



Planning and Development Services Department

Infrastructure Planning

Fax No. 905-895-0191

January 24, 2011

Ms. Lorna Zappone, Project Officer
Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch
Ministry of the Environment
2 St. Clair Avenue West, Floor 12A
Toronto, ON M4V 1L5

Dear Ms. Zappone:

**Re: 407 Transitway from Highway 400 to Kennedy Road
Notice of Completion of Environmental Project Report**

The Ministry of Transportation has completed the Environmental Project Report for the 407 Transitway from Highway 400 to Kennedy Road in accordance with O.Reg. 231/08. A notice of completion was issued on December 23, 2010 and identified the timing for the 30-day public review period, which expires on January 24, 2011. York Region was consulted at key milestones throughout the study and we appreciate this opportunity to review and comment on the final Environmental Project Report.

Please note that a staff report on the 407 Transitway EA has been prepared for the February 2, 2011 Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting with a final resolution from Regional Council expected on February 17, 2011. We will advise you of the Regional Council resolution following the February 17, 2011 Council meeting. In the interim, please accept this correspondence as our input on the 407 Transitway Environmental Project Report.

York Region is supportive of the 407 Transitway and we have no significant issues with approval of the Environmental Project Report. We have previously provided the Ministry of Transportation with comments related to specific project details which we are confident can be addressed during the design phase, with the expectation that the Ministry of Transportation will continue to consult the Region and our local municipalities during the design phase of the project.

We understand that the Town of Markham and City of Vaughan have identified a number of specific issues with the 407 Transitway. Please note that York Region will continue to work with the Ministry of Transportation and our local municipalities to assist in resolving the outstanding issues either during the final stages of the EA approval process or during the subsequent design phase of the project.

The City of Vaughan has identified a number of issues specifically related to the proposed 407 Transitway GO Barrie (Concord) Station. Vaughan is currently undertaking a secondary plan study in this area to look at the appropriate land uses around the station. The conclusions of the secondary plan study should be incorporated by the Ministry of Transportation during the detailed design of the station and we would ask that the Ministry of Transportation protect for a full range of options until the secondary plan study is complete.

If you have any questions, please contact me at steve.mota@York.ca or at 905-830-4444 ext. 5056.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Mota". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Steve Mota, P.Eng.
Program Manager, Transportation Engineering

SM

Attachment (2)

Copy to: Robb Minnes, Ministry of Transportation
Andrew Pearce, Engineering Department, City of Vaughan
Alan Brown, Engineering Department, Town of Markham
Bryan Tuckey, Commissioner of Planning and Development Services
Loy Cheah, Director of Infrastructure Planning