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For Immediate Release

## York Regional Council approves \$1.04 billion Capital Budget for The Regional Municipality of York

*York Regional Council also tables a proposed \$1.3 billion Operating Budget plan*

**NEWMARKET** – York Regional Council has approved a \$1.04 billion Capital Budget as part of The Regional Municipality of York’s 2009 Business Plan and Budget.

The Capital Budget will increase services for York Region residents and businesses in areas including York Regional Police, transit (YRT and Viva), water and wastewater, Regional roads, solid waste management, housing and Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

“York Regional Council is committed to ensuring that increased demand for Regional services and infrastructure by residents and businesses is being met,” said York Region Chairman and CEO Bill Fisch. “The 2009 Capital Budget will move all of our projects forward while creating jobs, benefiting workers and helping to bolster the local economy during a time of global uncertainty.”

A portion of the growth-related capital infrastructure costs will be paid through increased Provincial government support as well as Development Charges (DCs), which are one-time fees charged to builders for developing a property.

“York Region now has one million residents and is continuing to grow,” said Town of Newmarket Mayor Tony Van Bynen, Chair of the Region’s Finance and Administration Committee. “The Capital Budget provides for capital asset replacement needs and ensures that the majority of growth-related capital costs are not borne by existing property taxpayers. York Regional staff is to be commended for their commitment and hard work throughout the budget process.”

Some of the priorities identified in the 2009 Capital Budget include:

- **\$398.2 million for Rapid Transit (of which \$179.9 million is fully funded by senior levels of government)**, including construction of the TTC Spadina subway and Yonge Street subway extension and dedicated bus rapid transit lane along Davis Drive in the Town of Newmarket
- **\$63 million for York Region Transit (YRT)**, including the purchase of 49 new YRT conventional buses (including 18 replacement buses) and purchase of six YRT Mobility Plus specialized buses (including four replacement buses)
- **\$270.8 million for Wastewater projects**, including expansion of the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant (Phase 3)
- **\$109.8 million for Water projects**, including development of water supply projects with Peel Region to meet York Region’s future needs
- **\$110.9 million for Roads**, including road resurfacing and maintenance work for more than 180 lane kilometres
- **\$47.1 million for York Regional Police**, including a York Regional Police Investigative and Support Services Facility in the Town of Aurora and the acquisition of 12 new York Regional Police vehicles, 103 replacement vehicles and one specialized Tactical Support Vehicle
- **\$13.8 million for Information Technology (IT)**, including development of New Data Centre Disaster Recovery facility

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- **\$10.3 million for Housing Services**, including construction of an 85-unit seniors' housing project as part of the new Vaughan Civic Centre campus
- **\$9 million for Property Services**, including continuation of Energy Conservation projects for York Region buildings
- **\$4.2 million for Solid Waste Management projects**, including construction of a new Source Separated Organics Facility (location to be decided)
- **\$2.9 million for Emergency Medical Services (EMS)**, including construction of three EMS stations, two in the Town of Georgina and one in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
- **\$1.4 million for Court Services**, including the addition of a new courtroom at the Tannery Mall in the Town of Newmarket and renovation of court space in Richmond Hill to improve customer service
- **\$600,000 for Long Term Care Services**, including recreational activity area expansion for clients in wheelchairs with caregivers at the Newmarket Health Centre and Maple Health Centre

*(For a full list of capital projects, please refer to accompanying Fact Sheet.)*

York Regional Council also tabled a proposed \$1.3 billion Operating Budget. The Operating Budget proposes some growth and enhancements required to maintain existing service levels for York Region residents and businesses. The Operating Budget proposes a 2.5 per cent tax levy increase representing a \$49 increase for a York Region home assessed at \$400,000.

The 2009 Operating Budget will be forwarded in January to the following committees for review:

Date	Committee
January 7, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation &amp; Works Committee</li> <li>• Planning &amp; Economic Development Committee</li> </ul>
January 8, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance &amp; Administration Committee (includes Police budget)</li> <li>• Health &amp; EMS Committee</li> </ul>
January 14, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid Waste Committee</li> <li>• Community Services &amp; Housing Committee</li> </ul>
January 15, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rapid Transit Committee</li> <li>• Transit Committee</li> </ul>

York Region is responsible for the delivery of 13 core services to residents and businesses including:

- |                                  |                          |                                     |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Arterial Roads                 | • Solid Waste Management | • Emergency Medical Services        |
| • Regional Transit (YRT/Viva)    | • Public Health          | • Planning and Economic Development |
| • Water and Wastewater Treatment | • Police Services        | • Court Administration              |
| • Social Assistance              | • Long Term Care         | • Family and Children's Services    |
|                                  | • Social Housing         |                                     |

For more information on The Regional Municipality of York, please visit [www.york.ca](http://www.york.ca)

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