



**Memo to
Development Services Committee**

To: Development Services Committee

Copy to: Andy Taylor, CAO
Jim Baird, Commissioner, Development Services Commission

Subject: Whistle Cessation on Stouffville GO Line – Progress Update

Date: March 20, 2017

From: Alice Lam, Manager of Infrastructure and Capital Works x2354
Brian Lee, Director of Engineering x7507

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) THAT the memo entitled “Whistle Cessation on Stouffville GO Line – Progress Update” dated March 20, 2017 be received;
- 2) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Background

At the Development Services Committee (DSC) meeting on November 21, 2016, staff provided a progress update on the implementation of whistle cessation on the Stouffville GO Line.

The purpose of this memo is to provide a progress update of the whistle cessation project.

1) Consulting Services for the Detailed Design Assignment

In July 2016, the City retained WSP/MMM Group as the consultant for the detailed design and contract administration services of the safety upgrade works at a project budget of \$435,233.90 (excluding tax). The 13 at-grade crossings are separated into three construction contracts as shown below:

Design Package	At-Grade Crossings	Anticipated Tender Timeline	Anticipated Construction Timeline
1	Kennedy Rd. (South) Denison St. Kennedy Rd. (North) Castlemore Ave. Major Mackenzie Dr. E	June 2017	August 2017 – November 2017
2	Highway 7 Eureka St. Main St. Unionville McCowan Rd.	July 2017	September 2017 – December 2017
3	Snider Dr. Main St. Markham 16th Ave. Bur Oak Ave.	October 2017	Spring 2018

The detailed design has experienced minor delays for completion by Q1 of 2017. The delay was caused by discussions with Metrolinx regarding the need and use of pedestrian gates and pedestrian maze barriers at the same crossing. This issue has now been resolved and pedestrian maze barriers are no longer required where pedestrian gates are installed. Also, Metrolinx requires that work done by a private consultant be reviewed, and approved by its peer reviewer. The peer reviewer acts on behalf of Metrolinx and its service is paid for by the City and Region. The delay in getting the peer review quotation and timeliness of response are part of the cause to the delay. Staff is actively working with Metrolinx and York Region to expedite the arrangements for the review process. It is anticipated that tender for construction will be in mid 2017 rather than early 2017.

2) Memorandum of Understanding between City, Region and Metrolinx

City Legal Department has prepared a draft Memorandum of Understanding between City, Region and Metrolinx (the “MOU”) to define the roles and responsibilities of the three parties in the whistle cessation implementation. The draft will be reviewed by all three parties and is expected to be finalized by March 2017 and executed by April/ May 2017.

3) York Region Budget Approved

York Region has accepted the updated cost estimate of its share of the whistle cessation design and construction. The amount of \$3M is approved in the Region’s 2017 Capital Project Budget to date, and Regional staff confirmed that the amount will be adjusted as necessary to reflect the actual overall costs. Regional staff further confirmed that as there is a Regional policy on whistle cessation, the Region is obligated to share the costs with the City.

4) Metrolinx Budget Confirmation

Metrolinx has also accepted the updated cost estimate of just under \$100,000. Metrolinx will not be transferring any funds to the City, but will take on additional work for the City and Regional crossings as part of its ongoing crossing improvements, to the equivalent amount of its contribution. This will reduce the scope and cost for the City's construction contracts.

5) Public Education/Safety Program and Trespassing

As mentioned in the November report, staff met with Operation Lifesaver in January 2017 with respect to safety and education program. Operation Lifesaver (<http://operationlifesaver.ca/>) is a public-private partnership educating road users about the hazards surrounding rail corridors, crossings and trains. The education and public awareness program is being designed at the moment and will be implemented prior to the start of whistle cessation. The program will include outreach to schools and communities.