

August 16, 2007

The Regional Municipality of York opens Box Grove By-pass in the Town of Markham

New by-pass diverts traffic around hamlet of Box Grove

NEWMARKET – Members of York Regional Council today joined members of Markham Council to celebrate the official opening of the Box Grove By-pass in the Town of Markham.

“The opening of the Box Grove By-pass will help to reduce traffic congestion in this growing area of Markham,” said York Region Chairman and CEO Bill Fisch. “York Region’s investment in this new roadway represents another success in our ongoing effort to keep people and goods moving efficiently through our Region.”

The Box Grove By-pass is a new four-lane, 1.5-kilometre roadway that joins two portions of Ninth Line – south of Highway 407 and just north of Steeles Avenue – via the Don Cousens Parkway in the Town of Markham (please see attached map).

The two-year construction project cost \$12 million to complete and included a significant amount of underground work to install sanitary sewers and watermains to service the surrounding community.

York Region undertook the by-pass project to route traffic away from the growing hamlet of Box Grove, located east of Ninth Line between Highway 407 and the CN Rail line. By building a new Regional route, the Town of Markham has been able to assume ownership of the bypassed portion of Ninth Line, and limit traffic to local residents.

“This by-pass accomplishes two key priorities for Markham: quality of life and effective transportation,” said Town of Markham Mayor Frank Scarpitti. “The community of Box Grove will now be serviced by a quiet local road system, while commuters will save time on their journey by using a new Regional route.”

The Box Grove By-pass is one of several new multi-million dollar road projects initiated by York Region over the past few years in Markham. It joins the recently opened Donald Cousens Parkway as another major road investment designed to help combat traffic congestion.

New road infrastructure is part of York Region’s ongoing commitment to keep traffic flowing effectively on our arterial roadways. Through our Transportation Master Plan and 10-year Capital Plan, York Regional Council has committed \$1.2 billion for road construction, expansion and maintenance to meet the challenges of our growing communities.

For more information on The Regional Municipality of York, please visit www.york.ca

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