

Committee of the Whole (1) Report

DATE: Wednesday, June 4, 2025

WARD: 3

TITLE: WESTON 7 TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN – FINAL
REPORT

FROM:

Vince Musacchio, Deputy City Manager, Infrastructure Development

ACTION: DECISION

Purpose

To summarize the recommendations of the Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan and highlight how the Transportation Master Plan study recommendations are used to inform transportation-related policy of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan.

Report Highlights

- The Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan Study has proceeded in parallel with the Weston 7 Secondary Plan Study.
- Council approved the draft Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan in principle in May 2024.
- Updates to the Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan were made to better address resident concerns and refine the implementation plan. The overall conclusion, that the Weston 7 area transportation network can support up to 26,000 people and jobs, has remained.
- The final Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan now requires a Special Traffic Infiltration Study to be completed concurrent with a future Environmental Assessment for the northwest quadrant of the Weston 7 area, to mitigate and minimize traffic impacts on the local community.
- The final Plan also prescribes an implementation framework which requires that transportation infrastructure improvements proceed prior to or with development, to ensure that new trips from development can be supported by the transportation system.

Recommendations

1. That Council approve the final Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan;
2. That staff initiate the planning for the following studies to implement the recommendations of the Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan, and seek approval for capital funding during the 2026 Budget process (where necessary):
 - a. Environmental Assessment Studies for Weston 7 Collector Road Network
 - b. Special Traffic Infiltration Study
 - c. Active Transportation Network Implementation Study
 - d. Monitoring and Data Collection Program for Weston 7; and
3. That this report be shared with York Region, and that the Regional projects identified as required to support the Weston 7 and Vaughan Metropolitan Centre Secondary Plans be advanced in the 2026 York Region budget and the 2026 10-year Roads and Transit Growth Capital Construction Program.

Background

The Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan Study has proceeded in parallel with the Weston 7 Secondary Plan Study

The Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan Study was initiated at the same time as the Weston 7 Secondary Plan Study, following Council's consideration of the Policy Planning and Special Programs Department report on June 5, 2019. The recommended next steps of this report were to proceed with Phases 2 and 3 of the Secondary Plan Study and to complete required additional studies including a Transportation Master Plan.

The City subsequently retained WSP in January 2020 to undertake and complete the Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan. The Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan has proceeded alongside the Weston 7 Secondary Plan Study to ensure alignment between the two. It is a comprehensive Study which integrates transportation with land-use planning to establish the required transportation network in support of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan, and to inform transportation related policy in the Secondary Plan.

Consultation and engagement were key components of the Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan Study

Formally marked by Notice of Commencement on November 5, 2020, the Transportation Master Plan proceeded through Study phases that included public engagement through Public Information Centres and Public Open Houses, early engagement with Indigenous Communities and establishment of stakeholder groups including a Technical Advisory Committee and Landowners Group. It is noted that

where Study milestones aligned, Transportation Master Plan Study consultation activities and communication were conducted jointly with the Weston 7 Secondary Plan project team. Consultation and engagement activities included:

- **Public Information Centres:** Public Information Centre 1 was held from November 4, 2021, to December 19, 2021, and Public Information Centre 2 was held June 21, 2023, to July 19, 2023. Both Public Information Centres were held with the intention of presenting information and seeking input and feedback from the public.
- **Indigenous Consultation:** The Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan project team together with the Secondary Plan project team undertook pre-engagement meetings with four First Nations and the Local Metis Council in Fall 2020. The meetings provided an introduction of both the Weston 7 Secondary Plan and Transportation Master Plan. Supporting studies such as the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and the Cultural Heritage Review which were advanced and completed as part of Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan were subsequently shared with these groups for their feedback. The Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan project team also provided formal communications which advised of updates and consultation activities at key Study milestones.
- **A Technical Advisory Committee** comprised of representatives of regulatory and review agencies was established at the outset of the Transportation Master Plan Study and met at key Study phases and ahead of Public Information Centres.
- **A Landowners Group** comprised of property owners, representatives of property owners and development applicants within the Secondary Plan area at the outset of the Study and met at key Study phases and ahead of Public Information Centres.
- **Public Open Houses:** Open Houses were held to provide an update on the Weston 7 Secondary Plan and to provide a forum for additional feedback from the public. The first set of Open Houses were held on October 16 and 23, 2024, and the second set were held on January 15-16 and 22-23, 2025.

Methods of communication included both digital and print, supported by the City's Communications, Marketing and Engagement department. Examples included providing notification of Public Information Centres, direct mailing by postal code for residents and businesses within and adjacent to the Study area, published advertisements in the Vaughan Citizen, mobile signs, City's social media avenues and a project website.

In May 2024, Council approved-in-principle the draft Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan. Staff committed to providing an update to Council when the Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan was completed

Since May 2024, staff have continued to engage with the public and landowners to make modifications to the Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan. However, the key findings of the Transportation Master Plan, namely the infrastructure requirements and the amount of population which can be accommodated by the transportation network, have remained the same.

The Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan provides recommendations for a preferred multi-modal transportation network. The preferred multi-modal transportation network can accommodate 26,000 people and jobs

The detailed transportation analysis indicates that the planned improvements within the broader City and Region coupled with an improved transportation network within the Weston 7 Secondary Plan area would be able to accommodate approximately 26,000 people and jobs in the Weston 7 Secondary Plan area.

The preferred multi-modal network to support the Weston 7 Secondary Plan includes extensive improvements for active transportation, transit, and the street network were defined. To support the future vision of a vibrant urban area, pedestrians and cyclists will be encouraged to travel in the Weston 7 area by providing sidewalks and cycling facilities on both sides of all streets. A transit circulator service is also proposed to connect to the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre subway station and the Highway 407/Jane Street subway station. The Colossus Drive extension across Highway 400 is the main road improvement within the Secondary Plan, and each quadrant will be supported by comprehensive street network characterized by short blocks to encourage trips to destinations by walking and cycling.

Previous Reports/Authority

[Item 3, Report No. 24 of the Committee of the Whole \(Working Session\), which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 25, 2024.](#)

[Item 1, Report No. 23, of the Committee of the Whole \(Working Session\), which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 12, 2019.](#)

Analysis and Options

The Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan now includes policies to mitigate the potential impacts of traffic infiltration on existing communities surrounding the Weston 7 area

To address community concerns about traffic infiltration, the Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan has been updated to include a 'Special Traffic Infiltration Study Area', which is a special Study to be conducted alongside a future Environmental Assessment. This approach ensures that the extension is thoroughly evaluated for its environmental and community impacts. These studies will involve comprehensive evaluations of the existing conditions and projected future traffic volumes once the Weston 7 area is redeveloped. The Special Traffic Infiltration Study and Environmental Assessment processes will provide opportunities for community feedback, ensuring residents' concerns are appropriately addressed.

Directing traffic away from existing communities is crucial for minimizing congestion and preserving the local character and quality of life in adjacent areas. To achieve this, a range of engineering and design solutions can be implemented to effectively discourage cut-through traffic in existing neighborhoods. Mitigation strategies for the Weston 7 area as a whole are also included in the final Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan.

Implementation of the Plan

The implementation framework of the multi-modal transportation network proposed for the Weston 7 Secondary Plan will be imperative for planning, protecting, and positioning the area to accommodate additional population and jobs. The framework is structured around both required implementation of broader City and Regional Transportation improvements as well as the multi-modal transportation network projects recommended for the Weston 7 Secondary Plan. City and Regional transportation infrastructure will be necessary to provide the capacity to accommodate growth up to the approximately 26,000 people and jobs that can be accommodated.

As noted, a comprehensive transportation analysis was conducted to assess the requirements and timing for necessary infrastructure improvements. The key findings highlight the need for significant improvements to City, Region and Transit infrastructure to support growth projections through 2041. For a detailed list of the proposed improvements, please refer to Attachment 1: "City-wide Transportation Infrastructure Improvements"

A quadrant-based approach is proposed for the orderly and contiguous implementation of the multi-modal transportation network infrastructure improvements. The collector street network and critical active transportation infrastructure in a quadrant shall be secured prior to development proceeding within that quadrant

Transportation system requirements must ensure that essential infrastructure elements, such as streets, active transportation networks, and transit improvements, are adequately established for both interim and ultimate conditions within a timeframe acceptable to the City and the Region.

The quadrant-based approach mandates that landowners secure transportation infrastructure within their respective quadrants before any development can proceed. Security may include land dedication, construction, and/or funding, as approved by the City

Technical studies related to transportation will be conducted using a quadrant-based strategy to ensure the systematic and cohesive implementation of the internal multi-modal transportation network. A transportation technical study is required to guarantee that large-scale developments proceed in tandem with fundamental infrastructure elements. For a detailed list of the proposed improvements, please refer to Attachment 2: “Quadrant-Based Transportation Infrastructure Requirements.”

Staff will continue to monitor the transportation operations of the Weston 7 area over time as development progresses, and adjustments to the Transportation Master Plan will respond to changes in the transportation operations

Ongoing monitoring of the multi-modal transportation network and Transportation Master Plan recommendations is crucial to ensure the network can support the growth and transformation of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan. As the City's transportation system evolves and new technologies emerge, the Transportation Master Plan must adapt its priorities accordingly. Given the long-term horizon of the Secondary Plan and the Transportation Master Plan, it is expected that changes will be required to keep these guiding documents current and relevant.

Financial Impact

There are no immediate budgetary impacts resulting from the adoption of this report. Additional capital and operating funding will be required in future years and will be brought forward for approval as part of the City's annual budget process.

Operational Impact

Policy Planning and Special Projects and Development Engineering departments have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

The Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan identifies the necessary City and Regional transportation infrastructure required to accommodate growth up to a total population of approximately 26,000 people and jobs. While the majority of these infrastructure improvements fall outside the jurisdiction of the City of Vaughan, the projects led by the City have been prioritized and advanced to facilitate the development of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan and to enhance the broader transportation system. The transportation infrastructures improvements under York Region's jurisdiction are detailed in Attachment 1: "City-wide Transportation Infrastructure Improvements." To ensure the prioritization for region-wide transportation system enhancements, it is essential for the City to continue to advocate across jurisdictions.

Conclusion

The Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan is a comprehensive Study that combined extensive transportation analysis, consultation and engagement in the development of long-range transportation plan for the Weston 7 Secondary Plan area. The Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan Study proceeded in parallel with the Weston 7 Secondary Plan Study, and it identifies a multi-modal transportation network to support up to 26,000 people and jobs, and a cohesive implementation plan which requires transportation infrastructure to be provided in tandem with development to reach this threshold.

Upon Council approval, the next steps include seeking approval for capital funding during the 2026 Budget process for the following projects:

- Environmental Assessment Studies for Weston 7 Collector Road Network
- Special Traffic Infiltration Study
- Active Transportation Network Implementation Study
- Monitoring and Data Collection Program for Weston 7

For more information, please contact: Selma Hubjer, Director, Infrastructure Planning and Corporate Asset Management, ext. 8674.

Attachments

1. "City-wide Transportation Infrastructure Improvements," May 2025.
2. "Quadrant-Based Transportation Infrastructure Requirements," May 2025

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