



*CORPORATION OF THE
COUNTY OF GREY*

COMMITTEE REPORT
TAPSR-35-10

TO: Chair Barfoot and Members of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee

FROM: Gary Shaw

MEETING DATE: March 4, 2010

PURPOSE: Update on Simcoe County Road No. 91, County of Simcoe, Clearview Township and Walker Aggregates

RECOMMENDATION(S)

For Information Only

BACKGROUND

During the past two years, the County of Simcoe and the County of Grey Transportation Department has been meeting with Walker Aggregates with regards to a new quarry that Walker Aggregates wants to obtain a permit to extract quarry material. This new quarry site is located in Simcoe County (Clearview Township) immediately across the road from their present site on County Road No. 91.

This site also abuts Grey Road No. 31 and Simcoe Road No. 95 which is a boundary road. During several meetings there were different proposals brought forward by Walker Aggregates for access onto the Grey County Road No. 31/Simcoe County Road No. 95 boundary road. Most of the discussion was between Simcoe County and the amount of money that Simcoe was requiring for road upgrades to County Road No. 91 from their quarry entrance to County Road No. 124 at Duntroon. Simcoe County was requesting millions of dollars for both capital and maintenance upgrades to this road. The two counties were also negotiating on capital and maintenance upgrades to County Road No. 91 intersection and the boundary road, as well as the section of boundary road south out to Singhampton (County No. 124 intersection). Complicating matters further, there were two other quarry operators that had made applications for licenses as well. These were M.A.Q. and Durham Stone and Paving.

During the two years negotiating with Walkers they had also brought forward a proposal to run a new road across the top of their property to the north to accommodate east/west

traffic from one county to the other. There was also resistance by Walkers to pay for capital upgrades to County Road No. 91 to the extent that Simcoe was asking for in the agreement.

During a meeting that was held in January between the lawyers, Grey County, Simcoe County, Walkers and Clearview Township a new proposal was placed on the table. This proposal was for Simcoe County to download to Clearview Township the section of County Road No. 91 from the Grey/Simcoe boundary to Duntroon. Clearview in turn would close the section of road from the Grey/Simcoe boundary to Concession 10 Nottawasaga. Clearview would sell that portion of road to Walker Aggregates for several million dollars. The money received would be used to do the following:

1. The former County Road No. 91 would be upgraded and constructed to a township standard from the 10th Concession easterly to Duntroon. It would also be paved with hot mix asphalt.
2. Clearview will upgrade and pave the 10th Concession from a point at the former County Road No. 91 intersection northerly to 30/31 Sideroad in Clearview.
3. Clearview will upgrade Sideroad 26/27 to a township standard. The road will not be hard surfaced and it will be load restricted so it cannot be used as a haul road.

At the Simcoe County Council meeting on Thursday February 25, 2010, the following two By-laws were approved:

- a) A By-law of the Corporation of the County of Simcoe to authorize the execution of the Municipal Road Transfer Agreement between the Corporation of the County of Simcoe and the Corporation of the Township of Clearview.
- b) A By-law of the Corporation of the County of Simcoe to authorize the execution of the minutes of settlement between the Corporation of the County of Simcoe, the Corporation of the Township of Clearview and Walker Aggregates.

This agreement outlined the details of the money exchanged and the various roads being upgraded by the parties.

Walker Aggregates proposes to haul approximately 2,000,000 tonnes to 2,500,000 tonnes of quarry material from their site on a yearly basis. This would work out to be a maximum of 500 trucks per day.

There was mention that Walker Aggregates would want to obtain an entrance from their quarry onto the Grey Road No. 31/Simcoe Road No. 95 boundary at some time. No application has been made as of this date. When an application is submitted, Grey and Simcoe will be asking for money for capital and maintenance upgrades.

The part I find disturbing and I presume Grey Highlands does as well, is that we will be losing a very important east/west route from one county to the other. Had the intention been to upgrade the 26/27 Sideroad to the north to a county standard with hard surfacing, the concept of closing County Road No. 91 might be more acceptable. However this is not the case.

SUMMARY

There will be a board hearing in March to consider the Walker license. The Committee may want to consider this if they would like to be part of this board hearing or encourage Grey Highlands to do so.

FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL/IT CONSIDERATIONS

None at this time.