November 7, 2016

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

Re:  Ross Street / Collier Street / Bayfield Street Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Phase 3 & 4
Public Information Centre

The Corporation of the City of Barrie (City) is undertaking a Schedule ‘C’ Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) to address transportation improvements at the intersection of Ross Street, Collier Street and Bayfield Streets extending from Toronto Street to Clapperton Street, as recommended in the City’s Multi-Modal Active Transportation Master Plan (MMATMP, http://www.barrie.ca/City%20Hall/growth/Pages/DocumentsResources.aspx) pursuant to the approved procedures, as defined in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment dated June 2000, as amended in 2007 and 2011. This letter is to advise you of the upcoming activities for this Class EA.

The MMATMP completed Phases 1 & 2 of the Class EA process and was endorsed by Council on December 2, 2013 (Council Direction Memorandum 13-G-289). The MMATMP recommended the following:

Ross Street / Collier Street / Bayfield Street Intersection
Realign Ross Street and Collier Street to improve east-west traffic movement in the downtown core.

Ross Street (Toronto Street to Bayfield Street)
Widen to include 3-lanes, buffered bicycle lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the street.

Collier Street (Bayfield Street to Clapperton Street)
Widen to include 3-lanes, buffered bicycle lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the street.

Bayfield Street (Ross Street to Collier Street)
Provide buffered bicycle lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the street.

The City is now proceeding with Phases 3 & 4 of the Municipal Class EA process and has retained the consulting firm BTE Engineering Ltd. to develop and evaluate various alternative designs and complete the Environmental Study Report (ESR).

The public is invited to attend a Public Information Centre (PIC) to review and provide comments on alternative intersection realignment and road cross-section concepts. Project team members will be available at the PIC to answer questions and discuss any concerns the public may have. The PIC is scheduled for Wednesday, November 23, 2016, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, in the Rotunda at City Hall (1st Floor).

Comments and responses received from this PIC will be considered in the development of a preliminary preferred design alternative which will be presented to the public at a second PIC in 2017.

A Study Design Report is available on the City’s web site at www.barrie.ca/eastudies under the project heading “Bell Farm Road & Ross/Collier/Bayfield Streets Transportation Improvements”. This document outlines the study process, the intersection realignment and road cross-section alternative concepts.
A comment sheet has been included with this letter to allow the public and review agencies the opportunity to provide input/comments regarding this study and indicate if they would like to be kept informed. Please return comment sheets by December 7, 2016.

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

Yours truly,

Brett Gratrix, P. Eng.
Infrastructure Planning Engineer

BG/sm