

Committee of the Whole (2) Report

DATE: Tuesday, June 8, 2021

WARD: 1

TITLE: NAPIER STREET ROAD CLOSURE STATUS UPDATE

FROM:

Zoran Postic, Deputy City Manager, Public Works

ACTION: FOR INFORMATION

Purpose

To provide an update on the work progress related to the feasibility of closing part or all of Napier Street at Stegman's Mill Road.

Report Highlights

- Council, at its meeting on November 17, 2020, directed staff to conduct a feasibility study to close part or all of Napier Street at Stegman's Mill Road, and to carry out public consultation, as deemed necessary.
- A technical review that included speed and volume data collection, sightline assessment, and roadway conditions commenced in April 2021. This data will be used to determine existing conditions in comparison with historical data.
- Additional traffic data collection activities, including travel time study, origin-destination study, and intersection counts, that were planned to be conducted in May 2021, will now be done when the existing Provincial stay-at-home orders are lifted.
- A communications plan has been developed in collaboration with the Corporate and Strategic Communications Department.
- It is anticipated that a final report will be presented to Council in Q4 2021 / Q1 2022.

Recommendation

1. That this report be received for information.

Background

At the November 17, 2020 Council meeting, staff were directed to conduct a feasibility study to close part or all of Napier Street at Stegman's Mill Road and to carry out public consultation, as deemed necessary.

Napier Street is a local road with a 7.25m pavement width. The street is approximately 320m in length from Stegman's Mill Road to its northerly limit. Napier Street also intersects with Kellam Street and John Street, which in turn intersects with Islington Avenue. Attachment No. 1 shows Napier Street and the surrounding neighbourhood.

Area residents have raised concerns about Napier Street, which include:

- Non-local traffic using Napier Street to travel to and from Islington Avenue and Stegman's Mill Road;
- Speeding;
- Truck traffic;
- Noise from neighbouring commercial uses on Islington Avenue; and
- Safety concerns due to sightline issues at the intersection of Napier Street and Stegman's Mill Road.

At the November 17, 2020 Council meeting, staff were directed to conduct a feasibility study and to report back on closing part or all of Napier Street. This also included an update on the status, an associated workplan by January 2021, and a progress report by June 2021.

Previous Reports/Authority

November 10, 2020 Committee of the Whole Report No. 54, Item 9:

<https://pub-vaughan.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=53257>

<https://pub-vaughan.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=53258>

January 19, 2021 Committee of the Whole Report Item 6: Napier Street Road Closure Status Update:

<https://pub-vaughan.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=57838>

<https://pub-vaughan.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=57839>

<https://pub-vaughan.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=57840>

Analysis and Options

Staff has commenced the technical review and initiated contacts with key stakeholders.

Staff has initiated contact with key stakeholders for input on the feasibility of closing part or all of Napier Street at Stegman's Mill Road. This consultation included the city emergency services, winter and roads operations, waste collection, school transportation, York Region, and York Region transit.

The technical study completed to date includes the following:

- Sight distance measurements collected at Napier/Stegman's Mill intersection;
- Signage inventory;
- Roadway/pavement conditions; and
- Pavement marking conditions.

Data collection activities, including speed and volume data, commenced in April 2021. This data will be used to determine existing conditions and a comparison to historical data.

With the provincial order for area-wide closures/lockdowns due to COVID 19, some of the data collection activities (travel time studies, origin-destination studies, and intersection counts) that were planned for May 2021 will now be conducted once the Provincial stay-at-home order is lifted. This will ensure the data collected is accurate and typical for the area.

A communications plan has been developed that includes a project website and notice to area residents providing information about the traffic study.

A communications plan has been developed in collaboration with the Corporate and Strategic Communications Department, to share key messages and upcoming community meetings.

A public information session is anticipated for August / September 2021, and a public survey for October 2021 to inform residents of the study and to solicit input from the community, receive comments, and develop a strategy moving forward.

The Final report is anticipated to be completed in Q4 2021/Q1 2022, and this will be dependent on the timing that the Provincial stay-at-home order is lifted.

The project workplan has been updated to reflect the impacts resulting from the Provincial stay-at-home order. The final report, with staff recommendations, is anticipated to be presented to Council in Q4 2021/Q1 2022, but will be dependent on the timing of when the Provincial stay-at-home order is lifted.

Financial Impact

There is no economic impact associated with this report.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

Staff will be working in consultation with York Region staff as the study progresses and as it relates to impacts on regional roads.

Conclusion

To address the concerns raised by residents, Council directed staff to complete a feasibility study investigating the closure of part or all of Napier Street at Stegman's Mill Road. The study has commenced and the project workplan has been updated to reflect the implications of the Provincial stay-at-home order. The final report is anticipated to be completed in Q4 2021/Q1 2022, and this will be dependent on the timing that the Provincial stay-at-home order is lifted.

For more information, please contact Peter Pilateris, P.Eng., Director Transportation and Fleet Management Services, 6141.

Attachments

1. Location Map
2. Traffic Study Progress Work Plan

Prepared by

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Margie Chung, Manager, Traffic Engineering, 6173

Approved by

A blue ink signature of Zoran Postic, consisting of a stylized 'Z' and 'P'.

Zoran Postic, Deputy City Manager
Public Works

Reviewed by

A blue ink signature of Jim Harnum, written in a cursive style.

Jim Harnum, City Manager