
TO: MAYOR J. LEHMAN AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: R. SUTTON, P. ENG., DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

NOTED: R. FORWARD, MBA, M.SC., P. ENG., GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT

M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: NEW CROSSING OF HIGHWAY 400 AT HARVIE ROAD AND BIG BAY POINT ROAD – PROJECT UPDATE
(FILE: T05-HAR)

DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide an update on the progress of the new crossing over Highway 400 connecting Harvie Road and Big Bay Point Road.

- The 60% design was reviewed by the City of Barrie, Colliers and MTO in July and August, 2017. The consultant, Hatch, is currently working on 60% storm water management design which is expected to be completed in September, 2017. The general roadway cross section on Big Bay Point Road and Harvie Road immediately east and west of Highway 400 has been set at two (2) lanes in each direction with a continuous left turn lane, buffered bike lanes, and sidewalks on each side of the roadway.
- Hatch has completed the underground SUE investigations to confirm utilities. Hatch is meeting with all utilities to review the 60% design and establish the utilities' required relocation. Utility corridors are being established in specific areas to permit future access for maintenance and accommodate loading limits due to the height of fill on the bridge. In some locations, additional property was required to accommodate the utility corridors, and to maintain operations of the existing utilities at all times. Hatch will work with all utility companies to identify additional conflict points and determine timeframes for utility relocations.
- All R-Plans have been deposited at the Land Registry Office for properties east of Highway 400. Barrie's Legal and Real Estate Services department has completed appraisals and sent Offers to Purchase to all owners on the east side, except MTO. MTO has initiated their internal process for confirming property disposal and securing an appraisal.
- Draft R-Plans have been prepared west of Highway 400 to Essa Road. City staff, Colliers, and Hatch are currently reviewing each property to ensure impacts are minimized, and ensuring the need is fully justified.
- The Stage 4 Archaeological Assessment was completed in June 2017 just west of Highway 400. The Huron Wendat assisted in the field monitoring. The artifacts appeared to be from a small camp site and will not impact the project schedule.
- Archaeology Stage 2 Assessments were done on the future utility corridors on Harvie Road, Big Bay Point Road, Bryne Drive, and Fairview Road. Nothing was found in the corridors. An Archaeology Stage 2 Assessment was done within the Fairview right-of-way, adjacent to the Highway 400 Service Centre. The findings have justified a Stage 3 Archaeology Assessment, which is scheduled for September, 2017.

- Part A of the Harvie Crossing contract includes work from Bryne Drive to Bayview Drive, paid by the City of Barrie. Part B of this contract includes work on Highway 400, paid by the MTO. The MTO has advised that they intend to replace the Highway 400/Essa Road bridge in 2021, immediately after this project is completed. The MTO is reducing the scope of work on Highway 400. The rehabilitation of the existing Essa Road interchange ramps will be done with the Essa Road bridge reconstruction. The MTO carpool lot (southwest quadrant of Essa Road/Ardagh Road) paving currently remains in this project.
- Staff are making every effort to accelerate construction.

Risk Management

Project risks are tracked on a monthly basis to ensure project risks are mitigated, avoided, or accepted. Utility relocation timing, Species at Risk (SAR), property acquisition, and archaeological issues have been identified as potential risks to the schedule. The design is still on schedule for completion by the end of 2017. Construction is still on schedule for completion in 2020.

Communications

Additional information and updates to the community may be found on the City website under the “Road Ahead” page at www.barrie.ca/RoadAhead and then clicking on the Harvie Road/Big Bay Point Road/Crossing of Highway 400 project.

Next Steps

The next steps are as follows:

- Meet monthly with the MTO in 2017 to review progress and continue to accelerate the property acquisition.
- Pending property acquisition and environmental approvals, a pre-clearing contract is planned for February and March of 2018 to advance utility relocations in the construction schedule.
- The railway spur line to the old Molson property and across Big Bay Point Road will be removed in September 2017.
- Design drawings required for utility relocations will be ready for the spring of 2018.
- Consultation with impacted owners on the west of Highway 400 will continue in September, prior to depositing the R-Plans.
- Hatch is meeting with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to review SAR permits required for the protected butternut trees and bats.
- Deposit R-Plans west of Highway 400 and initiate appraisals.
- Continue negotiations east of Highway 400 and potentially initiate expropriation for property acquisition as required.
- Continue design coordination with utilities, and develop a detailed schedule for utility relocation in advance of the construction of the highway crossing bridge structure and associated road works.
- The 90% design submission for both Part A and B is on schedule for submission in October 2017.

- Discussions with MTO are expected in September to co-ordinate construction with work for the bridge centre pier on Highway 400 and the existing Tiffin Street/Highway 400 contract.

Other Related City Projects

Other projects that are either underway or planned in the vicinity of the Harvie Road Crossing project include:

- Transportation Improvements along Bryne Drive (Essa Road to Caplan Avenue) and Harvie Road (Bryne Drive to Essa Road):

The project scope consists of completing a Schedule C (Phases 3 and 4) Class Environmental Assessment (EA) and detailed design for the preferred alternative design alternative. The 60% design has been completed on Harvie Road and a PIC was held on June 22, 2017.

The scheduled completion for the Phase 3 and 4 Class EA is October 2017, and detailed design for the Harvie Road portion from Veterans Drive to Bryne Drive has been accelerated and is expected to be completed by December 2017. The section on Harvie Road between Veterans Drive and Bryne Drive is being prioritized so that construction can be combined with the Harvie Road Crossing project, given that it is a critical link for Harvie Road to operate at an acceptable level of service. The Archaeology Stage 2 Assessment on the Bell property for the future Bryne Drive alignment was completed in July 2017. There were no artifacts found in the proposed right-of-way. Bryne Drive (Essa Road to Caplan Avenue) will be completed in the spring of 2018.

- Highway 400/Tiffin Street:

The MTO has advised that the Highway 400/Tiffin Street project may be delayed by a year and completed in the fall of 2019. The MTO is looking at options with the contractor to maintain the fall 2018 schedule. The MTO and the City will be meeting in September to review options to permit the Harvie Road bridge centre pier work to be completed while the Tiffin Street bridge is under construction.

- Bayview Drive and Big Bay Point Road Detail Design:

The detailed design consultant assignment was awarded in August, and design work has been initiated. The intersection of Bayview Drive and Big Bay Point Road is on an accelerated schedule to coincide with the Harvie Road Crossing design completion for December, 2017. The remaining detailed design for this project is included in the 2017 Business Plan and is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2018.

- Detailed design for Essa Road between Anne Street and Bryne Drive:

Discussions will be conducted with the MTO to coordinate Essa Road design/construction with the MTO Essa Interchange projects starting in 2021. The limits of the works are to be determined.

City staff will continue to prioritize the Harvie Road Crossing of Highway 400 and work collaboratively with the MTO, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, community stakeholders, and members of Council to ensure a successful outcome for this important project in an accelerated timeframe.

If there are any questions on the Harvie Road Crossing project, please contact Ralph Scheunemann at extension 4782 or email at Ralph.Scheunemann@barrie.ca; Stew Patterson at extension 4481 or email at Stew.Patterson@barrie.ca; or Todd Comfort at extension 4458 or email Todd.Comfort@barrie.ca.