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ADOPTION OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT 63

The Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report dated December 17, 2008, from the Commissioner of Planning and Development Services.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The Commissioner of Planning be authorized to give Notice to Adopt Amendment No. 63, to the Official Plan of the Regional Municipality of York, as modified and set out in *Attachment No. 1* to this report.
2. The Regional Solicitor be directed to proceed with the adopting bylaw for Regional Council's consideration on January 22, 2009.
3. Regional staff be authorized to appear at the Ontario Municipal Board in support of the Regional position, if required.

2. PURPOSE

This report:

- Summarizes the circulation and notice of Proposed Amendment 63 to the Official Plan for the Regional Municipality of York.
- Recommends several additional modifications to Map 10.
- Recommends adoption of the Amendment subject to the modifications.

3. BACKGROUND

Regional Amendment 63 deals with a number of minor changes to policies and maps within the Regional Official Plan required in response to changing circumstances such as road jurisdiction changes and recommended transit improvements, mapping corrections and land use changes.

The changes proposed through Amendment 63 involve the following:

Changes to three policies:

- 2.5.1 to change wording reference in the North Leslie Secondary Plan Area
- 5.4.1 to add reference to *local centres* in East Gwillimbury and Georgina

- 5.8.7 to change ROP reference from “Foodland Guidelines” to “Provincial Policy Statement”

Changes to three maps:

Map 5 - Designate an area of land, annexed from the Region of Peel to urban area;

Map 9 - Designate a section of 16th Avenue to “Existing Regional Arterial Roadway”

Map 10 - Designate “Rapid Transit Corridor” Yonge Street to Green Lane, Green Lane eastwards to the GO rail station in East Gwillimbury, and Davis Drive from Yonge Street to Highway 404,

- Amend the location of “Proposed Go Station” on Bradford Line and
- Add an “Existing Go Station on Stouffville Line.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Regional Amendment 63 was circulated and advertised widely and no agency, board, commission or resident raised significant issues with the Amendment

Regional Amendment 63 was circulated October 6, 2008 in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning Act* with a request for comments by November 15, 2008. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing responded to the circulation on December 2, 2008, with several observations and suggestions for minor modifications. These have been included in *Attachment 1*.

The Statutory Public meeting was held at the regularly scheduled Planning Committee meeting of November 5, 2008 following advertisements in local York Region newspapers between October 8 and October 12, 2009. As well, notice of the public meeting appeared on the Region’s website along with supporting materials. No member of the public appeared at the public meeting.

Several additional modifications are recommended and have been included in the Amendment appended as *Attachment 1*

In addition to the changes proposed as a result of the circulation, Regional staff has identified several additional modifications, two of which occur on Map 10 of the Amendment. As well some syntax error corrections have also been included in the Amendment appended as *Attachment 1*.

The first modification is to Item 1 of the Amendment which referenced “Section 2.1 – THE REGIONAL GREENLANDS SYSTEM”, this should reference Section 2.5 OAK RIDGES MORaine”.

The two modifications to Map 10 involve, designating the lands annexed from the Region of Peel as “Urban Transit Service Area” on Map 10. These are the same lands that the Amendment also proposes to designate on Map 5. As well, a modification redesignates the GO Rail Line leading to the Stouffville GO train station at Lincolnville Road from “Potential Commuter Rail Lines” to “Existing Commuter Rail Lines”.

Regional staff has consulted with Regional Legal Services staff who are satisfied that these modifications are minor and can be considered for adoption without further notice or circulation required.

Relationship to Vision 2026

Vision 2026 contains goals and objectives relating to Enhanced Environment, Heritage and Culture; Quality Communities and Managed and Balanced Growth; and Infrastructure for a Growing Region.

Amendment Sections 1 and 3, dealing with a minor wording change in policy 2.5.1 and references to the Provincial Policy Statement as the assessment standard for proposed land use changes, assist in implementing action areas within the Enhanced Environment goal in Vision 2026.

Amendment Sections 2 and 4, dealing with additional local centres and designation of annexed lands in the City of Vaughan respond to Vision 2026 actions relating to Quality Communities and Balanced Growth.

Lastly, Amendment Sections 5 and 6 dealing with road jurisdiction and transit improvement respond to Vision 2026 goals and action relating to Infrastructure for a Growing Region.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial impact anticipated unless appealed to OMB

There are no identifiable financial implications associated with the adoption of Regional Amendment 63 unless the Amendment is appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board. In that case, Regional staff will report back to Committee and Council. Preparation of the Amendment was provided within existing Planning and Development Services Department staffing and budget allocations.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

ROPA 63 impacts a land use designation in the City of Vaughan, Regional policies which apply in the Town of Georgina and East Gwillimbury, roads schedules in the Town of

Markham, East Gwillimbury and Newmarket and the transit network in the Town of Newmarket. The Town of Richmond Hill has been circulated the amendment regarding the minor wording change in Policy 2.5.1. The impacts of all changes are minor.

7. CONCLUSION

From time to time, minor amendments to policies and mapping in the Regional Official Plan are required in response to changing circumstances such as road jurisdiction changes, mapping corrections and land use changes. This amendment updates the ROP in these areas.

It is recommended that the Commissioner of Planning be authorized to give Notice to Adopt Amendment No. 63, to the Official Plan of the Regional Municipality of York, as modified and as set out in *Attachment No. 1* to this report.

The Regional Solicitor be directed to proceed with the adopting bylaw for Regional Council's consideration on January 22, 2009.

Regional staff be authorized to appear at the OMB in support of the Regional position, if required.

For more information on this report, please contact Barbara Jeffrey, Manager of Land Use Planning and Environment, Long Range & Strategic Planning at (905) 830-4444, Ext. 1526.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachment referred to in this clause is attached to this report.)