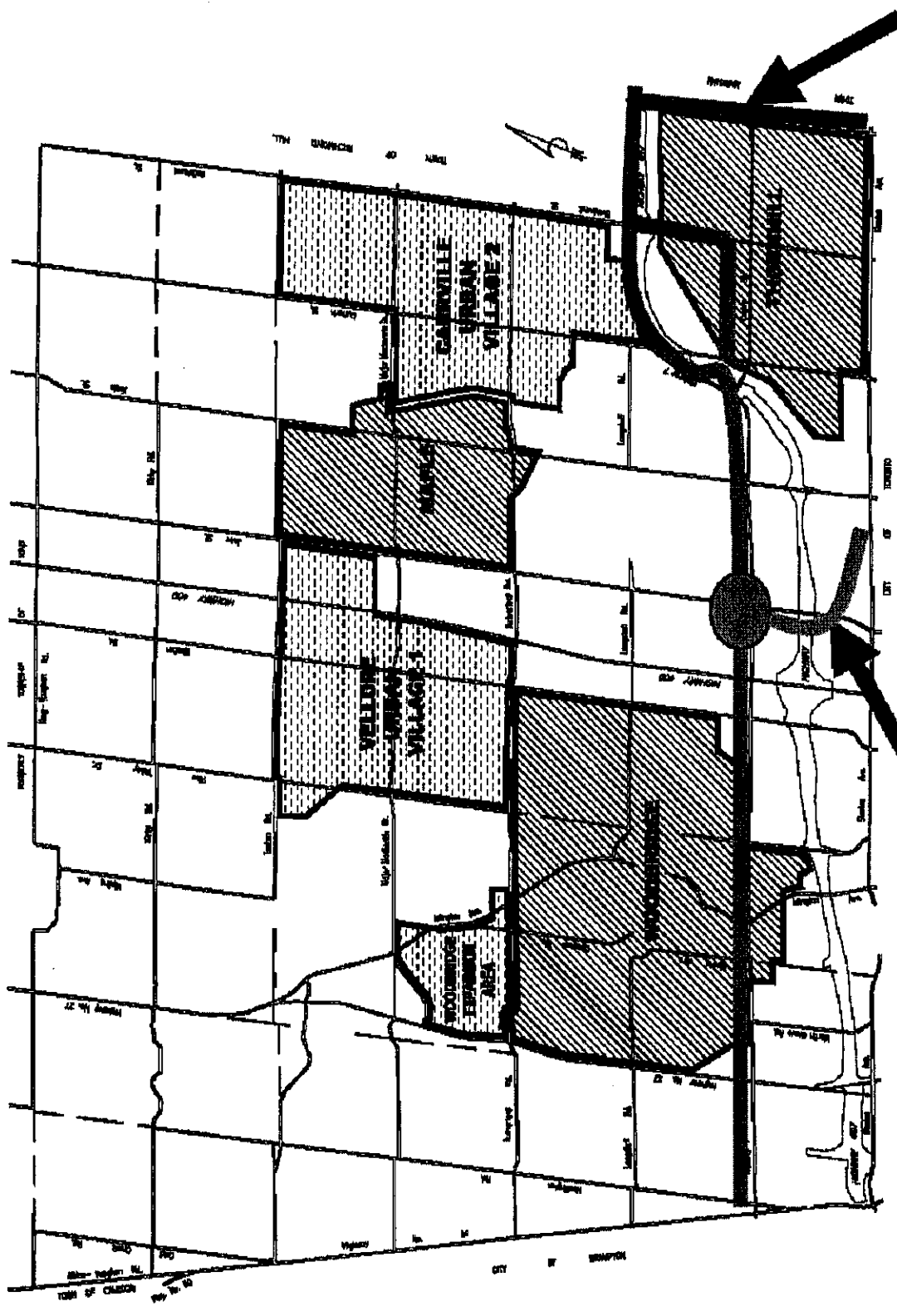
Regional Centre / VCC

Attachment
 Not to Scale
 January 29, 2004

City of **Vaughan**

Community Planning Department

**Regional Centres
 And Corridors**



Highway 7 - Vaughan N-S Link
BRT / SUBWAY EA

Yonge Street
BRT / LRT EA

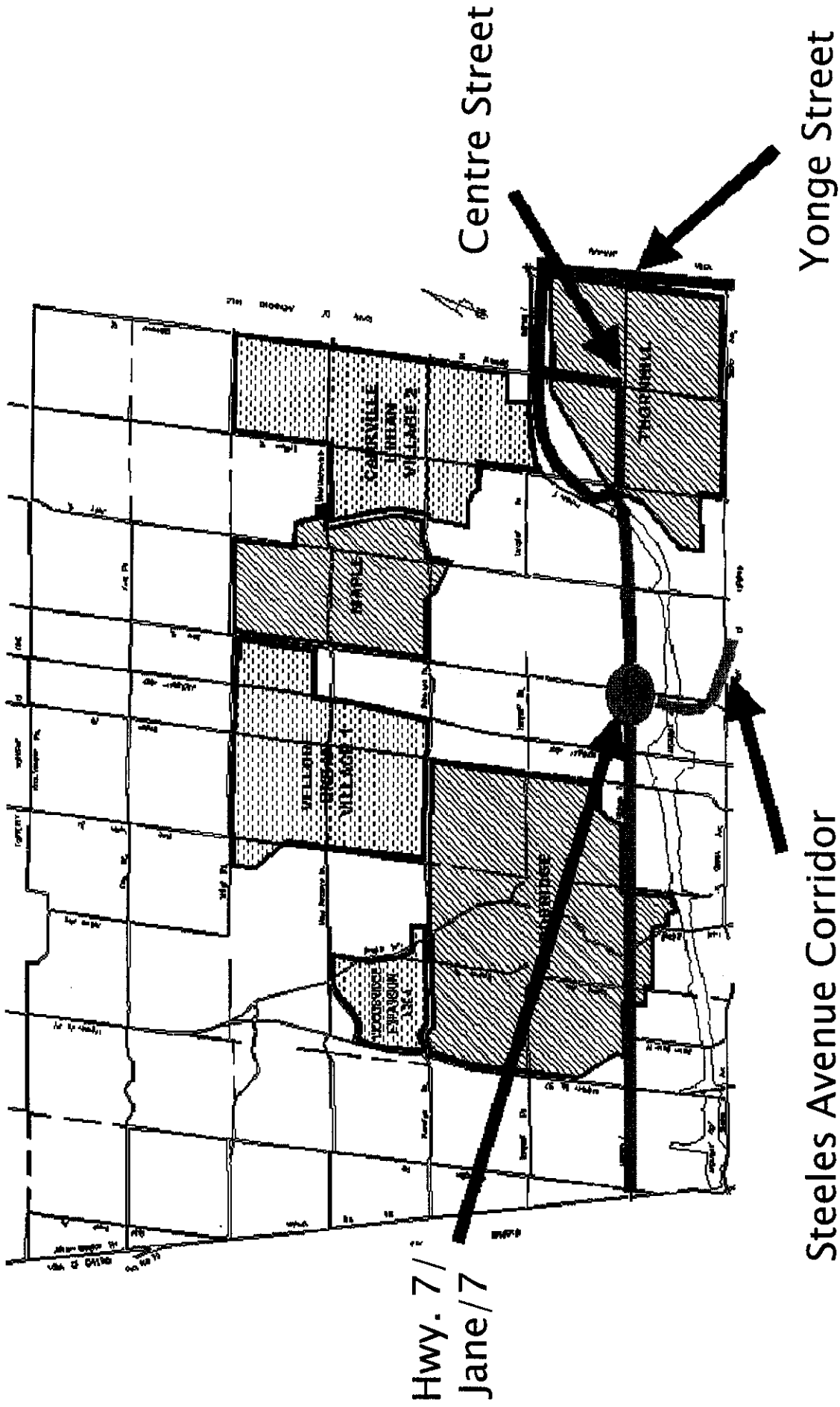
Regional High Order Transit Corridors



Community Planning Department

Attachment 2

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Current Land Use Studies



Community Planning Department

Attachment 3

Not to Scale
January 29, 2004

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