

4

SOUTH YONGE STREET CORRIDOR STREETScape MASTER PLAN

The Transportation Services Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report dated January 21, 2010, from the Commissioner of Transportation Services.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. Regional Council approve an allocation of \$450,000 within the Regional Streetscaping Account –Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program for the development of the South Yonge Street Corridor Streetscape Master Plan.
2. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the Clerks of the Towns of Markham and Richmond Hill, and City of Vaughan.

2. PURPOSE

This report seeks approval from Regional Council to re-allocate funding for the development of the South Yonge Street Corridor Streetscape Master Plan from the Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program (MSPP) in the approved Capital Budget. The reallocation is in response to requests from the Councils of the Towns of Markham and Richmond Hill, and the City of Vaughan.

3. BACKGROUND

Region staff received three local Council resolutions requesting a Streetscape Master Plan led by York Region for the South Yonge Street corridor

In spring 2009, York Region received Council resolutions from the Towns of Markham and Richmond Hill, and the City of Vaughan requesting a streetscape master plan to be led and funded by Region (*see Attachments 1-3*).

Several land use studies were carried out by local municipalities to address land use and the quality of public realm on Yonge Street

Over the past few years, local municipalities have undertaken extensive land use and urban design studies along the Yonge Street Corridor from Steeles Avenue to Scott Drive-Bantry Avenue (*see Attachment 4*). The following is a list of the planning studies undertaken to date:

Table 1
Studies by Local Municipalities

Local Municipality	Study	Status	Year
Town of Markham/ City of Vaughan	Thornhill Yonge Street Study	Complete	2002
Town of Markham	Yonge-Steeles Corridor Study	Complete	2008
Town of Markham	Langstaff Area Land Use Master Plan	On-going	-
Town of Richmond Hill	Richmond Hill Regional Centre Design and Land Use Study	On-going	-
City of Vaughan	Yonge Street Area Study	On-going	-

The Region's proposed South Yonge Street Corridor Streetscape Master Plan does not take the place of, or duplicate, the work that has been completed or is underway by the local municipalities within the corridor. The Master Plan would complete a critical piece of work to connect the local municipal land use studies; creating a cohesive and implementation-ready framework for a vibrant public realm

Yonge Street's projected growth and transit service use will result in much more pedestrian activity which supports a strong and vibrant urban streetscape corridor

Projected development within the South Yonge Street Corridor meets and exceeds the development thresholds for the successful operation of subway service (100 people and employees per hectare within 500 metres of a station). This population base will support high levels of transit frequency and associated pedestrian activity. Even without a subway, it is estimated that future transit service frequencies by 2021 would result in 80-120 buses in the peak hour/peak direction. This level of service will result in intense pedestrian activity – up to 7,000 passengers per hour/peak direction.

The section of Yonge Street, within the proposed study area, includes up to six transit stations and over 20 major road intersections. Each of these locations will require a detailed development of streetscape design treatments to support a pedestrian-friendly environment on the Region's primary corridor.

York Region is working with the Government of Ontario, the City of Vaughan, the Town of Markham, and the Town of Richmond Hill to build a stronger and more vibrant Yonge Street. York Region, supported by Provincial planning and transportation policies and funding, is moving towards a vision of Yonge Street as an urban main street with close-knit shops, offices, and residences, served by the subway (south portion) and rapid bus services (north of Highway 7). The three local municipalities have commissioned several land-use and built-form studies aimed at the details of building those close-knit communities along Yonge Street.

Yonge Street is classified as a Regional corridor, meaning it receives the highest order of streetscape treatment under the Regional Streetscape Policy

Yonge Street and Highway 7 are classified and designated as Regional corridors under the Regional Streetscape Policy and Regional Official Plan, respectively. In accordance with the Regional Streetscape Policy, Regional corridors have an elevated level of streetscape treatment compared to all other Regional roads. This is consistent with the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, which calls for the evolution of urban areas through intensification and infilling for higher densities characterized by change in built form, and complemented with transit and additional employment.

A consolidated streetscape master plan vision for the southern segment of Yonge Street is required to guide future development and streetscape design in a cohesive manner enhancing the Region's primary urban corridor. Yonge Street is envisioned to be a pedestrian and cyclist-friendly street, lined with a compact and lively mix of housing, shops, offices, and meeting places.

Establishing a pedestrian environment is critical to support York Region's plans for major transit infrastructure on Yonge Street

Yonge Street is a unique and historical corridor in York Region. Proposals to evolve rapid transit services along Yonge Street translate into a corresponding need for a pedestrian- and cyclist-friendly streetscape. Whether plans call for the extension of the Yonge Subway or a light rail/bus rapid transit solution, it is critical that the pedestrian environment supports the goal of a vital pedestrian- and cyclist-friendly, transit-supportive, urban corridor. As part of the planning and design process, there is a need to update and coordinate existing streetscape design standards and planning studies so that future developments will have clear direction of how to integrate into the public realm.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Scope and Context

The South Yonge Street Corridor Streetscape Master Plan will focus on the segment from Steeles Avenue to Scott Drive/Bantry Avenue, to support planned rapid transit improvements and the local land use studies. It is recognized that the context of the street extends beyond the southern segment to Major Mackenzie Drive and downtown Richmond Hill. It is expected that a series of contextual designs will be developed as part of the Master Plan and which could easily be transferred to areas beyond the immediate study area.

In collaboration with York Region Rapid Transit Corporation, the Master Plan will build upon the conceptual framework developed as part of the VivaNext mandate. The Master Plan will create design continuity and opportunities for placemaking on this Regional

Corridor. The timing of the Master Plan will need to be coordinated with the construction of the Yonge Rapidway to the north, as well as with the potential implementation of the Yonge Subway Extension.

A Streetscape Master Plan is required which aligns with the upcoming transit infrastructure and developments along Yonge Street

A significant investment in time and consultation with the public over the past few years has produced five studies along Yonge Street from Steeles Avenue to the Richmond Hill/Langstaff Gateway Regional Centre as listed in Table 1. Public realm elements and recommendations from these plans will be incorporated into the Streetscape Master Plan vision. Two studies have been approved, and three will be finalized shortly.

The Region's proposed South Yonge Street Corridor Streetscape Master Plan does not take the place of, or duplicate, the work that has been completed or is underway by the local municipalities within the Corridor.

The timing of the Streetscape Master Plan is most critical in order to fulfill the vision of a unified and cohesive streetscape character along the Region's primary urban corridor. The Master Plan development is required now in order to inform the pending development applications along Yonge Street.

A Project Core Team of municipal representatives will ensure stakeholder principles and objectives are met in the consolidated Streetscape Master Plan

The proposed study area affects three of York Region's local municipalities and will require stakeholder agreement on overall objectives, key principles, and how the plan will be used. To effectively manage these expectations, and achieve a quality product in an efficient time frame, municipal partnership is critical. A Project Core Team composed of local municipal representatives will be established to guide the study.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

York Region Funding Sources

An opportunity exists in the Regional Streetscaping account to assist in funding of the study. This is the same account from which funds are drawn for the Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program. The program was developed to support partnership funding for capital streetscape enhancements with local municipalities. Since this account is currently underspent, there are sufficient funds to cover the estimated cost of the study. In addition, the South Yonge Street Corridor Streetscape Master Plan is fundamental and essential in providing a clear, collective vision for urban form and streetscape design on Yonge Street. This plan will support future funding partnership opportunities for streetscape enhancements.

A request was made to our local municipal partners (Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill) for a contribution towards this study. At this time, the response has been that they are currently not in a position to contribute monetarily, however there is commitment to provide municipal contribution in the form of staff technical resources.

Municipal Staff Resource Contribution

A Project Core Team will be established with one local representative from each municipality to participate in the request for proposals (RFP) evaluation, and work with the consultant to develop master plan and urban design guidelines.

Given the intense urban development planned and on-going along Yonge Street, it is critical that this plan be advanced. Through a series of technical meetings, the Project Core Team will be dedicated to refining a vision for Yonge Street to provide clear and timely direction to the consultant. This strategy is intended to accelerate the project schedule and streamline the consultant's scope of work to meet York Region's budget.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

The Streetscape Master Plan for South Yonge Street will support local municipal studies to create a vibrant and well-designed corridor. Unified streetscaping creates continuity and an attractive and functional public realm to support transit oriented development, residents, and local businesses. This will further encourage pedestrian and cyclist activity creating a more vibrant urban setting.

Collaboration with local municipalities on a unified Streetscape Master Plan vision is important in contributing to our overall civic image and fosters a sense of pride within York Region.

7. CONCLUSION

A Streetscape Master Plan for South Yonge Street is an important step in setting the stage for the transformation of the Region's unique and historic Yonge corridor. By working closely with the Towns of Markham and Richmond Hill and the City of Vaughan, a unified streetscape plan will enable new development to be consistently well-integrated into the public realm.

For more information on this report, please contact Carmen Hui, Program Manager, Streetscape at 905.830.4444, Extension 5272.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The four attachments referred to in this clause were included in the agenda for the February 3, 2010 Committee meeting.)



Report to: Development Services Committee

Report Date: February 17, 2009

SUBJECT: Yonge Street Corridor – Streetscaping
File MI 526

PREPARED BY: Ron Blake, Development Manager, West District

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Development Services Commission Report entitled “Yonge Street Corridor – Streetscaping”, dated February 17, 2009, be received;

That Council approve the following resolution addressing streetscaping on Yonge Street:

WHEREAS the Region of York has identified the Yonge Street corridor as a high priority for investment in high-order transit; and

AND WHEREAS the cost-effectiveness of public transit depends on high levels of transit ridership, and ridership levels depend on an urban environment which is attractive, pedestrian-friendly and complementary to the transit service in terms of densities, built form, roadway design and streetscaping; and

AND WHEREAS the detailed design of Yonge Street transit facilities is expected to begin early in 2009; and

AND WHEREAS reconstruction of a significant part of the Yonge Street right of way will provide an opportunity to incorporate streetscape improvements during construction of the transit facilities; and

AND WHEREAS a comprehensive and detailed streetscape study for the Yonge Street Corridor is required to present the desired vision for the corridor and to coordinate and direct streetscape improvement projects; and

AND WHEREAS the Region of York has the authority to coordinate and implement a comprehensive streetscape improvement program for the Yonge Street corridor;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Markham requests that the Region of York commit funding in its 2009 budget to a comprehensive and detailed streetscape study (including an implementation and funding strategy) for the Yonge Street corridor north of Steeles Avenue, and expedite initiation of the study to ensure its completion and implementation in coordination with the construction of subway-related works, in consultation with the Town of Markham, City of Vaughan and Town of Richmond Hill.

That the resolution be forwarded to York Region, the City of Vaughan, and the Town of Richmond Hill;

And That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Not applicable

1. Purpose	2. Background	3. Discussion	4. Financial	5. Others (Strategic, Affected Units)	6 Attachment(s)
----------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------------	---	---------------------------------

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to identify the need for a major streetscaping initiative on the Yonge Street Corridor, in conjunction with the subway extension and other transit infrastructure planned for the corridor. This is in support of the recent initiative by the City of Vaughan, which adopted a similar resolution requesting the Region to undertake a streetscaping study.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

Area municipalities are undertaking intensification and urban design studies for the Yonge Street Corridor

The Town of Markham and adjacent municipalities have undertaken, or are undertaking, planning and urban design studies for various sections of the Yonge Street corridor in response to planned transit improvements. These include:

- *Thornhill Yonge Street Study:* A joint study initiated by the Town of Markham and including the City of Vaughan, resulting in an Official Plan Amendment approved in 2006 (further amended in 2007), setting out new development policies for properties fronting Yonge Street within the Thornhill Heritage Conservation District. The study was undertaken in response to York Region's plan to develop dedicated bus rapid transit along Yonge Street. The study and implementing OPA proposed a moderate amount of mixed use redevelopment for properties fronting this section of the Yonge Street corridor, respecting the heritage context.
- *The Yonge Steeles Corridor Study (Town of Markham):* completed in October 2008, proposes significant intensification along the southern portion of the Yonge Street corridor between Steeles Avenue, Dudley Avenue (the next block east of Yonge) and the Farmer's Market south of Elgin Street. During the early stages of this study, the Province announced funding and a fast-tracked Environmental Assessment process for an extension of the Yonge Street subway line to Langstaff. The study was prepared within the context of a Yonge Subway extension, and proposes mixed use redevelopment at an average density of 2.5 FSI, with a maximum density of 3.5 FSI in certain key locations within the study area; a gradation of building heights and densities from low rise development adjacent to Dudley Avenue to point towers up to 100 metres in height along the Yonge Street frontage; and building heights within the study area governed by a 2:1 slope angular plane, measured from the existing residential properties on the east side of Dudley Avenue.
- *The Yonge Steeles Corridor Study (City of Vaughan):* an ongoing study of properties fronting Yonge Street north of Steeles and Steeles Avenue west of Yonge, as well as the adjacent neighbourhood.

- *The Langstaff Master Plan Study*, an ongoing study by the Town of Markham of redevelopment potential of the Langstaff Community as an urban growth centre;
- *The Richmond Hill Urban Growth Centre Study*, an ongoing study by the Town of Richmond Hill, examining redevelopment of the Richmond Hill Urban Growth Centre north of Highway 7, east of Yonge Street;
- *The Yonge North Corridor Study*, proposed by the Town of Markham, which will address redevelopment opportunities on the east side of Yonge Street north of Royal Orchard;
- The City of Toronto intends to undertake a similar study for both sides of the Yonge Street corridor south of Steeles Avenue.

York Region undertaking planning and engineering studies for the Yonge Subway extension

Since the spring of 2008, York Region has undertaken design and engineering studies for the proposed subway extension, and is now completing a fast-tracked environmental assessment for the extension of the Yonge Subway. The City of Toronto and the TTC are also participating in the environmental assessment.

Prior to the 2007 Provincial announcement for funding of the Yonge Subway extension, York Region Transit had been working on detail design for the proposed bus rapid transit system on Yonge Street. As part of this process, the Region, in consultation with the Town of Markham, City of Vaughan and Town of Richmond Hill, was preparing streetscape improvement plans for the Yonge Street corridor in the vicinity of proposed busway stops. These plans included enhanced paving material, lighting fixtures as well as landscaping within the Yonge Street right of way.

Streetscape improvements facilitate redevelopment and support transit initiatives

Similarly, the introduction of a subway extension represents a significant opportunity to enhance the streetscape of the Yonge Corridor and upgrade the quality of the urban context within this area. Since transit users are also pedestrians, the quality of the streetscapes and the general pedestrian environment in the vicinity of a transit system will play a key role in the attractiveness and use of transit facilities. Opportunities to promote redevelopment and urban intensification in the vicinity of transit facilities depend directly on the streetscape quality of major thoroughfares such as Yonge Street. Furthermore, a coordinated approach to streetscape improvements on both the Markham and Vaughan sides of Yonge Street is key to the future quality of the urban and pedestrian environment in this area.

City of Vaughan passed a resolution requesting the Region of York to undertake streetscaping on Yonge Street

On January 13, 2009, the City of Vaughan passed a resolution requesting York Region to undertake a streetscaping study of Yonge Street in 2009, concurrent with the design and engineering studies for the Yonge Subway extension to Highway 7.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Yonge Street is under the jurisdiction of the Region of York, and the Region is undertaking planning and engineering studies for the Yonge Subway extension. The Region of York is being requested to fund, coordinate and undertake the streetscape study, with ‘services in kind’ participation from area municipal staff including staff from the Town of Markham. The study should also address a strategy for implementation of the streetscape study recommendations, concurrent with the construction of the subway-related works, in consultation with the Town of Markham, City of Vaughan and Town of Richmond Hill. Funding and implementation options to be reviewed should include (but are not limited to) direct capital funding

investment by the Region and Senior Levels of Government in the context of the Yonge Subway infrastructure project, site specific improvements as a condition of site plan approval for infill and re-development projects, Planning Act Section 37 rezoning and bonussing provisions, and possible use of community improvement plans or regional development charges.

CONCLUSION

The Town of Markham and the City of Vaughan have completed or are undertaking planning and urban design studies intended to identify a new vision for the Yonge Street Corridor within the context of the intensification and redevelopment opportunities afforded by the proposed transit infrastructure improvements. At the same time, a comprehensive and coordinated streetscape plan for the Yonge Street corridor will play a key role in realizing the full potential of the proposed transit improvements and the enhancements to the quality of the urban context that will result. York Region, which has jurisdiction over the Yonge Street corridor north of Steeles Avenue, will play a key role in coordinating, directing and implementing a future vision for the Yonge Street streetscape.

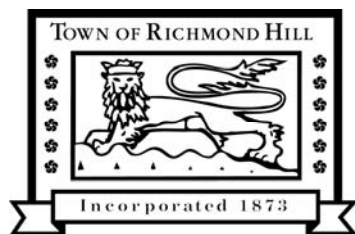
Therefore, the recommendation of this report request York Region to provide funding for, and to undertake a comprehensive and detailed streetscape study of the Yonge Street corridor, in consultation with affected local municipalities,. This study should be undertaken as soon as possible, to coincide with the ongoing Environmental Assessment study for the subway extension, and the anticipated announcement of the Yonge Subway extension decision in the Spring of 2009.

RECOMMENDED

BY:

Valerie Shuttleworth MCIP RPP
Director of Planning and Urban Design

Jim Baird MCIP RPP
Commissioner of Development Services



Town of
RICHMOND HILL
www.richmondhill.ca

COUNCIL - C#12-09

Monday, April 6, 2009
7:30 p.m.

Council Chambers
Richmond Hill Town Hall
225 East Beaver Creek Road
Richmond Hill, Ontario

Mayor David Barrow

MINUTES

A meeting of the Council of the Town of Richmond Hill was held on Monday, April 6, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

The following Members of Council were present:

Mayor Barrow
Regional and Local Councillor Hogg
Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora
Councillor Beros
Councillor Foster
Councillor Papa
Councillor Chan

Regrets:
Councillor Warner
Councillor Cohen

The following members of Staff were present:

J. Anderton, Chief Administrative Officer
A. Adari, Assistant Town Solicitor
S. Baker, Acting Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Culture
A. Bassios, Commissioner of Planning and Development
D. Miller, Commissioner of Corporate and Financial Services
P. Caron, Director of Asset Management
D. Dexter, Director Financial Services/Treasurer
B. Sangster, Senior Communications Officer
D.L. McLarty, Town Clerk
T. Arbuckle, Council/Committee Clerk

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by: Councillor Beros
Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Hogg

That the agenda be adopted as circulated by the Clerk.

Carried Unanimously

DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest by Members of Council under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Meeting C#10-09
March 23, 2009

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor Hogg
 Seconded by: Councillor Chan

That the minutes of Council Meeting C#10-09 held on March 23, 2009 be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

ADOPTION OF REPORTS NOT REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

Moved by: Councillor Papa
 Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That the following Items be approved and that the various officials of the Corporation be hereby authorized and directed to take such action as may be necessary to give effect to the recommendations contained therein:

1.0 Minutes –Budget Committee of the Whole meeting BCW#08-09 of March 24, 2009

That the minutes of the Budget Committee of the Whole meeting BCW#08-09 held on March 24, 2009 be adopted as circulated and the following recommendations be approved:

1.1 2009 Draft Capital Budget – Engineering and Public Works Department

Rec. 1 That the line item to provide digital signage at the Bayview Hill Community Centre in the amount of \$30,000 be deleted from the 2009 Engineering and Public Works capital budget requests.

1.2 2009 School Yard Improvement Funding Program - (SRPRC.09.11)

Rec. 2 That a Town contribution of \$14,753 be awarded to the Wyndham Ridge Public School *Dare to Dream* playground construction project as part of the School Yard Improvement Funding Program, to be funded from the Cash in lieu of Parkland Reserve Fund and that the Treasurer be authorized to forward a cheque for this amount to the Wyndham Ridge Public School Council (WRPS-SSP).

1.3 2009 Infrastructure and Gas Tax Funding Budget Strategy - (SRCAO.09.009)

Rec. 3 a) That the Gas Tax Reserve Fund be identified as the funding source for 2009 projects identified in Appendix “A” of SRCAO.09.009;
 b) That the Municipal Infrastructure Grants Reserve Fund be identified as the funding source for 2009 projects identified in Appendix “B”, as amended, of SRCAO.09.009;

(continued)

- c) That three contract positions, i) Project Manager, ii) Inspector/Design Technician, and iii) Project Coordinator, as described in SRCAO.09.009 be included in the 2009 budget to facilitate acceleration of infrastructure renewal projects with a 2009 budget of \$186,000 and with the funding source being the Infrastructure Repair and Replacement Fund;
- d) That staff report back on the details of Federal Infrastructure Stimulus funds and their implications for the 2009 budget when they become available;
- e) That staff be requested to report back on infrastructure funding for artificial turf fields at Richmond Green;
- f) That staff report back on doubling the existing Road Overlay Program, including information on cost and staffing implications.

1.4 New Fire Station – District 8-6 Business Case Update - (SRFD.09.02)

- Rec. 4 That Council approve, in principle, the staffing and funding model presented in SRFD.09.02 in an effort to minimize the anticipated impact on the operating budget due to the opening of a new fire station.
- Rec. 5 That the recruitment of four firefighters in 2009 to be funded internally from the Fire Department Operating Budget be approved.

1.5 Natural Heritage Community Stewardship Program - (SRPRC.09.12)

- Rec. 6
 - a) That a 2009 Community Stewardship Program capital account of \$150,000 be approved and created using the remaining \$48,218 in the 2008 Community Stewardship Account (#902-2008840204190) and \$101,782 from the Ecological Legacy Reserve Fund as described and approved through SRPRC.08.29;
 - b) That, pursuant to Section 285.4.7 (c) of the Municipal Code, the requirement to solicit competitive bids for goods or services be waived for the following purchases, in view of the fact that Town interests would be best served by direct purchases, which will leverage Town funds with additional contributions made by the identified partner organizations:
 - i) Ecological restoration, outreach and stewardship supplies and services from Evergreen in the amount of \$55,000,
 - ii) Trees, shrubs, planting supplies and restoration planting services from Toronto and Region Conservation in the amount of \$45,000,
 - iii) Stream restoration and riparian planting supplies and services from Ontario Streams in the amount of \$30,000.

1.6 Four Year Operating Forecast for the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts - (SRPRC.09.19)

- Rec. 7
 - a) That the four year operating forecast as detailed in SRPRC.09.19 be received for information purposes;
 - b) That the preliminary 2008 financial operating results as detailed in SRPRC.09.19 be received for information purposes;
 - c) That the 2009 budget (for theatre operations only) of \$2,175,700 expenditures, \$1,705,900 in revenues, and a net budget of \$469,800 be approved.

1.7 Crosby Park Field House Renovation and Remediation - (New Business Item)

Rec. 8 That the line item for the Crosby Park Field House renovation and remediation project in the amount of \$379,000 be included in the 2009 budget requests, with the funding source to be identified by staff.

1.8 CN Level Crossing Improvements (Weldrick East, Centre East, Crosby) - (New Business Item)

Rec. 9 That the line item for the CN Level Crossing Improvements (Weldrick East, Centre East, Crosby) in the amount of \$120,000 be included in the 2009 budget requests.

1.9 Current Debris Management Controls within the Municipal Borders – File No. A00-ST - (SREPW.09.039)

Rec. 10 a) That a pilot project for the summer of 2009 be approved to provide for 2 students and a vehicle to be proactive in identifying and reporting sites that require attention because of graffiti and illegal dumping, and that funding for this initiative in the amount of \$25,000 be included in the Engineering and Public Works budget requests;

b) That staff report back on the pilot project prior to the next Budget cycle.

1.10 2009 Infrastructure Funding Budget Strategy Update - (SRCAO.09.016)

Rec. 11 That the Municipal Infrastructure Grants Reserve Fund be identified as the funding source for \$545,000 for the expanded Road Overlay Program, including \$50,000 for external project management to administer the project.

1.11 2009 Draft Budget Status Report – (SRCFS.09.016)

Rec. 12 That the revised 2009 Draft Operating and Capital Budgets (Appendix ‘A’ and Appendix ‘B’ to SRCFS.09.016), reflective of adjustments from the Budget Committee of the Whole meetings in February and March, 2009 and including the adjustment of \$25,000 for the summer 2009 pilot project, be received for information.

Rec. 13 That a transfer of \$396,000 from the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve to the Building Permit Revenue Stabilization Reserve and a draw of \$508,300 from the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve to the Operating Budget as set out in Appendix “F” to SRCFS.09.016 be approved.

Rec. 14 That a draw of \$714,000 from the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve to the Operating Budget be approved to reach a tax rate increase of 2.1%.

1.12 Town-owned property located at 10184 Yonge Street – Status and Options for Future Use - (SRCAO.09.13)

Rec. 15 a) That the resolution declaring the property at 10184 Yonge Street surplus be rescinded;

b) That \$30,000 for a facility condition assessment, heritage restoration feasibility study and designated substance analysis for 10184 Yonge Street be included in the 2009 Budget to be sourced from the Infrastructure Repair and Replacement Reserve Fund;

c) That Engineering and Public Works Department and Strategic Initiatives Division staff report back on study findings and funding options should Council choose to complete maintenance and restoration work on the building as part of the implementation of the Downtown Design and Land Use Strategy.

2.0 Minutes – Committee of the Whole meeting CW#06-09 of March 30, 2009

That the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting CW#06-09 held on March 30, 2009 be adopted as circulated and the following recommendations be approved:

2.1 Minutes – Heritage Richmond Hill – HRH#02-09 of February 19, 2009 - (Item No. 5)**Collection Storage Space – (New Business Item)**

Rec. 1 That staff be directed to bring forward a policy and procedure on how to address the heritage materials that Heritage Richmond Hill collects and stores for reuse.

2.2 Request for Proclamation - Arbor Week – (SRPRC.09.18) – File No. A12-AR - (Item No. 8)

Rec. 2 That the period of April 27 to May 3, 2009 be proclaimed as Arbor Week in and for the Town of Richmond Hill, and that the proclamation be posted on the Town Bulletin Board pages of *The Liberal* and information be placed on the Town Web Page.

2.3 Lease Agreement – Hill Potters Guild and Burr House Spinners and Weavers Guild - 528 and 530 Carrville Road - (SRPRC.09.28) - (Item No. 9)

Rec. 3 That the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorized to execute agreements between the Corporation of the Town of Richmond Hill and the Hill Potters Guild and Burr House Spinners and Weavers Guild for 528 and 530 Carrville Road, Richmond Hill, attached as Appendix “A” to SRPRC.09.28.

2.4 Logo – Doors Open Richmond Hill - (SRPRC.09.29) - (Item No. 10)

Rec. 4 That the logo for the Doors Open Richmond Hill Event as presented in SRPRC.09.29 be approved.

2.5 Request for Proclamation – Day of Mourning – April 28, 2009 – (SRCAO.09.11) - (Item No. 14)

- Rec. 5
- a) That Tuesday, April 28, 2009 be proclaimed as *Day of Mourning* to commemorate workers who have been killed, injured or suffered illness due to work-related hazards and incidents.
 - b) That all Town flags be lowered to half-mast in recognition of “Day of Mourning” on April 28, 2009.

2.6 Richmond Street (Leisure Lane to Trench Street) Parking Prohibition Study – (SREPW.09.019) - (Item No. 16)

Rec. 6 That Chapter 1116, Schedule ‘A’ (Parking Prohibited-Signs-Displayed) of the Municipal Code be amended by adding the following:

HIGHWAY	SIDE	FROM and TO	PROHIBITED TIME OF DAY
Richmond Street	South	East limit of Kerrybrook Drive to Trench Street	Anytime
Richmond Street	North	West limit of Trench Street to a point 27 m. westerly thereof	Anytime

2.7 Reporting for Municipal Drinking Water Systems - Regulation 170/03 Section 11, Schedule 22 - (SREPW.09.021) - (Item No. 18)

- Rec. 7
- a) That the Summary Report, as set out in SREPW.09.021 on the Town's drinking water system as required under Schedule 22 of Ontario Regulation 170/03 be received.
 - b) That the Ministry of the Environment Annual Report of the Town's drinking water system as contained in Appendix No. 1 to SREPW.09.021 be received for information purposes.

2.8 Establish Reserve Lands as Public Highway - Block 423 - Plan 65M-3781 - File No. D03-04004 - (SREPW.09.024) - (Item No. 20) – (By-law No. 40-09)

- Rec. 8
- That reserve Block 423, Plan 65M-3781, be established as public highway to become part of Augustine Avenue.

2.9 Assumption of Municipal Services - 19T-95121 - Heathwood Homes (Tranquility) Limited - File No. D03-95121 - (SREPW.09.025) - (Item No. 21) – (By-law No. 40-09)

- Rec. 9
- a) That the assumption of the internal aboveground and belowground municipal services on Regatta Avenue within Plan 65M-3718, known as subdivision file 19T-95121 from Heathwood Homes (Tranquility) Limited be approved;
 - b) That the assumption of the stormwater management facility located within Blocks 128 and Block 129 on Plan 65M-3718, known as subdivision file 19T-95121 from Heathwood Homes (Tranquility) Limited be approved;
 - c) That the assumption of the external storm sewer within the Coon's Road right of way associated with subdivision file 19T-95121 from Heathwood Homes (Tranquility) Limited be approved;
 - d) That the lands more particularly described as Regatta Avenue within the limits of Plan 65M-3718 be assumed as public highway.

2.10 Municipal Access Agreement with MTS Allstream Inc. - (SREPW.09.027) - (Item No. 22)

- Rec. 10
- That the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorized to execute a Municipal Access Agreement with MTS Allstream Inc. upon the written notification from the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works.

2.11 Tender Award TE 04-09 - Centre Street Watermain Replacement - (SREPW.09.029) - (Item No. 23)

- Rec. 11
- a) That Tender TE 04-09 for the Centre Street Watermain Replacement from Pugsley Avenue East to the CNR be awarded to Direct Underground Inc., in the amount of \$658,717.50 (inclusive of all taxes);
 - b) That the Supplies and Services Branch be authorized to increase existing approved purchase orders, as necessary, utilizing the project contingencies as identified in SREPW.09.029 in relation to work being performed for the Centre Street Watermain Replacement;
 - c) That Council authorizes temporary road closures that may be required, from time to time, to facilitate the infrastructure improvements within the project limits. Staff will provide advanced notice to those affected by the temporary closures including emergency services should the need arise;

(continued)

- d) That the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorized to execute such agreements as required upon the written recommendation from the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works and that the funding for this project be as recommended in the Financial Report attached to SREPW.09.029.

2.12 Pitch-In Week 2009 (April 20 - 26) – (SREPW.09.033) - (Item No. 24)

- Rec. 12
- a) That April 20 to 26, 2009 be declared as *Pitch In Week* in accordance with the resolution outlined in Attachment No. 1 to SREPW.09.033 and that the Town of Richmond Hill participate in this event;
 - b) That Engineering and Public Works staff, as the lead department in this national event, be authorized to advertise for community interest and coordinate volunteer groups in cleaning up public spaces throughout the Town.

2.13 Request for Proclamation – Elder Abuse Awareness Month – June 2009 – Correspondence from Toronto Residents in Partnership, dated February 19, 2009 - (Item No. 27)

- Rec. 13
- That June 2009 be proclaimed *Elder Abuse Awareness Month* in the Town of Richmond Hill.

2.14 Request for Proclamation – Ontario Coaches Week - Week of April 18 to 26, 2009 - Correspondence from Coaches Association of Ontario, dated March 16, 2009 - (Item No. 28)

- Rec. 14
- That the week of April 18 to 26, 2009 be proclaimed *Ontario Coaches Week* in the Town of Richmond Hill.

2.15 Request for Proclamation – MS Awareness Month – Month of May, 2009 - Correspondence from the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada, dated March 18, 2009 - (Item No. 29)

- Rec. 15
- That the month of May 2009 be proclaimed *MS Awareness Month* in the Town of Richmond Hill.

2.16 Apportionment of Unpaid Taxes for Divided Properties under Section 356 of the Municipal Act, 2001 - (SRCFS.09.017) - (Item No. 1)

- Rec. 16
- a) That having held a meeting in accordance with Section 356 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* in respect of the application made by the Treasurer and the owners listed in this report, at which the applicants may make representations to Committee;
 - b) That the Treasurer be directed to apportion unpaid taxes and partial payments between divided properties as set out in Appendix A - “Apportionment of Taxes under the Municipal Act” pursuant to the provisions of Section 356 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*;
 - c) That applicable penalty and interest be adjusted accordingly.

2.17 Request for Refund of Application Fees pertaining to a Zoning By-law Amendment Application - (Delegation Item)

- Rec. 17
- That the request for a refund of application fees for a Zoning By-law Amendment Application by Marina Ternovaya (File No. L09.2454) not be granted.

2.18 Request for Approval – Yonge Street Corridor – Streetscaping - (SRPD.09.039) - (Item No. 13)

- Rec. 18 a) That the Committee of the Whole requests that Council adopt the following resolution addressing streetscape improvement on Yonge Street:

WHEREAS the Region of York has identified the Yonge Street corridor as a high priority for investment in high-order transit;

AND WHEREAS the cost – effectiveness of public transit depends on high levels of transit ridership, and ridership levels depend on an urban environment which is attractive, pedestrian-friendly and complementary to the transit service in terms of densities, built form, roadway design and streetscaping;

AND WHEREAS the detailed design of Yonge Street transit facilities is expected to begin early in 2009;

AND WHEREAS reconstruction of a significant part of the Yonge Street right of way will provide an opportunity to incorporate streetscape improvements during construction of the transit facilities;

AND WHEREAS a comprehensive and detailed streetscape study for the Yonge Street Corridor is required to present the desired vision for the corridor and to coordinate and direct streetscape improvement projects;

AND WHEREAS the Region of York has the authority to coordinate and implement a comprehensive streetscape improvement program for the Yonge Street corridor;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Richmond Hill request that the Region of York commit funding in its 2009 budget to a comprehensive and detailed streetscape study (including an implementation and funding strategy) for the Yonge Street corridor within the Town of Richmond Hill.

- b) That this resolution be forwarded to the Region of York, City of Vaughan, and the Town of Markham.

2.19 Tender Award TE 02-09 - Yonge Street Watermain Replacement - Benson Avenue to Industrial Road - (SREPW.09.020) - (Item No. 17)

- Rec. 19 a) That Tender TE 02-09 for the Replacement of Watermain on Yonge Street between Benson Avenue and Industrial Road be awarded to Hollingworth Construction Limited, in the amount of \$1,014,069.00 (inclusive of all taxes);
- b) That the Supplies and Services Branch be authorized to increase existing approved purchase orders, as necessary, utilizing the project contingencies as identified in SREPW.09.020 in relation to work being performed for the Replacement of Watermain on Yonge Street;
- c) That Council authorizes temporary road closures that may be required, from time to time, to facilitate the infrastructure improvements within the project limits. Staff will provide advanced notice to those affected by the temporary closures including emergency services should the need arise;
- d) That the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorized to execute such agreements as required upon the written recommendation from the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works and that the funding for this project be as recommended in the Financial Report attached to SREPW.09.020.

2.20 Amendment to Chapter 684 of the Municipal Code (Tariff of Fees – Schedule A) - (SREPW.09.023) - (Item No. 19)

Rec. 20 That Chapter 684 of the Municipal Code (Tariff of Fees), Schedule A- Water and Wastewater Services be amended by adjusting the current fee in Item 31 from \$280.00 + GST to \$650.00 + GST to reflect the new contracted price.

2.21 Award of Tender TW 13-09 "Demolition and Site Restoration Work of the Lion's Hall Community Centre" - (SREPW.09.038) - (Item No. 25)

Rec. 21

- a) That Tender TW-13-09, for the demolition and site restoration work at Lion's Hall Community Centre be awarded Terrasan Environmental Solutions Inc. in the amount of \$83,475.00 including GST;
- b) That funding for the project be the 2008 Capital account 902-2008614934160;
- c) That the Supplies and Services Branch be authorized to increase existing approved purchase orders as necessary utilizing the project contingencies as identified in SREPW.09.038, in relation to work being performed for the demolition and site restoration for Lion's Hall project;
- d) That the Manager of Supplies and Services be authorized to issue the necessary Purchase Orders.

2.22 Tender Award TE 03-09 - Reconstruction of Fesserton Road, Fernleigh Circle North and South, Benfer Road, Bent Crescent, Maralim Road and Maramak Road - (SREPW.09.028) - (Item No. 26)

Rec. 22

- a) That Tender TE 03-09 for the Reconstruction of Fesserton Road et al be awarded to Mar-King Construction Company Limited, in the amount of \$2,740,065.69 (inclusive of all taxes), subject to the Town obtaining the permission as set out in recommendation d);
- b) That the Supplies and Services Branch be authorized to increase existing approved purchase orders as necessary utilizing the project contingencies as identified in SREPW.09.028, in relation to work being performed for the Reconstruction of Fesserton Road et al;
- c) That Council authorizes temporary road closures that may be required, from time to time, to facilitate the road improvements within the project limits. Staff will provide advanced notice to those affected by the temporary closures including emergency services should the need arise;
- d) That Council authorize the entering into of any agreement or other documents as may be necessary to entitle the Town to enter on the Allen Court Plaza lands fronting onto Bayview Avenue for the installation of the storm sewer and outlet services related to this project, pending the acquisition of both permanent and temporary working easements and that the Mayor and Town Clerk be authorized to execute such agreement or documents upon the written recommendation from the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works;
- e) That the funding for this project be as recommended in the Financial Report attached to SREPW.09.028.

4.0 Town of Richmond Hill Mayor's Endowment Fund for the Arts – Grant Application Form

That the grant application form developed by the Mayor's Endowment for the Arts Application Review Committee for the Town of Richmond Hill Mayor's Endowment Fund for the Arts be approved.

5.0 Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment – Vomano Valley Developments Ltd. - 685 King Road and 12933 Bathurst Street – File No. D02-07024 - (SRPD.09.041)

That the Zoning By-law Amendment application by Vomano Valley Developments Ltd. (Town File No. D02-07024) as outlined in SRPD.09.041, to remove the Holding (H) symbol from the Zoning By-law affecting the lands known as Part Lot 65, Concession 1 (Municipal Addresses: 685 King Road and 12933 Bathurst Street) be approved and that proposed By-law No. 34-09, attached to this agenda, be adopted.

6.0 Issuance of Draft Approval for Draft Plan of Subdivision 19T(R)-07003 - Heathwood Homes (Rothbury) Ltd. - 11240 Yonge Street - File No. D03(R)-07003 - (SRPD.09.044)

That DRAFT APPROVAL for the draft Plan of Subdivision submitted by Heathwood Homes (Rothbury) Ltd. for lands known as Part of Lot 54, Concession 1, W.Y.S., Town File No. D03(R)-07003 (19T(R)-07003), be issued and that such draft approval be in accordance with the conditions set out in Appendix “C” to SRPD.09.044, and that servicing capacity for 35 units be allocated to the subject lands.

Carried Unanimously

3.0 2009 Budget – (SRCFS.09.018) – (By-law No. 29-09 and By-law No. 30-09)

In the absence of Councillor Warner, Mayor Barrow, on behalf of the Chair of the Budget Committee of the Whole, extended congratulatory comments to Members of Council and staff for their careful consideration and diligent work throughout the 2009 budget process.

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

Seconded by: Councillor Foster

- a) That the 2009 Operating Budget (summarized on Appendix “A” to SRCFS.09.018) with a recommended 2.10% tax rate increase and a total tax levy of \$70,375,500 be approved;
- b) That the 2009 Water and Wastewater Budget (summarized in Appendix “F” to SRCFS.09.018) be approved:
 - i. That retail charges for properties receiving both services be rendered on a combined basis, at the rate of \$2.0233 (9.26% increase from 2008) per cubic metre (1,000 litres) effective April 1, 2009;
 - ii. That retail charges for properties receiving water service only be charged a rate of \$0.9486 per cubic meter (1,000 litres) effective April 1, 2009;
 - iii. That retail charges for properties receiving wastewater services only be charged a flat rate of \$98.07 per quarter effective April 1, 2009;
 - iv. That flat rate charges for residential properties which do not have a water meter installed be based on 1 cubic metre per day;
 - v. That the discount provision if a bill is paid on or before the due date remains at 1.25%.
- c) That the 2009 Capital Budget (summarized in Appendix “G” to SRCFS.09.018) be approved for \$29,031,853;

(continued)

- d) That the Town's full-time staff complement in the 2009 Budget of 623 employees, excluding Library and Arena (as presented in Appendix "H" to SRCFS.09.018) be approved;
- e) That the draft By-law No 29-09 and By-law No. 30-09 (attached as Appendix "I" to SRCFS.09.018) be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

BY-LAWS

By-law No. 29-09, A By-law to Adopt the 2009 Water and Wastewater Budget

Moved by: Councillor Foster

Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 29-09 be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried Unanimously

Moved by: Councillor Foster

Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 29-09 be taken as read a third time and finally passed and the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign same and have the seal of the Corporation attached thereto.

Carried Unanimously

By-law No. 30-09, A By-law to Adopt the 2009 Operating and Capital Budgets

Moved by: Councillor Foster

Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 30-09 be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried Unanimously

Moved by: Councillor Foster

Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 30-09 be taken as read a third time and finally passed and the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign same and have the seal of the Corporation attached thereto.

Carried Unanimously

By-law No. 31-09, A By-law to amend By-law No. 65-03 designating 9875 Leslie Street in the Town of Richmond Hill pursuant to the *Ontario Heritage Act*

Moved by: Councillor Foster

Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 31-09 be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried Unanimously

Moved by: Councillor Foster
Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 31-09 be taken as read a third time and finally passed and the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign same and have the seal of the Corporation attached thereto.

Carried Unanimously

By-law No. 34-09, A By-law to Amend By-law No. 313-96, as amended of The Corporation of the Town of Richmond Hill

Moved by: Councillor Foster
Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 34-09 be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried Unanimously

Moved by: Councillor Foster
Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 34-09 be taken as read a third time and finally passed and the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign same and have the seal of the Corporation attached thereto.

Carried Unanimously

By-law No. 37-09, A By-law to Amend By-law No. 190-87, as amended, of The Corporation of the Town of Richmond Hill and By-law No. 2523, as amended, of The Corporation of the former Township of Vaughan

Moved by: Councillor Foster
Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 37-09 be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried Unanimously

Moved by: Councillor Foster
Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 37-09 be taken as read a third time and finally passed and the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign same and have the seal of the Corporation attached thereto.

Carried Unanimously

By-law No. 38-09, A By-law to Amend By-law No. 346-87, as amended which designates the Town of Richmond Hill as a Site Plan Control Area

Moved by: Councillor Foster
Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 38-09 be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried Unanimously

Moved by: Councillor Foster
Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 38-09 be taken as read a third time and finally passed and the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign same and have the seal of the Corporation attached thereto.

Carried Unanimously

By-law No. 40-09, A By-law to assume internal aboveground and belowground municipal services, including a stormwater management facility, and to assume and establish certain lands as public highway

Moved by: Councillor Foster
Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 40-09 be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried Unanimously

Moved by: Councillor Foster
Seconded by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora

That By-law No. 40-09 be taken as read a third time and finally passed and the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign same and have the seal of the Corporation attached thereto.

Carried Unanimously

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor Spatafora
Seconded by: Councillor Papa

- a) That the Town of Richmond Hill, in support of the relief efforts in the city of L'Aquila located in the Abruzzo Region in Italy that was severely devastated by an earthquake, make a donation in the amount of \$10,000 to the Canadian Red Cross;
- b) That the funds be drawn from the Council Contingency fund;
- c) That residents be encouraged to support the relief efforts and consider making financial donations to charities of their choice.

Carried

BY-LAW TO CONFIRM THE PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL AT THIS MEETING

By-law No. 41-09, A By-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at this meeting

Moved by: Councillor Papa
Seconded by: Councillor Chan

That By-law No. 41-09 be taken as read a first and second time.

Carried Unanimously

Moved by: Councillor Papa
Seconded by: Councillor Chan

That By-law No. 41-09 be taken as read a third time and finally passed and the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign same and have the seal of the Corporation attached thereto.

Carried Unanimously

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Regional and Local Councillor Hogg
Seconded by: Councillor Beres

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Mayor

Town Clerk



The City Above Toronto

**REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE**

FILE No. **1** *P06*

Clerk's Department
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, Ontario
Canada L6A 1T1

Tel (905) 832-8504
Fax (905) 832-8535

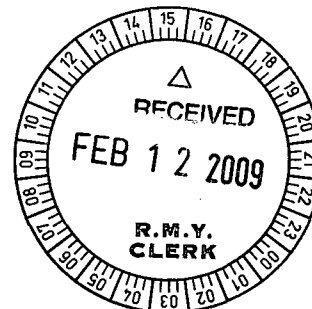
FOR INQUIRIES: PLEASE QUOTE ITEM & REPORT NO.

February 6, 2009

Mr. Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street, Box 147
Newmarket, ON
L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Kelly:

**RE: YONGE STREET CORRIDOR – STREETSCAPING
FILE #15.97**



Attached for your information is **Item 15, Report No. 2**, of the Committee of the Whole regarding the above-noted matter which was adopted, *as amended*, by the Council of the City of Vaughan at its meeting of February 3, 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jeffrey A. Abrams".

Jeffrey A. Abrams
City Clerk

Attachment:
Extract
1. Draft Council resolution

JAA/pa

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2009

Item 15, Report No. 2, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Vaughan on February 3, 2009, as follows:

By approving that the resolution be amended by adding the following, after the word "study", in Clause 7 of the resolution:

"with a broad range of design material alternatives beyond what is typical to date"

**15 YONGE STREET CORRIDOR – STREETSCAPING
FILE #15.97**

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Planning, dated January 13, 2009:

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Planning recommends:

1. That Council approve the attached resolution addressing streetscaping on Yonge Street; and
2. That the resolution be forwarded to York Region, the Town of Markham and the Town of Richmond Hill.

Economic Impact

This resolution will have no financial impact on the City.

Communications Plan

Approval of the resolution will be communicated by letter to York Region and neighbouring municipalities, and through the public consultation process associated with the Yonge Street Area Study.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to submit a resolution for Council's consideration regarding the need for a major streetscaping initiative on the Yonge Street corridor, to be led and financed by York Region in support of public transit initiatives.

Background - Analysis and Options

In 2006 the City, in concert with the Town of Markham, completed a study (and approved OPA 669) pertaining to the properties fronting Yonge Street within the Thornhill Heritage Conservation District. The study supported a modest amount of redevelopment in the area, and established streetscape requirements in association with a surface transit facility. YRRT was directly involved in the study. Consequently, similar detailed streetscape design work was undertaken north and south on the Yonge corridor to create an improved environment for pedestrians and transit. Given the scale of public investment in transit infrastructure, York Region has a large stake in ensuring that the appropriate environment is established on Yonge Street and thereby ensure transit ridership goals can be achieved.

York Region Rapid Transit is now moving quickly toward completing the Environmental Assessment for the extension of the Yonge subway. An announcement is expected in the Spring of 2009 on Provincial approval of the extension, and possibly its funding. In the event that the subway is not approved, a surface transit facility is expected to proceed. As soon as the final form of transit infrastructure is confirmed, the detailed design phase will likely be initiated.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2009

Item 15, CW Report No. 2 – Page 2

The introduction of higher order transit infrastructure in the Yonge corridor presents a unique opportunity for Vaughan, Markham, Richmond Hill, and York Region to significantly upgrade the quality of the urban environment through improvements to the streetscape. Indeed, for the Yonge corridor to become a truly transit-supportive area, significant improvements are needed to create an attractive and comfortable pedestrian environment throughout the corridor and, in particular, in close proximity to planned transit stations. Yonge Street is recognized as Canada's longest and most important street, and functions as a key gateway to Vaughan, Markham, Richmond Hill, York Region and Toronto. As such, special attention to its image and potential is warranted.

The subway, although underground, represents a significant streetscaping opportunity, in that the station areas require 'cut and cover' construction. This requires the reconstruction of the entire Yonge Street right-of-way for a length of 200 – 250 metres at each station. The approaches to the proposed bridge over the East Don River would also require reconstruction. A streetscape plan, detailed and costed, would allow for the costs of the work to be anticipated in the overall cost of the project and guide the reconstruction. As well, once a detailed streetscape plan is in place, the municipalities can require the reconstruction of the curb-to-building face area related to new development. Other implementation measures (e.g. governments up fronting the construction and charging back the work through area specific development charges) could also be considered, and should be discussed between the Region, affected local municipalities and other stakeholders.

Currently, City staff and consultants are working on the Yonge Street Area Study, in coordination with staff from the Town of Markham, York Region and City of Toronto. An objective of this work is to define a vision for the Yonge corridor which supports transit and promotes redevelopment at an appropriate scale and locations. However, for the corridor to achieve its full potential, a coordinated approach to built form, roadway design and streetscaping, which truly balances the needs of pedestrians, businesses, surface transit and vehicles, is essential. York Region is the key party with the authority, direct interest and means to implement the vision.

Therefore, a resolution (attached) has been drafted, requesting York Region to provide funding and develop a request for proposals in consultation with affected municipalities for a comprehensive and detailed streetscape study for the Yonge corridor. With Council's approval, this resolution would be forwarded to the Town of Markham and Town of Richmond Hill, and their Councils would be asked to approve a similar resolution. This initiative is necessary now in order to ensure that the streetscaping work can be concluded in time to coincide with the Spring '09 transit decision, and design work to follow.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

Approval of the attached resolution is consistent with two Vaughan Vision 2020 Strategic Initiatives, specifically:

“support and coordinate land use planning for high capacity transit at strategic locations in the City”; and

“work with other levels of government to continue to support the expansion of the GO system and public/rapid transit”

Regional Implications

The Region is being requested to undertake and finance a major streetscaping initiative in support of the introduction of higher order transit infrastructure on the Yonge Street corridor.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2009

Item 15, CW Report No. 2 – Page 3

Conclusion

This initiative is intended to establish an attractive, pedestrian-friendly and transit-supportive environment on the Yonge corridor in order to foster a high level of transit ridership on the planned transit services to be implemented there. Should Council concur with the resolution, it should be approved.

Attachments

1. Draft Council resolution

Report prepared by:

Paul Robinson, Senior Policy Planner, ext. 8410
Wayne McEachern, Manager of Policy, ext. 8026
Diana Birchall, Director of Policy & Urban Design, ext. 8411

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS Yonge Street is widely recognized as Canada's longest and most important street, and the gateway to York Region, the City of Vaughan, the Town of Markham, the Town of Richmond Hill, and the City of Toronto; and

WHEREAS the Region of York has identified the Yonge Street corridor as a high priority for investment in higher order public transit infrastructure; and

WHEREAS the cost-effectiveness of public investment in public transit depends upon achieving a high level of transit ridership; and

WHEREAS transit ridership goals will only be met if complemented by an urban environment which is attractive, pedestrian-friendly and complementary to the transit service, in terms of built form, roadway design and streetscaping; and

WHEREAS the design of transit facilities on Yonge Street is expected to begin early in 2009; and

WHEREAS reconstruction of significant parts of the Yonge right-of-way provides an opportunity to integrate an improved streetscape along the corridor; and

WHEREAS a comprehensive and detailed streetscape study, *with a broad range of design material alternatives beyond what is typical to date* including cost estimates and implementation measures, is required to reflect the desired vision for the corridor complementing the transit service; and

WHEREAS the Region of York has the authority, direct interest and means to implement the Yonge Street vision; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Vaughan requests that the Region of York commit funding in its 2009 budget to a comprehensive and detailed streetscape study for the Yonge corridor generally north of Steeles Avenue, and expedite initiation of the study to ensure its completion in coordination with the detailed design and construction of subway-related works, in consultation with the City of Vaughan, the Town of Richmond Hill and the Town of Markham.

