



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Planning Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	August 12, 2014
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Fifty Road (PED14034(a)) (Ward 11) (Outstanding Business List Item)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 11
PREPARED BY:	Gavin Norman (905) 546-2424 Ext. 1322 Ryan Moore (905) 546-2424 Ext. 6471
SUBMITTED BY:	Jason Thorne General Manager Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

Council Direction:

On February 18, 2014 Planning Committee directed staff to report back on the timeline of the improvements on Fifty Road including Barton Street intersection, and the at-grade CN rail crossing, to accommodate current and future development. This direction was in response to staff Report PED14034 that was presented to Planning Committee on that day.

Consulted Departments:

In the preparation of this Information Report, staff has consulted with Geomatics and Corridor Management Section within Engineering Services Division of the Public Works Department.

Information:

Fifty Road is located within the boundary of Ward 11, and generally forms the eastern boundary of the City urban limits and the Stoney Creek Urban Boundary Expansion (SCUBE) Area. Within the SCUBE Area, Fruitland Road and Fifty Road are the only two roadways that provide direct access to the Queen Elizabeth Expressway (QEW) from the surrounding residential and commercial/industrial land uses to the north and south of the QEW.

Under the current condition, Fruitland Road is grade-separated at the CNR corridor, whereas Fifty Road is an at-grade crossing. With the anticipated increase in population

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and employment, 15,400 people and 6,580 jobs, respectively; the need to consider a grade-separated crossing was identified within the “Niagara Service Expansion Environmental Study Report (ESR)” (GO Transit, April 2011).

As part of a Council direction provided on May 8, 2013 (Item 6.1), and as discussed at Planning Committee Meeting of April 30, 2013, Applications for Amendments to the City of Stoney Creek Official Plan and Hamilton Zoning By-law No. 05-200 for Lands Located at 1361 Barton Street (Stoney Creek) (PED13073) (Ward 11), the following direction was provided:

- That staff have formal discussion with CN regarding any/all improvements including a grade separation at the Fifty Road Crossing; and,
- That staff report back on the timeline of the improvements on Fifty Road including the Barton Street intersection to accommodate current and future developments.

Staff prepared an Information Report (PED14034) that was presented on February 18, 2014 to the Planning Committee. The Planning Committee referred the report back to staff, Discussion Items (Item 8), Fifty Road (PED14034) (Ward 11) (Item 8.3), citing the following:

- That the Report PED14034, Fifty Road, be referred back to staff for further consideration and recommendations on traffic and traffic calming.

Staff has prepared the following in consideration of the current status of development within the immediate area and concerns expressed by the Planning Committee. The previously prepared Report PED14034 has been included as Appendix “A” to this Report.

Area Development

Three (3) major developments are located within the Fifty Road and Barton Street area in Stoney Creek and are listed below:

- Penady Commercial Development (location: Fifty Road and South Service Road);
- Winona Catholic Elementary School (location: Barton Street between Winona Road and Fifty Road); and,
- Foothills of Winona Residential Development (location: Fifty Road and Barton Street, ± 290 residential units – mixture of singles and street town homes).

All three (3) of these developments are currently being reviewed by the Engineering Approvals Section in Growth Management Division. City staff anticipate that these projects will receive approval to service within the calendar year. It is the understanding

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of staff, through dialogue with each of the individual applicants that these projects will go to construction immediately following approval from the City.

It should be recognized that the Penady and Foothills of Winona developments will be phased, taking time to reach full build-out for their respective developments. Therefore, the changes to traffic will be gradual, which will allow the City to monitor and respond accordingly.

Next Steps

Monitoring

To address neighbourhood concerns, staff will be monitoring traffic volumes and patterns within the Barton/Fifty/Winona area annually to determine if any temporary improvements may be required in advance of full road upgrades; e.g.: adding turning lanes, signalization, and traffic calming measures. Currently, staff are of the opinion that upon build out, traffic volumes at the area intersections are manageable (no changes required), but as development of the Penady commercial area progresses it will become more apparent as to what type of improvements should be considered and the timing of implementation.

It should be noted that as a part of the Penady development, upgrades to the transportation network in the immediate area are being implemented which include signalization of the intersection at Fifty Road and South Service Road, the addition of turning lanes and sidewalks along South Service Road, and traffic calming features along Winona Road.

Planned Road Upgrades

The City has scheduled in the 2014 Capital Budget studies to assess and evaluate growth related improvements to the transportation network within the SCUBE area. The planned work will be phased. Phase 1 includes carrying out a Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for improvements to Barton Street from Lewis Road easterly, Fifty Road from Highway 8 to South Service Road and traffic calming measures on Winona Road south of the CNR.

The terms of reference for the first phase are currently being drafted, with the study being awarded and commencing in late 2014.

City Staff have been made aware of concerns from the neighbourhood residents regarding future traffic movements and pedestrian safety due to the increase in traffic volumes. Through the Class EA, residents will have opportunity to provide their comments and concerns prior to formalizing recommendations for any road network improvements.

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The EA is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2015, provided there are no Part II Order requests. Table 1.1 has been provided below to clarify the scheduling of the EA work.

Table 1.1. – Scheduling of Barton Street / Fifty Road Improvements		
Item	Start Date	End Date
<i>Barton Street / Fifty Road EA</i>		
Phase 1	4 th Business Quarter 2014	4 th Business Quarter 2015
Phase 2	1 st Business Quarter 2016	4 th Business Quarter 2016

Detailed design and implementation could proceed in the following year, subject to approval of funding; however, should the EA process encounter a Part II Order, the start of the detailed design and implementation process will be delayed. Nevertheless, provided that funding is available and there are no Part II Order requests during the EA process, the detailed design and construction can proceed. Typically the process is a minimum of 3 years to completion, the length of time is highly dependent on the complexity of the scope of work, completing the engineered design, the acquisition of land (if required), and construction constraints (time of year, weather delays, etc.).

Given the information provided within this report, it is recommended that this report be received by the Planning Committee, as staff have:

- Made a commitment that the community's concerns regarding future traffic volumes and the need for traffic calming measures will be evaluated during the planned Barton and Fifty Road EA;
- Had formal discussion with CN regarding any/all improvements including a grade separation at the Fifty Road Crossing. It was concluded that based on trending rail and vehicle traffic volumes that a grade-separation is not warranted at this time and will be driven by planned growth in rail traffic; and,
- Reported back on the timeline of the improvements on Fifty Road including the Barton Street intersection to accommodate current and future developments.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" - Fifty Road Information Report PED14034 dated February 18, 2014

GN/RM/mah