

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – MARCH 22, 2011

PUBLIC HIGHWAY STOP-UP AND CLOSE PORTIONS OF MILLWAY AVENUE AND APPLE MILL ROAD TORONTO-YORK SPADINA SUBWAY EXTENSION WARD 4

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works, in consultation with the Director of Legal Services, recommends that:

1. Council direct the City Clerk to commence *Municipal Act* procedures to stop-up and close a portion of Millway Avenue and Apple Mill Road north of Highway 7 as shown on Attachment No.1; and
2. That the necessary by-law be enacted authorizing the temporary closure of Millway Avenue between Highway 7 and Portage Parkway from approximately July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2015 to facilitate the construction of the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension.

Contribution to Sustainability

The Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension (TYSSE) project will provide higher order transit infrastructure to support compact urban form and offer an alternative mode of transportation to the single occupant vehicle. In addition, the subway extension into the City will stimulate the establishment of transit orientated development in the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre and the Steeles West Secondary Plan intensification areas.

Economic Impact

The cost associated with the procedure to stop-up and close a portion of Millway Avenue and Apple Mill Road will be recovered from the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension project.

Communications Plan

The procedure under the *Municipal Act* to stop up and close a public highway includes a public notification process. In addition, the TYSSE project is carrying out a comprehensive communication plan to facilitate the planning, design and construction of the Spadina Subway project.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to commence the procedure to stop up and close a portion of Millway Avenue and Apple Mill Road north of Highway 7 to provide for the construction of the Spadina Subway Extension, in particular the VMC Station. In addition, this report is seeking Council's approval of the temporary closure of Millway Avenue to vehicular traffic from Highway 7 to Portage Parkway to facilitate the timely construction of the subway.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension (TYSSE) project is an 8.6km extension from the existing Downsview Station northwest through York University within the City of Toronto and north to the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre. The TYSSE is scheduled to open for full revenue service to the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (VMC) by the end of 2015. In order meet this in-service date, major construction is scheduled to begin by early 2011. Two major contracts for

construction of the subway tunnels and the Hwy 407 station were awarded in 2010. It is anticipated that the contract for the Steeles West and the VMC stations will be awarded in Spring 2011 with construction starting shortly thereafter.

Subway Tunnel and Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (VMC) Station

Pursuant to the approved Environmental Assessment, the majority of the VMC Subway Station and associated track facilities will be located within a portion of the existing Millway Avenue right-of-way as shown on Attachment No.1. Accordingly, the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) has requested the City to stop-up and close the effected portion of Millway Avenue and Apple Mill Road, and in exchange, TTC will relocate Millway Avenue in kind to the immediate east. The Region of York is in the process of acquiring the necessary land for the new Millway Avenue right-of-way, which will be wider than the original in accordance with the City's Official Plan. The relocated Millway Avenue will be designed and constructed in conjunction with the TYSSE project.

Based on the latest TYSSE project schedule, the construction contract for the VMC Station is expected to be awarded in mid-June 2011 with heavy civil construction starting in early July. To meet this construction schedule, it is recommended that the City initiate the stop-up and close process for the portions of Millway Avenue and Apple Mill Road that are affected by the subway construction.

In addition, it will be necessary to close Millway Avenue from Highway 7 to Portage Parkway to vehicular traffic during the subway construction, which is expected to extend from July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2015. The TYSSE project team is developing a detailed construction staging and management plan to address traffic flow in the area during the construction period.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

In consideration of the strategic priorities related to Vaughan Vision 2020, the recommendations of this report will assist in:

- The pursuit of excellence in service delivery;
- Planning and managing growth, and economic vitality; and
- The demonstration of leadership and promotion of effective governance.

Specific Strategic Plan Initiatives applicable to the recommendations made in this report include Vaughan's corporate priorities to support and plan high capacity transit at strategic locations throughout the City. Accordingly, this report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council.

Regional Implications

The Region of York is a partner in the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension project.

Conclusion

The construction of the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension Project has commenced and the project is progressing on schedule. The approved alignment of the subway tunnel and the VMC Subway Station is situated within the existing Millway Avenue right-of-way north of Highway 7. Accordingly, the affected portions of Millway Avenue and Apple Mill Road will need to be stop-up and closed to facilitate the construction of the subway. TTC is proposing to relocate Millway Avenue in kind to the immediate east as part of the TYSSE project. In addition, it will be necessary to close Millway Avenue from Highway 7 to Portage Parkway during the course of the subway construction, which is expected to extend from July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2015.

Attachments

Attachment No. 1: Location Plan

Report prepared by:

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Respectfully submitted,

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Commissioner of Engineering
And Public Works

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ATTACHMENT NO. 1

