

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

**REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE AND THE
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

**For Consideration by
The Council of The Regional Municipality of York
on April 23, 2009**

**1
INFRASTRUCTURE STIMULUS FUND APPLICATIONS**

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. Council support the application to the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund program for projects listed in Section 4 of this report.
2. The project funding identified within 2009-2018 Capital budget be advanced from its current timing to meet the Region's financial contribution commitment for any project that receives approval under the program.

2. PURPOSE

On April 15 2009, the details of the federal Infrastructure Stimulus Fund was provided to municipalities. The program requires submission of applications for the funding which must be filed no later than May 1, 2009.

This report seeks approval for the submission of a number of candidate projects that meet the strictly defined program requirements.

3. BACKGROUND

On April 15th, the federal and provincial governments jointly announced an infrastructure stimulus program

In their letter announcing the program the governments stated:

"The Government of Canada has also announced the creation of a new \$4-billion Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, aimed at getting shovels in the ground for infrastructure projects that can be completed over the next two years. The Government of Ontario will match this federal funding and work together with the Government of Canada to ensure that these funds are delivered expeditiously and efficiently to municipalities in the province. These funds are focused on the rehabilitation of existing assets, but new construction is eligible provided it can be fully completed by March 31, 2011, and it represents an incremental investment on the part of the municipality.

The Infrastructure Stimulus Fund works by having the federal and provincial governments match municipal contributions towards infrastructure projects on an equal basis. All parties share one-third of the total eligible project cost. This funding will help create jobs and provide much-needed stimulus to the economy."

The program includes a number of restrictions that limit the projects to those that meet strict criteria

The following elements of the program outline the basic requirements that are to be met for program eligibility:

1. The deadline for applying is May 1, 2009.
2. Projects must be substantially completed by March 31, 2011. For the purposes of the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund, a project is deemed to have been substantially completed once all major construction work has been completed and the infrastructure is ready to be used for its intended purpose..
3. The project must be incremental to what is currently planned and cannot currently be planned to be built over the next two construction seasons. This means projects need to be brought forward from those identified for 2011 or later in the capital budget.
4. Municipalities in excess of 100,000 people may submit an unlimited number of applications. The municipality will share the project cost on a one third basis.
5. The preference appears to be towards rehabilitation projects but new projects will be eligible if they are be substantially completed before March 31, 2011.

6. Council approval of the project and a commitment for the municipal one-third share is required.
7. The program information that is available also indicates that 50% of the available funds are to be spent in 2009/10 and 50% in 2010/11.

The types of projects eligible for the program is extensive

The following are eligible project categories for the program:

- i. Water and Waste Water Infrastructure
- ii. Public Transit Infrastructure
- iii. Local Road Infrastructure
- iv. Disaster Mitigation Infrastructure
- v. Solid Waste Management Infrastructure
- vi. Brownfield Redevelopment Infrastructure
- vii. Cultural Infrastructure
- viii. Airport Infrastructure
- ix. Port and Cruiseship Infrastructure
- x. Municipal Buildings
- xi. Parks and Trails

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

The rules within the program make the identification of projects difficult as they need to be projects that are identified for construction at least two years in the future yet are able to be designed and constructed quickly.

Staff has identified the following list of projects for application. In some cases they are still being reviewed to determine if the deadline of March 31, 2011 can be achieved or other requirements can be met. If it is determined that the date cannot be met they will be removed from the applications that are submitted by May 1st.

Table 1
Candidate Projects for Application

Project	New or Rehabilitation	Total Budget (in \$000's)
Various Road Resurfacing	Rehabilitation	10,000
Bridge/Culvert Replacement - Teston Road, East of Pine Valley	Rehabilitation	6,000
Refurbishment of Transit Terminals	Rehabilitation	3,600
Rehabilitation /Replacement of Bus Stops and Shelters (for Accessibility)	Rehabilitation	9,200
Intersection & Bridge Improvement- 16 th Ave and Ressor Rd.	Rehabilitation	4,900
Solid Waste – MRF upgrades	Rehabilitation	7,600
Solid Waste equipment replacement Public drop-off	Rehabilitation	100
Water & Wastewater –Instrumentation and Control Replacement	Rehabilitation	9,600
Water & Wastewater- Equipment replacement	Rehabilitation	3,500
SUB TOTAL – REHABILITATION		\$54,500
Community Environmental Centre # 2 - Richmond Hill	New	9,750
Community Environmental Centre # 3 - Georgina Transfer Station	New	1,300
EMS - Cane Parkway Relocation at Bales	New	11,635
Queensville - Extension of YDSS	New	62,000
Bloomington Road – Bathurst to Bayview & Watermain	New	21,000
Highway 404 flyover north of Highway 7	New	15,000
Gamble Road – Bathurst to Yonge	New	3,000
SSO facility with Dufferin County	New	31,200
9 th Line widening – Major Mackenzie to Stouffville Road	New	13,600
SUB TOTAL – NEW		\$168,485
TOTAL		\$222,985

It is possible that other projects may be identified over the next week, in which case an application will be made and a report on any additions brought to Council in June for a commitment of the Regional funding.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The funding of projects through this program will reduce the overall Regional funding requirement for these projects by two-thirds but will require an advancing of the one third portion. This will be accommodated by reducing future years capital budgets thus keeping the overall regional funding requirement within the existing funding envelopes over a three to four year time frame.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

This program is also available to the local municipalities who will be making applications for their projects. The Federal program is also open to Provinces/Territories, non-profit organizations and the private sector.

7. CONCLUSION

The Infrastructure Stimulus Fund will accelerate the construction of a number of projects, create employment, and reduce overall Regional funding for the capital projects that are approved.

For more information on this report, please contact Lloyd Russell, Commissioner of Finance at Ext. 1600.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

Respectfully submitted,

**April 22, 2009
Newmarket, Ontario**

**L. Russell
Commissioner of Finance**

**B. Macgregor
Chief Administrative Officer**

(Report No. 1 of the Commissioner of Finance and The Chief Administrative Officer was adopted without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting on April 23, 2009.)