



MEDIA RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 7, 2016

New municipal offices move one step closer

A new municipal centre at 2585 King Rd. is a lot closer to reality after King Township council approved the detailed design and tendering of the construction phase at a special meeting last night.

The contract to construct the new building will go out to tender next month. If all goes according to schedule, construction could start as early as April of 2017.

“This is a big day for King Township,” said Mayor Steve Pellegrini. “It’s no secret the current municipal office is bursting at the seams and it’s time to move. Council has made the decision to invest in the future of the township with a new municipal centre which will serve King residents for many years to come.”

Pellegrini noted that the increased space will allow staff to provide better customer service and add much-needed public-use areas. These will include a larger council chamber and multi-use gymnasium/event space. A York Regional Police (YRP) substation will also be part of the new centre.

The two-storey building will be more than 46,000 square feet. Many sustainability features are planned for the building and surrounding area. These include an electric vehicle charging station, a geo-thermal heating and cooling loop system, reforestation of some of the land and incorporating sustainable building materials and mechanical systems in the building.

The total estimated cost of the project is \$21.5 million that will be financed using infrastructure and development charge reserves, the proceeds of the sale of the current property at 2075 King Rd. and debenture. YRP will also make a capital contribution and sign a lease for its space. The \$21.5 million budget is an “all-in” cost, which includes the costs of land acquisition, council-approved environmental initiatives and up-to-date construction estimates. Staff will continue to work to identify other opportunities to further reduce the construction cost estimate.

There is still the matter of an appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board to the zoning bylaw amendment related to the project. It was filed by a land developer with a land holding in King City. The Township will not be able to start construction unless the OMB issues a favourable decision or the appellant withdraws its appeal. The appeal is scheduled to be heard over four days starting Feb. 28, 2017. If successful, construction will take roughly 12 months, pointing to a completion date of spring, 2018.

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Lying in the heart of the Greater Toronto Area, King Township is located within York Region, one of the fastest growing and diverse economies in Canada. More than 60 per cent of the Holland Marsh, also known as Ontario's salad bowl, lies within King Township. Though predominantly rural, most of King Township's 20,000 residents live in the communities of King City, Nobleton and Schomberg. Residents and visitors are drawn to King because of its rural lifestyle, village atmosphere and quality of life.

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