

The Regional Municipality of York

Committee of the Whole
Transportation Services
April 4, 2019

Report of the Commissioner of Transportation Services

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update

1. Recommendation

The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

2. Summary

This annual report provides Council with an update on 2018 accomplishments and projects that will be delivered in 2019 to service the Region's growing communities under the Transportation Services Roads and Transit Capital Program.

Key Points:

- Communities continue to benefit from a Regional transportation network that serves more than 600,000 commuters every day, including 70,000 transit riders.
- Residents are provided with better, more efficient access to work, home, schools and other destinations across the Region.
- In 2018, Transportation Services invested \$217 million throughout the Region in roads and transit infrastructure programs for growth and asset management. Construction was completed on a number of projects, buses were purchased and work continued on pre-construction activities such as environmental assessment studies and detailed design.
- In 2019, \$339 million will be invested in roads and transit infrastructure programs for growth and asset management. Construction is planned at over 100 locations and pre-construction work will continue to prepare projects for delivery in future years.

3. Background

Transportation Services is investing \$2.8 billion through the Growth and Asset Management Programs over the next 10 years to better serve the Region's growing communities

The 2019 10-Year Roads and Transit Capital Program (Program), with a budget of \$2.8 billion, is divided into a Growth Program, valued at approximately \$1.5 billion, and an Asset Management Program, valued at approximately \$1.3 billion. Transportation Services is responsible for delivering approximately 42 per cent of the Regional 10-Year Capital Plan. The delivery of this program provides York Region residents with a better and more efficient transportation network.

Transportation Services is investing more than \$339 million in 2019 for Regional growth and asset management projects; 39 per cent of the Region's total capital investment for the year. This investment is in addition to the \$301 million being invested in the rapid transit network in York Region through projects undertaken by the York Region Rapid Transit Corporation (YRRTC). Rapid transit projects are funded jointly by the Region and Metrolinx. These investments reflect Council's support of growing a Regional transit system, building road and transit system improvements and maintaining transportation assets to provide an efficient transportation network and enhance the traveller experience. Attachments 1 and 2 show the locations of current projects, with the exception of some asset management projects. Projects to be undertaken under the Program in 2019 by Transportation Services (excluding YRRTC projects) are summarized in Attachment 3.

The Growth Program focuses on expanding the Regional road and transit network to offer travellers a range of services and options

Transportation Services builds Regional roads to a high standard so that people and goods can travel more easily and support economic growth. An increasingly integrated travel network links public transit, private vehicle, cycling and walking options to give travellers greater flexibility and convenience, while managing traffic flow and reducing pollution.

The Growth Program focuses on building system improvements to increase the capacity of the Regional road and transit network, including:

- Road reconstruction and widening
- Building new links in the Regional road network
- Midblock crossings of Provincial highways
- Major bridge replacements and upgrades
- Intersection upgrades to improve traffic operations
- Streetscaping

- Green infrastructure, including street tree and landscape plantings, irrigation systems and other supporting technologies
- Fibre optic cables or conduits, where appropriate
- Active transportation facilities
- Building or expanding transit terminals and operations and maintenance facilities
- Expansion of transit bus fleet
- Traveller amenities including shelters, electronic signs to provide real-time information, waste/recycling receptacles and bike racks

The Asset Management Program focuses on rehabilitation and replacement of the Region's \$4 billion in existing transportation assets

Transportation Services manages more than \$4 billion in infrastructure, including Regional roads, cycling lanes, bridges, traffic signal controlled intersections, transit terminals, fleet vehicles and maintenance facilities. Beginning in 2019, the Region's investment in the Asset Management Program will increase significantly, with an additional \$546 million being invested over the next 10 years. This reflects Transportation Services' priority to extend the life of Regionally-managed assets and reduce life cycle costs.

The Asset Management Program focuses on rehabilitation and replacement of existing transportation assets, including:

- Pavement repair, preservation and rehabilitation
- Bridge and culvert rehabilitation or replacement
- Roadside safety device improvements
- Intersection improvements, including reconstruction of traffic control signals and upgrades to meet Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) requirements
- Transit terminal, station and bus stop repairs and improvements
- Transit fleet midlife overhaul
- Transit fleet retirement and replacement
- Transit facility maintenance and rehabilitation

The Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program provides funding to local municipalities on a cost-share basis to support streetscape design enhancements on Regional Roads

Through the Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program, a component of the Roads Growth Program, the Region provides cost-share funding to local municipalities to support streetscape design enhancements on Regional roads. This includes elements such as street tree planters, decorative street lighting, banner poles, street furniture, gateway features,

planting, coloured crosswalks and public art. Streetscape design supports a context sensitive approach to designing vibrant communities in an urbanizing Region. Living elements, such as street trees, support healthy communities by providing many co-benefits including, improved public health, energy savings and improved storm water management.

The Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program has an annual budget of \$1 million available for capital cost-sharing, subject to annual capital budget approval by Council. Approved applications for funding and projects completed in 2018 under the program are summarized in Attachment 4. Operation, maintenance and long-term rehabilitation of enhanced streetscape features are the responsibility of the local municipality.

In addition to any streetscape design enhancements delivered through the Municipal Streetscaping Partnership Program, the Region looks to incorporate streetscape design enhancements in all capital projects. These enhancements vary depending on the location and context of the project.

The Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program provides funding to local municipalities on a cost-share basis for projects that support walking and cycling in the Region

The Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program, a component of the Roads Growth Program, assists with the implementation of local-led walking and cycling infrastructure that forms part of the Regional-scale network. This includes design and construction costs, but excludes property acquisition, new curbs, gutters or sidewalks, interlocking pavers, landscaping and end of trip facilities, such as parking lots.

The Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program has an annual budget of \$500,000 available for capital cost sharing, subject to annual capital budget approval by Council. Approved applications for funding and projects completed in 2018 under the program are summarized in Attachment 5. Ownership, operation, maintenance and long-term rehabilitation of the improvements are the responsibility of the local municipality.

In addition to any infrastructure delivered through this program, the Region looks to incorporate pedestrian and cycling infrastructure in all capital projects. The pedestrian and cycling infrastructure included in the Region's projects may include on-street bike lanes, cycle tracks, paved shoulders, multi-use paths or sidewalks, depending on the project location and context. These facilities may be within the Region's right-of-way on the road or boulevard, or off-road, such as through a park.

4. Analysis

In 2018, work was advanced on many infrastructure projects to provide residents with a better and more efficient Regional transportation network

With an investment of \$217 million, better and more efficient access to work, home, schools and other destinations across the Region has been provided to residents through a number

of Transportation Services projects, including road widenings, a newly constructed mid-block crossing that serves as a vital link between key business areas, addition of 19 lane-kilometres of road and 33 kilometres of cycling lanes and an enhanced suite of transit services. A list of 2018 accomplishments is included as Attachment 6.

Programs and projects planned for 2019 will support the Region's growing communities

In response to the Region's growing population, there is a continued focus on urbanizing and widening existing rural roads. Service reliability and delivering quality transit service continues to be a priority to support the Region's transportation and mobility needs. Several multi-year contracts were awarded in 2017 and 2018 and work on these will continue in 2019. Several new contracts will also be tendered in 2019.

Travellers in the Region's growing communities need safe, reliable and efficient services. This is a priority for the Region and construction, taking place at over 100 locations in 2019, is being managed to proactively minimize disruptions to travellers while building and maintaining a world-class transportation network. This includes ensuring projects are scheduled so that parallel Regional roads are not under construction simultaneously, whenever possible.

As noted previously in this report, projects scheduled for 2019 that will continue to build system improvements in the Region are listed in Attachment 3.

In 2019, \$339 million will be invested in Roads and Transit programs

With an investment of \$248 million the Growth Program, construction will continue on 14 major capital infrastructure projects and work will commence on 10 new projects. The projects include road widenings, major intersection improvements to add lanes, a snow management facility, expansion of bus garage and a new bus terminal.

Under the Asset Management Program, \$91 million will be invested in roads and transit infrastructure and fleet. Construction is planned at more than 80 locations throughout the Region to keep the road assets in a state of good repair including road rehabilitation and resurfacing, bridge and culvert rehabilitation and intersection improvements. Under the Fleet Retirement and Replacement Program, 21 buses will be purchased, including VIVA, conventional and electric buses.

Pre-construction activities are programmed to prepare projects for construction in future years

On average, it takes eight to ten years to deliver major capital infrastructure projects. Environmental assessment studies need to be undertaken, projects designed, permits and approvals from regulatory authorities obtained, property acquired and utilities moved before construction can commence. While the Region endeavours to deliver these projects in a timely manner, there are numerous external influences that are required to be managed for a timely and successful project outcome. In recent years project delivery has been delayed due

the need to acquire land from Provincial institutions, which the Region cannot expropriate, negotiating cost-sharing agreements with rail companies, obtaining environmental permits from Federal and Provincial agencies that have limited resources, managing competing priorities of utility companies and adapting to changing Federal and Provincial laws and regulations. To minimize delays in delivering projects, staff has programmed and will continue pre-construction work on 27 projects to prepare these projects for construction in future years.

Planning of projects is coordinated with other departments and agencies

Coordinating with Environmental Services and other agency infrastructure programs, including local municipalities, rail authorities, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation, YTN Telecom Network Inc. and the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) is an important factor when planning construction projects within the Region. Effective coordination may result in financial benefits and help reduce disruption to travellers.

Examples include:

- Coordinating construction on Major Mackenzie Drive, from the Canadian Pacific Railway tracks to Highway 27, with MTO's proposed Highway 427 extension
- Coordinating the widening and grade separation of Rutherford Road with Metrolinx's expansion of the Rutherford GO station
- Coordinating road and YRT bus terminal construction on Major Mackenzie Drive, from Highway 400 to Jane Street, to coincide with the Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital
- Coordinating the proposed widening of 16th Avenue with MTO's Highway 404 widening project
- Coordinating the installation of water, wastewater and telecom infrastructure and planting street trees as part of road construction projects

Transportation Services has been recognized by several organizations for exceptional work on a number of projects in recent years

In addition to creating an efficient transportation network, Transportation Services continues to deliver projects that enhance communities. Most recently, 'The Bayview Corridor Project' was recognized by the Ontario Public Works Association as Project of the Year in the Transportation \$10 million to \$50 million category, for not only improving mobility for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists but also for enhancing the surrounding environment and improving the habitat for brook trout through improved water quality, increased green areas and stream lengths. This project has also received the 2018 Engineering Project of the Year Award, Large-Sized Company Category, from the Professional Engineers Ontario York Chapter.

Other award winning projects from recent years include:

- The 2nd Concession Project

- Transportation Association of Canada Environmental Achievement Award
 - The Ontario Public Works Association 2017 Project of the Year Award
 - The Professional Engineers of Ontario 2017 Project of the Year Award
 - The Ontario Society of Professional Engineers 2018 Engineering Project or Achievement Award
- Warden Avenue Road Improvements
 - The Ontario Public Works Association 2016 Project of the Year Award
 - Precast/Pre-stressed Concrete Institute 2015 Design Award Winner

These awards demonstrate the quality of planning, design and execution that go in to each and every project carried out by the Region to meet the Region's travellers' needs as well as the needs of the communities these projects serve. Whenever possible, projects are designed to improve mobility for all corridor users while protecting the environment in our fast-growing region, showcase the beauty of the natural environment, connect growing communities and encourage healthy activities such as cycling and walking.

5. Financial

The 2019 10-Year Roads and Transit Capital Program has an approved budget of \$339 million for 2019

The 2019 10-Year Roads and Transit Capital Program is on track to meet the 90 per cent delivery target of the 2019 budget. Meeting the budget target is an important indicator that project milestones are being achieved.

Resources are allocated appropriately to align with the vision and strategy previously approved by Council in the Transportation Master Plan. Policies and procedures are in place to minimize the Region's exposure to risk and to actively manage that exposure, while adhering to the highest standards of quality, transparency and accountability. All policies and procedures are reviewed regularly.

The 2018 actuals and 2019 capital budget for Roads and Transit are shown in Table 1.

Table 1
Roads and Transit 2018 Actuals and 2019 Capital Budget

Program	2018 Actuals* (Millions)	2019 Budget (Millions)
Roads	\$174.4	\$250.0
Transit	42.4	89.4
Total	\$216.8	\$339.4

*2018 Actuals are unaudited

As the Region makes increased capital investments in the Growth Program, there will be a corresponding need to increase the operating budget to routinely maintain the new infrastructure. Options to minimize impacts to the operating budget are carefully considered during the design phase.

With an additional \$301 million being invested in rapid transit infrastructure, a total of \$641 million is being invested in 2019 in the Region's transportation infrastructure

The planning, design and construction of Regional roads and transit infrastructure is undertaken by Transportation Services while investment in the Region's rapid transit network and related infrastructure is led by York Region Rapid Transit Corporation.

The total investment being made in the Region's transportation infrastructure in 2018 and 2019 is outlined in Table 2.

Table 2
2018 Actuals and 2019 Capital Budget

Program	2018 Actuals* (Millions)	2019 Budget (Millions)
Transportation Services	\$216.8	\$339.4
York Region Rapid Transit Corporation**	236.4	301.2
Total	\$453.2	\$640.6

*2018 Actuals are unaudited

**YRRTC Actuals and Budget include York Region and Metrolinx funding

6. Local Impact

Staff continues to work closely with local municipal staff to ensure concerns are addressed and local municipal infrastructure needs such as watermains, sewers, streetlights, sidewalks, streetscaping and multi-use paths are included in Regional projects, where possible. In 2019, \$13.3 million in local municipal infrastructure is included in Regional projects. This infrastructure work is funded by the local municipalities and has been rolled into Regional projects to gain efficiencies, providing local municipalities with cost or time savings and reducing the overall impact to travellers.

Ongoing transit growth and rehabilitation programs support the continued delivery of safe and reliable transit service and amenities to municipal travellers in the Region. Transportation Services continually strives to maintain service levels, while operating more efficiently.

Projects related to streetscaping and cycling and pedestrian facility improvements also enhance the traveller experience as they contribute to more liveable neighbourhoods and communities by creating public spaces that encourage social interaction, promote active transportation and healthy living.

7. Conclusion

The Region continues to invest significant resources in the expansion and maintenance of Regional road and transit system improvements, with a number of large projects underway that will be advanced or fully delivered during 2019. As urbanization continues, traffic volumes rise and more transit options are added, Transportation Services will continue to look for ways to serve travellers with a range of travel options to maximize road network capacity, while ensuring the Region's assets are properly maintained in ways that are financially sustainable.

For more information on this report, please contact Salim Alibhai, Director of Capital Planning and Delivery, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75229. Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.

Recommended by: **Paul Jankowski**
Commissioner of Transportation Services

Approved for Submission: **Bruce Macgregor**
Chief Administrative Officer

March 22, 2019
Attachments (6)
9087108