

**CITY OF VAUGHAN**

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 29, 2013**

Item 24, Report No. 1, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on January 29, 2013.

**24**

**OGRA/ROMA CONFERENCE 2013  
MUNICIPAL DELEGATION REQUEST  
CITY WIDE**

**The Committee of the Whole recommends:**

- 1) That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works, dated January 15, 2013, be approved;**
- 2) That the proposed Yonge North Subway Extension be included in the discussion with the Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Ontario's Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Municipal Affairs and Housing; and**
- 3) That Members of Council forward to the Mayor other issues they wish to be raised with the Minister.**

**Recommendation**

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

1. THAT Council ratify the actions taken by staff to submit a municipal delegation request to the Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Ontario's Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Municipal Affairs and Housing to discuss the importance of the timely construction of the Highway 427 extension to Major Mackenzie Drive.

**Contribution to Sustainability**

Not applicable

**Economic Impact**

There is no economic impact associated with the recommendations of this report.

**Communications Plan**

There is no communication plan associated with this report.

**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's ratification of staff's action in submitting a municipal delegation request to the Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Ontario's Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Municipal Affairs and Housing to discuss the construction of the Highway 427 to Major Mackenzie.

**Background - Analysis and Options**

The annual Ontario Good Roads Association / Rural Ontario Municipal Association combined Conference will be held in Toronto from February 24th to 27th. This Conference is one of the largest annual gatherings of municipal leaders in Canada.

As in previous years, opportunities are provided for municipal officials to make a delegation to meet with a Minister or Parliamentary Assistant to discuss issue(s) of particular importance to the

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municipality. Delegations are made on matters of a provincial nature that directly affect local municipalities such as municipal finance, urban planning, housing, infrastructure and transportation. The deadline to submit a municipal delegation requests is Friday, January 18, 2013.

Staff has considered City of Vaughan issues which may benefit from such a delegation. Transportation issues have been the subject of such Vaughan delegations in the past.

Within the City of Vaughan, the last several months have seen significant progress on establishing the preferred configuration of the Highway 400/Highway 7 Interchange in the VMC. Also, the proposed Yonge North Subway Extension to the Richmond Hill/Langstaff Gateway Urban Growth Centre has now been included in the next wave of The Big Move projects.

One Vaughan key priority initiative which may benefit from such a delegation opportunity is the issue of a provincial commitment to the construction of the Hwy 427 through the Vaughan Enterprise Zone.

The Vaughan Enterprise Zone comprises more than 2,400 acres of industrial/commercial lands and is projected to accommodate employment for over 60,000 people. The Vaughan Enterprise Zone is already the home to many leading edge companies in advanced manufacturing, plastics, automotive parts, and the food and beverage sector. Support industries, such as transportation (CP Intermodal) and distribution, have capitalized on Vaughan's strategic location. It is well recognized that industrial areas are highly reliant on road capacity so the timely extension of Highway 427 to Major Mackenzie Drive is critical to continued growth in the Vaughan Enterprise Zone.

Accordingly, staff intends to submit a municipal delegation request to the Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Ontario's Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Municipal Affairs and Housing to discuss the economic and transportation criticality of the construction of Highway 427 to Major Mackenzie Drive to Vaughan, York Region and the GTA.

#### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020**

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

#### **Regional Implications**

The planning for the extension of Highway 427 has been integrated into all Regional planning to date. A commitment to the extension of Highway 427 will be a significant benefit to the Region.

#### **Conclusion**

It is recommended that staff submit a delegation request to the Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Ontario's Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Municipal Affairs and Housing at the OGRA/ROMA Conference 2013 to discuss the economic and transportation criticality of the construction of Highway 427 to Major Mackenzie Drive.

#### **Report prepared by:**

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(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)