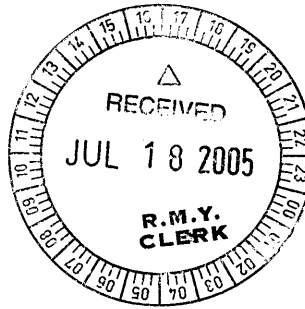




13 July 2005

Resolution No. 2005-770

Mr. Denis Kelly
Regional Clerk
Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON L3Y6Z1

REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE
FILE No. - *P04*

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Subject: GO Transit Development Charges Background Study

Your attention is drawn to the following resolution which was adopted by Regional Council on July 7, 2005:

WHEREAS the Council of the Regional Municipality of Peel has adopted Resolution 2004-541 at its meeting held on May 13, 2004, and Resolution 2004-1224 at its meeting held on December 9, 2004, advising the Province of Ontario of the position of the Regional Municipality of Peel to limit the municipal contribution to the GO Transit Growth Capital Plan to the amount raised through GO Transit development charges;

AND WHEREAS municipalities currently fund one-third of the GO Transit 10-year Growth Capital Plan and the affordability of the Growth Capital Plan is of considerable concern to municipalities, given its increased scope;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario had indicated that it would conduct a review of the Development Charges Act commencing in early 2005, which has yet to be undertaken;

AND WHEREAS the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) municipalities and the City of Hamilton had requested the Province of Ontario to proceed with amendments to the Development Charges Act, as they pertain to GO Transit, in advance of changes that may be made after provincial consultations;

AND WHEREAS the lack of action on the municipal request by the Province of Ontario and the delay in commencing consultations regarding the Development Charges Act have not allowed municipalities a meaningful opportunity to affect potential changes;

AND WHEREAS a number of other issues have been raised with the Province of Ontario and GO Transit during the development charges background study process including the feasibility of implementing new GO Transit development charge by-laws in each municipality prior to December 31, 2005, when the current by-laws expire;

AND WHEREAS the GTA and City of Hamilton Treasurers have substantially completed the development charges background study for GO Transit purposes;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Transportation indicated that the Province of Ontario will not forward gas tax funding for the TransHelp service should the Regional Municipality of Peel not continue to fully support the GO Transit Growth Capital Plan;

AND WHEREAS the Regional Chair had communicated to the Minister of Transportation that the Region was committed to funding its portion of the municipal one-third share for 2005, as an act of good faith, allowing for sufficient time to address and resolve municipal concerns;

AND WHEREAS delays in updating the Development Charges Act has resulted in the loss of almost \$50 million over the last two years;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Province of Ontario be requested to extend the existing GO Transit development charge by-laws for one additional year to allow the Province of Ontario sufficient time to consult on the Development Charges Act and implement changes to address municipal concerns;

And further, that Regional Council reiterates its position requesting the Province of Ontario to amend the Development Charges Act to facilitate the requirement of Regional Council to limit its contribution to the GO Transit Growth Capital Plan, to only the level of development charges collected;

And further, that the subject resolution be circulated to the Minister of Transportation, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, all Region of Peel MPPs, and the Regions of Durham, Halton and York and the Cities of Hamilton and Toronto.

The above resolution is provided for your information.

Sincerely,



Charlotte Gravlev
Regional Clerk and Director of Clerk's

CG:bb

c: D. Labrecque, Treasurer and Commissioner of Finance, Region of Peel

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