

GOVERNMENT: Thirty cents of each tax dollar for policing

Regional part of your tax bill to rise \$40

BY SEAN PEARCE
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The regional portion of your tax bill is going up 1.94 per cent.

York Regional council approved its 2013 financial plan Thursday. The \$2.9-billion budget includes a \$1.2-billion capital program and a \$1.7-billion operating plan.

The increase will add about \$40 to the annual tax bill for a home assessed at the regional average of about \$460,000.

The budget is very fair and reasonable, regional chairperson and CEO Bill Fisch said, adding you can expect to see more and better services this year.

"I think we're in pretty good shape."

Upward pressure on this year's operating budget came from a variety of sources including inflation, the introduction of a new red light camera enforcement program, increased investment in homelessness support initiatives, the addition of 18 new paramedics in high-volume call areas and York Regional Police's planned hiring of 18 officers and 33 civilians.

Policing now consumes 30 cents of every

regional tax dollar collected.

The 2013 capital budget includes \$266 million for the Spadina subway extension, \$135 million for the York-Durham sewage system southeast collector and \$55 million for the Peel water supply project.

Some regional councillors expressed concern about the region's debt, which stands at about \$2 billion.

Many of the projects in the capital budget will see expenditures spread out over a number of years and several, such as the subway extension, will receive funding from external sources, such as the province.

Some regional councillors expressed concern about the region's debt, which stands at about \$2 billion.

The region is planning a 1.75-per-cent tax increase in 2014. The 2014 budget proposes \$1.3 billion in capital expenditures and \$1.8 billion in operating costs.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Monday January 28, 2013 | 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, Anthony Roman Centre
101 Town Centre Blvd., Markham

You are invited to attend a Public Meeting to be held by the Development Services Committee of the City of Markham:

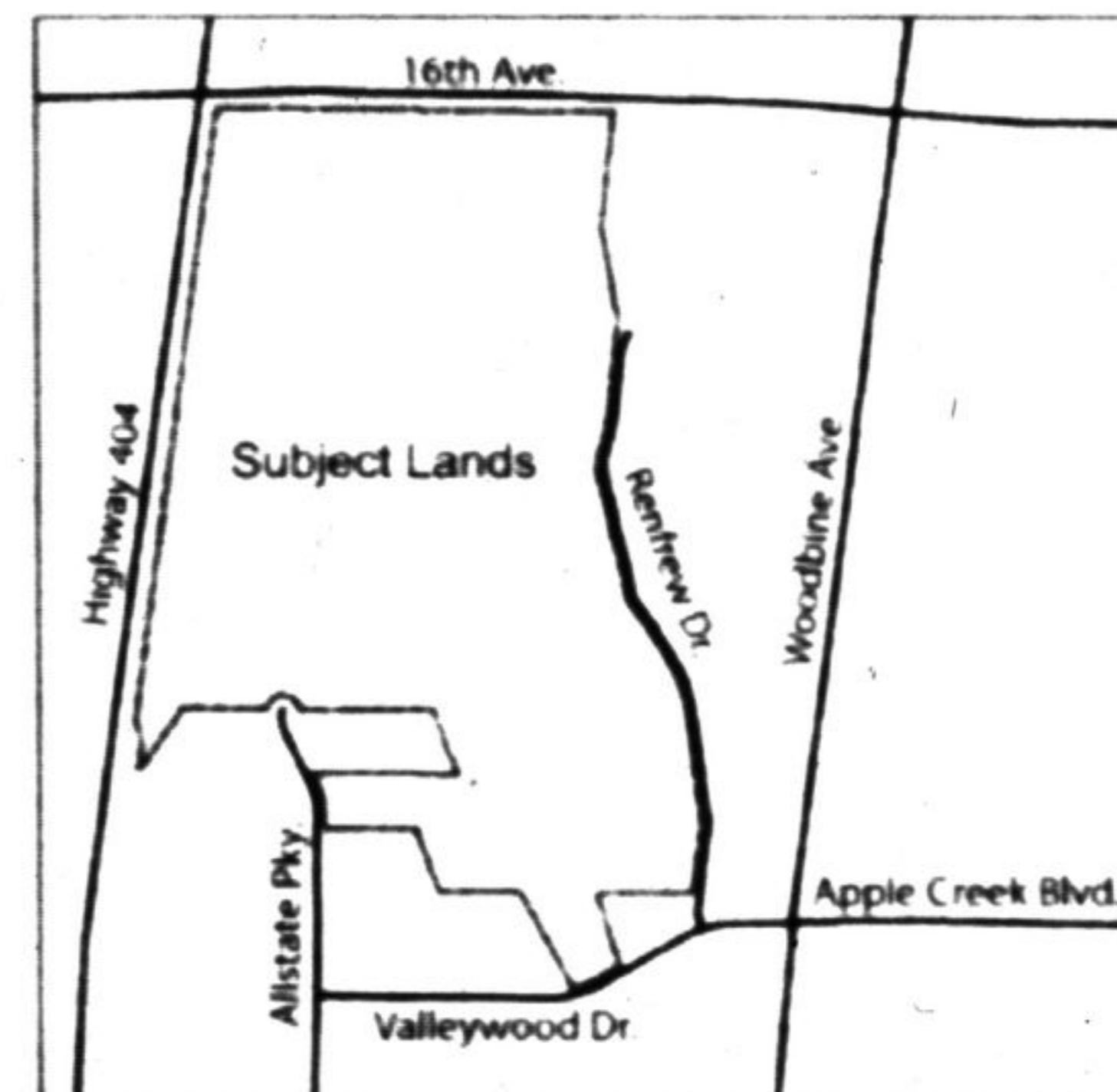
(a) to consider an application by CF/OT Buttonville Properties LP for an Official Plan amendment and new Secondary Plan for the redevelopment of the existing Buttonville Airport lands; and,

(b) to consult stakeholders on the planning and design of Allstate Parkway and Renfrew Drive from their existing termini to 16th Avenue under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, 2011.

SUBJECT LANDS

The subject lands consist of approximately 70 hectares (170 acres) in Ward 6 of the City of Markham. The lands are generally bounded by 16th Avenue to the north, Highway 404 to the west, the Rouge River and the Beaver Creek to the northeast and southwest, Renfrew Drive to the east and Valleywood Drive to the south (see map below).

Surrounding land uses include low density employment uses to the south, valleylands, employment and residential uses to the east, valleylands and employment/commercial uses to the north and Highway 404 to the west. Employment uses are located immediately west of Highway 404, in the neighbouring municipality of the Town of Richmond Hill.



BACKGROUND

CF/OT Buttonville Properties LP has submitted an application for an Official Plan amendment and new Secondary Plan on the existing Buttonville Airport lands.

The proposed redevelopment of Buttonville Airport contemplates high density mixed use employment, retail, office, entertainment and residential districts. The applicant's vision for the lands is as follows:

- Pedestrian and transit oriented districts which offers a wide range of uses and amenities;
- A mixed use retail, office and residential core located in the centre of the development with employment (office) and residential uses located primarily along the periphery of the site; and,
- A large water feature adjacent to the mixed use core, along the western edge of the property and adjacent to the Highway 404 transportation corridor.

PROPOSAL

Through the applicant's draft Official Plan Amendment and new Secondary Plan, the applicant is proposing to re-designate a portion of the property from "Industrial - Business Park" to "Commercial - Community Amenity Area" and expand the "Industrial - Business Park" designation on the remainder of the lands.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

The purpose and effect of the proposed Official Plan and new Secondary Plan amendment is to facilitate the future redevelopment of the Buttonville Airport lands. Both the proposed Official Plan amendment

and proposed Secondary Plan amendment will require Region of York approval.

PLANNING AND DESIGN OF ALLSTATE PARKWAY AND RENFREW DRIVE

Allstate Parkway is an existing 4-lane major collector road from Highway 7 to Valleywood Drive, and then tapers to a 2-lane minor collector road from Valleywood Drive to its terminus. Renfrew Drive is an existing 2-lane industrial collector road from Valleywood Drive to its terminus. As part of the redevelopment of this planning application, improved transportation infrastructure and services will be required. It is anticipated that the extension of these two municipal roads will be required to 16th Avenue to service this development.

The Municipal Class EA process will be coordinated or integrated with the Planning Act process to avoid duplication and to ensure improved environmental protection, as permitted under section A 2.9 of the Municipal Class EA process.

NOTE REGARDING THE APPLICATION

- i) If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the City of Markham before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the approval authority to the Ontario Municipal Board.
- ii) If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submission to the City of Markham before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to add a person to public body as a party.
- iii) If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the proposed official plan amendment, or of the refusal of a request to amend the official plan, you must make a written request to the Clerk's Department at the address noted above or by email to judycarroll@markham.ca

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A copy of the proposed Official Plan Amendment is available for public viewing at the Development Services Counter of the City Municipal Offices between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Additional information is available from Geoff Day, Senior Planner - West Development Team ext. 3071 of the City's Planning Department, tel. (905) 477-7000, ext. quoting file number OP - 11 - 115381.

Personal information collected in response to this planning notice will be used to assist City staff and Council to process this application and will be made public.

James Baird, MCIP, RPP
Commissioner of Development Services

Jim Jones, Chair
Development Services Committee

