

## **19**

### **9<sup>th</sup> LINE TRUNK SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION TO STOUFFVILLE ROAD CLOSURE OF MAJOR MACKENZIE DRIVE TOWN OF MARKHAM, PROJECT 78050**

**The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, December 11, 2003, from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works:**

#### **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 of Major Mackenzie Drive East (Y.R. 25) between 9<sup>th</sup> Line (Y.R. 69) and Reesor Road in the Town of Markham (*see Attachment 1*).
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 provide authorization for the Commissioner of Transportation and Works to temporarily close Major Mackenzie Drive to through traffic to accommodate the construction project.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

In order to complete some construction activities, it is sometimes necessary to temporarily close sections of road to through traffic. The Municipal Act allows a municipal council to delegate authority to temporarily close roads for the purposes of construction or maintenance.

In some cases, it is difficult to pinpoint the required dates for the temporary closure, as the construction schedule can often change because of delays, weather, and supply of materials. It is therefore, appropriate to delegate the authority to temporarily close the roads to the Commissioner of Transportation and Works.

An advanced funding agreement with the Stouffville Developer Group, approved by Regional Council, was completed in February of 2003 to extend the Ninth Line Trunk Sewer to Stouffville. The work started in the summer of 2003.

The sewer will be constructed along the east side of the Ninth Line to connect the Stouffville community to the Ninth Line Trunk Sewer at a point just south of Major Mackenzie Drive East.

A road closure is required to facilitate the construction of the sewer crossing at Major Mackenzie Drive.

## **4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS**

### **4.1 Rationale for Temporary Road Closures**

Where possible, Regional staff co-ordinate the construction activities to keep the roads open to through traffic at all times during the construction or maintenance of roads. However, sometimes it is not feasible to maintain through traffic because of the very nature of the work and it is safer and more cost effective to complete the work under a temporary full road closure.

Temporary road closures, where implemented, reduce safety risks to both the travelling public and work crews and provides a work environment that enhances quality construction. Furthermore, temporary closures can significantly reduce the costs and time schedule for any work, thus minimizing public impact and disruption.

### **4.2 Public Notification and Mitigation**

Notification of the temporary road closure will be placed on arterial and local roads two weeks prior to the closure period along with advertisements in the local newspapers. All emergency public service agencies (police, fire and ambulance) and public and school transit authorities will also be informed of the closure. The temporary road closure schedules will also be posted on the York Region website.

A detailed signage plan will be put in place for the closure to clearly identify detour routes. Measures will also be provided to maintain local access to residents, businesses, schools and other institutions. Any property owner that will be affected by the local access will be advised directly by mail.

The duration period for the temporary road closure will be minimized by imposing timing constraints within the individual contract. Once the road closure is in effect, efficient utilization of the time period will be an obligation of the contractor to ensure that public impact and inconvenience is limited through effective work planning and operations.

Table 1 summarizes the details pertaining to the road closure recommended in this report.

**Table 1**  
Temporary Road Closures

| Location                                                                         | Duration           | Timing             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Major Mackenzie Drive East<br>from Ninth Line to Reesor Road,<br>Town of Markham | 3 days Fri/Sat/Sun | Winter/Spring 2004 |

#### **4.3. Major Mackenzie Drive East, Town of Markham**

The temporary closure of the east leg of the Major Mackenzie Drive/Ninth Line intersection is required to allow for the construction of the sanitary trunk sewer crossing.

It is anticipated that the sanitary sewer crossing could be completed over a weekend schedule.

### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed temporary road closure is expected to result in a substantial saving in construction cost, compared to the cost of maintaining traffic during construction. Funds for the works are included in the approved 10 year Wastewater Capital Plan for 2003 and are being carried forward for 2004 construction completion.

### **6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT**

The construction of this project will have a positive impact on the local community through the improvement of the sewer infrastructure within each of the local municipality being serviced.

The closure of any road creates an inconvenience to the travelling public. Regional staff will undertake a number of mitigative measures to ensure that this disruption is kept to a minimum.

Signage forewarning of the proposed temporary road closures will be placed well in advance of the closure date and residents will be advised directly by mail. Local traffic will be maintained at all times to provide access to businesses and residences.

Traffic management plans are incorporated in all Regional construction contracts. Advertisements will be placed in the local newspapers indicating the closure location and duration. Detour signs will be installed to properly guide motorists around the closure. Emergency services and school boards will be notified in advance of the closure to ensure no interruption in service provision.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

Under the Municipal Act, Regional Council may delegate authority to temporarily close roads.

It is, therefore, recommended that authorization be delegated to the Commissioner of Transportation and Works for the temporary closure of Major Mackenzie Drive East between 9<sup>th</sup> Line and Reesor Road, Town of Markham.

The closure of this road will allow for more cost effective and safe construction works to occur. Staff will take all necessary precautions to ensure that the closure is kept to a minimum and that appropriate notification is made to all that may be affected by this closure

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

*(A copy of the attachment referred to in the foregoing has been forwarded to each Member of Council with the January 7, 2004 Transportation and Works Committee agenda and a copy thereof is on file in the Office of the Regional Clerk.)*