

# **The Regional Municipality of York**

Committee of the Whole  
Transportation Services  
October 14, 2021

Report of the Commissioner of Transportation Services

## **Traffic Bylaw Amendment to Support High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes City of Vaughan**

### **1. Recommendations**

1. Lane Designation Bylaw No. 2020-53 be amended to designate high occupancy vehicle lanes on Major Mackenzie Drive West (Y.R. 25) between Pine Valley Drive (Y.R. 57) and Islington Avenue (Y.R. 17).
2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Clerk of the City of Vaughan and Chief of York Regional Police.
3. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary bylaw.

### **2. Summary**

This report seeks Council approval to designate high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes on Major Mackenzie Drive West between Pine Valley Drive and Islington Avenue (Attachment 1). This is the remaining section of the six-lane reconstruction project on Major Mackenzie Drive West between Highway 50 and Highway 400.

Key Points:

- The Environmental Assessment Study supports HOV lanes on Major Mackenzie Drive between Pine Valley Drive and Islington Avenue
- Major Mackenzie Drive West between Pine Valley Drive and Islington Avenue requires HOV lane designation, completing a connection to the future Highway 400 and Highway 427 HOV lanes
- Designating HOV lanes requires a bylaw approved by Council

### 3. Background

#### **The Environmental Assessment Study supports high occupancy vehicle lanes on Major Mackenzie Drive West between Pine Valley Drive and Islington Avenue**

The reconstruction of Major Mackenzie Drive West from Highway 50 in the west to Highway 400 in the east in the City of Vaughan is complete. The purpose of the project is to accommodate growth and economic development, improve traffic flow, provide public transit connections and more travel options for all travellers. The Environmental Assessment Study supports HOV lanes on Major Mackenzie Drive West between Pine Valley Drive and Islington Avenue.

#### **Designating a high occupancy vehicle lane requires a bylaw approved by Council**

Bylaw No. 2020-53 designates lanes on Regional roads for the exclusive use of certain classes of vehicles. To add or remove an HOV lane designation, the bylaw requires amendment.

In [April 2017](#), Council amended the lane designation bylaw for Major Mackenzie Drive West between Pine Valley Drive and Highway 400.

In [October 2020](#), Council approved HOV lane designation for Major Mackenzie Drive West between Highway 27 and Islington Avenue.

In [April 2021](#), Council approved HOV lane designation for Major Mackenzie Drive West between Highway 27 and Barons Street.

Major Mackenzie Drive between Pine Valley Drive and Islington Avenue is the last road section to require HOV lane designation.

### 4. Analysis

#### **High occupancy lane designation is required on Major Mackenzie Drive West between Pine Valley Drive and Islington Avenue**

HOV lanes need to be designated on the remaining reconstructed section of Major Mackenzie Drive West between Pine Valley Drive and Islington Avenue to provide continuity along the corridor and complete the connection between the future Highway 400 and Highway 427 HOV lanes. Dedicated HOV lanes for buses and passenger vehicles with more than one-person help minimize delays to buses and achieve high service frequencies and reliability for transit service along this corridor as well as encourage carpooling.

To expand the transportation network and accommodate travel demand growth, staff propose Bylaw No. 2020-53 be amended to include designation of the six-lane Regional road listed in Table 1 as an HOV lane.

**Table 1**  
**Proposed High Occupancy Vehicle Lane**

Portion of Highway	Limit	Class of Vehicle	Times and Days
Major Mackenzie Drive West (Y.R. 25) located in the eastbound and westbound curb lanes	East limit of Pine Valley Drive (Y.R. 57) to the west limit of Islington Avenue (Y.R. 17)	HOV lane designation required for transit and passenger vehicles with two or more persons, motorcycles, motor-assisted bicycles and bicycles	7 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Friday, effective November 1, 2021

## 5. Financial

All costs associated with ground-mounted and overhead lane designation signage are included in the annual Capital works project budget.

## 6. Local Impact

Local municipal staff has been informed of the recommendations contained in this report. Travellers will be provided with multi-modal travel options and improved transit service offering more sustainable transportation options, including a more connected and efficient transportation network.

## 7. Conclusion

The Environmental Assessment Study supports HOV lanes on Major Mackenzie Drive West between Pine Valley Drive and Islington Avenue. High occupancy vehicle lanes increase capacity on busy corridors, benefit transit operations and support planned growth to better serve travellers in the Region.

The remaining section of the reconstruction project on Major Mackenzie Drive West between Pine Valley Drive and Islington Avenue is complete and requires HOV lane designation. Designating HOV lanes requires a Council-approved amendment to the Region's Lane Designation Bylaw.

The Regional Solicitor is requested to amend Bylaw 2020-53 as described in this report. The Regional Clerk is to notify the Clerk of the City of Vaughan and Chief of York Regional Police of this amendment.

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For more information on this report, please contact Joseph Petrunaro, Director Roads and Traffic Operations, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75220. Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.



Recommended by:

**Ann-Marie Carroll**  
Acting Commissioner Transportation Services



Approved for Submission:

**Bruce Macgregor**  
Chief Administrative Officer

September 24, 2021  
Attachment (1)  
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