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**BATHURST STREET RECONSTRUCTION/WIDENING AND WATERMAIN
INSTALLATION CITY OF VAUGHAN, TOWNSHIP OF KING, TOWNS OF AURORA
AND RICHMOND HILL, PROJECT NUMBERS 80610 AND 77350**

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends:

- 1. The recommendation contained in the following report, June 3, 2005, from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works be adopted; and**
- 2. Staff be requested to provide a report regarding the construction and resurfacing of King Vaughan Road between Bathurst and Keele Streets and on providing local water services to the residents between Keele and Dufferin Streets in the City of Vaughan.**

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk forward copies of this report to the Clerks of the City of Vaughan, Township of King and Towns of Aurora and Richmond Hill.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of staff's approach for tendering the widening of Bathurst Street and construction of the Aurora-Newmarket watermain prior to the finalization of the Noise Policy update in order to ensure the watermain "in service" date is not delayed (*see Attachment 1*).

3. BACKGROUND

The Regional Municipality of York's 10-year Capital Program provides funding for the widening of Bathurst Street and the installation of the Aurora Newmarket watermain on Bathurst Street in 2005. In order to reduce the overall duration of disruption to motorists and residents, the intent is to complete construction concurrently as a single contract commencing in 2005 for completion in 2006.

Separate contracts would create constructor issues under the Occupational Health and Safety Act thereby necessitating the works be constructed consecutively, prolonging the duration of disruption, increasing project costs. Consequently, contract documents have been fully prepared and are ready to tender as a single contract.

Concurrent with the Capital Works program objectives is Council's consideration of a new Noise Policy which may potentially lead to the installation of noise attenuation measures at localized sections of Bathurst Street.

The status of the projects is as follows.

3.1 Bathurst Street Watermain (Aurora-Newmarket Watermain, King/Vaughan Line to Wellington Street)

The Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for the watermain is complete. The detailed design is finalized, utility relocations are complete and all agency permits have been obtained. This watermain has an anticipated in-service date of October 2006.

3.2 Bathurst Street Road Widening (King Road to Wellington Street)

The Class EA for the road widening is complete. The detailed design is finalized, utility relocations are complete and all agency permits have been obtained. This road widening has been programmed for construction in 2006.

During the Class EA for the road widening there was continuous discussion with the residents and local municipalities concerning the noise assessment. Under York Region's current Noise Policy implementing noise mitigation as part of the road reconstruction project was not warranted. At the time of the Class EA, Council was advised that a Noise Policy review and update was planned prior to the road widening and that the noise levels would be re-evaluated in accordance with an updated Noise Policy prior to construction of the roadworks.

3.3 Noise Policy Update

The draft updated Noise Policy was provided to Committee and Council in May 2005. It was recommended that the draft policy be circulated to the local municipalities for comment. The draft policy recommends changes to the criteria for implementing noise mitigation on capital projects. It also made recommendations about retrofit, replacement and development installations. The report is currently being circulated to local municipalities for comments. Assuming formal comments are received by summer 2005, it is expected that formal adoption of a new Noise Policy by Regional Council could occur in September or October of 2005.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

In light of the fact that an updated Noise Policy has not been finalized and that there is a need to provide the watermain by mid 2006, York Region has to proceed with its program commitments while honouring its community commitments. Accordingly, York Region will proceed to tender the combined contract immediately with commitment to address noise attenuation upon adoption of the updated Noise Policy.

This approach maintains York Region's commitment to review the predicted noise levels and to implement attenuation on the basis of an updated Noise Policy. Where the updated policy warrants implementing noise mitigation, noise attenuation walls will be installed by separate contract after the road and watermain work is complete, which will not impede vehicle movements on Bathurst Street.

This approach was taken because:

- Watermain construction commences as soon as possible to fulfill 2006 completion commitments.
- Road widening relieves some of the congestion pressures on Bathurst Street.
- Maintains the overall consecutive year-to-year watermain and road construction schedules for the Bathurst Street corridor northerly to Highway 9.
- Eliminates multiple contractor issues on Bathurst Street.
- Reduces the overall duration of disruption to residents and motorists.
- Reduced duration reduces overall project costs.
- Maintains York Region's commitment to review noise levels in light of an updated Noise Policy and to implement attenuation in accordance with an updated policy.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Both the Aurora-Newmarket watermain and the widening of Bathurst Street from King Road to Wellington Street are included in the 2005 Capital Program. Adequate funding is available to tender this work.

Where the updated Noise Policy warrants installing noise mitigation, a funding request for noise walls will be included in the next budget cycle.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

Proceeding to tender and construct this combined contract will reduce overall duration impacts to the adjoining communities. Upon completion, the contract provides for increased levels of service for Bathurst Street motorists from each community and will provide the required water capacity needed to fulfill commitments to the local municipalities.

Staff from local municipalities participated in the design process and were provided opportunity to incorporate municipal requirements into the contract. Sidewalks were included where requested. Staff from local municipalities are aware of and support this recommended approach.

7. CONCLUSION

This report informs Council how York Region is proceeding with the call for tenders, commencing construction of the road widening and watermain, and addressing noise attenuation opportunities for Bathurst Street upon completion of the Noise Policy update. This approach maintains the objectives of the Capital Program and honours the prior commitment to the community to re-evaluate the noise issue when an updated Noise Policy is finalized. Where the finalized Noise Policy warrants the installation of attenuation measures, such measures will be implemented under a separate contract.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

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