

Clause 7 in Report No. 12 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on September 20, 2018.

7

Agreement with the Ministry of Transportation for  
16th Avenue Improvements at Highway 404  
Town of Richmond Hill and City of Markham

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations contained in the report dated August 16, 2018 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services:

1. Council authorize advancing the design and construction of a portion of 16th Avenue improvements and entering into an agreement with the Ministry of Transportation to include the Region's scope of work in the Ministry of Transportation's work to widen Highway 404, in the Town of Richmond Hill and the City of Markham.
2. Council approve Capital Spending Authority for design and construction of the 16th Avenue improvements, in the amount of \$47.8 million, currently included in the 2018 10-year capital budget.

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Report dated August 16, 2018 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services now follows:

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. Council authorize advancing the design and construction of a portion of 16th Avenue improvements and entering into an agreement with the Ministry of Transportation to include the Region's scope of work in the Ministry of Transportation's work to widen Highway 404, in the Town of Richmond Hill and the City of Markham.
2. Council approve Capital Spending Authority for design and construction of the 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements, in the amount of \$47.8 million, currently included in the 2018 10-year capital budget.

## 2. Purpose

This report seeks Council authorization to enter into an agreement with the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to include a portion of the Region's 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements in the MTO's work to widen Highway 404.

This report also provides an update on the ongoing design assignment that the MTO is undertaking to widen Highway 404 for new High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes on Highway 404 from Highway 407 to Stouffville Road, and the Region's Environmental Assessment (EA) studies for 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Yonge Street and York-Durham Line.

## 3. Background

The 2018 10-Year Roads and Transit Capital Construction Program includes construction of the 16th Avenue improvements beginning in 2021

The Region is undertaking two EA studies to consider improvements to 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Yonge Street and Woodbine Avenue and between Woodbine Avenue and York-Durham Line in the Town of Richmond Hill and the City of Markham. The recommendations in the EA study include widening 16th Avenue from four to six lanes from Yonge Street to McCowan Road to accommodate transit/HOV lanes and continuous active transportation facilities.

Implementation of the improvements to 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Leslie Street and Woodbine Avenue, including the Highway 404 interchange, are scheduled to begin in 2021, as per the Region's 2018 10-Year Roads and Transit Capital Construction Program.

MTO is widening Highway 404 between Highway 407 and Stouffville Road to provide HOV lanes

MTO has completed an EA to widen Highway 404 to extend the HOV lanes from Highway 407 northerly to Stouffville Road, including 16th Avenue interchange. Construction has already begun on the section from Major Mackenzie Drive up to Stouffville Road. MTO is currently undertaking the design of Highway 404 improvements between Highway 407 and Major Mackenzie Drive with the design expected to be completed in 2018 and construction to commence in 2019.

MTO's current scope of work is limited to widening the existing bridges to accommodate the HOV lanes on Highway 404 and maintaining the current four lanes on 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

## Agreement with the Ministry of Transportation for 16th Avenue Improvements at Highway 404 - Town of Richmond Hill and City of Markham

The Highway 404 improvements planned by MTO and the 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements planned by the Region overlap at the Highway 404/16<sup>th</sup> Avenue interchange

The Region's improvements on 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue include widening from four to six lanes for transit/HOV lanes and active transportation facilities, as recommended through the 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue EA.

The existing Highway 404 southbound and northbound bridges over 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue can only accommodate four lanes. As a result of the Region's EA work, a new bridge over 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue is proposed to accommodate the Region's 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements.

The Region is requesting MTO to incorporate the Region's 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements into MTO's work to widen Highway 404.

### 4. Analysis and Implications

Combining the projects at the Highway 404/16th Avenue interchange would minimize costs and disruption to residents, businesses and the travelling public

Coordination is ongoing to include the Region's 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements into MTO's design assignment and upcoming construction project. MTO would complete work on behalf of the Region to expedite construction, eliminate duplication of work and most importantly, minimize construction costs and disruption to residents, businesses and the travelling public.

Should the Region and MTO work not be coordinated, the Region would have to commence construction after the MTO has completed the Highway 404 widening work. The Region would need to again detour traffic on Highway 404 and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, duplicate work activities, incur throwaway costs, and would increase construction costs and cause disruption to road users.

The 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue work to be advanced through the MTO contract would be limited to the new Highway 404 bridge over 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and associated improvements. The remainder of the 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue road improvements would be implemented by the Region after MTO's construction work is complete, beginning in 2021 as currently programmed.

Agreement with the Ministry of Transportation for 16th Avenue Improvements at Highway 404 - Town of Richmond Hill and City of Markham

The Region needs to enter into an agreement with MTO to include the 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements into MTO's contract

As the new bridge will accommodate Regional and MTO requirements proposed for both Highway 404 and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the Region will need to cost-share in the incremental costs for design and construction. The costs of the Highway 404 improvements will be the responsibility of MTO.

To include the Region's improvements in their design and construction work, the Region needs to enter into an agreement with the MTO and commit to funding the Region's share of the cost.

5. Financial Considerations

The design and construction of the 16th Avenue improvements are included in the 2018 capital budget

The design and construction of the 16th Avenue improvements are included in the 2018 capital budget commencing in 2018. However, Capital Spending Authority (CSA) for the design and construction phases has not been approved because the EA studies are still ongoing and design was expected to commence in 2019 followed by construction in 2021.

Table 1 summarizes the amounts related to the design and construction of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements from Leslie Street to Woodbine Avenue that are included in the 2018 capital budget and for which CSA is being requested.

**Table 1**  
**Budget Summary for Design and Construction**  
**16th Avenue from Leslie Street to Woodbine Avenue**

Year	Budget
2018	\$ 100,000
2019	1,733,000
2020	3,181,000
2021	19,231,000
2022	23,313,000
2023	110,000
2024	110,000
Total	\$47,778,000

## Agreement with the Ministry of Transportation for 16th Avenue Improvements at Highway 404 - Town of Richmond Hill and City of Markham

Council approval for Capital Spending Authority is required to make a funding commitment

Council approval for Capital Spending Authority for the design and construction of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements is required to commit funding for the Region's portion of the new Highway 404 bridge. A total of \$47.8M related to the design and construction of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue improvements from Leslie Street to Woodbine Avenue are included in the 2018 capital budget.

### 6. Local Municipal Impact

16th Avenue, while designated a Regional road, serves inter-municipal as well as local commuters. The proposed improvements, including HOV/transit lanes, intersection modifications, bicycle facilities and sidewalks, will better address growth in the Region and corresponding increases in traffic volumes.

Throughout the course of the EA, detailed design and construction, staff will continue to work with Town of Richmond and City of Markham staff to address local municipal requirements including sidewalks, active transportation, street lights and local municipal infrastructure such as water mains.

### 7. Conclusion

16th Avenue in the Highway 404 area is a key section in the Regional road network and future growth will place a greater demand on the corridor. Entering into an agreement with MTO to coordinate construction activities is an opportunity to accelerate the construction of planned infrastructure needed to address both existing and long-term transportation needs.

Committing to cost-share in the design and construction of the 16th Avenue improvements would allow MTO to move forward with incorporating the Region's improvements into their design and construction assignments. Combining the MTO and Region design and construction work will reduce costs, construction timelines and disruption to those who live, work and travel through the area.

Agreement with the Ministry of Transportation for 16th Avenue Improvements  
at Highway 404 - Town of Richmond Hill and City of Markham

For more information on this report, please contact Salim Alibhai, Director,  
Capital Planning and Delivery at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75229.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

Recommended by:

Approved for Submission:

Paul Jankowski  
Commissioner of Transportation Services

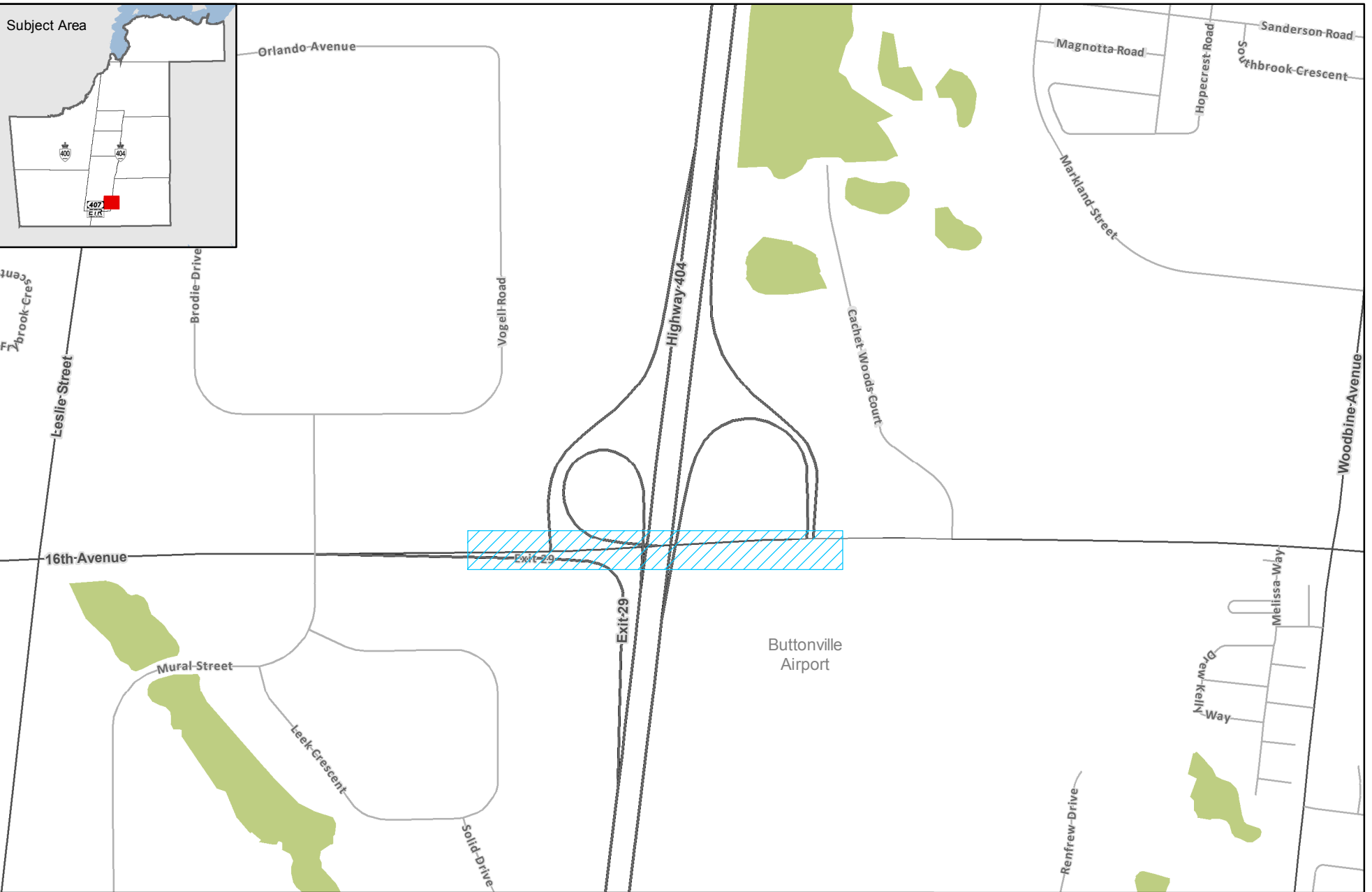
Bruce Macgregor  
Chief Administrative Officer

August 16, 2018

Attachment (1)

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Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

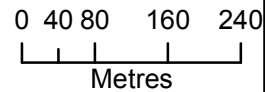


### Location Map

Agreement with the Ministry of Transportation for  
 16th Avenue Improvements at Highway 404  
 Town of Richmond Hill and City of Markham  
 September 6, 2018

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### Legend

 Potential 16th Avenue/  
 HWY 404 Work Area