

# Greenbelt taking land

From page 1.

Hwy. 427 extension through Vaughan.

"That is the most pressing issue for us now," Vaughan Regional Councillor Mario Ferri said. "Without a decision on which direction that's going, everything is being held up. We've been pushing the province to make a decision so we can free up some of that land."

The region hoped to designate areas along Hwy. 404 in Newmarket and East Gwillimbury as employment lands, but they were included in the

protected greenbelt legislation earlier this year, said East Gwillimbury Mayor James Young, vice-chairperson of the region's planning committee.

"One side of the 404 is industrial and the other side is greenbelt; it just doesn't make sense," Mr. Young said. "It makes sense for both sides to be employment lands and we're hoping to convince the province there is justification for this."

Another 200 to 300 acres of employment land in East Gwillimbury is tied up the fate of the Queensville development, he said.

# GO slows down as Viva rolls

BY ROY GREEN  
Staff Writer

GO Transit is preparing for a major restructuring when York Region's new rapid transit system is fully operational this winter.

GO is forecasting a 75 per cent reduction in ridership on its Yonge Street 'B' route when Viva begins running from Newmarket to the Finch subway station Nov. 20, said GO spokesperson Ed Shea.

Viva will provide more frequent service and a lower price — \$3.25 compared to GO's \$5.30 fare.

"It's going to have a major impact on our ridership and revenue," Mr.

Shea said. "Our Newmarket express service will be reduced considerably and the buses and drivers will be shifted to areas where there's a higher demand."

That will translate into increased GO service between York Region and Toronto as well as improved service to Sutton and Barrie, Mr. Shea said.

The Yonge Street route, with 133 weekday trips, is GO's third-largest bus service, carrying more than 3,600 daily passengers, according to a July report to the GO board.

About 20 per cent of passengers, those headed south of Finch to York Mills, will continue to use GO, the

report says.

The service will be reduced to a peak period weekday line, while off-peak and weekend services will be cancelled, Mr. Shea said.

"The reduction is possible without adversely affecting existing customers due to the availability of Viva service."

GO and Viva are not competing for passengers, said Don Gordon, general manager of York Region Transit.

"GO's role will evolve into a more of an express-type service for people who are going from the north end of the region into the city, serving longer distance express trips," he said.

## THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT

**Class Environmental Assessment Study  
16th Avenue (Y.R. 73),  
Yonge Street to McCowan Road  
Towns of Richmond Hill and Markham**

The Regional Municipality of York has initiated a Class Environmental Assessment Study to determine future road needs and improvements on the 16th Avenue corridor between Yonge Street and McCowan Road, in the Towns of Richmond Hill and Markham.

This study is being carried out in accordance with the approved process for a Schedule 'C' project, Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (June 2000). The study will review the need and justification for possible improvements to the existing corridor and alternatives to the undertaking, including an evaluation of impacts on the natural and social environment. Upon completion of the study, an Environmental Study Report will be filed on public record.

Public consultation is vital to this study. We want to ensure that anyone with an interest in this study has the opportunity to get involved and provide input before any decisions are made on a preferred concept for the corridor improvements. Public Consultation Centres (PCCs) will be held at key stages during the study and will be advertised in advance.

Information regarding the study is being collected at this time to assist York Region in meeting the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act. All information will be maintained on file for use during the study, and unless otherwise requested, may be included in the study documentation which will be available for public review.

If you require additional information, would like to be placed on the mailing list, or have any questions or comments, please contact one of the individuals below:

Cynthia Martin, P.Eng.  
Project Manager  
Regional Municipality of York  
Phone: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 5947  
Fax: 905-836-4590  
Email: [cynthia.martin@york.ca](mailto:cynthia.martin@york.ca)

Liza Sheppard, P.Eng.  
Consultant Project Coordinator  
iTRANS Consulting Inc.  
100 York Boulevard, Suite 300  
Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 1J8  
Phone: 905-882-4100 ext. 5232  
Fax: 905-882-1557  
Email: [lsheppard@itransconsulting.com](mailto:lsheppard@itransconsulting.com)

Bill Fisch Regional Chair  
Bruce Macgregor Commissioner of Transportation and Works

Thank you for your participation in this study.



Rhonda lost  
28 pounds and  
64 inches!

**JOIN NOW!  
2 for 1 weight loss.\***

\*limited time offer, based on full program, excludes mandatory product

6162 Main St., Stouffville  
1-905-642-6906

**www.herbalmagic.ca**

As our clients vary,  
so do their results.

**\$5 off\*\***

**PB-5™**

*Herbal Magic*  
WEIGHT LOSS & NUTRITION CENTRES

- natural diuretic
- exceptional kidney supplement
- great for water retention

\*\*limited time offer, one coupon per purchase, limit 2 bottles