Permanent Closure of a Remnant Portion of Public Highway east of Bathurst Street and north of Housey Street in the Railway Lands

Date: October 13, 2011
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
Wards: Trinity-Spadina – Ward 20
Reference Number: Ts2011209te.top

SUMMARY

After entering into an Offer to Purchase for the sale of Blocks 32 and 36 of the Railway Lands, to Toronto Community Housing Corporation, it was discovered that the portion of public highway, within Block 36, east of Bathurst Street and north of Housey Street, was never closed at the time the remainder of the road allowance was closed. The open road allowance has prevented the City of Toronto's Affordable Housing Office from completing the real estate transaction with Toronto Community Housing Corporation. This report is, in essence, a housekeeping exercise to allow the conveyance to Toronto Community Housing Corporation and for the development of the site.

Transportation Services recommends that the subject portion of remnant highway be permanently closed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council, permanently close the remnant portion of public highway east of Bathurst Street and north of Housey Street, designated as Part 49 on registered reference plan No. 66R-14891 and shown as Part 1 on Sketch No. PS-2009-072 (the "Highway"), attached to the report, dated October 7, 2011, from the Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District.
2. City Council enact a by-law substantially in the form of the draft by-law attached as Appendix "A" to the report, dated October 7, 2011, from the Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District.

**Financial Impact**
The Offer to Purchase the development site, including the Highway, between the Affordable Housing Office (AHO) and Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) was for nominal consideration and therefore, there will be no financial impact to the City by the adoption of this report.

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

**DECISION HISTORY**
City Council, at its meeting of July 16, 17, 18 and 19, 2007, adopted, as amended, EX10.34, thereby authorizing, among other things, the sale of Blocks 32 and 36 in the Railway Lands. The Highway is part of Block 36.

The Chief Corporate Officer authorized the General Manager, Transportation Services, to give notice to the public of a proposed by-law to close the Highway in accordance with the requirements of City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 162 and the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Schedule "A+" activities (Delegated Approval Form (the "DAF") No. 2011-337).

**ISSUE BACKGROUND**
Transportation Services staff received a request from Legal Services staff to process the request to permanently close the Highway for incorporation into TCHC's development site.

**COMMENTS**
Transportation Services staff has reviewed the feasibility of closing the Highway and have determined that the Highway can be permanently closed.

There are no municipal services or public utilities in the Highway to be closed.

**Closing Process**
The closing process now requires only one approval from City Council. The draft by-law is now an Appendix to the report that recommends the closure of the Highway and is tabled at the same Toronto and East York Community Council meeting that the public has the opportunity to speak to the matter if they wish to do so.
The requirement of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Schedule "A+" activities will be met during the posting of the public notice on the notice page of the City's Web site for at least five working days prior to the Toronto and East York Community Council meeting, which the proposed by-law to close the Highway will be considered.

CONTACT
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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS
Appendix "A" – Draft By-law
Drawing No. PS-2009-072, dated June 3, 2009