January 16, 2014

Dear Resident/Occupant

Subject: Whitevale Bridge Closure and Replacement

Please be advised that the City of Pickering has closed the Whitevale Bridge to vehicular traffic due to safety concerns.

As you are aware, the replacement of the Whitevale Bridge is a budgeted capital project with a planned closure date in June to facilitate construction. However, the most recent safety inspection revealed that an abutment has shifted outward, due to the recently experienced extreme weather.

The City’s engineering consultants believe that the bridge’s structural integrity is compromised and they have recommended that the bridge be closed to vehicles, but can remain open and accessible to pedestrian traffic until the replacement project commences. We will consult with the Toronto Region Conservation Authority and other stakeholders about possibly starting the project earlier than scheduled.

We are implementing a traffic management plan and detour routes to help facilitate vehicular movement around the closed bridge – detailed detour route map is enclosed. Additional signage will be installed to enhance visual notification in and around the hamlet. We are also in consultation with Canada Post to install temporary postal boxes for the convenience of residents/businesses located west of the bridge.

Although the earlier than anticipated closure of the Whitevale Bridge will cause an inconvenience to the area, our primary and overriding concern remains residents’ safety. Council and staff will work diligently to ensure that the bridge closure and replacement project will result in a positive outcome for the community.

Yours truly,

Richard Holborn, P. Eng.
Director, Engineering & Public Works

Enclosure