



Allan Thompson
Mayor

Sent via E-Mail: alisa.mahrova@trca.ca

February 22, 2021

Alisa Mahrova, Clerk and Manager, Policy
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
101 Exchange Avenue
Vaughan, ON L4K 5R6

RE: TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY VOLUNTARY PROJECT REVIEW OF THE GREATER TORONTO AREA TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR

I am writing to advise that at the Town Council meeting held on February 16, 2021, Council adopted a resolution endorsing the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Board's request to the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to commit to receiving TRCA Voluntary Project Review (VPR) sign-off, and to enter into a service level agreement with the TRCA for the provisions of such services.

The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Board of Directors' (Board) resolution A137/20 together with TRCA staff comments from its August 21, 2020 meeting regarding the proposed regulation for a streamlined environmental assessment process for the Ministry of Transportation's (MTO) Greater Toronto Area West Transportation Corridor project (ERO #019-1882) requests that the MTO commit to receiving TRCA Voluntary Project Review (VPR) sign-off, as well as enter into a service level agreement with the TRCA for the provision of such services;

Whereas the TRCA VPR is a mechanism provided to federal and provincial Crown agencies that are exempt from TRCA's Ontario Regulation 166/06 of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses, and allows the agencies to voluntarily engage with TRCA through a formal process at the detailed design stage whereby TRCA staff complete a comprehensive review based on its expertise as a watershed management agency, and its interests related to natural hazards, natural heritage, including aquatic and terrestrial species and habitats, and water management and provide an opinion as to whether the interests, objectives and tests of the Regulation have been satisfied;

Whereas TRCA staff are to confirm that there will be no impacts to flooding, erosion, pollution, conservation of land or dynamic beaches, and a letter following the VPR process will be issued to the Crown agency or their agents confirming that TRCA regulatory interests have been met;

Whereas municipal governments and other senior levels of government and their agencies, including but not limited to Metrolinx, 407ETR, and projects on Parks Canada-Rouge National Urban Park lands, have received VPR sign-off in accordance with the review process, and further that a multi-year service level agreement is in place with Metrolinx for the provision of these services;

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF CALEDON

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Whereas TRCA's Board has endorsed the TRCA Guideline for Determining Ecosystem Compensation for approved infrastructure projects when impacts are unavoidable and as a last resort to ensure impacts are mitigated and/or compensated through an agreement between the proponent and TRCA;

Whereas the Regional Municipality of Peel and City of Vaughan will be considering endorsing the TRCA Board request for MTO to commit to receiving TRCA VPR sign-off at the detailed design stage, to enter into a service level agreement with TRCA for the provision VPR services, and use the TRCA Guideline for Determining Ecosystem Compensation where avoidance and mitigation is not possible, at future meetings of their respective Councils;

Therefore be it resolved that the Town of Caledon endorse the TRCA Board's request for MTO to commit to receiving TRCA VPR sign-off at the detailed design stage, to enter into a service level agreement with TRCA for the provision the VPR services, and use the TRCA Guideline for Determining Ecosystem Compensation where avoidance and mitigation is not possible;

And further that a copy of this motion be provided to the TRCA, the Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation, the Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Regional Municipality of York, the Regional Municipality of Peel and the City of Vaughan.

For more information regarding this request, please contact the undersigned by email to mayor@caledon.ca or by phone at 905.584.2272 ext. 4155.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Allan Thompson
Mayor

Cc: Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation, carolone.mulroney@pc.ola.org
Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, jeff.yurek@pc.ola.org
Honourable Sylvia Jones, M.P.P. Dufferin-Caledon, sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org
Kathryn Lockyer, Regional Clerk and Interim Commissioner of Corporate Services, kathryn.lockyer@peelregion.ca
Chris Raynor, Regional Clerk, regionalclerk@york.ca
Todd Coles, City Clerk, todd.coles@vaughan.ca

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