



The Regional Municipality of York

NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION CENTRE

Class Environmental Assessment Study 16th Avenue (Y.R. 73), Donald Cousens Parkway to York-Durham Line Town of Markham

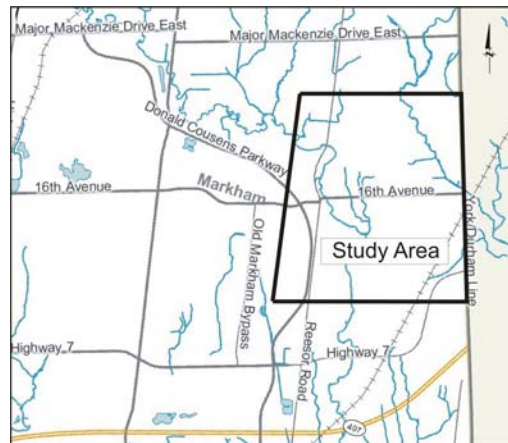
Since 2005, The Regional Municipality of York has been undertaking a Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study to determine future road needs and improvements for the 16th Avenue corridor between Yonge Street and York-Durham Line, in the Towns of Richmond Hill and Markham (16th Avenue Class EA).

In early 2008, the Town of Markham requested that York Region review the need for all 6-lane Transit Supportive Projects within the Town of Markham and evaluate alternative solutions in a broader context to manage congestion and accommodate planned growth. York Region is currently undertaking additional consultation and EA work on the 16th Avenue Class EA and all other transit supportive projects in the Town of Markham, to better evaluate and resolve the Town's request prior to finalizing Phase 3 (Design Alternatives) of the on-going Class EA.

Based on the findings of the Needs and Justification analyses completed for the 16th Avenue Class EA, improvements to 16th Avenue between Donald Cousens Parkway and York-Durham Line are required shortly. Based on these needs and since the Transit Supportive Projects study will require several months to complete, the Region intends to move forward with this section of 16th Avenue as a separate Class EA from the 16th Avenue Class EA. This section is not a Transit Supportive Project because 6-lanes are not recommended along this portion of 16th Avenue. **Please see the map below for the location of the study area.**

The study for the section of 16th Avenue between Donald Cousens Parkway and York-Durham Line will be carried out in accordance with the process for a Schedule 'C' project, as outlined in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (October 2000 as amended 2007). The results of Phase 1 (Problem / Opportunity) and Phase 2 (Alternative Solutions) of the Class EA process have been presented to the public through the 16th Avenue Class EA process as part of the second set of Public Consultation Centres (PCC) held on May 30th and May 31st 2007. For the section of 16th Avenue from Donald Cousens Parkway to York-Durham Line, the preferred planning alternative presented at the PCCs involves operational improvements, elimination of the jog at Reesor Road and replacement of the deteriorated bridge over the Little Rouge Creek.

Members of the public are invited to attend the PCC for this section of the corridor. Items to be discussed will include alternative design solutions, evaluation criteria, and the preliminary preferred design. The evaluation will include impacts on the natural and social environment, and mitigation measures. Following the consultation centre, the preliminary preferred design will be reviewed taking into consideration the comments received, and will be confirmed or modified. Date, time, and location for the PCC are as follows:



Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2008
Time: 6:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. (Drop-in-Centre)
Place: Brother André Catholic High School (Cafeteria)
6160 Sixteenth Avenue East, Markham

Public consultation is vital to this study. Anyone with an interest in this study has the opportunity to get involved and provide input. All information will be maintained on file for use during the study. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record. If you require additional information, would like to be placed on the project mailing list, or have any questions or comments, please contact one of the individuals below:

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Project website: www.york.ca under News and Information Heading, click on the 16th Avenue Roads EA link.

Bill Fisch
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York Region Chairman and CEO
Commissioner, Transportation Services

Thank you for your participation in this study.

This notice issued 27 November 2008.