June 2, 2009

Councillor Mike Del Grande,
Chair
Scarborough Community Council

Subject: Municipal Road Damage Deposit (Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 743)

The fee charges for paving/excavation/construction permits comes from the fee schedule that was originally approved by City Council in 2000, and the rates are adjusted each year by the CPI rate as approved by Council.

The By-laws in Scarborough (By-law 16402 & By-law 21208) requires one to get the necessary permission and permits have always been in place.

Since the passing of the Front Yard Parking By-law (Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 918), which prohibits all front yard parking and maintains landscape open space, in all of the Scarborough Wards, and the passing of the Municipal Road Damage Deposit (Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 743) which directed staff to have all damages that occurred during construction to City property, be repaired at the owners expense, the level of enforcement was stepped up.

In 2008, Right of Way Management informed many of the Paving Companies that permits are required, as the businesses have been aware in North York, Toronto, East York and Etobicoke. Many companies, I have learned through my constituents are not informing their Scarborough clients that a permit is required. This has left many Scarborough residents in a situation where a stop order has been placed on their property, leaving an unfinished driveway for them to deal with until the company can revisit the area.

I would like to request that the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee give consideration to placing the onus on the General Contractor/Paving Company to obtain the Municipal Road Damage Deposit (Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 743), shifting this responsibility from the homeowner.

This would allow the City of Toronto to deal directly with businesses which would in fact decrease the time consumed in dealing with each individual homeowner, as the businesses would have the opportunity to apply for several permits at once, saving City staff time. This motion would also respect the General Contractors/Paving Company from having to deal with stop orders which would delay their scheduled work, thirdly this motion would serve to protect our City of Toronto residents who are not aware of the new measure and could fall into default with the City of Toronto.

Sincerely,

Paul Ainslie
Councillor
Ward 43 – Scarborough East

c. Yvonne Davies, Committee Administrator, City Clerks Department