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Communication
COUNCIL: <u>May 16/17</u>
CW/WS Rpt. No. <u>19</u> Item <u>1</u>

**DATE:** MAY 15, 2017

**TO:** MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

**FROM:** JOHN MACKENZIE, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER, PLANNING & GROWTH MANAGEMENT  
STEPHEN COLLINS, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER, PUBLIC WORKS  
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**RE:** COMMUNICATION – COUNCIL MEETING – MAY 16, 2017

REPORT NO.19 ITEM 1, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (WORKING SESSION)  
MAY 8, 2017  
METROLINX REGIONAL EXPRESS RAIL UPDATE  
CITY WIDE

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The following information is provided to questions raised by Members of Council at the Committee of the Whole Working Session on May 8, 2017.

Metrolinx is implementing Regional Express Rail, which includes expanding the Barrie corridor rail line that links Toronto to Barrie and runs through the City of Vaughan. The Provincial initiative will ultimately provide frequent two-way all day electrified commuter rail service.

The project is a 10-year program that will be completed in phases.

Phase one of construction began on July 1, 2016, and is scheduled for completion in summer 2017. Works include the construction of tunnels underneath the existing rail line at both the Rutherford GO and Maple GO Stations, construction of a second track from Strachan Avenue in Toronto to Centre Street in Aurora and signal improvements. The City has provided Temporary Permissions to Enter onto City owned property in support of this phase of construction.

Phase two of construction includes the construction of a new rail bridge over Major Mackenzie Drive to accommodate two rail lines. The piers for a future pedestrian bridge to the east of the rail bridge will also be constructed as part of the Maple GO Station expansion project. Metrolinx requires a temporary construction staging area to support the works planned for this phase in close proximity to the construction zone. The following three alternative sites were considered, as shown on Attachment #1:

1. South-east corner of the rail bridge and Major Mackenzie Drive. This is a privately owned property. The site has a number of mature trees and a historical house located on it. Ingress and egress was also determined to be problematic. The site was rejected by Metrolinx.



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## memorandum

2. North-east corner of the rail bridge and Major Mackenzie Drive, north and east of the Maple Cemetery and the site of a new residential townhouse development (under construction), Metrolinx looked at using a portion of the commercial plaza parking lot. This site was deemed too far from the construction area and therefore rejected.
3. South-west corner of the rail bridge and Major Mackenzie Drive (City Hall north-east parking lot). This is Metrolinx preferred location for its construction staging area. Approximately 120 existing parking spots will be affected.

Metrolinx, in consultation with City staff, considered two alternative vacant land parcels for the temporary replacement of the impacted staff parking at City Hall. Specifically two sites at the City Hall campus were considered:

1. The south-east corner of the property. This location contains an existing outfall pipe, water service, and is the site of the future community garden recently approved by Council. For these reasons the site was rejected.
2. The site of the former City Hall. This site was chosen as the preferred location for a temporary parking lot during the Metrolinx project.

Metrolinx is committed to ensuring City Hall can continue its day to day activities during the planned construction period. Metrolinx has agreed to do the following works prior to occupying the temporary lands:

- The design and construction of the temporary replacement parking at a minimum of one for one basis. Metrolinx will prepare detailed design drawings for City staff to review and approve. The temporary parking lot will be removed by Metrolinx at the completion of their work and the entire City Hall campus property will be restored to current or better conditions. Council will be informed of the timing and any implications on City Hall campus planning at this point and time. Metrolinx has agreed to pay 100% of all costs associated with the replacement parking and restoration following their work. Please note, Metrolinx will design and build the temporary parking lot in a manner that, should the City wish, it can remain in operation until such time as the City proceeds with subsequent phases of the City Hall Campus master plan;
- The City has an approved capital project, in coordination with the Region to construct turning lanes and intersection improvements at City Hall's main signalized entrance. The timing of this project coincides with the Metrolinx bridge reconstruction project. As such, Metrolinx has agreed to expand its construction contract to include the intersection improvements. A Memorandum of



## memorandum

Understanding or an Agreement will be drafted to specify the scope of work and the City's responsibility to pay its portion of the intersection improvement project;

- Metrolinx will be responsible for all works and costs associated with the preparation of the construction staging area (east parking lot) and restore the site to its original or better condition.
- The condition of the City Hall driveway will be documented prior to the commencement of the works and if it is deemed that the Metrolinx project resulted in damages then Metrolinx will be financially responsible for repairs.

Facilities Maintenance Services will work with Metrolinx to ensure that any construction will not interfere with safety, signage, lighting, security and the main loading and receiving area at City Hall.

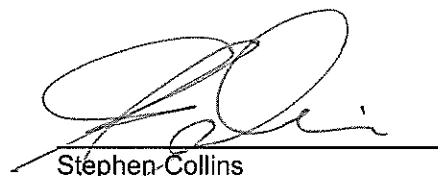
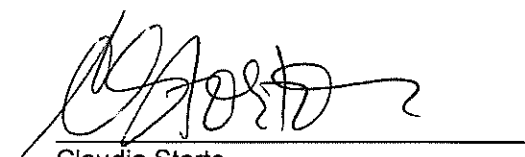
The above matters will be outlined in an Agreement between the City and Metrolinx.

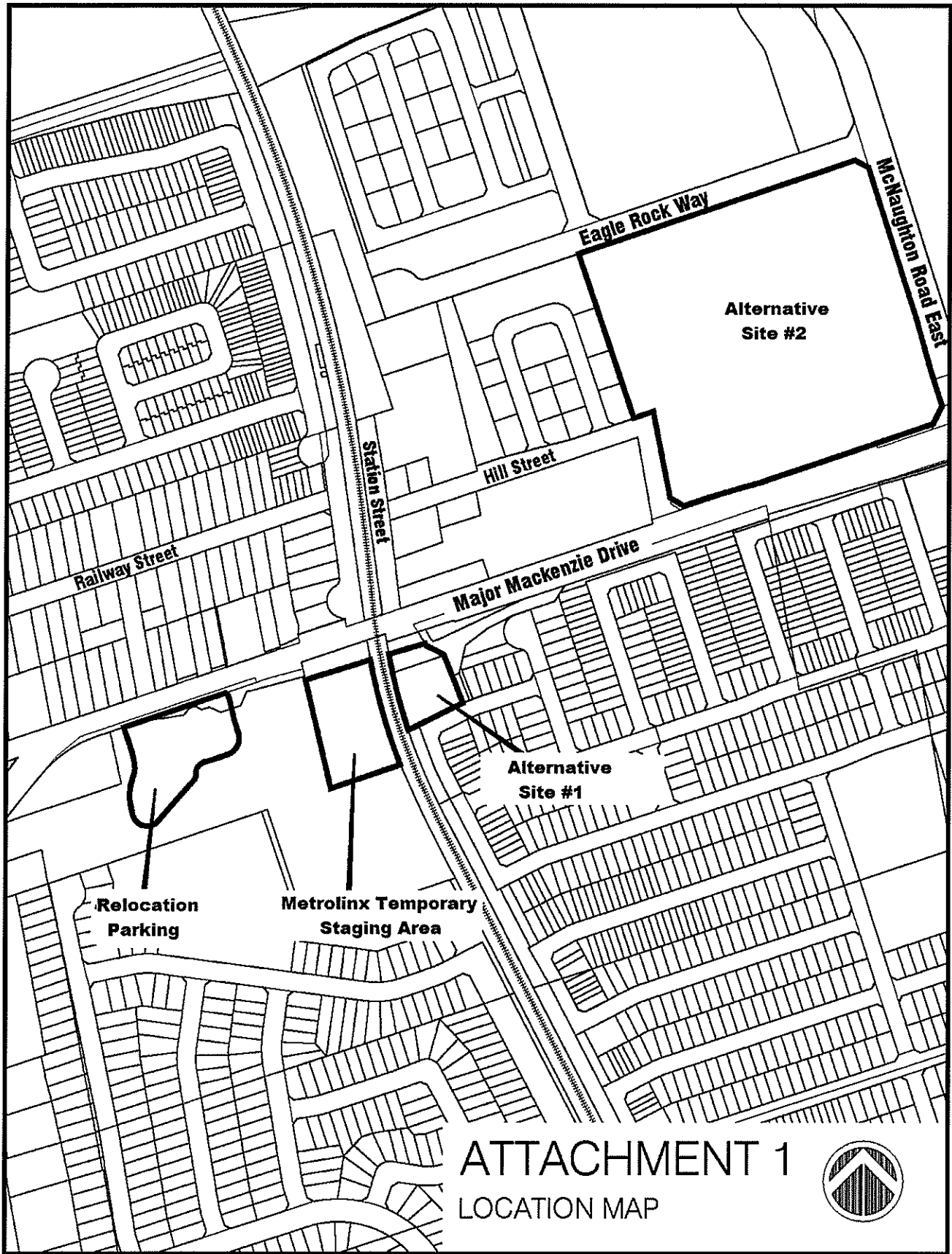
During this four year period, City staff will also be continuing work on planning for the City Hal Campus, taking into account accommodation needs, capital planning considerations, and ongoing consultation with other levels of government and agencies to determine potential interests in relocating.

Metrolinx requires the construction staging area from May 2018 for a four year period ending in 2022. Metrolinx have advised that they will not require the entire site for the four year period. As construction progresses they will reduce the footprint of the construction staging area. The construction of the alternative parking and required road works will begin in late summer 2017 and will be complete prior to Metrolinx occupying the east parking lot.

### Attachment 1: Location Map

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# ATTACHMENT 1

LOCATION MAP

