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PUBLIC TRANSIT



Region may need different tax rates

From page 3.

"In York Region, it's based on assessment, not on the level of service delivered," he said.

"If there's a 30-per-cent increase in transit service levels in the south part of the region, there's no direct benefit for northern riders, but they still have carry their share. Maybe that will have to be re-visited."

BRT is not like conventional bus systems, says Ron Hartman of Connex Canada, the company that will operate and maintain the Viva fleet for the next five years.

"Think light rail on wheels," Mr. Hartman said. "The design of BRT cars and stations makes the system look and operate like light-rail networks."

Viva might look that way because it might one day include light rail. Looking beyond phase two — assuming that \$500 million in funding arrives — the system could be converted to light rail after a major review scheduled for 2009.

While all the hoopla is centred on rapid transit at present, there are also improvements planned for York Region Transit, the conventional system currently carrying about 55,000 passengers a day.

First of all, there will be changes to

dovetail those bus routes for timely connections with Viva vehicles where the two systems meet.

YRT, which operates in each of the region's nine municipalities, is in the first year of a five-year plan to connect smaller, rural communities with more urban centres, according to YRT manager Don Gordon.

"The idea is to connect places like Mount Albert, Sharon, Holland Landing, Udora, Sutton and Pefferlaw to Newmarket and (connect) King City to Newmarket and Aurora," Mr. Gordon said. Other services will include demand-response (dial-a-bus) service in some communities, additions to the community bus program now in Richmond Hill and full integration of conventional and BRT. It will be a single system, made up of Viva and YRT, he said.

YRT is also expected to introduce a small bus system, replacing the full-size buses that now run with limited passengers in off-peak hours.

But the key to making both systems more attractive, according to Ms. Turner, is the swift implementation of dedicated lanes for the Viva vehicles.

"The longer you keep those buses in mixed traffic, the more you lose the initiative of a rapid transit system," she said.



Durham/York Residual Waste Study

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

TRANSPORTATION & WORKS DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regional Municipality of York has initiated a study of waste disposal to find better ways to manage the waste remaining after diversion.

Residents are invited to attend one of three Public Workshops being hosted by York Region Transportation and Works Department to discuss how to choose a site for a facility to manage waste remaining after diversion through recycling and composting. This series of workshops is a follow-up to the workshops held on May 31st, June 1st and June 2nd, in which residents participated in discussions focused on the alternative options (i.e. waste processing technologies) for managing post-diversion residual wastes. An additional Workshop Series 1 is being held on June 23rd to present the purpose of the study and to obtain additional public input. Workshop Series 2 will discuss siting criteria. The Region is conducting these workshops as part of a Durham/York Residual Waste Study and feedback obtained from residents will be used to develop an Environmental Assessment (EA) Terms of Reference.

Workshops will include presentations and opportunities for facilitated discussion. Interested residents are encouraged to register for one of the following Public Workshops:

Workshop Series 1

Thurs., June 23, 2005

City of Vaughan
Le Jardin Special Event Centre
8440 Highway 27
Venetian Room, Main Floor

Agenda: 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
7:30 p.m.-9:15 p.m.
9:15 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Introduction/Presentation
Workshop
Workshop Wrap-Up

Issues for Consideration

- Types of alternative disposal approaches and technologies to consider
- Methods of managing garbage remaining after diversion by York Region
- Technologies to consider such as gasification, combustion or other energy from waste technologies
- Criteria or methods to consider in order to compare alternatives and determine the best solutions.

Public Workshop Series 2: How Should We Choose a Site for a Waste Disposal Facility?

Workshop Series 2

Tues., June 21, 2005

Town of Richmond Hill
York Region South Services Centre
50 High Tech Road
Rooms A, B & C, Main Floor

Workshop Series 2

Wed., June 22, 2005

Town of Newmarket
Newmarket Community Centre
200 Doug Duncan Drive
Hall #2, Main Floor

Workshop Series 2

Mon., June 27, 2005

City of Vaughan
Le Jardin Special Event Centre
8440 Highway 27
Le Parisien Room, Main Floor

Issues for Consideration

- Screening criteria to be used to eliminate areas not suitable for further consideration
- The process to be used to identify potential sites within appropriate areas
- The factors to be used to establish a "short list" of potential sites
- The evaluation criteria to be used to evaluate the short listed sites and eventually identify a "preferred site" for the management of post-diversion residual wastes.

Future Public Workshop Series 3 to follow in September, 2005.

Workshop Series 3 Topic: *How should the public and stakeholders be consulted during the EA Study?*

Exact dates and locations to be determined.

To register call Teresa Liu at:
905-830-4444 ext. 5724 or email: teresa.liu@york.ca

Regional Municipality of York Transportation and Works Department

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www.york.ca

THURSDAY: WHERE WE ARE

SATURDAY: WHERE WE WERE

TODAY: WHERE WE ARE GOING

JUNE 18: THE GREAT TRANSIT CHALLENGE

Visit www.yorkregion.com to view our State of series, including waste, education, public safety and transit.



THE ANNUAL MEETING OF MARKHAM STOUFFVILLE HOSPITAL

will be held on

Wednesday, June 29, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.

in the Auditorium of
Markham Stouffville Hospital
381 Church Street
Markham, Ontario L3P 7P3

James R. MacLean, Secretary

A G E N D A

1. Call to Order
2. Minutes of Previous Annual Meeting
3. Chair's Report
4. President's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Nominating Committee Report
7. New Business
8. Recognition Awards
9. Adjournment

** For an advanced copy of the Nominating Committee Report, call (905) 472-7567.