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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Works
Report: #2024-INFO-28
Date: April 26, 2024

Subject:

Upcoming Closure of the Northbound Lane on Thickson Road (Regional Road 26) from Wentworth Street (Regional Road 60) to south of Victoria Street (Regional Road 22) for the Reconstruction and Widening of Thickson Road (Contract D2024-19), including Local Watermain and Storm Sewer Construction, in the Town of Whitby

Recommendation:

Receive for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) Council of the planned closure of the northbound lane on Thickson Road (Regional Road 26), during the 2024 construction season to facilitate its reconstruction and widening from Wentworth Street (Regional Road 60) to the south of Victoria Street (Regional Road 22).

2. Background

2.1 The Region has completed the design for the reconstruction and widening of Thickson Road from Wentworth Street to the south of Victoria Street. The project has been tendered and closed and is currently in the award process. Construction is anticipated to commence in late May 2024, with completion in late spring/summer 2025. Existing Thickson Road at this location is a two-lane road with a rural cross-section and will be widened to four lanes as identified in the Durham Transportation Master Plan and the Environmental Assessment

completed in November 2014. In addition to the reconstruction and widening, the planned works include the urbanization of Thickson Road with storm sewer installation, watermain construction, and a Multi-Use Path (MUP) on the east side from Victoria Street to Wentworth Street. Restoration works at the intersection of Thickson Road and Wentworth Street will include improvements to traffic signals and crosswalks in support of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

- 2.2 Due to the nature of the proposed works along Thickson Road, this construction will require a closure of the northbound traffic lane for approximately four months in 2024. The lane closure will affect all northbound vehicles, including local traffic and emergency services. Southbound traffic will be maintained throughout the construction.
- 2.3 There is no pedestrian/active transportation facilities on Thickson Road south of Victoria Street. However, during construction, the contractor will be required to maintain temporary pedestrian and active transportation connections along Thickson Road between Wentworth Street and Victoria Street.

3. Proposed Detour

- 3.1 Regional staff have reviewed the northbound lane closure and detour route requirements. The signed vehicle detour will be along Wentworth Street (Regional Road 60), Stevenson Road (Regional Road 53) and Victoria/Bloor Street (Regional Road 22). Refer to Attachment #1.
- 3.2 A communication plan will be utilized to inform the public. This will include advance notices mailed to businesses and residents, digital releases through the Region's website and social media channels, and public service announcements (PSAs). Subsequent construction notices will be hand-delivered to businesses and residents two weeks prior to any construction activities and prior to any lane closures. Physical signage will also be utilized on-site to inform road users in advance of the closure.
- 3.3 In consultation with Durham Region Transit (DRT), buses will be detoured to accommodate ridership. GO Transit has also been notified.
- 3.4 Emergency vehicles will not be able to pass through the project in the northbound direction. EMS and the local Fire Departments have been informed. Advance notice will be provided to emergency services, DRT and GO Transit on the lane closure date upon confirmation from the contractor.

3.5 The area immediately surrounding the work zone is largely comprised of commercial and industrial properties. Atlantic Packaging is the only property with direct access to Thickson Road. Access to Atlantic Packaging will be maintained in the southbound direction for entry and egress. Access to Tricont Avenue will also be maintained from Thickson Road in the southbound direction and via Forbes Street. Signage will be provided to advise the public that all businesses are open and accessible throughout the duration of construction.

4. Conclusion

4.1 This project includes several major components and has strict scheduling requirements to mitigate impacts to the extent possible for local residents, businesses, emergency services, and Durham Region Transit.

4.2 To complete this work in a safely and timely, closure of a northbound lane of Thickson Road from Wentworth Street to Victoria Street is required.

4.3 For additional information, contact: Andrew Janes, Project Manager, at 905-668-4113 ext. 3517.

5. Attachments

Attachment #1: Location and Detour Plan

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by:

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Commissioner of Works

