

Permanent Closure of a Portion of Westgate Boulevard

Date:	March 25, 2010
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services Division, North York District
Wards:	Ward 10 – York Centre
Reference Number:	<i>ny10039</i>

SUMMARY

Transportation Services Division has received a request from Toronto Water to investigate the feasibility of closing the easterly portion of the untravelled Westgate Boulevard, located north of Highway 401 and east of Bathurst Street. Toronto Water is requesting this portion of the highway to form part of the storm water management lands in the West Don River Valley.

Transportation Services Division recommends that the east section of Westgate Boulevard, shown as Part 1 on the attached Sketch No. PS-2009-047, be permanently closed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services Division recommends that City Council:

1. Permanently close the east section of Westgate Boulevard, shown as Part 1 on the attached Sketch No. PS-2009-047 (the “Highway”), subject to compliance with the requirements of the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 162.
2. Authorize Transportation Services Division staff to give notice to the public of a proposed by-law to close the Highway in accordance with the requirements of the City of Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 162, with the North York Community Council to hear any member of the public who wishes to speak to the matter during consideration of the draft by-law; and

3. Authorize Transportation Services Division staff to advise the public of the proposed closure of the Highway prior to implementation, in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Schedule “A+” activities, by posting notice of the proposed closure on the notices page of the City’s website for at least five working days prior to the North York Community Council meeting at which the proposed by-law to close the Highway will be considered.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications to Transportation Services Division from the adoption of this report. However, Toronto Water will be responsible for all costs associated with the closure of the Highway and the development of the proposed storm water management pond with appropriate funding provided within the Earl Bales Stormwater Management project.

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

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting held on January 25, 2010, the Property Management Committee recommended the transfer of the operation and management of the Highway from Transportation Services Division to Toronto Water to form part of the storm water management pond lands, conditional upon City Council approving the permanent closure of the Highway.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services Division staff received a request from Toronto Water to investigate the feasibility of permanently closing the Highway for incorporation into the abutting storm water management pond in the West Don River Valley.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services Division staff has carried out a preliminary review of the request to close the Highway and has determined that the Highway can be permanently closed.

An existing sanitary sewer is located within the Highway and will remain in place permanently. The existing vehicular pathway used by the City’s Technical Services Division staff for inspection and maintenance of the sanitary sewer located within the Highway will remain in place.

Closing Process

The closing process requires two separate approvals from City Council. The first approval initiates the process to close the Highway. The second City Council approval authorizes enactment of the closing by-law. Prior to enactment of the by-law, the public has the opportunity to speak to the matter if they wish to do so at North York Community Council during consideration of the proposed by-law.

The requirements of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Schedule “A+”) will be met during the posting of the above noted public notice.

This report has been prepared in consultation with staff from Toronto Water and Real Estate Services Division.

CONTACT

Pascoal D’Souza, C.E.T.
Manager, Traffic Planning and Right-of-Way Management
Transportation Services Division, North York District
Tel: 416-395-7458
Fax: 416-395-7482
Email: pdsouza@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Myles Currie, B.A.
Director

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Sketch No. PS-2009-047 (*ny10039_drawing*)