

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2009

Item 1, Report No. 53, of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session), which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on December 14, 2009.

**1 TORONTO-YORK SPADINA SUBWAY EXTENSION PROJECT
STEELES WEST AND HIGHWAY 407 SUBWAY STATIONS
CONCEPTUAL DESIGN SUBMISSIONS
WARD 4**

The Committee of the Whole (Working Session) recommends:

- 1) That Clause 1 of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works and the Commissioner of Planning, dated November 30, 2009, be approved;
- 2) That the presentation by Ms. Mary Francis Turner, President, Mr. David Clark, Chief Architect, and Mr. Brian Titherington, Senior Project Manager, Subways, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation, be received; and
- 3) That the confidential presentation and information provided by Ms. Mary Francis Turner, President, Mr. David Clark, Chief Architect, and Mr. Brian Titherington, Senior Project Manager, Subways, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation, relating to Clause 2 of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works and the Commissioner of Planning, dated November 30, 2009, be received.

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works and the Commissioner of Planning recommend:

1. That the presentation from York Region Rapid Transit Corporation on the conceptual design submissions for the Steeles West and Highway 407 Subway Stations be received; and
2. That the Committee of the Whole (Working Session) pass a resolution to convene into Closed Session to consider a property matter being a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the Municipality.

Contribution to Sustainability

Construction of the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension (TYSSE) project will provide higher order transit infrastructure which supports compact urban form and offers an alternative mode of transportation to the single occupant automobile. In addition, the subway extension into the City will facilitate planned transit orientated development and growth in OPA 620 (Steeles West Secondary Plan Area) and the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre area.

The YYSSE is committed to applying sustainability standards in the design and construction of this project.

Economic Impact

There are no economic impacts resulting from the adoption of this report.

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Communications Plan

The TYSSE project will include public open houses for the station design concepts and newsletters will be issued at strategic points throughout the design stage of the project. A copy of the initial newsletter is included as Attachment No. 1 to this report. Public Open Houses for the stations within Vaughan are anticipated to commence in early 2010. Project information can be found on the Toronto Transit Commission Spadina Subway Extension web site by following the link http://www3.ttc.ca/About_the_TTC/Projects_and_initiatives/Spadina_subway_extension/index.jsp noted below:

Staff will be reporting to Council at key milestones throughout the duration of the subway project, which is anticipated to be in service by 2015.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a high level overview of the key elements of the conceptual design submissions for the Steeles West and Highway 407 subway stations.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Provincial Environmental Assessment (EA) for the TYSSE from Downsview to Vaughan Metropolitan Centre was approved in 2007. The Federal Environmental Assessment was approved in March 2008.

The TYSSE is an 8.6km extension from the existing Downsview Station north west through York University within the City of Toronto and north to the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre in the City of Vaughan as shown on Attachment No 2.

There are six subway stations currently being designed as noted below:

- Sheppard Avenue West, on Parc Downsview Park Lands;
- Finch West station at the corner of Keele Street and Finch Avenue;
- York University station near the common of York University;
- Steeles West station at Northwest Gate and Steeles Avenue, east of Jane;
- Highway 407 station adjacent to Highway 407 and west of Jane Street; and
- Vaughan Metropolitan Centre at Highway 7 and Millway Avenue.

The estimated cost of this project is \$2.6 billion. The general subway alignment and proposed station locations have been identified on Attachment No. 2.

To encourage commuters to use the subway system, approximately 2,900 new parking spaces will be built in connection with three of the subway stations including:

- Finch West Station - 400 spaces
- Steeles West Station - 1,900 spaces
- Highway 407 Station - 600 spaces

Within the City of Vaughan, transit terminals and passenger pick-up and drop-off facilities will be provided at specific stations.

The TYSSE project is currently in the detailed design phase. Station design contracts were awarded last year with design currently underway by three lead design consultants, Arup Canada, AECOM, and The Spadina Group Associates. The TYSSE project office has recently forwarded conceptual design packages for the Steeles West and Highway 407 Stations to the City for review and comment.

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Key highlights of the Steeles West Station design include (refer to Attachment No.3):

- Station diagonally located under the intersection of Steeles Ave. W. & North West Gate.
- York Region Transit (YRT) terminal located north of Steeles Ave.
- Transformer substation incorporated into YRT terminal.
- TTC transit terminal located on south side of Steeles Ave.
- On-street passenger pick-up and drop-off parking adjacent to YRT terminal.
- Natural light penetration into station.
- Commuter parking facilities within hydro corridor.

Key highlights of the Highway 407 Station design include (refer to Attachment No. 3):

- Multi-modal terminal (YRT and GO Transit).
- Passenger pick-up and drop off facility.
- 600 commuter parking spaces.
- Natural light penetration into station.

Comments on the current design submissions are due by years end. The design of the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (VMC) station has not yet been presented to the Toronto Transit Commission. Accordingly, it will be the subject of a future report to Council.

The TYSSE Project Team is advancing the detailed designs for the Steeles West and Highway 407 Stations, subsequent and more advanced submissions will be forward to the City for review by early 2010. Open Houses for the station concepts are being planned for early 2010. Subsequent design development submissions are anticipated over the next six to eight months.

Staff is currently reviewing the Steeles West and Highway 407 Station conceptual plans in light of other strategic initiatives being undertaken by the City. The initiatives noted below require extensive coordination with the TYSSE Project Team and in some cases are required to support opening day infrastructure needs.

- Official Plan Review
- Vaughan Metropolitan Centre Focus Area Study
- OPA 620 Master Servicing Plan
- Vaughan Metropolitan Centre Master Servicing Plan
- Vaughan Metropolitan Centre existing roadway improvements / Municipal Class EA
- Black Creek Optimization Study
- Transportation Master Plan

To meet the planned subway extension opening in 2015, four tunnel boring machines will be used to excavate the tunnels. Tunnel boring machines will launch and bore the twin tunnels for a period of approximately two years while construction of the stations and tracks will continue through to 2015. The Highway 407 Station will be the staging location for tunnel drives to the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre and to the Steeles West stations.

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;
- Leadership initiatives and promotion of environmental sustainability;
- Effective governance; and
- Planning and managing growth, and economic vitality.

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Specific Strategic Plan Initiatives applicable to the recommendations made in this report include Vaughan's corporate priorities to:

- Work with other levels of government to continue to support the expansion of the Go Rail System, local transit and the Subway; and
- Support and plan high capacity transit at strategic location throughout the City.

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

Regional Implications

The Region is a funding partner for the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension.

Conclusion

Staff are currently reviewing the design concept submissions and will provide comments to TYSSE by years end. The City will continue to work with TYSSE and York Region in supporting the urban design vision for surface infrastructure and other initiatives that are required to support the Spadina Subway Extension project.

Attachments

1. Attachment No 1 – TYSSE Spring 2009 Newsletter
2. Attachment No 2 - Spadina Subway Extension –alignment and station location
3. Attachment No 3. - Presentation – Spadina Subway Update -Steeles West and Highway 407 Stations (10% Conceptual Design)

Report prepared by:

Eric Gupta, Project Manager- Spadina Subway Extension – Ext. 8433.

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

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Item 2, Report No. 53, of the Committee of the Whole (Working Session), which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on December 14, 2009.

2 PRELIMINARY DRAFT COUNCIL MEMBER EXPENSE POLICY

The Committee of the Whole (Working Session) recommends:

- 1) That the Preliminary Draft Council Member Expense Policy be modified taking into consideration the comments of Committee of the Whole (Working Session) of today and forwarded to the Audit and Operational Review Committee meeting of December 10, 2009, for further discussion and any further refinement;
- 2) That the written submission of Regional Councillor Rosati, be received; and
- 3) That the following report of the City Auditor, dated November 30, 2009, be received.

Recommendation

The City Auditor recommends:

1. That the preliminary draft Council Member Expense Policy be received for discussion; and,
2. That the Committee of the Whole (Working Session) recommendation be incorporated into the Preliminary Draft Council Member Expense Policy and forwarded to the Audit and Operational Review Committee meeting of December 10, 2009 for further discussion and any further refinement.

Economic Impact

There is no economic impact.

Communications Plan

Not applicable as the policy is a preliminary draft policy being tabled for discussion.

Purpose

To review the preliminary draft prepared by the City Auditor and to have open discussion with Members of Council to understand the contents and ramifications of the Policy before the policy is further refined and finalized.

Background - Analysis and Options

At the Audit and Operational Review Committee meeting of November 16, 2009, the Committee recommended that the Council member Expense Policy be received and referred to the next available Committee of the Whole (Working Session); That staff provide a report on the process, including timeframe and the proposed establishment of a task force; and that the preliminary draft Council Member Expense Policy be posted on the City's website as soon as possible and that the public be encouraged to provide comments.

The preliminary draft Council Member Expense Policy was posted on the City's website on November 17th, 2009. Residents of Vaughan were encouraged to provide comments.

On November 17th, 2009 the City Auditor also e-mailed all Members of Council and solicited comments from them. They were also informed to copy all other Members of Council of their comments.

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As of November 25, 2009, (1) the City Auditor has not received any comments from residents of Vaughan as a result of the web posting.

(2) Written comments have not been received from Members of Council as well.

The City Auditor has made minor editing which has been shaded for ease of reference.

On the last page of the draft Council Member Expense Policy report, are comments from a resident in her deputation letter and verbal comments from a Council Member.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

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

Regional Implications

Not applicable

Conclusion

The draft Council Member Expense Policy is being brought forward at this time for discussion.

Attachments

Preliminary Draft Report on the Council Member Expense Policy.

Report prepared by:

Michael Tupchong

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

Please refer to Item 3, Report No. 5, Audit and Operational Review Committee, for further disposition regarding this matter.