

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FEBRUARY 2, 2010

STUDY OF OLD YONGE AND CENTRE STREET INTERSECTION

Recommendation

1. Councillor Alan Shefman recommends that staff conduct a traffic study of the intersection of Old Yonge and Centre; and,
2. That the study take into consideration the potential implications of the proposed Yonge Street subway extension; and,
3. Consider the concerns of local residents that the intersection is increasingly dangerous due to the amount of traffic and the proximity to Yonge Street.

Contribution to Sustainability

A better designed and controlled intersection may have a positive impact on the amount of automobile idling that currently takes place due to long waits required to exit Old Yonge Street.

Economic Impact

If it is determined that changes are required, costs for design and construction will be incurred.

Communications Plan

Local residents, especially those living on Old Yonge, businesses on Centre Street and users of the Thornhill Tennis Club and swimming pool should be advised of the study and asked for their input.

Purpose

This study is required to develop an understanding from both a technical and a user perspective of the safety and efficiency concerns for the intersection of Old Yonge Street and Centre.

Background - Analysis and Options

At various meetings over the last few years as well as through discussion with SPHOT, it has become evident that safety and efficiency issues have grown at this intersection. It is timely for the City to conduct a detailed study of the intersection to determine what might be done to address these issues. The study will need to consider both the technical, traffic management issues as well as the concerns raised by users of the intersection as identified above.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council regarding issues of safety and environmental sustainability. At this time specific resources have not been allocated.

Regional Implications

Because of the proximity to Yonge Street as well as the proposed Yonge Street subway extension, dependent on the findings and recommendations of this study, there may be a variety of implications for York Region.

Conclusion

A study of this intersection is an increasingly pressing matter that needs to be addressed by the City. Improvements to the intersection will benefit significant numbers of people using both Old Yonge Street as well as Centre Street.

Attachments

None

Report prepared by:

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Respectfully submitted,

Alan Shefman
Councillor, Ward 5