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PUBLIC MEETING
INFORMATION REPORT ON DRAFT ROPA 43 –
REGIONAL CENTRES AND CORRIDORS

Pursuant to Section 17(15) of the Planning Act, as amended, the Regional Planning and Economic Development Committee held a Public Meeting to inform the Public and receive comments in regard to a request to Amend the Official Plan of The Regional Municipality of York (Region-initiated) – ROPA 43, Regional Centres and Regional Corridors.

The Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends the following:

1. The deputation by John Rogers, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of East Gwillimbury, requesting the Yonge Street corridor be extended north of Green Lane to Morning Sideroad in the Town of East Gwillimbury, be received and referred to staff;
2. The communication from Margaretha Vandervelden, President, North East Sutton Ratepayers Association Inc., September 7, 2004, submitting information regarding ROPA 43, Regional Centres & Corridors, on behalf of North East Sutton Ratepayers Association Inc. and the Lakewatch Society, be received and referred to staff; and
3. The recommendations contained in the following report, August 10, 2004, from the Commissioner of Planning and Development Services be adopted:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. This report, and background material attached as *Appendix 1*, be received.
2. Comments received from the public regarding draft Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA) No.43 be referred to Regional staff.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the basis and background material for a second Statutory Public Meeting under the *Planning Act*, to receive feedback from the public on Draft ROPA 43.

3. BACKGROUND

Staff received authorization from Regional Council on May 20, 2004 to schedule and hold a Statutory Public Meeting under the *Planning Act* to consider Draft ROPA 43. This meeting was held on June 24, 2004, at the York Region South Services Centre in Richmond Hill.

Regional Council on June 24, 2004 resolved to hold a second statutory public meeting at the September 2004 meeting of the Planning and Economic Development Committee in Newmarket; providing the public with a further opportunity to comment on Draft ROPA 43, especially those residing in the northern parts York Region. Staff were also directed at that time to report back on a final version of Draft ROPA 43 in the Fall of 2004.

A copy of the Notice of Public Meeting, in accordance with Section 17(15) of the *Planning Act*, is attached to this report as *Appendix 2*.

This notice was sent by post to the following, in compliance with the minimum twenty-day notice period and other requirements prescribed by the *Planning Act*:

- York Region and adjacent municipalities, and related agencies
- Regional and local councillors
- The Provincial Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Members of the public who attended previous public consultation sessions on ROPA 43 and/or who requested notice of the public meeting

In addition, this notice was published in all York Region Newspaper Group newspapers (e.g. Era Banner) on August 15 and August 29, 2004.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Draft ROPA 43 has matured to a point where it is appropriate for the Regional Planning & Economic Development Committee to formally hear from the public at a Statutory Public Meeting.

The enhancements proposed by Draft ROPA 43 are consistent with and build on Regional Official Plan policies that have been in place since 1994; these aim to focus growth and infrastructure investment in a network of centres and corridors. These enhancements, outlined in detail in *Appendix 1* to this report, can be summarized as policies that aim to:

- Establish and review **secondary plans** for Regional Centres and Regional Corridors.
- Create and review **urban design guidelines**.
- Coordinate development and **infrastructure investment**.
- Encourage the use of a wide range of **implementation tools** and strategies.

- Focus higher density and mixed-use development in locally-identified **Key Development Areas**.
- Establish a **long-term density target of 2.5 Floor Space Index** in Key Development Areas in Regional Corridors.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no financial implication directly associated with this report.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

A Statutory Public Meeting provides a further opportunity to engage the local municipalities in the planning process for Draft ROPA 43. This second Statutory Public Meeting is being held to provide municipalities—especially those located in the northern part of the Region—with another opportunity to formally submit comments.

7. CONCLUSION

Staff received authorization from Regional Council on May 20, 2004 to schedule and hold a Statutory Public Meeting under the *Planning Act* to consider Draft ROPA 43. This meeting was held on June 24, 2004, at the York Region South Services Centre in Richmond Hill.

Regional Council on June 24, 2004 resolved to hold a second statutory public meeting at the September 2004 meeting of the Planning and Economic Development Committee in Newmarket. This will provide municipalities—especially those located in northern part of the Region—with a further opportunity to provide comments.

Staff will report to the Regional Planning & Economic Development Committee in the Fall of 2004 on a final version of Draft ROPA 43.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing is included with this report and is also on file in the Regional Clerk's office.)