

THORNHILL CENTRE STREET STUDY

The purpose of the Thornhill Centre Street Study is to provide an up-to-date planning and urban design policy framework to guide development in the Study Area. There have been several applications for zoning and Official Plan Amendments within the corridor since the approval of the Thornhill Community Plan 17 years ago.

On June 23, 2003, Council directed Staff prepare a Terms of Reference for a study of Centre Street in Thornhill-Vaughan, between Dufferin and Bathurst Streets, and enacted Interim Control By-law 255-2003 for a period of one year to provide time to complete the Study. The Study Area has been defined to include the lands fronting on Centre Street from Bathurst Street in the east to the intersection of Centre Street with Highway 7 to the west. The Study Area also includes some lands fronting Dufferin Street north and south of the Dufferin/Centre intersection.

On June 14, 2004, Council approved an extension of the Interim Control By-law for a second year, to permit completion of legal documents pursuant to the findings and recommendations of the Study.

Current Status of the Study

The Thornhill Centre Street Study is now complete. On June 28, 2004, Council approved a resolution receiving the draft Study report, and directing a Public Hearing be scheduled in September 2004.

The Public Hearing is expected to be held on September 20, 2004. Draft Official Plan amendments, and zoning by-laws if necessary, will be prepared for Council's consideration at that time, and will be available for public review at least 20 days prior to the Public Hearing. Notification of the Public Hearing date, and availability of the draft Official Plan amendments and zoning by-laws will be published in local newspapers.

Public Consultation

An important component of the Study was the establishment of a Stakeholder Consulting Group (SCG), to ensure full community awareness and participation in the process. The SCG is composed of representatives from each of the following groups: Thornhill Community residents, the Beverley Glen Ratepayers Association, landowners/landowner representatives, York Region Representatives, and City staff.

The Study is the result of an extensive public consultation process. Two Public Open Houses and eight Stakeholder Consultation Group (SCG) meetings were held to ensure the interests of the various stakeholders and residents were addressed. A group of approximately 25 SCG members regularly attended the meetings.

The draft IBI Study report is now public and available for public review and comment. Following receipt of comments, a final version of the Study report will be produced in Fall 2004.

Members of the public, and members of the Stakeholder Consultation Group are encouraged to submit their written comments on the Study by August 10 to Anna Sicilia, Policy Planner, by fax to 905-832-6080 or anna.sicilia@vaughan.ca