



TOWNSHIP OF KING

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July 12, 2011

Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk
Region of York
17250 Yonge Street
NEWMARKET ON L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Kelly,

**RE: Engineering and Public Works Department Report Number EPW 2011-23
Emerald Ash Borer Management Strategy**

Please find enclosed for your information and file, a copy of the extract of C.O.W. Item #2011-157 of the Committee of the Whole Report of June 27th, 2011 and Engineering and Public Works Department Report No: EPW 2011-23 regarding the Emerald Ash Borer Management Strategy.

Yours truly,

Alina Z. Moratto

Per: Kathryn Smyth
Clerk
Encls.

cc. Kathleen Llewellyn-Thomas, P. Eng., Region of York
Rob Flindall, Director of Engineering and Public Works

TOWNSHIP OF KING

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

The following item from the Committee of the Whole Report of June 27th, 2011 was adopted by Council at its meeting of June 27th, 2011. The minutes of the meeting were approved by Council at its meeting of July 11th, 2011.

COPIES TO: FILE

ROB FLINDALL

C.O.W. #2011-157

Engineering and Public Works Department Report Number EPW 2011-23

Re: Emerald Ash Borer Management Strategy

Committee considered Engineering and Public Works Department Report Number EPW 2011-23 to provide a brief overview of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) problem and to obtain direction for staff to create an EAB management strategy.

Committee recommends that Engineering and Public Works Department Report Number EPW 2011-23 be received, and the recommendations therein be approved, as follows:

1. That Engineering and Public Works Department Report EPW 2011-23 be received for information.
2. That staff be directed to report back with a recommended Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Management Strategy.
3. That a copy of this report be forwarded to the Region of York for information.

KATHRYN SMYTH
CLERK

TOWNSHIP OF KING

DATE: June 27th 2011
TO: Committee of the Whole
FROM: Engineering and Public Works Department Report No. EPW 2011-23
SUBJECT: Emerald Ash Borer Management Strategy

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that this be received for information:

1. That the Engineering and Public Works Department Report EPW 2011-23 be received for information.
2. That staff be directed to report back with a recommended Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Management Strategy.
3. That a copy of this report be forwarded to the Region of York for information.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present Council with a brief overview of the Emerald Ash Borer problem and to obtain Council's direction for staff to create an EAB management strategy.

3. BACKGROUND

The Emerald Ash Borer is a highly destructive wood-burrowing insect pest that attacks and kills all ash trees. The insect is native to eastern Asia and has now spread to Ontario and neighbouring US States. As a result of the spread of the infestation there is now a significant economic and environmental impact to forests in Ontario. The insect has been confirmed to be present in York Region (see attachment #2). In response to the infestation and the potential costs related to the infestation, the Region of York has recommended a Management Strategy for trees on Region of York right of ways and property (see attachment #1). Region of York Forestry staff and area municipality staff have formed a working group to co-ordinate efforts and to share information.

4. ANALYSIS & PROPOSALS

Staff recommends that direction be given to the Engineering and Public Works and Parks, Recreation and Culture Departments to undertake an initiative to create a management strategy for approval. The Region of York has estimated that a plan to provide a removal and replacement program for infested trees, in addition to a public education and incentive replacement strategy will cost approximately \$10,200,000 to \$11,700,000 over the next ten years. The Township of King may have similar cost implications once our exposure is known, based on the findings of a comprehensive tree inventory and a management strategy is implemented.

Additionally (see attachment #3) in order to limit the spread of EAB the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has issued orders prohibiting movement of ash tree material and firewood of any species out of this regulated area without prior permission from CFIA. All of York Regions is within the regulated area.

The inevitable spread of the Emerald Ash Borer will have a considerable financial impact to the Township of King if we wish to maintain our green footprint. Funding will be needed for tree removal and replacement programs, however, our exposure is not known at this time as a reliable inventory of trees on municipally owned property is not available. To this end, time will be required to develop an inventory of trees on boulevards, right-of-ways, trails and parks to determine the overall financial implications with respect to the proposed strategy.

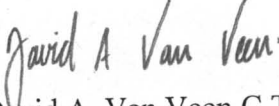
5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Staff will prepare a work plan and budget for consideration in the 2012 annual budget.

Attachments

1. Transportation Services Committee
June 15, 2011
Report of the Commissioner of Transportation Services
Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan
2. 2011 EAB Surveillance – Survey York Region
3. Canadian Food Inspection Agency
2011 EAB Regulated Areas

Prepared and Submitted by:


David A. Van Veen C.Tech
Project Manager

Reviewed by:


Robert Flindall, P.Eng.
Director, Engineering and
Public works