

April 14, 2021

**Re: City of Vaughan, Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA)
Bass Pro Mills Drive, Highway 400 to Weston Road
Online PIC 1, Weston Downs Feedback**

To whom it may concern,

We thank those who have participated in the Online Public Information Centre (PIC) 1 for the Bass Pro Mills Municipal Class EA Study. Based on the feedback received from Online PIC 1, the City has identified and addressed the below key concerns submitted by Weston Downs residents:

1. Concern that the extension of Bass Pro Mills Drive will encourage east-west traffic infiltration through the Weston Downs community.

While the extension of Bass Pro Mills Drive has been identified as the recommended solution, the next steps in the study process involve a staged evaluation process: 1) evaluate alternative alignments to identify where the proposed extension will connect to Weston Road; 2) evaluate alternative cross-sections to confirm the configuration of the new roadway; and 3) identify a recommended design. The alternatives will be compared against a comprehensive set of evaluation criteria and measures, including but not limited to, traffic operations and safety, traffic infiltration, accommodation of active transportation, as well as potential impacts to the natural, cultural and socio-economic environments. Although a preliminary Transportation/Traffic Analysis has been completed and summarized in the online Public Information Centre (PIC), please note that additional traffic analyses will be completed at later stages in the study process. The results of the analyses will be shared at the next PIC, at which time the City will also be presenting and gathering your feedback on the results of the evaluations, the recommended design, and the potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures. PIC 2 is tentatively scheduled for the spring of 2021.

2. Suggestions that there is a greater need for the alleviation of north-south traffic, primarily on Weston Road.

The City of Vaughan and York Region have a number of ongoing studies aimed at supporting future growth and improving the City's road network connectivity. In addition to the [Bass Pro Mills Municipal Class EA](#), some of these studies include [Kirby Road Municipal Class EA](#), [Teston Road Individual EA](#), and [Langstaff Road Municipal Class EA](#). York Region is also planning to complete the widening of Rutherford Road and Weston Road by 2041, as recommended in the 2012 Western Vaughan Transportation Improvements Individual EA and [York Region's Transportation Master Plan 2016](#), the objective of which was to have a plan in place to provide transportation choices, accommodate project growth and address north-south transportation deficiencies in the City. This includes the proposed widening of Weston Road to six lanes of motor vehicle traffic, including two dedicated transit / high occupancy vehicle lanes, and the addition of two bicycle lanes.

Although most of the main roads in the area including Weston Road, Rutherford Road, Langstaff Road and Pine Valley Drive fall under York Region's jurisdiction, and Highway 400 falls under the province's jurisdiction, the City works with all tiers of government to preserve the interest of its citizens while reviewing multiple solutions to address growth and transportation needs.



The Bass Pro Mills Drive Extension Municipal Class EA supports matters of provincial interest as it aims to create an efficient intermodal transportation system that safely facilitates the movement of people and goods. The extension of Bass Pro Mills Drive also promotes economic development by ensuring necessary road infrastructure is provided to allow access to the planned employment area on the west side of Hwy 400, which will assist in addressing the projected employment needs of both the City and York Region. An extension of Bass Pro Mills Drive is expected to redistribute existing and future vehicular traffic and will help to sustain an overall viable transportation network within the growing city and region.

The City of Vaughan values the feedback of our engaged residents and community organizations. As such, the City will engage and collaborate with stakeholders and the public at all key study milestones to effectively share information, including the decision-making process for the purpose of improving transportation choices and creating a more sustainable and transportation-oriented future.

Yours truly,

City of Vaughan

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hilda Esedebe", written over a horizontal line.

Hilda Esedebe, P.Eng.
Transportation Project Manager
Infrastructure Planning and Corporate
Asset Management

cc: Peter Cholewa, P.Eng., Stantec Consulting Ltd.
Diana Addley, Stantec Consulting Ltd.