



INFORMATION REPORT
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May 1, 2015

REPORT – INFORMATION REPORT # 2015-18

TO: Mayor and Members of Council
SLT/OLT

SUBJECT: Yonge Street and Davis Drive Corridor Streetscape Master Plan

ORIGIN: Development & Infrastructure Services

COMMENTS

The purpose of this Information Report is to update members of Council and SLT/OLT on the status of the Yonge Street and Davis Drive Corridor Streetscape Master Plan.

In accordance with the Procedure By-law, any Member of Council may request this Information Report be placed on an upcoming Committee of the Whole agenda for discussion.

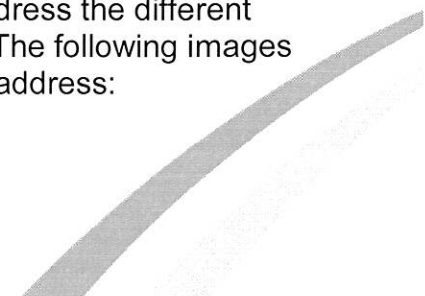
The Town and York Region have partnered to develop a Corridor Streetscape Master Plan (CSMP) for those portions of Yonge Street and Davis Drive that are outside of the Vivanext rapidway.

Through a joint RFP with York Region, the firm IBI Group has been hired to develop a Corridor Streetscape Master Plan for those portions of Yonge and Davis that are outside of the Vivanext rapidway and that serve as gateways into the Town's Urban Centres. Refer to Appendix "A" "Project Context" map for further details.

The cost of the Master Plan is \$167,500.00, with the Town and Region jointly funding the project 50/50. The Plan is expected to be completed by February 2016.

The CSMP will ensure that a coordinated urban streetscape vision is achieved, building on the foundation established by the rapid transit streetscape design within the Urban Centres.

The study area includes four segments of Yonge Street and Davis Drive which vary in their current and future built form, and it is expected that the master plan will address the different conditions accordingly, while still maintaining an overall cohesive design. The following images hi-light the different issues and current context that the CSMP will need to address:



Yonge Street South



Yonge Street North



Davis Drive West



Davis Drive East



The overall project goal is to create a consolidated Streetscape Master Plan including development tools and an implementation strategy for the public realm.

IBI Group has outlined the following six objectives for the project:

- Establish a vision incorporating urban design principles
- Develop comprehensive complete streets
- Create a hierarchy of spaces/streetscape typologies
- Provide pedestrian accessibility, comfort and amenity
- Develop place-making opportunities
- Visually tie into the Vivanext streetscape and Town of Newmarket Urban Centres

The CSMP will refer to and build on existing policies and plans to achieve a Newmarket-specific vision and design, including York Region documents such as the Transit-Oriented Design Guidelines, Transit Coordinated Street Furniture Urban Design Guidelines, Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan, and Designing Great Streets – A Context Sensitive Approach for York Region. The study will also build on Town documents including the Active Transportation Network Plan, Secondary Plan, the Public Art Plan and Policy, and the Intersection Design Study.

The CSMP will address such matters as the architectural and streetscape design interface, screening and signage, transit stops and coordinated street furniture, outdoor spaces and public art, environmentally-progressive design (including Low Impact Development), paving, wayfinding, barrier-free access, pedestrian linkages, bicycle paths and facilities, crosswalk design, safety, road design, traffic signal poles, and lighting.

An Implementation and Phasing Strategy, along with anticipated maintenance costs, will also form part of the study.

Critical Timing Issue – Yonge Street North detailed design and construction

Yonge Street north of Davis Drive is identified in the Region's 2015 10-Year Capital Plan, with the Roads Capital Planning and Delivery Branch initiating detailed design in the Spring of 2015. The timing of the CSMP is therefore critical in order to maximize the design opportunities within the boulevard and ensure a seamless coordination with the Yonge Street detailed design. As such, the Yonge Street North segment of the CSMP will be focused on first to ensure this opportunity is not missed.

CONSULTATION

York Region has organized a full day visioning session on June 17th, 2015, with invitations to key Town and Regional staff and members of Council to be forwarded shortly.

There are also two public consultation meetings planned through the process, with one anticipated to be this Fall and one in early 2016.

The workplan also contemplates two presentations each to Regional and Town Council.

BUSINESS PLAN AND STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGES

This joint initiative with York Region supports the following branches of the Town's Strategic Plan:

Well-planned and connected – enhance travel to, from, and within Newmarket

Well-respected – establishing effective working relationships and joint planning initiatives with municipal neighbours; discovering innovative solutions for future well-being; being a champion for collaboration and cooperation

HUMAN RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable to this Information Report.

BUDGET IMPACT

The Town's portion of the CSMP is \$83,750.00, and sufficient budget has previously been approved. The CSMP will identify future operating and maintenance costs associated with the design and implementation of the plan.

CONTACT

For more information on this report, contact J. Unger, Assistant Director of Planning, 905-953-5321, ext. 2452, or by email at junger@newmarket.ca.


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Director of Planning & Building Services


Commissioner of Development & Infrastructure Services

Appendix "A" Project Context

