



Report to: Development Services Committee

Meeting Date: September 11, 2017

SUBJECT: Whistle Cessation on Stouffville GO Line – September 2017 Progress Update (Wards 3, 4, 5 & 8)

PREPARED BY: Brian Lee, Director of Engineering, ext. 7507

Recommendations

- 1) That the report entitled “Whistle Cessation on Stouffville GO Line – September 2017 Progress Update (Wards 3, 4, 5 & 8)” be received;
- 2) And that Council authorize the Director of Engineering and Senior Manager of Procurement to issue the tender for construction of Packages #2 and #3, for the crossings utilizing a select group of Metrolinx approved contractors;
- 3) And that Council authorize staff to negotiate with Metrolinx and York Region regarding using Metrolinx’s contractor (Dufferin Construction Company) to construct the Kennedy Road (South) crossing safety upgrades at the Region’s cost;
- 4) And that upon successful negotiations with Metrolinx and York Region for the Kennedy Road (South) crossing safety upgrades, the Director of Engineering and Senior Manager of Procurement be authorized to award the contract for the Kennedy Road (South) crossing safety upgrades to Metrolinx or its contractor (Dufferin Construction Company);
- 5) And that the tender process be waived for Kennedy Road (South) crossing safety upgrades in accordance with purchasing By-Law 2017-8, Part II, Section 11 Non Competitive Procurement, item 1 (c) which states, in “when the extension of an existing contract would prove more cost-effective or beneficial”;
- 6) And that Metrolinx be requested to expedite the review and approval of the whistle cessation safety enhancement detailed design and assist the City to proceed to construction as soon as possible;
- 7) And that the Ministry of Transportation, Metrolinx and York Region be informed of Council’s decision;
- 8) And that Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Purpose

This report provides an update on the progress of the City's design consultant, and discusses steps that are being explored to complete this project at an accelerated rate.

Background

Metrolinx introduced additional trains on the Stouffville GO Line as part of the phased implementation of the Regional Express Rail on June 26, 2017. The introduction of earlier morning trains and late evening trains as well as more midday trains, has doubled the number of weekly train trips from 85 to 170 on this rail corridor. The mandatory whistling at public at-grade crossings impacts residents and this concern is multiplied with more trains. Staff have been directed to expedite the program to implement whistle cessation.

In the June 26, 2017 report, staff reported that the first of three tender packages could be released in Q3 2017 with construction in Q3/Q4 2017. The second package is to follow soon and the third package to be ready for construction starting Spring 2018.

Discussion**Progress on Detailed Design & Review by Metrolinx Peer Reviewer**

As reported to Development Services Committee on March 20, 2017, the City retained WSP/MMM Group for the detailed design. Package #1 included five (5) at-grade crossings; Kennedy Road (South), Denison Street, Kennedy Road (North), Castlemore Avenue, Major Mackenzie Dr. E.

The coordination for the signal design work and design/review of pedestrian gates is taking longer than originally programmed. In order to maintain schedule, the Package #1 now includes Eureka Street and Main Street Markham, and replaces Kennedy Road (South) and Denison Street, which have more complex design elements. The new Package #1 includes the following crossings:

- Eureka Street
- Kennedy Road (North)
- Main Street Markham
- Castlemore Avenue
- Major Mackenzie Dr. E.

AECOM (Metrolinx Consultant) provided final comments on the 90% design at the end of August and Staff anticipates the final approval of Package #1 by Metrolinx to be imminent. The Chief Administrative Officer has authorized Package #1 tender to be released to a number of qualified bidders. Staff will release the tender for Package #1 as soon as Metrolinx issues final approval, sometime in September 2017.

The original Package #2 included four (4) at-grade crossings; Highway 7, Eureka Street, Main Street Unionville and McCowan Road.

Since Eureka Street is now in Package #1, the new Package #2 has removed Eureka Street and added Snider Drive, 16th Avenue and Bur Oak Avenue. Package # 2 now includes six (6) crossings:

- Main Street Unionville
- McCowan Road
- Snider Drive (added)
- 16th Avenue (added)
- Bur Oak Avenue (added)
- Hwy 7

Package #2 now has a slightly later timeline than the original schedule. Currently, the detailed design is at the 60% design stage. Staff are coordinating with WSP/MMM and its specialist sub-consultant for the signal/electrical design to determine the timing for the 90% design submission to AECOM. Staff will report on progress once there is further information.

Package #3 now (only) includes Denison Street and Kennedy Road (South) from the original 13 urban crossings, as the first 11 are in packages #1 and #2. The revised Package #3 list includes:

- Denison Street
- Kennedy Road (South)

The at-grade crossing locations and the various packages are shown in Attachment 'A'.

The Kennedy Road (South) design requires significant design coordination with Metrolinx's design for double tracking. Since the current focus is the delivery of Package #2, the timing for design of Package #3 have not been reviewed for acceleration.

The Mayor and senior staff met with Metrolinx senior staff in early August to request that the review and approval of the detailed design be expedited. Metrolinx has committed to cooperate with the City and York Region for the timely approval so that construction can commence as soon as possible.

Time Schedule for Commencement of Construction

As mentioned earlier, approval for Package #1 is imminent, and Staff have completed the tender documents for retaining a general contractor for the first five (5) crossings. By utilizing approved Metrolinx contractors, Staff will be able to attain qualified contractors acceptable to Metrolinx and award the work within a shorter timeline. The original anticipated construction completion of November 2017 will be achieved despite the later completion of the design package.

The anticipated construction timeline for the original Package #2 of four crossings is from September to December 2017. Since two additional crossings have now been incorporated into Package #2, Staff are exploring options to complete more work within the same timeline or a new timeline. Staff are discussing with WSP/MMM, AECOM and Metrolinx regarding winter construction in order to complete the work. Staff will report back on the timelines to complete eleven (11) out of the thirteen (13) crossings.

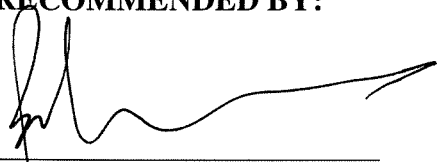
Staff have been discussing the design and construction program for Kennedy Road (South) crossing with Metrolinx. As Metrolinx has retained Dufferin Construction Company for the track upgrades from Scarborough to Unionville Station, it is more efficient for Dufferin Construction to complete the safety upgrade for this crossing simultaneously. This will also avoid contravening Ministry of Labour legislation on having more than one general contractor working at Kennedy Road (South) crossing, and potentially voiding the warranty provided by Dufferin Construction to Metrolinx. City staff will work with Metrolinx to incorporate this work into the Dufferin contract after successful negotiations.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

There is no financial impact on the project with the approval of this project update.

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

This report was reviewed by the Finance Department and their comments have been incorporated into this report.

RECOMMENDED BY:

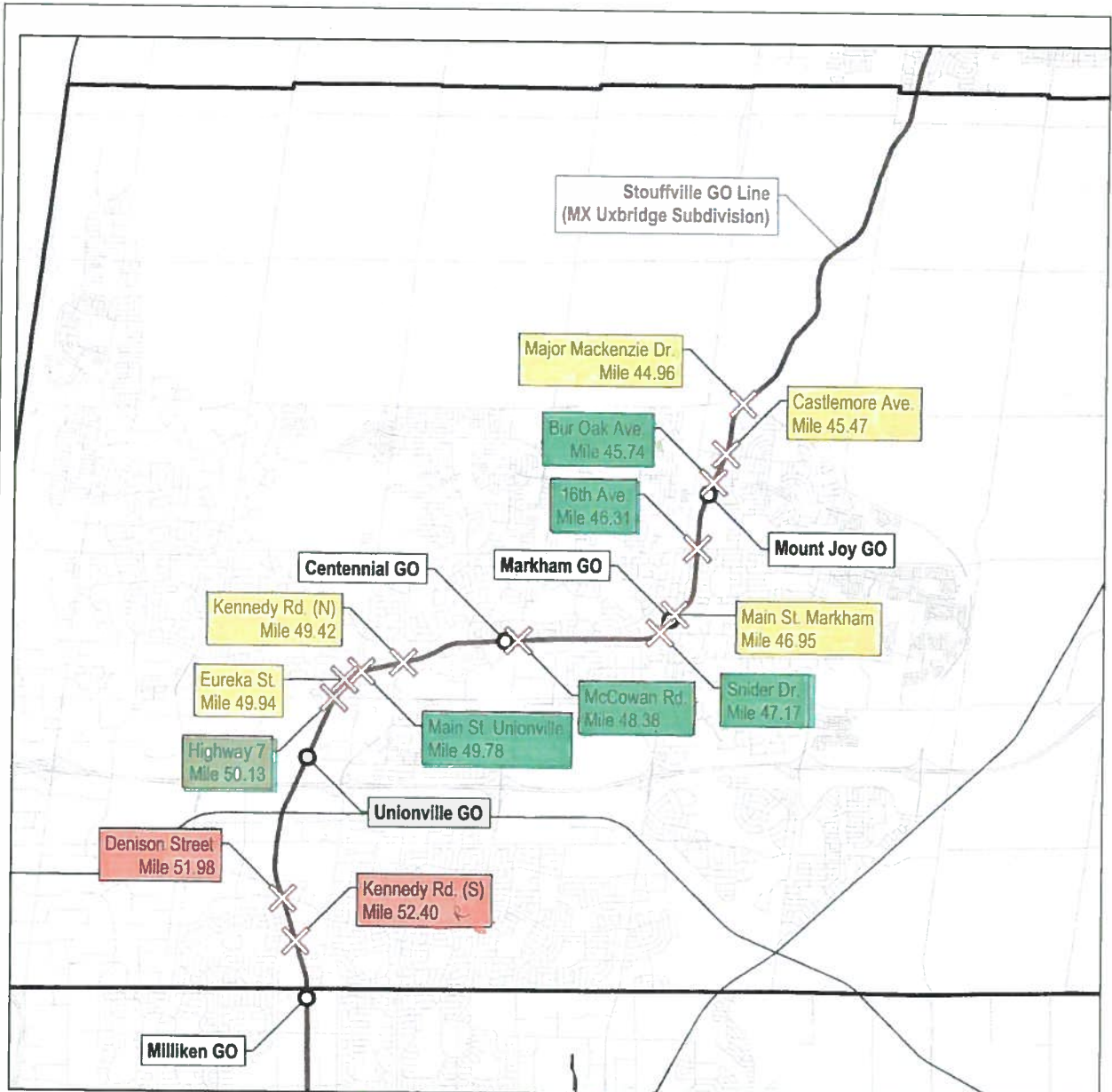
Brian Lee, P. Eng.
Director of Engineering



Jim Baird, M.C.I.P., R.P.P.
Commissioner, Development Services

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 'A' – At-grade Crossing Locations



	Package 1 (5 Crossings): Eureka St, Kennedy Rd N, Main St Markham, Castlemore Ave, Major Mackenzie Dr.
	Package 2 (6 Crossings): Hwy 7, Main St Unionville, McCowan Rd, Snider Dr, 16 th Ave, Bur Oak Ave
	Package 3 (2 Crossings): Kennedy Rd S, Denison St

At-Grade Crossings

Attachment 'A'