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TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, ROAD DEDICATION AND RENAMING WOODBINE AVENUE TOWN OF MARKHAM

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, November 16, 2007, from the General Manager, Roads:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The future roadway, to be constructed from existing Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8) north of Major Mackenzie Drive (Y.R. 25) curving to the west, continuing north and crossing Elgin Mills Road East (Y.R. 49), then curving to the east to connect to existing Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8) at approximately 1,200 metres north of Elgin Mills Road (Y.R. 49), in the Town of Markham, be named Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8).
2. The Road Consolidation By-law R-1107-96-126 be amended to include Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8), curving from existing Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8), north of Major Mackenzie Drive East (Y.R. 25), to the west and north, crossing Elgin Mills Road East (Y.R. 49) and proceeding north and east back to Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8), approximately 1,200 metres north of Elgin Mills Road East (Y.R. 49) as shown on *Attachment 1* with this amendment taking effect when Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8) is complete and opened to traffic.
3. The traffic regulations covering Through-Highway designation and speed limits as outlined in Tables A and B in *Attachments 3 and 4* be made applicable for Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8).
4. The portion of original Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8), from the new alignment north of Major Mackenzie Drive East (Y.R. 25) to a point approximately 1,200 metres north of Elgin Mills Road East (Y.R. 49), be transferred to the Town of Markham when the realigned Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8) is complete and opened to traffic.
5. The existing traffic control signal at original Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8) and Elgin Mills Road East (Y.R. 49) remain in place and Elgin Mills Road (Y.R. 49) be designated as the Through Highway.
6. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary amendments to the by-laws.

7. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the Chief of Police and to the Clerk of the Town of Markham.

2. PURPOSE

This report is to obtain Council approval to name the new by-pass of Victoria Square, Woodbine Avenue, in response to a request from Town of Markham Council and to authorize applicable traffic regulations for the new alignment of Woodbine Avenue.

3. BACKGROUND

The new alignment of Woodbine Avenue diverts from the existing alignment of Woodbine Avenue in a north westerly direction, and intersects Elgin Mills Road approximately 500 metres west of the current intersection of Woodbine Avenue and Elgin Mills Road. It then continues in a northerly direction for approximately 800 metres where the alignment of Woodbine Avenue then changes to a north easterly direction for approximately 1,000 metres where it re-connects with the existing alignment of the original Woodbine Avenue.

With the future opening of the new Woodbine Avenue, amendments to the Road Consolidation By-law R-1107-96-126 are required to define the road section, road name and Regional road number. In addition, the Regional traffic by-laws must now be amended to cover all traffic regulations applicable to this section of Woodbine Avenue.

A location plan identifying this road section is appended to this report as *Attachment 1*.

It is now necessary to amend the Road Consolidation By-law R-1107-96-126 to define the road section, road name, Regional road number and amend the Regional traffic by-laws to cover all applicable traffic regulations for the changes to Woodbine Avenue as a result of the reconstruction and ongoing development.

There is a large development taking place west of existing Woodbine Avenue between Major Mackenzie Drive continuing north of Elgin Mills Road in the Town of Markham. The 404 North Developers Group has committed to design and construct an arterial roadway which will bypass Victoria Square and take traffic off existing Woodbine Avenue and away from the hamlet of Victoria Square. The new Woodbine Avenue will be constructed to Regional arterial road standards and will replace existing Woodbine Avenue in the Regional road system. Existing Woodbine Avenue, and the responsibility to name the road, will then be transferred to the Town of Markham. At this time, it is appropriate to dedicate the new road and apply the traffic by-laws.

For the traffic regulations on new Woodbine Avenue to be enforceable, they must be included in the Region's traffic by-laws. The regulations for these roadways are in

accordance with the *Highway Traffic Act* and must now form part of the following Regional traffic by-laws:

- Through-highway designation
- Speed limit
- No Parking

The amendments to the Region's traffic by-law are summarized in Tables A and B in *Attachments 3 and 4* appended to this report.

The Region has received a request (*Attachment 2*) from Town of Markham Council to rename a portion of existing Woodbine Avenue in the vicinity of Victoria Square prior to it being transferred to the Town. The new Woodbine Avenue will be constructed to Regional arterial road standards and will replace existing Woodbine Avenue in the Regional road system. This section of Woodbine Avenue is identified as:

Part 1, 2 and 5 on Plan 65R-30128, dated June 7, 2007, prepared by David Horwood Limited, Ontario Land Surveyor;

Part 1 through 8, inclusive, on Plan 65R-30129, dated June 7, 2007, prepared by David Horwood Limited, Ontario Land Surveyor;

Part 1 through 4, inclusive, on Plan 65R-30133, dated July 3, 2007, prepared by David Horwood Limited, Ontario Land Surveyor;

Part 1 through 9, inclusive, on Plan 65R-30136, dated June 18, 2007, prepared by David Horwood Limited, Ontario Land Surveyor;

Part 1 through 9, inclusive, on Plan 65R-30137, dated June 19, 2007, prepared by David Horwood Limited, Ontario Land Surveyor;

Part 1 through 6, inclusive, on Plan 65R-30138, dated June 7, 2007, prepared by David Horwood Limited, Ontario Land Surveyor;

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Woodbine Avenue is a Regional road on a north-south alignment located in the western portion of the Town of Markham. It provides a continuous route between Steeles Avenue, at its south limit, through the Town of Markham continuing north. Woodbine Avenue intersects Elgin Mills Road in the Hamlet of Victoria Square at a traffic control signal.

There is a large residential development in the area west of Woodbine Avenue, between Major Mackenzie Drive to north of Elgin Mills Road. A new alignment of Woodbine Avenue will be constructed that will divert traffic around the hamlet of Victoria Square (see *Attachment 1*). This roadway will become a Regional road and has been designed to Regional standards.

When this roadway is complete and opened to traffic, a portion of the original Woodbine Avenue, north of Major Mackenzie Drive up to approximately 1,200 metres north of Elgin Mills Road will be transferred to the Town of Markham.

4.1 Traffic Regulations

The following traffic regulations will take effect immediately and the Regional by-laws amended to include all appropriate traffic regulations for this section of Woodbine Avenue.

- Through-Highway designation, Woodbine Avenue, curving from existing Woodbine Avenue, north of Major Mackenzie Drive East, to the west and north, crossing Elgin Mills Road East and proceeding north and east back to Woodbine Avenue.
- 60 km/hour, on Woodbine Avenue, curving from existing Woodbine Avenue, north of Major Mackenzie Drive East, to the west and north, crossing Elgin Mills Road East and proceeding north and east back to Woodbine Avenue.
- No Parking, on both sides of Woodbine Avenue, curving from existing Woodbine Avenue, north of Major Mackenzie Drive East, to the west and north, crossing Elgin Mills Road East and proceeding north and east back to Woodbine Avenue.

It is essential that these traffic regulations be incorporated into Regional traffic by-laws to enable York Regional Police to carry out enforcement. Regional staff will carry out any required operational assessments and review the traffic operations on this road section. If needed, staff will make recommendations for any future by-law changes or the need to implement additional by-laws on this section of Woodbine Avenue through a subsequent report to Regional Council.

4.2 Road Renaming

Town of Markham Council has requested the renaming of a portion of existing Woodbine Avenue, in the vicinity of Victoria Square, prior to it being transferred from the Region to the Town. Town staff are concerned with the potential duplication of the Woodbine Avenue name once the new alignment of Woodbine Avenue is open to traffic.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report. If required, any costs for additional roadway signage on the new alignment of Woodbine Avenue will be minimal and can be accommodated within the Roads Budget and Business Plan.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

The transfer of the existing sections of Woodbine Avenue from the new alignment north of Major Mackenzie Drive East to a point approximately 1,200 metres north of Elgin Mills Road East has been discussed with Town of Markham staff. The Town of Markham is in agreement with the transfer and will be responsible for the operation and maintenance of these sections of Woodbine Avenue after the transfer. At such time, the Town of Markham can consider renaming their portion of Woodbine Avenue.

7. CONCLUSION

It is proposed that the road name as shown in *Attachment 1* be approved by Council and the Regional traffic by-laws be amended to include all appropriate traffic regulations. It is essential that all traffic regulations be incorporated into Regional traffic by-laws. These amended by-laws will allow York Regional Police and Municipal Enforcement Officers to enforce the posted traffic regulations on the new section of Woodbine Avenue as soon as it opens to traffic.

After this road opens to traffic, Regional staff will carry out detailed operational assessments and review traffic operations on this section of roadway and, if required, make recommendations for any changes or the need to implement additional by-laws.

For more information on this report, contact Brian Harrison, Director, Operations, Roads Branch at extension 5205 in the Transportation and Works Department.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

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