

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 7, 2016

Item 8, Report No. 7, of the Finance, Administration and Audit Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 7, 2016.

**8 EROSION AT WOODBRIDGE HIGHLANDS OPEN SPACE
PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST
WARD 2**

The Finance, Administration and Audit Committee recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Deputy City Manager, Planning & Growth Management and the Director of Parks Development, dated May 30, 2016:

Recommendation

The Deputy City Manager, Planning & Growth Management and the Director of Parks Development, in consultation with the Director of Financial Planning and Development Finance & Deputy City Treasurer, recommend:

1. That staff be authorized to proceed with Phase 1 detailed engineering investigation at an estimated cost of \$50,040.00 including tax and contingency allowance;
2. That a new Capital Project for Phase 1 works be established with project costs funded from the Gas Tax Reserve;
3. That the appropriate resource requests for Phase 2 construction of erosion stabilization works at Woodbridge Highlands Open Space be included for consideration during the 2017 Budget process; and
4. That inclusion of this matter on a Public Committee or Council agenda with respect to amending the 2016 capital budget be endorsed as meeting the requirements for sufficient notice pursuant to Section 2(1) (c) of By-Law 394-2002 as amended.

Contribution to Sustainability

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council in the Green Directions Vaughan, Community Sustainability Environmental Master Plan, specifically Goal 2 Objective 2.2:

- To develop Vaughan as a City with maximum green space and an urban form that supports our expected population growth.

Economic Impact

The Gas Tax Reserve has sufficient funds to accommodate Phase 1 project costs of \$50,040.00, including tax and contingency, for the hiring of an engineering consultant to complete Phase 1 works. Future works will also be eligible for Gas Tax funding and partnerships with the TRCA will also be explored.

Communications Plan

Not applicable.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with background information and to obtain approval for a new Capital Project to hire an engineering consultant to initiate erosion stabilization works required at the Woodbridge Highlands Open Space near Longview Crescent.

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Background - Analysis and Options

Concerns with slope stability and erosion within the Woodbridge Highlands Open Space were identified by a resident on Longview Crescent in 2013. A location map of the area is included as Attachment 1. The open space area behind this residential property is owned by the City with adjacent lands owned by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA). The TRCA was the initial contact point for the resident. The TRCA in conjunction with City staff reviewed the situation and have been monitoring erosion/settlement of the area over the last few years. The results of monitoring indicate continuing settlement of the area and risk of further erosion. An analysis from aerial photos of the open space also indicates evidence of erosion on the river bank area of the valley wall, located below the area in question also on City owned land and directly adjacent to TRCA owned land.

The resident is concerned as the erosion has resulted in a 1 to 2 meter drop in elevation along most of the rear fence line impacting their rear yard landscaping features.

Based on the analysis completed by the TRCA and staff, a preliminary engineering review was undertaken to provide recommendations on next steps required to mitigate the risk of significant erosion and instability in this area. The engineering recommendations for the scope of additional investigations are summarized as follows with details included in Attachment 2.

1. A report shall be prepared to determine the cause of the slope failure.
2. The report will determine whether the failure is part of the overall slope stability or it is only a localized slope failure.
3. The report will investigate possible alternatives for the remedial work and make a recommendation for the most appropriate alternative. Each alternative should include a conceptual sketch and evaluation of the practicality, cost and long term performance. The most appropriate alternative shall be selected.
4. The selected alternative will include preliminary drawings illustrating the proposed remedial work, the extent of the work, and the necessary details. This information must be sufficient enough for the City or City's agent to prepare detailed construction documentation.

Staff propose to undertake this project in multiple phases as follows:

Phase 1 - detailed engineering consulting works to complete borehole samples and undertake a site survey of the valley wall within Woodbridge Highlands Open Space adjacent to Longview Crescent. This Phase also includes development of alternatives, risk analysis and recommendations on a preferred solution.

Phase 2 - detailed design and construction of stabilization works required to mitigate further erosion and to restore grades at the property line.

Following completion of Phase 1 works, staff will review and provide appropriate recommendations for a Phase 2 project for consideration as part of the 2017 Budget process.

Relationship to Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2014-2018)

This report is consistent with the Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy objectives to:

- Continue to cultivate an environmentally sustainable City.
- Invest, review and manage infrastructure and assets.
- Continue to ensure the safety and well-being of citizens

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Regional Implications

There are no regional implications.

Conclusion

Staff is seeking Council approval to create a Capital Project for Phase 1 erosion stabilization at Woodridge Highlands Open Space with funding from the Gas Tax Reserve in the amount of \$50,040 including tax and contingency. This project will be advanced as quickly as possible in order to scope resource requirements to be considered during the 2017 Budget process.

Attachments

1. Location/Ownership Map
2. Engineering Report dated December 8, 2015
3. Site Photos
4. Capital Detail Sheet

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.)