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INFRASTRUCTURE MASTER PLAN UPDATES

The Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendation contained in the following report August 23, 2006, from the Commissioner of Planning and Development Services:

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Regional Clerk forward copies of this report to the Clerks of the local municipalities in York Region.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Committee and Council on the progress of the Transportation and Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update studies.

3. BACKGROUND

The following sub-sections provide some background on the two on-going infrastructure master plan studies.

3.1 Transportation Master Plan (TMP) Update

The objectives of the TMP Update include:

- Confirming York Region's sustainable TMP Vision.
- Analysing alternative growth scenarios and identifying infrastructure implications.
- Finalising the preferred road improvement plan based on the preferred growth scenario.
- Updating the rapid transit plan if necessary.
- Developing support infrastructure plans (e.g. parking/HOV/cycling/etc)
- Developing supporting sustainable policies and programs.
- Determining and confirming Regional funding needs and Development Charge requirements.
- Determining the responsibilities of senior governments in implementing and funding road, transit and other supporting infrastructure.

On March 23, 2006, Regional Council adopted Clause 6 of Report Number 3 of the Planning and Economic Development Committee authorizing the award of a contract to Marshall Macklin Monaghan to assist staff in conducting the Transportation Master Plan Update study.

3.2 Water and Wastewater Master Plan (W&WW MP) Update

The objectives of the W&WW Update include:

- Reviewing and updating the Region's water supply and wastewater conveyance systems and treatment capacity that are needed to meet the revised growth projections.
- Identifying the alternative infrastructure planning strategies and selecting the preferred alternative to meet the growth needs.
- Identifying and recommending servicing policies and standards that will provide the basis for future infrastructure planning and design.
- Developing the phasing plan for the implementation of infrastructure.
- Providing input to the Region's Development Charge By-Law Update.
- Analysing several land use alternatives and making recommendations regarding the impact on Water and Wastewater infrastructure.

On June 22, 2006, Regional Council adopted Clause 5 of Report Number 6 of the Planning and Economic Development Committee authorizing the award of a contract to McViro/XCG to assist staff in conducting the Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update study.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

The infrastructure master plan update studies are being conducted in the context of major changes in the Ontario planning environment including changes to the Planning Act, the Provincial Policy Statement and the introduction of two major Provincial land use planning initiatives, the Places to Grow and the Greenbelt legislations. In addition, York Region is also conducting a major growth management study, Planning for Tomorrow, in response to the Provincial changes and also the continuing rapid growth in York Region. As such, the conduct of the master plan studies must, as much as possible, incorporate and be coordinated with these other activities.

4.1 Integration and Coordination of the Master Plan Update Studies

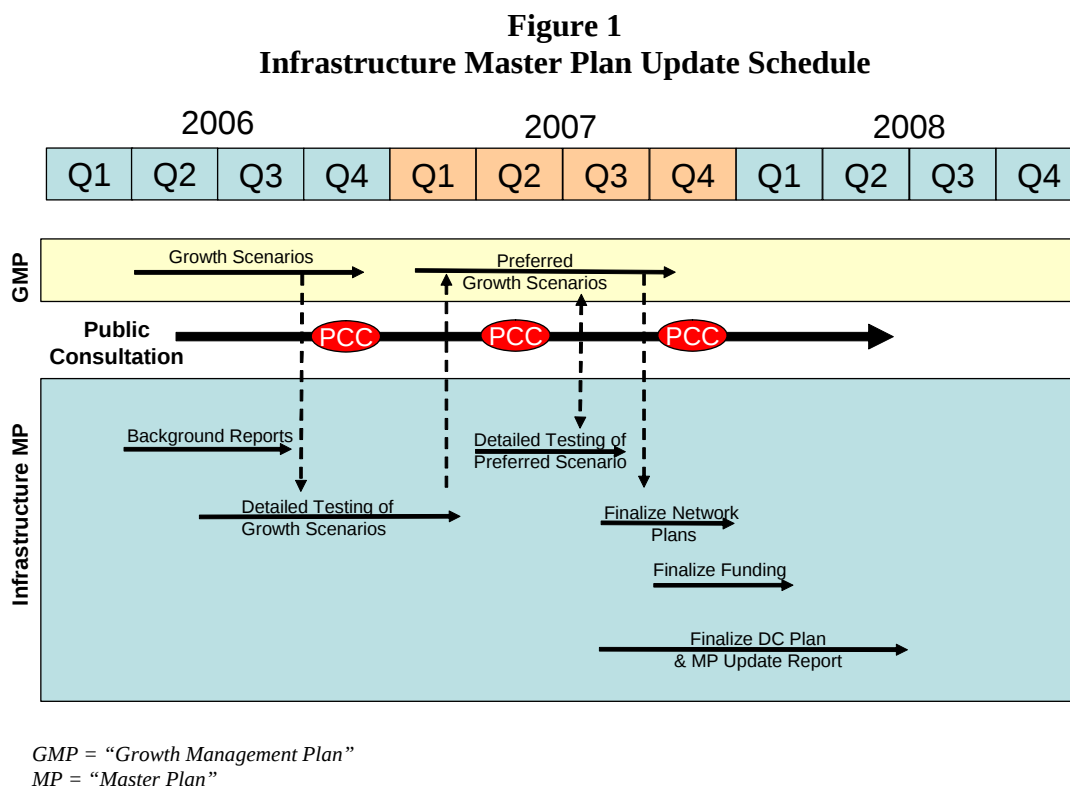
It is important to have the infrastructure master plan studies integrated and coordinated with the Planning for Tomorrow Growth Management efforts. We have ensured this happens in the following ways:

- Integration of infrastructure (transportation, W&WW) study processes with growth management process, i.e. development and selection of infrastructure plans as part of the process in the selection of the preferred growth scenario.
- Substantial and integrated public and stakeholder consultation for the three projects.
- Incorporation of Provincial Regional and the Towards Sustainability in York Region (TSYR) Advisory Group land use and growth management policies and directions on intensification and environmental issues such as Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation

Plan, Greenbelt Plan, clean water, air quality, etc. into the network development step.

- For the first time, water and wastewater Master Plans are being updated together.
- W & WW Master Plan will cover the entire Region, including YDSS and Satellite Communities.

Figure 1 provides a schematic of this integration and coordination between the infrastructure master plan studies and the growth management planning process.



Other Regional Departments including Transportation and Works and Finance are directly involved in guiding the master plan updates. In addition, Technical Advisory Committees are being formed and will include representatives from all area municipalities as well as other stakeholders such as the Conservation Authorities, adjacent municipalities and Provincial Ministries.

4.2 Transportation Master Plan Update Progress

Since its initiation in April 2006, the TMP Update has achieved several milestones as part of Phase 1 of the project. These milestones include:

- A notice of study commencement (*Council Attachment 1*) has been published in local newspapers and on the Region's website. It incorporates the "Moving ... towards sustainable transportation" banner that will be used in all communications materials

related to this study such as notices, newsletters, web pages, electronic presentation slides and public display boards.

- A study website providing information and detailing the progress of the study is up and running.
- Completion of a Symposium on Sustainable Transportation held on June 28, 2006. Invited participants to the Symposium included representatives from major businesses and industries, chambers of commerce, provincial officials, conservation authorities, environmental stakeholders, public health departments, school boards, transportation management associations, York Region area municipality and York Region staff. Presentations and ideas generated at the Symposium will help us build on the key directions for developing a sustainable transportation master plan.
- Confirmation of six working paper topics. Based on the input from project committee meetings and the Symposium, the following key topics were identified for detailed research and examination as part of the project:
 1. Making Transit-Oriented Development Happen
 2. Managing Congestion
 3. Natural Environment/Heritage
 4. Organization/Corporate Governance
 5. Funding
 6. Communications/Education of the Public

Additional input from the public on these issues will be taken into account as part of the first Public Consultation Centre to be held in late Fall 2006 and further refinement of the topics may be performed.

- Selection of four cities to review for best practises. A review of the best practises and lessons learned related to sustainable transportation will be carried out for the following cities:
 - Vancouver
 - Calgary
 - Ottawa
 - Portland

These cities were selected on the basis of comparable size and leading experiences in transportation and infrastructure planning.

The progress of the TMP Update has adhered to the project schedule and is on track for completion in the first half of 2008.

4.3 Water & Wastewater Master Plan Update Progress

This project is slightly behind the TMP Update but will eventually align its schedule with the TMP Update. However, some progress has been made in the W&WW Update study and they include:

- Selection of the consultant and initiation of the study in June 2006.
- Confirmation of the detailed study design and schedule in progress.
- Initiation of the data collection stage.

The project schedule is on track for completion in the first half of 2008.

4.4 Public Consultation Centres (PCC)

As noted in section 4.1, the two infrastructure master plan studies are being coordinated and as such the first set of public consultation centres for both studies are planned for late November 2006. This first round of PCCs will likely focus on the background to the studies such as a look back at the current master plans and the achievements to-date, guiding principles for the studies, critical issues and key challenges facing York Region in terms of infrastructure requirements to support growth and the linkage between the studies and the Planning for Tomorrow growth management study.

Each round of PCC will involve meetings at three locations across York Region. In subsequent rounds of PCC, the meeting locations will be changed so that, by the end of the studies, as much as possible, every local municipality in York Region will have had at least one PCC meeting held in the municipality.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report does not have any direct financial impacts. The costs of these studies are covered under capital projects budget.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

The infrastructure master plans provide the framework for which long term growth and development across the local municipalities can be supported.

7. CONCLUSION

The Transportation Master Plan Update and the Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update studies were approved and awarded as consultant assignments earlier this year. Both studies are being conducted under the banner of the Planning for Tomorrow growth management study. The three studies are integrated and coordinated as much as possible so that the resulting infrastructure plans are developed to match the needs of the growth

scenario that is being developed through the Planning for Tomorrow growth management study.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

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