



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Permanent Closure of Portions of Highway 27 Abutting the Rail Corridor, South of Grandstand Ent Road

Date:	March 11, 2015
To:	Etobicoke-York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District
Wards:	Ward 2 - Etobicoke North
Reference Number:	p:\2015\Cluster B\TRA\EtobicokeYork\eycc150055-to

SUMMARY

Transportation Services recommends that portions of Highway 27 abutting the rail corridor and south of Grandstand Ent Road, be permanently closed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends:

1. City Council authorize the permanent closure of portions of Highway 27, designated as Parts 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 and 10 on Plan 66R-26522, City of Toronto, and shown as Parts 1 and 2 on Sketch PS-2013-007 (the "Highway"), attached to the report dated March 11, 2015, from the Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke 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 March 11, 2015, from the Director, Transportation Services, Etobicoke York District.

Financial Impact

The closing of the Highway will not result in any costs to the City as the purchaser of the Highway is responsible to pay all costs associated with the closing of the Highway.

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

DECISION HISTORY

In accordance with the City's Real Estate Disposal By-law 814-207, the Highway was declared surplus on December 18, 2014, by DAF 2014-292, conditional upon the Highway being permanently closed, with the intended manner of disposal by inviting an offer to purchase the Highway from Metrolinx.

By DAF 2015-027, dated January 29, 2015, 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 the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 162 and the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Schedule "A+" activities. Also by the same DAF, the Director of Real Estate Services authorized the sale of the Highway to Metrolinx, conditional upon City Council authorizing the permanent closure of the Highway.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Transportation Services staff received a request from Metrolinx to investigate the feasibility of closing the Highway for incorporation into the Georgetown South Rail Project in order to provide infrastructure improvements to GO Transit ridership demand and future growth.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services has reviewed the feasibility of closing the Highway and has determined that the Highway can be permanently closed subject to Toronto Water assets remaining in place using a City-Metrolinx agreement and any removal or relocation costs for public utilities are at Metrolinx's expense.

The public utilities that may be affected by the closure of the Highway are as follows:

- i) Telus – a manhole at street level will need to be relocated;
- ii) Enbridge Gas – a gas main is within Part 2 of the Highway and can be abandoned at a cost of \$50,000.00;
- iii) Toronto Hydro – overhead plant spanning the rail corridor; and
- iv) Group Telecom – existing plant along CN Right-of-Way and along Highway 27 in joint trench with Telus. Exact plant location to be made by locates.

As previously stated, any relocation/removal costs are the sole responsibility of Metrolinx. Prior to the closing of the Highway, Metrolinx must provide written confirmation from each of the above-noted utility companies that either the estimated cost to remove/relocate their services has been paid, or that an agreement on an easement has been reached with Metrolinx.

Closing Process

The closing process requires approval from City Council. The draft by-law is an Appendix to the report that recommends the closure of the Highway and is tabled at the same Etobicoke-York Community Council meeting that the public has the opportunity to speak to the matter if they wish to do so.

Permanent closure of portions of Highway 27

The requirements for 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 Etobicoke-York Community Council meeting at which the proposed by-law to close the Highway will be considered.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Vincent Sferrazza,
Director, Transportation Services - Etobicoke-York District

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix "A": Draft By-law
Attachment 1: Sketch PS-2013-007, dated January 25, 2013