



NOTICE OF CHANGE IN STUDY SCOPE

Highway 401 Interchange Improvements at Guelph Line

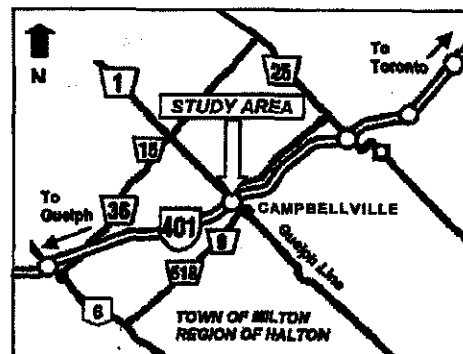
WP 2455-04-00

Project Update

Stantec Consulting Ltd., on behalf of the Ministry of Transportation, is undertaking a Detail Design Study and Environmental Assessment to enhance the operation and safety of the Highway 401 Interchange at Guelph Line in the Town of Milton, Region of Halton.

A "Notice of Study Commencement" was advertised in this newspaper in April 2006, which outlined the following improvements under the original scope of work to enhance the operation and safety of the interchange:

- Rehabilitation of the Guelph Line Underpass Structure
- Intersection improvements at Guelph Line and Reid Side Road
- Improvements to the existing carpool lot in the southwest quadrant
- Associated geometric improvements to the affected ramps



Input was received from external ministries/agencies, the public and property owners and considered in the study process. The study team developed several alternatives and is recommending a technically preferred alternative which expands on the original scope of the project in order to further improve the operation of the intersection at Reid Side Road and includes:

- Relocation of the southbound Guelph Line to eastbound Highway 401 on-ramp access onto Reid Side Road
- Relocation of the carpool lot to west of the existing eastbound off-ramp

The Process

The study was initially commenced as a Group C project, in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000)*. However, in light of the changes to the scope of the project, it is now defined as a Group B project and must meet the Class EA requirements of Group B projects with the opportunity for public input throughout. As such, a Public Information Centre (PIC) will be held in 2007 to provide the public with an opportunity to examine and comment on the alternatives. Notice of the PIC will be placed in this newspaper and mailed out to study participants at that time.

Upon completion of the study, a Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) will be prepared and filed for a 30-day public review period. You will be notified of the review period and encouraged to provide comments. If, after consulting with the Ministry's consultants and staff, you have unresolved concerns, you have the right to make a formal written request to the Minister of the Environment to "bump-up" (i.e., make a Part II Order) this project. A bump-up/Part II Order may lead to the preparation of an individual environmental assessment.

Following the PIC, the project may be stepped down to a Group C project if the environmental screening process indicates that the proposed improvements would not result in any significant detrimental environmental effects. If the project is stepped down a TESR will not be produced, however the public will be notified of this decision and a review period will be provided.

Comments

If you wish to comment on this project, have your name added to the project mailing list or have any questions regarding the study, please contact:

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With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.