

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MARCH 26, 2007

RECONSTRUCTION OF FRAN DRIVE AND HURRICANE AVENUE

Recommendation:

Councillor Tony Carella recommends that appropriate staff be directed to undertake at the earliest opportunity pre-design investigations in respect of the reconstruction of Fran Drive and Hurricane Avenue, and to complete the detailed design of same in time for consideration of the project as part of the 2008 budget process.

Economic Impact:

Nil

Purpose:

To address the concerns of local residents that the condition of the subject streets is substandard.

Communication Plan:

The local councillor will inform area residents in writing of Council's response to this recommendation, which proceeds from their stated concerns.

Background - Analysis and Options:

Excluding regional roads (including former provincial highways 7 and 27) and provincial highways (400, 407, and 427), the City of Vaughan maintains over 800 kilometers (or 500 miles) of roadways, all of which are regularly inspected over a three year cycle. As the subject streets were last inspected in 2004, they are due for inclusion in this year's inspection process, expected to be completed before the end of May. Information gained from annual inspections is recorded in the City's Pavement Management System data base, analysis of which will form part of the proposed five-year pavement management report presented to the Committee of the Whole in its working session of March 20, 2007. Given the current condition of both streets as a result of visible deterioration since the 2004 inspections, it is very likely that reconstruction, currently slated for 2010, may be advanced one or two years, based on staff recommendation.

The speed with which this project can be effectively addressed will be determined by a number of factors. As the streets are already scheduled for reconstruction (i.e., upgrading from a surface-treated road to a hot-mix asphalt road requiring base and surface reconstruction), a geo-technical investigation is required, as well as an evaluation of the condition of the water and sanitary sewer systems. If the latter need replacement, this work should be undertaken at the same time as the roadway reconstruction (as is being done on nearby Hawman Avenue, where the timing of both roadwork and sewer replacement--scheduled for 2006 and 2008--is being coordinated in 2007, to avoid disrupting local traffic twice in three years).

Related to these issues is the question of whether the streets should be urbanized (i.e., be rebuilt with curbs, gutters and storm sewers) or reconstructed 'as is', with drainage ditches running along both sides of the roadways. A final determination of the wishes of area residents in this regard is advisable, and can be effected by means of a community meeting, which the local councillor is prepared to convene at the earliest opportunity. If urbanization is advised, that will impact the detailed design and subsequent tender documents.

Lastly, given the timing of the 2007 budget approval process, it is unlikely that the pre-design, detailed design, and tendering processes can be completed in time to ensure reconstruction can be completed prior to the winter shut down late this year. And if they were, the cost of the project---as is usually the case with projects tendered late in the year---would be noticeably higher. In the alternative, attending to the pre-design and detailed design of the project during 2007 will permit the inclusion of the project in the 2008 budget and, upon approval of the budget, will allow for an early tender and completion of the project within the 2008 construction season.

Regional Implications:

Nil

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007:

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion:

It is appropriate to begin to address the concerns of local residents regarding the condition of Fran Drive and Hurricane Avenue

Attachments:

None

Report prepared by:

Councillor Tony Carella

Respectfully submitted

Tony Carella
Councillor - Ward 2