

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2012

Item 35, Report No. 33, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on September 25, 2012.

**35 RADIOFREQUENCY ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS TESTING AT AL PALLADINI
 COMMUNITY CENTRE
 WARD 2 - VICINITY OF RUTHERFORD ROAD AND ISLINGTON AVENUE**

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Planning, dated September 4, 2012:

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Planning recommends:

1. THAT this report be received as information; and,
2. THAT the City Clerk forward a copy of this report to the Vaughan Telecommunications Facility Siting Task Force for their information.

Contribution to Sustainability

N/A

Economic Impact

There are no requirements for new funding associated with this report.

Communications Plan

N/A

Purpose

This report summarizes the findings report prepared by Public Health Ontario (Attachment #1) respecting the radiofrequency electromagnetic fields testing conducted at the Al Palladini Community Centre and Pierre Berton Library in May 2012, in order to address concerns regarding an existing radio communication tower located approximately 150 metres from the back entrance of the Al Palladini Community Centre.

Background

On February 21, 2012, Vaughan Council directed (in part):

“That representatives from York Region Health Services and Public Health Ontario be requested to conduct radiofrequency electromagnetic fields (EMFs) testing at the Al Palladini Community Centre in the Spring; and,

That the information requested of York Region Health Services and Public Health Ontario be accompanied by additional data on electromagnetic fields as measured from other sources, both short term and long term, and their known impacts on human health, in order that the public may make an informed judgement on these matters.”

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Through the York Region Community and Health Services Department, the Development Planning Department organized the Public Health Ontario radiofrequency EMFs testing which occurred on May 23, 24 and 25, 2012, at the Al Palladini Community Centre and the Pierre Berton Library. Development Planning Department Staff were present for the first 2 testing days, as well as, representatives from York Region Community and Health Services Department. The Local Councillor, and certain members of Vaughan Council and Chair of the Vaughan Telecommunications Facility Siting Task Force also attended on the first day of testing.

Measurement of the radiofrequency electromagnetic fields intensity levels were taken at six different locations around the site; five measurements were taken outside where the public has general access and one was taken inside (Meeting Room 1, Al Palladini Community Centre).

York Region Public Health

On July 6, 2012, York Region Public Health provided the Development Planning Department with a copy of the final Public Health Ontario findings report (Attachment #1) and advised they are in agreement with Public Health Ontario's conclusion that "levels of Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields at this location comply with standards set by Health Canada."

The report outlines that the measurements were taken in accordance with Health Canada's Radiofrequency (RF) exposure guidelines "Limits of Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Energy in the Frequency Range from 3 kHz to 300 GHz", known as Safety Code 6 (SC6). The report explains that the Safety Code 6 standard specifies limits of human exposure to radiofrequency (RF) fields (in the range of 3 kHz to 300 GHz) to prevent adverse health effects. The standard is applicable whenever any member of the general public may be exposed to RF fields. The limits given are for exposure averaged over a 6 minute period. The findings report includes a map showing the locations where the testing occurred on the site.

Specifics in the report indicate the following data was collected:

"For the locations surveyed, the highest cumulative time-averaging SC6 levels of all measurable signals (9 kHz to 6 GHz) was 0.0789%, or about 1267 times below the recommended SC6 limit (cumulative maximum value was 0.13544%, or about 738 times below the recommended SC6 limit). This level was recorded in front of the Pierre Berton Library, about 100 metres from the communication tower (Site 3).

The second highest cumulative time-averaging SC6 level was recorded in the back parking lot of the Al Palladini Community Centre, about 80 metres from the communication tower (Site 2). Its' level was 0.07779%, or about 1286 times below the recommended SC6 limit (cumulative maximum value was 0.17512%, or about 571 times below the recommended SC6 limit)."

"To put the Radiofrequency exposure levels found here in context, levels measured by Industry Canada in the City of Toronto are compared (Industry Canada, 2007) below:

- The highest cumulative 6 minute average found by Industry Canada in the City of Toronto was at the Metro Hall grounds. The level was 2.11%, or 47 times less than the SC6 limit.
- The second highest average level found was at the Spadina Avenue Parkette. The level was 0.44%, or 227 times less than the SC6 limit."

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Industry Canada has noted that when the above noted sites are removed from the total average calculation for the City of Toronto (due to their close proximity to the clustered broadcast facilities in the Toronto Core), the average SC6 percentage is 0.0556%, or 1798 times less than the SC6 limit. In comparison, Table 1 of the Public Health Ontario report (Attachment #1, page 4) provides the overall average taken at Sites 1 through 5 (Note: Site 6, being the inside measurement taken in Meeting Room 1 of the Al Palladini Community Centre, was not included in calculating the overall average). The average SC6 percentage in this survey was 0.056158%, or 1,781 times less than the SC6 limit. It should be noted that the 2 averages are almost exactly the same.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This staff report is consistent with the priorities set forth in Vaughan Vision 2020, particularly "Manage Growth & Economic Well-being".

Regional Implications

On July 6, 2012, York Region Community and Health Services Department advised they reviewed the findings of the report titled "Measurements of Radiofrequency Exposure at Al Palladini Community Centre and the Pierre Berton Library in the City of Vaughan" (Attachment #1) prepared by Public Health Ontario and they are in agreement with the conclusions that levels of Radiofrequency EMFs at this location comply with standards set by Health Canada.

Conclusion

Public Health Ontario has advised that "the recorded data indicated that the cumulative 6 minute time-averaging SC6 levels for all sites are only a small fraction of the SC6 requirements for the general public and therefore comply by a wide margin."

Attachments

1. Report Prepared by Public Health Ontario – Measurements of Radiofrequency (9 KHz to 6 GGz) Exposure at the Al Palladini Centre and the Pierre Berton Library in the City of Vaughan

Report prepared by:

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/LG

(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.)

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ASSUMPTION – WINDEMERE HEIGHTS PHASE 2

19T- 87118 / 65M – 3041

WARD 5 – VICINITY OF BATHURST STREET AND CENTRE STREET

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works, dated September 4, 2012:

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

That Council enact the necessary by-law assuming the municipal services that are set out in the Subdivision Agreement for Plan 65M-3041 and that the Municipal Services Letter of Credit be released after the Owner has provided the City with a payment of \$8,000.00 for the future repair of one cracked storm sewer service connection tee fitting.

Contribution to Sustainability

The municipal services recommended for assumption in this report have been designed and constructed in accordance with City standards which include consideration for sustainability.

Economic Impact

Upon assumption of this development, approximately 0.1 lane kilometers of roadway and associated municipal services including sanitary sewers, watermain, street lighting, sidewalk, trees, boulevard trees, etc., will be added to the City's network of infrastructure. This additional infrastructure is valued at \$56,680 and will incur the normal expense associated with annual operation and maintenance activities of approximately \$9,940 as shown on the following chart:

Item Description	As Constructed Costs	Approximate Annual Operating Costs (*)
Watermain	\$ 2,100	\$ 4,000
Storm sewers	\$ 13,750	\$ 180
Sanitary Sewers	\$ 2,150	\$ 3,840
Road	\$ 31,000	\$ 1,560
Street lights	\$ 4,000	\$ 120
Trees	\$ 3,680	\$ 240
Totals	\$56,680	\$9,940

() Annual Operating Costs derived from the 2009 Municipal Performance Measures Summary and the Parks and Forestry Operations Department.*

The life cycle costs associated with this additional infrastructure will be accounted for in the City's future multi-year budgets.

Communications Plan

The pertinent City departments will be notified of the assumption of the municipal services associated with this development agreement