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YONGE STREET SUBWAY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (PHASE ONE) AWARD AND PROGRESS REPORT

The Rapid Transit Public/Private Partnership Steering Committee recommends the following:

- 1. The presentation by Tom Middlebrook, McCormick Rankin, Owner's Engineer, be received; and**
- 2. The recommendation contained in the following report, September 12, 2007, from the Vice-President, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation, be adopted:**

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

2. PURPOSE

This report updates Council regarding progress that has been made regarding the environmental assessment (EA) and preliminary engineering activities to facilitate the extension of the Yonge Street Subway to the Richmond Hill Centre (RHC).

3. BACKGROUND

On June 15, 2007, the Province of Ontario announced \$17.5 billion in funding for transit projects for the Greater Toronto Area and Hamilton, including the funding of the Yonge Street Subway extension to the RHC. As a result, on June 21, 2007, Council directed staff to commence an EA and preliminary engineering in coordination with the City of Toronto for the timely extension of the subway. Council also authorized staff to retain the necessary resources to undertake the work, and an interim budget of \$3 million was authorized from capital reserves to undertake the work. Staff were directed to report back on progress on the work plan in the Fall of 2007, including work completed, future work initiatives and budget implications.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

A work programme for the Yonge Street study was developed jointly by McCormick Rankin/URS and York Consortium 2002

In order to move forward expeditiously with the work on the Yonge Street Subway extension the Region's Owner's Engineer, McCormick Rankin, and their sub consultant URS, along with York Consortium 2002, were asked to jointly develop a work programme to undertake early work on the EA. All three companies are well qualified to undertake this work having recently worked together to complete the Spadina Subway assessment, both for the TTC and York Region. In addition, all three companies have been qualified to work for York Region through competitive processes, either as the Region's Owner's Engineer (McCormick Rankin with URS as a sub) or as the Region's rapid transit partner, York Consortium 2002 (YC2002).

York Region received a Scope of Work and estimated budget for work to develop a functional plan for the extension of the Yonge Street Subway from Finch Avenue to the Richmond Hill Centre, including determining alignment and station requirements, and examining environmental, ridership, capital and operating costs. This work programme includes necessary work regardless of the outcome of the proposed changes to the environmental assessment process.

The work programme has been reviewed by the TTC

Pursuant to Council direction on June 21, 2007, the TTC have agreed to comment on the Yonge Street subway work with York Region taking the lead (see *Attachment 1* from Gary Webster). Comments from Bill Dawson, the lead contact at the TTC, were received by the rapid transit office on August 20, 2007, and with the exception of adding one additional analysis to the scope of work, the TTC had no objection to the work programme proposed by York Region.

An independent opinion was sought on the cost proposal to undertake the work programme

The rapid transit office utilized the consulting services of Les Elliott to assist in determination of "value for money" for the work programme. Value for money analysis is an important consideration in the award of work from the rapid transit office and Mr. Elliott has acted in this capacity on other occasions. Mr. Elliott's opinion is attached (see *Attachment 2*) and confirms that the scope of work and fees to undertake the work are reasonable and can be supported.

The work programme has been awarded and is underway

In response to Council's direction on June 21, 2007 to retain the necessary resources to undertake the work, the full work programme was awarded by the staff under the authority provided by Council. To date, the consulting team has commenced project meetings, compiled the constraints mapping, prepared a summation of the subway extension context and issues from previous reports, and commenced station location

concepts as well as the subway operating plan. A detailed outline of the work accomplished since the award will be provided at the rapid transit committee meeting.

Staff is in the process of finalizing with the consulting team the final scope of work based on feedback received and this first phase of work for the Yonge Street Subway is expected to be completed by Spring 2008.

It should be made clear that the current work program does not constitute a complete Environmental Assessment process. Once the Ministry of the Environment has made clear what the new expedited transit EA process will be, then the work program and cost will be adjusted accordingly. The output of the work program will be a functional plan by the Spring of 2008 for delivering the subway.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

On June 21, 2007, Council authorized an interim budget of \$3 million from capital reserves to undertake the work. The first phase of work based on the initial work programme has been awarded at a cost of \$1,675,720. Further scope development and negotiations to undertake the work are underway to finalize the work scope and cost of work. Every effort will be made to recover these expenditures from the senior funding agencies.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

There are no local municipal impacts associated with this report.

7. CONCLUSION

In response to Council's direction of June 21, 2007, the rapid transit office initiated environmental assessment and preliminary engineering activities in support of the timely implementation of the extension of the Yonge Street Subway to the Richmond Hill Centre. The work programme was developed in conjunction with the TTC and an initial work programme has been awarded to YC2002 and McCormick Rankin in the amount of \$1,675,720. This initial work programme will allow work to commence while scope development and dialogue with the MOE regarding the subway EA process continues.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachments referred to in this clause were included in the agenda for the September 20, 2007 Committee meeting.)