To All Area Residents / Business Owners / Tenants / Agencies:

Re: Bell Farm Road
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Phase 3 & 4
Notice of Public Information Centre

The Corporation of the City of Barrie is undertaking a Schedule ‘C’ Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) to address transportation improvements on Bell Farm Road from St. Vincent Street to Duckworth Street (see Study Area figure below), as recommended in the City’s Multi-Modal Active Transportation Master Plan (MMATMP, http://www.barrie.ca/City%20Hall/growth/Pages/DocumentsResources.aspx).

The preferred alternative solution from Phase 1 & 2 of the Class EA process completed as part of the MMATMP was endorsed by Council on December 2, 2013 (Council Direction Memorandum 13-G-289). The City of Barrie commenced with Phases 3 and 4 of the Schedule “C” Municipal Class EA in September 2016. The MMATMP recommended the following:

- West Section – 26 m right-of-way (ROW), 3 lanes, bicycle lanes and sidewalks on both sides
- East Section – 29 m ROW, 4 lanes, buffered bicycle lanes and sidewalks on both sides

On November 23, 2016, a Public Information Centre (PIC) was held at City Hall to present various alternative designs and background information. Subsequent to the PIC, the Consulting Team and City staff have identified a preliminary technically preferred alternative derived from the evaluation of alternative designs and public input.
A second PIC is scheduled for Wednesday May 3rd, 2017 in the Rotunda at City Hall, 70 Collier Street, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to present the preliminary technically preferred alternative and solicit input from the community. The format of the PIC will be an informal drop-in session where individuals can review project display panels outlining the study process, alternative evaluation and technically preferred alternative; the Consulting Team and City staff will be available to answer questions and discuss any issues or concerns with members of the public.

The recommended Technically Preferred Alternative is as follows (see figure for section limits):

- West Section – 26 m ROW, 3 lanes, bicycle lanes and sidewalk on the north side. The sidewalk on the north side is proposed between St. Vincent Street to the west intersection of Alliance Boulevard; sidewalks are proposed on both sides of the road east of Alliance Boulevard.

- East Section – 26 m ROW, lane reduction to 3 lanes (via road diet), bicycle lanes and sidewalks on both sides.

Minor property acquisition is required for intersection and geometric improvements.

Detailed figures illustrating the proposed improvements and property requirements can be found in the Draft Environmental Study Report and Project Display Panels, which will be available on the project website at www.barrie.ca/eastudies under the project heading “Bell Farm Road & Ross/Collier/Bayfield Streets Transportation Improvements” on May 3, 2017. A comment sheet has been attached to this letter and City staff kindly request that all comments be submitted no later than May 17, 2017. Comment sheets are also available online at the project website.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (705) 739-4220, extension 5117, or e-mail Brett.Gatrix@barrie.ca.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Brett Gatrix, P. Eng.
Infrastructure Planning Engineer

BG/Ih

Attachment