

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

**REPORT NO. 13
OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION AND WORKS**

**For Consideration by
The Council of The Regional Municipality of York
on November 20, 2003**

**TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE
16TH AVENUE**

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The Commissioner of Transportation and Works be authorized to exercise any of the powers of Regional Council for the temporary closure to through traffic of 16th Avenue, between Ninth Line and Markham By-pass, in the Town of Markham.
2. The Regional Solicitor be authorized to prepare the necessary by-laws to give effect to the foregoing.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek authorization for the Commissioner of Transportation and Works to temporarily close 16th Avenue, from Ninth Line to Markham By-pass, to facilitate the crossing of 16th Avenue with storm and sanitary sewers and watermain in two locations. These underground services will service the adjacent lands and will be ultimately owned by the Town of Markham. The location plan for the recommended road closing is appended to this report as *Council Attachment 1*.

3. BACKGROUND

The master servicing plans for the Cornell Community in Markham outline that the lands immediately south of 16th Avenue would be serviced north across 16th Avenue since these lands naturally drain to the north. To implement this approved servicing strategy, 16th Avenue must be crossed with storm and sanitary sewers at the location of the proposed

intersection with Country Glen Road and Bur Oak Avenue. The same servicing plans indicate that a Town of Markham trunk watermain is required on 16th Avenue. Watermain crossings will also be required at each of these locations.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

The landowners adjacent to 16th Avenue are currently installing underground services on their lands with the intent of having internal roads paved this fall. To provide an outfall for the lands south of 16th Avenue, the Bur Oak Avenue crossing of 16th Avenue is required to be completed this fall. The Country Glen Road crossing is not required this fall, but would be advanced and completed simultaneously with the Bur Oak Avenue crossing to avoid the need for a second road closure.

No firm dates have been set for the closure. The landowner and Regional staff will continue to liaise to set the dates and duration of the closing. Realistic timing for this closure would be early to mid December 2003.

Duration of the road closure is currently being discussed with Regional staff with options of either a one week closure with normal hours of work or an extended weekend closure with work proceeding continuously around the clock.

The public will be notified by way of on-site signage to be posted a minimum of two weeks before the closure. Detour signs will be erected on the Regional and Town road network to guide drivers around the closure site.

Notification of the proposed road closures will be given to all emergency services two weeks ahead of the closure.

Alternatives to the closure have been examined, and it has been determined that road closure is preferred for the following reasons:

- Installation of the crossing in two stages to permit traffic to operate on a reduced basis is not possible due to the depth of the services (greater than 7m) at Bur Oak without the need for significant detours. The total duration of the crossing and resulting traffic interruption would be significantly longer than with a complete closure.
- There are no residents who access their properties from this section of 16th Avenue.
- The option of tunnelling under 16th Avenue was examined. Three separate tunnels at each crossing would be required to accommodate the storm and sanitary sewers and watermain at each crossing. The cost of these tunnels is excessive when compared to the impact of a road closure with no residents, low traffic levels and easily accessible detour options.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The work and all costs associated with the installation of underground services crossing 16th Avenue including road restoration will be the responsibility of the adjacent landowners.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

Discussions have taken place with the Town of Markham staff and they support the temporary closure of 16th Ave for these works. Staff will continue to liaise with local municipality staff regarding detours, signage and other matters of local interest, otherwise, there are no local municipal implications associated with this report.

7. CONCLUSION

The crossings of 16th Avenue, between 9th Line and the Markham By-pass, are required to accommodate servicing of adjacent lands. In order to complete the construction of these crossings, it is recommended that a temporary road closure be approved.

Closing the road will reduce the risk to the travelling public and work crews and reduce the construction schedule.

It is, therefore, recommended that the Commissioner of Transportation and Works be authorized to exercise any of the powers of Regional Council for the temporary closure to through traffic on 16th Avenue, between 9th Line and the Markham By-pass, for a duration and a time to be determined by Regional Staff.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(A copy of the attachment referred to in the foregoing is included with this report and is also on file in the Office of the Regional Clerk.)

Respectfully submitted,

**November 12, 2003
Newmarket, Ontario**

**K. Schipper
Commissioner of
Transportation and Works**

(Report No. 13 of the Commissioner of Transportation and works adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting on November 20, 2003.)