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### **PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLING MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM SELECTION OF 2011 PROJECTS**

**The Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report dated December 16, 2010, from the Commissioner of Planning and Development Services.**

#### **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that:

1. Regional Council approve local municipal projects and costs for the 2011 Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program for the following projects:
  - a) \$387,450 (50% of \$774,899 eligible cost) for the Town of Newmarket to construct a 3.0 m wide paved and lighted trail leading to the proposed Davis Drive underpass and connecting to the Tom Taylor Trail north and south of Davis Drive.
  - b) \$110,055 (50% of \$220,110 eligible cost) for the City of Vaughan to implement bicycle lanes and signage as part of Vaughan's Pedestrian and Bicycle 2011 Implementation Plan.
2. The Regional Clerk forward a copy of this report to the Clerks of the local municipalities in York Region.

#### **2. PURPOSE**

This report updates Council on the status of approved Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program projects and seeks Council approval of the selection of local municipal projects eligible for 2011 Regional funding.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

**York Region's Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program provide funding for local municipal projects**

Regional Council endorsed the Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program in June, 2007. The adopted policy allows York Region to share up to 50% of the eligible construction costs for qualifying local municipal and agency pedestrian and cycling projects that serve a regional context. The pedestrian and cycling municipal partnership program does not deal with cycling lanes on Regional roads, funding of municipal

sidewalks within the Regional road allowance and is not intended to fund recreational trails.

The Municipal Partnership Program has an annual capital budget of \$500,000 plus any carry over from the previous year.

**The Municipal Partnership Program helps to accelerate the implementation of local municipal and stakeholder pedestrian and cycling initiatives**

The Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program forms part of the Region's sustainable growth management initiatives by accelerating the construction of local municipal and agency pedestrian and cycling infrastructure that serves a regional context. The program provides an additional tool to improve the co-ordination and implementation of local municipal and agency pedestrian and cycling initiatives.

Since its launch in 2007, York Region has approved 11 projects and allocated approximately \$1.8 million to local municipalities for the implementation of cycling facilities through the Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program. The remaining program budget of approximately \$189,000 since its launch has been carried over for future applications.

**Five of 11 Municipal Partnership Program funded projects between 2007 and 2010 have been completed and opened to public**

Five of 11 funded projects have been completed and opened to the public between 2009 and 2010. Two funded projects are anticipated to be completed by end of this year (2010) and the remaining funded projects are anticipated to be completed by 2011 or 2012.

*Council Attachment 1* summarises the status of all 11 projects funded through the Municipal Partnership Program to date.

#### **4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS**

**The Town of Newmarket and the City of Vaughan submitted applications for 2011 Municipal Partnership Program project funding**

All nine local municipalities and agencies such as school boards and Conservation Authorities are encouraged to make an application for program funding. To be eligible for 2011 project consideration, a submission featuring preliminary design and cost estimates was required by March 31, 2010. Prospective municipalities were then required to submit detailed design studies and costing by September 2010.

The City of Vaughan and the Town of Newmarket have submitted the applications for the 2011 Municipal Partnership Program. From the two submissions received, the estimated total project cost is \$995,009.

*Table 1* summarizes the two project descriptions and estimated project costs. *Council Attachment 2* shows the two submitted applications in relation to the existing program funded projects.

**Table 1**  
Summary of the Application Submissions

| Applicant         | Description                                                                                                                                               | Total Cost       | Full Submission Received? |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Town of Newmarket | Construct 3.0 m wide paved and lighted trail leading to proposed Davis Drive underpass and connecting to the Tom Taylor Trail north and south of Davis Dr | \$774,899        | Yes                       |
| City of Vaughan   | Implement bicycle lanes and signage for as part of Vaughan's Pedestrian and Bicycle 2011 Implementation Plan                                              | \$220,110        | Yes                       |
| <b>Total</b>      |                                                                                                                                                           | <b>\$995,009</b> |                           |

**The two submitted applications have been reviewed by the Municipal Partnership Program review committee and deemed to be eligible projects**

The Municipal Partnership Program review committee consists of Regional staff in Transportation Services, Planning and Development Services, and Community and Health Services Departments.

The Region will only provide financial assistance for infrastructure which forms part of a network plan prepared and adopted by a local municipality and/or agency, and which meets the Region's objectives. Eligible projects include those that encourage commuter walking and cycling through the development of infrastructure that supports a Regional scale network. Both submissions met these requirements.

**The Town of Newmarket and the City of Vaughan submitted projects are recommended for 2011 funding**

The Municipal Partnership Program review committee have reviewed the two proposed projects based on a priority ranking system to assess whether the projects meet the Program's goals of encouraging commuter walking and cycling, reducing traffic congestion and supporting a Regional active transportation network. Each project is given a score and ranked accordingly in terms of priority for Regional funding.

In the Town of Newmarket's proposal, the proposed multi-use trail will provide direct pedestrian and cycling access to the Newmarket Youth Centre, and to the Tom Taylor

Trail north and south of Davis Drive, and connect to Davis Drive sidewalks. This location is a highly visible area of the Holland River corridor and trail system and potentially an important gateway to the future rapid transit stations on Davis Drive. This part of the Tom Taylor Trail could also form part of the proposed Lake-to-Lake cycling route envisioned in the Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan.

The City of Vaughan's proposal supports the integration of a Regional network with a local system of signed cycling feeder routes. The City of Vaughan's proposal would foster commuter cycling through connections to numerous community and Regional destinations such as community centres, schools, and shopping centres, as well as York Region Transit stops and GO Rail stations.

## 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

**Staff recommends that the Town of Newmarket and the City of Vaughan submitted projects be funded to the full eligible amounts requested**

The review of the Town of Newmarket and the City of Vaughan's projects confirmed that the full proposed project cost is eligible for Regional funding.

*Table 2* summarises the Regional contribution for each of the eligible projects using the approved maximum 50% Regional cost share formula.

**Table 2**  
Summary of 2011 Regional Contribution

| Applicant                | Total Project Cost | Total Eligible Cost | 50% Regional Contribution |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Town of Newmarket        | \$774,899          | \$774,899           | \$387,450                 |
| City of Vaughan          | \$220,110          | \$220,110           | \$110,055                 |
| <b>Total Submissions</b> | <b>\$995,009</b>   | <b>\$995,009</b>    | <b>\$497,505</b>          |

As indicated in *Table 2*, the total contribution requested of York Region by the two submissions was \$497,505, which is less than the available capital budget of \$689,020. As these two submissions have met all requirements, staff recommend that both submissions be funded at the maximum 50% of the eligible costs.

As per the Municipal Partnership Program Policy, the remaining amount from the 2011 budget (total of \$191,515) will be carried forward and be available for the 2012 program.

## **6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT**

The main objective of the Municipal Partnership Program is to help the local municipalities and agencies accelerate the implementation of their pedestrian and cycling facilities to encourage active transportation and healthy lifestyles. This program also helps the Region to complete its pedestrian and cycling network as identified in the 2008 York Region Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

Two submissions to the Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program for 2011 have been evaluated and deemed eligible for Regional funding. Staff recommends that the eligible projects receive 50% Regional contributions resulting in \$387,450 for the Town of Newmarket, and \$110,055 for the City of Vaughan, for a total of \$497,505.

This amount is less than the available capital budget. A detailed summary of the Regional contributions is shown in *Table 2*.

For more information on this report, please contact Richard Hui, Manager, Transportation Planning, Infrastructure Planning Branch at 905-830-4444, Ext. 1578

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

*(The two attachments referred to in this clause are attached to this report.)*

## Status of Approved 2007-2010 Municipal Partnership Projects

| Municipality                | Project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Status                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| #1. Town of Newmarket       | Extend the Tom Taylor Trail south of Mulock Drive, including an underpass at Mulock Drive (approximately 1.1 km).                                                                                                                                 | Completed and opened in 2009                                                                        |
| #2 Town of Newmarket        | Extend Tom Taylor Trail south from Bosworth Court to the north boundary of the Town of Aurora, connecting the Nokiidaa Trail, with a connection to the east side of Yonge Street north of Aurora boundary (approximately 1 km)                    | Substantial construction has been completed to date and the remaining work to be completed in 2011. |
| #3 Town of Markham          | Major Mackenzie Drive - multi-use pathways:<br>1) From Woodbine Ave to Prospector's Drive (4 km);<br>2) From Prospector's Drive to Highway 48 (4.4 km)                                                                                            | 1. Completed and opened in 2009<br>2. Completed and anticipated to open in 2010                     |
| #4 Town of East Gwillimbury | Pedestrian bridge structure crossing the Holland River between Yonge Street and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Concession and associated trail enhancement from 2 <sup>nd</sup> Concession to the new bridge structure (approximately 1.1 km).                   | Completed and opened in 2009                                                                        |
| #5 Town of Aurora           | Complete the Nokiidaa Trail as a multi-use connection to the Town of Newmarket (Tom Taylor Trail) - approximately 675m.                                                                                                                           | Property issue has delayed project; date of completion is unknown at this time.                     |
| #6 City of Vaughan          | Complete the Bartley Smith Greenway trail connection in Tudor Valley from Planchett Rd to Jacob Keffer Parkway (1.8 km of new trail, plus 1 km resurfacing).                                                                                      | Completed and opened in 2010                                                                        |
| #7- City of Vaughan         | Complete the William Granger Greenway trail connection under Rutherford Road and connect Rutherford Road to Boyd Conservation Area (approximately 600m).                                                                                          | Substantial construction has been completed to date and remaining work to be completed in 2011      |
| #8 City of Vaughan          | Implement the first phase of a signed bicycle route network of various local cycling routes in the City of Vaughan (approximately 31 km)                                                                                                          | Anticipate completion by end of 2010                                                                |
| #9 Town of East Gwillimbury | Replacement of an existing informal single path trail system with a 3.0 metre wide crushed limestone path built to proper elevation to ensure drainage and including the installation of trail signage (Green Lane to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Concession) | This project is currently at the design stage and anticipated to be complete by 2011                |
| #10 City of Vaughan         | Implement the second phase of a signed bicycle route network through signage on local cycling routes within Vaughan                                                                                                                               | Anticipate completion by end of 2010                                                                |
| #11 City of Vaughan         | Implement multi-use boulevard pathway on Teston Road between Jane Street and Keele Street                                                                                                                                                         | Completed and opened in 2010                                                                        |

# Local Municipal Bike Facilities Funded Through the Municipal Partnership Program

