To: Chair and Members
   Public Works Committee
   Outstanding Business Item No. J and Issue: Letter from the Ministry of Transportation regarding Highway 6 North (PW07053)

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Re: Letter from the MTO respecting Highway 6 North - (Winter Maintenance (PW07053) (City Wide)

Council Direction:
At the March 1, 2006 City Council, correspondence from the Honourable Mike Goodale, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Transportation respecting Highway 6 North winter maintenance was received and referred to the General Manager of Public Works for a report to the Public Works, Infrastructure and Environment Committee.

Information:
As requested, the following information provides a brief overview and update of the progress to date involving the winter maintenance "snow drifting" study commissioned by the Ministry of Transportation on Hwy 6 north during the 2006/2007 winter season.

The Ministry confirms that in fact a consultant was commissioned and carried out a snow drifting study on Hwy 6 north over the course of winter season. The study involved monitoring of prevailing wind direction, topography and existing land use to determine 7 locations along the west side of Hwy 6 North where the installation of seasonal winter snow fence was recommended and implemented in an attempt to mitigate drifting. Information collected over the course of the winter season with respect to program performance will be analyzed for consideration for any future program improvements. Program recommendations may include winter snow fence locations, section lengths, snow fence heights and fence design, etc.

Public Works staff will provide further updates if and when more information becomes available as a result of the ongoing study.

Scott Stewart, C.E.T.
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