



Hoover Park almost ready but not Millard extension

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

Drivers going through Stouffville will have to wait while before the intersec-

tion at Millard Street and Hwy. 48 is constructed.

Approvals from the Ministry of Transportation still have to be received. Once

that happens, construction of the signalized intersection can start, taking an estimated six weeks for completion if the weather co-operates.

Until then, developers in the area won't be able to receive building permits.

"I am disappointed it is not open," Mayor Wayne Emmerson said.

The road was expected to be open last fall.

Hoover Park Drive is anticipated to

be open from Tenth Line to Hwy. 48 this week if problems with the advance warning signs at railway tracks east of Ninth Line can be rectified, Tom Parry, director of development services, said.

The street south of Main Street was originally to have been open by the end of October.

There is still work to be done, however. Traffic signals have to be put in at the intersection of Hoover Park and the Ninth, which could take a month.

Hydro One Networks is seeking OEB approval to harmonize its customers' rates

Starting in 2000, a number of people across the province became Hydro One Networks customers when we acquired their local utility. While the customers we acquired have seen changes to their delivery rates in recent years, many acquired customers continue to pay rates lower than other Hydro One customers receiving the same type of service.

Hydro One believes that all customers deserve fair, reasonable and affordable rates. In order for rates to be fair, they must be applied consistently across our customer base and reflect the true cost of delivering electricity to homes and businesses. For this reason, Hydro One is seeking to have all its customers pay the same rates for the same services. In some communities this could mean an increase to delivery rates. Under the proposed rate structure, all customers in the same rate class would be charged the same delivery rates, regardless of where they live.

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) regulates the rates charged by all electric utilities in Ontario, including Hydro One, and must approve any changes to our delivery rates. On December 18, 2007, Hydro One applied to the OEB to harmonize or consolidate the rates in your community with other communities across Ontario served by Hydro One (OEB file number EB-2007-0681).

Based on our application, the delivery rate increase would be phased in over four years. This would limit the increase to less than 10 per cent on the total bill in any one year for an average Hydro One customer. (The average Hydro One residential customer uses 1,000 kWh per month and the average general service energy-billed customer uses 2,000 kWh per month). The table below shows the proposed delivery rate increase for your community for 2008 and over four years for an average customer's electricity use.

Average Delivery Rate Increase on the Total Bill

"Community Name" from Hydro One's Electricity Bill	Residential customers using 1,000 kWh per month		General Service energy-billed customers using 2,000 kWh per month	
	Average 2008 Increase on Total Bill	Average Increase on Total Bill at the end of 4 years	Average 2008 Increase on Total Bill	Average Increase on Total Bill at the end of 4 years
Stouffville	9.4%	20.3%	7.3%	26.4%

How do I know if this might affect me?

You can confirm if you have community-specific rates by checking on page two of your Hydro One bill. If your bill states either "Your service type is Residential - Stouffville" or "Your service type is General - Stouffville" you will be affected.

If approved by the OEB, the proposed rate increase will affect the Delivery line on your bill. For more information on our rate application, please go to www.HydroOneNetworks.com/2008RateApplication or call 1-866-543-8031. Our office hours are Monday to Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Do I have a say?

Yes, you can participate in the OEB process. The OEB will undertake a public process, which includes a public hearing before rates are approved. Interested parties can intervene, observe or provide written comment. Public participation helps ensure the OEB makes an informed decision on our rates.

Information on how to participate may be obtained by visiting the OEB's website at www.oeb.gov.on.ca or by calling the OEB's Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727.



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Seniors want speed lowered, light outside Sobey's, Parkview Village

Helping seniors cross Weldon Road from Parkview Village to Sobey's safely is behind a petition handed to Whitchurch-Stouffville council last week.

The Parkview Village residents' council is worried about the seniors who don't go to the traffic light at Main Street, preferring the shorter route instead.

That means they clamber over snow-banks, push walkers and cut across the middle of Weldon Road.

HIGH SCHOOL TRAFFIC

The problem has become more serious since the new Stouffville District Secondary School opened last fall, bringing with it greatly increased traffic, Rev. Harvey Sider, chairperson of the residents council, said.

There were 214 signatures on the

petition, with only three residents declining to sign it.

The petition calls for a trip light, that is activated by people wanting to cross the road near Sobey's. It also calls for a lower speed limit on Weldon.

'DANGER ZONE'

Drivers "tend to forget there is a speed limit", Mr. Sider said. "It has become a danger zone."

Mayor Wayne Emmerson has already responded to Mr. Sider and town staff will be reporting on the situation.

No decisions can be made until the positioning of the new fire hall and twin-ice pad arena, which will open behind Sobey's in 2009, are determined, Mr. Emmerson said.

- Hannelore Volpe

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This message brought to you as a community service of The Economist/Sun-Tribune.

service update

* EFFECTIVE JANUARY 27, 2008

Starting January 27th, Viva purple service will be extended to Markham Stouffville Hospital, connecting with Route 9 - 9th Line. The new vivastation will be located on Church Street in front of Markham Stouffville Hospital.

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE ALSO BEING REVISED IN THE TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE:

- > Route 9 - 9th Line
- > Route 15 - Stouffville Local
- > Route 215 - Stouffville GO Shuttle
- > Route 415 - Stouffville High School

You can travel on any YRT or Viva vehicle in any direction for a two-hour period. Just remember to hang onto your tickets or transfers so you can hop on and off vehicles.

For more information, please visit our website at yrt.ca or call YRT/Viva at 1-866-MOVE-YRT (668-3978).

