

Metrolinx Finch West Light Rail Transit: Utility Relocation - Temporary Lane Closures

Date: September 4, 2019

To: Etobicoke York Community Council

From: General Manager, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 1 - Etobicoke North

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for temporary daily off-peak period lane closures on a section of Highway 27 in the vicinity of Finch Avenue West and Humber College Boulevard. The temporary lane closures are required for relocation of existing hydro infrastructure and are being requested from October 7, 2019 to May 31, 2020.

In addition, a closure of the northbound right-turn lane on Highway 27 at Finch Avenue West is required to facilitate replacement of existing watermain on Finch Avenue West immediately east of Highway 27. The northbound right-turn lane closure is being requested from October 7, 2019 to November 30, 2019.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council amend City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 937, Temporary Closing of Highways, to delegate to the General Manager, Transportation Services, despite section 937-4 of Code Chapter 937, the authority to temporarily close to vehicular traffic portions of travel lanes on Highway 27, up to one lane per direction, between 200 metres north of Finch Avenue West and 200 metres south of Humber College Boulevard, daily between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. as required for the purposes of hydro infrastructure relocation part of early works for the Finch West LRT project and exempt the General Manager, Transportation Services, in carrying out this delegated authority from Section 937-5 of Chapter 937, that being the requirement to notify the local Ward Councillor of the pending closure and the requirement to report on the proposed closure if so requested by the local Ward Councillor.

2. City Council amend City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 937, Temporary Closing of Highways, to delegate to the General Manager, Transportation Services, despite section 937-4 of Code Chapter 937, from October 7, 2019 to November 30, 2019, the authority to temporarily close to vehicular traffic the northbound right-turn lane on

Highway 27 at Finch Avenue West, for the purposes of watermain replacement part of early works for the Finch West LRT project and exempt the General Manager, Transportation Services, in carrying out this delegated authority from Section 937-5 of Chapter 937, that being the requirement to notify the local Ward Councillor of the pending closure and the requirement to report on the proposed closure if so requested by the local Ward Councillor.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact to the City of Toronto associated with the recommendations in this report. Metrolinx's contractor, Mosaic Transit Group (The Project Co.), is required to implement all recommendations as conditions of permit approval, funded from the Finch West Light Rail Transit project budget.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council, at its meeting on May 14, 2019, delegated to the General Manager, Transportation Services, the authority to temporarily close to vehicular traffic portions of the northbound and southbound curb lanes on Highway 27, between 200 metres south of Humber College Boulevard and 100 metres north of Finch Avenue West, daily between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. as required, from May 16, 2019 to October 31, 2019. The daily off-peak period lane closures are required to facilitate early works (clearing and grubbing) on Highway 27.

In addition, City Council amended the delegated authority of the General Manager, Transportation Services to temporarily close to vehicular and pedestrian traffic highways or portions of highways for a period up to and including 365 consecutive days until August 31, 2023, as required for the purposes of the construction of the Metrolinx Finch West LRT corridor.

City Council also adopted closing the boulevard spaces within the northwest, northeast, southeast and southwest quadrants of the intersection of Highway 27 and Finch Avenue West. The Council decision can be found at:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.IE4.3>

COMMENTS

The Finch West Light Rail Transit (FWLRT) line will extend for 11 km from Highway 27 to Keele Street and consist of 18 transit stops, including below-grade stops at the Humber College and TTC Finch West Subway Station. The LRT vehicles will operate on an exclusive right-of-way in the middle of the roadway. The project is currently in design phase with early works underway to prepare the LRT corridor for future construction activities.

As part of the early works, existing underground and above ground Toronto Hydro infrastructure (hydro poles, cable chambers, duct banks etc.) on Highway 27 will be relocated and installed by Mosaic Transit Group (The Project Co.). In addition, an existing watermain on Finch Avenue West east of Highway 27 will be replaced.

Construction activities for the hydro infrastructure relocation will be undertaken from October 7, 2019 to May 31, 2020 and will include work within both the boulevard space and roadway on Highway 27. The work will be carried out in multiple stages and during off-peak period (9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) to minimize its impact on the road users. Temporary daily lane closures (up to one lane per direction) on Highway 27, between 200 meters north of Finch Avenue West and 200 metres south of Humber College Boulevard, will be required during the off-peak period. A lane of traffic in each direction will be maintained at all times through the work zones on Highway 27. Any open excavation will be covered with steel plates outside the work hours. Pedestrian connectivity on both sides of Highway 27 will be maintained.

In addition, the northbound right-turn lane on Highway 27 at Finch Avenue West will required to be closed to facilitate replacement of existing watermain on Finch Avenue West east of Highway 27. The lane closure will be required for a period of 55 days (October 7, 2019 to November 30, 2019). With the closure in place, the northbound right-turn movement will be shared with the northbound through traffic movement

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Finch West Light Rail Transit - Location Plan

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