

Notice of Transportation Environmental Study Report Addendum Submission

Highway 400 Improvements from 1 km South of Highway 89 to the Junction of Highway 11 (W.O. 06-20016)

Class Environmental Assessment and Preliminary Design Study Update

THE PROJECT

AECOM has been retained by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to undertake a Class Environmental Assessment (EA) and Preliminary Design Update Study along Highway 400 from 1 km south of Highway 89 to the Junction of Highway 11. The project limits are located within the Town of Innisfil, City of Barrie, and the Township of Springwater within Simcoe County.

BACKGROUND

A Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) for improvements to Highway 400 from 1 km south of Highway 89 to the Junction of Highway 11 (G.W.P. 30-95-00, April 2004), was made available for public review in 2004 and later received Environmental Clearance to proceed to further stages of design. This study update has revisited the approved plan outlined in the 2004 TESR, to incorporate future (2031) traffic projections and address associated capacity, operational and safety needs. This study has confirmed that this section of the Highway 400 corridor needs to be widened to 10 lanes throughout the majority of the study area by 2031.

Key features of the Recommended Plan include widening of Highway 400 to five (5) lanes in each direction (four (4) general purpose lanes and one (1) high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane) from Highway 89 to Duckworth, and to eight (8) lanes between Duckworth and the Junction at Highway 11, improvements to Highway 400 interchanges (at Highway 89, Innisfil Beach Road, Mapleview Drive, Essa Road, Dunlop Street, and Bayfield Street), illumination, drainage, installation of noise barriers at seven (7) locations and Intelligent Traffic Systems.

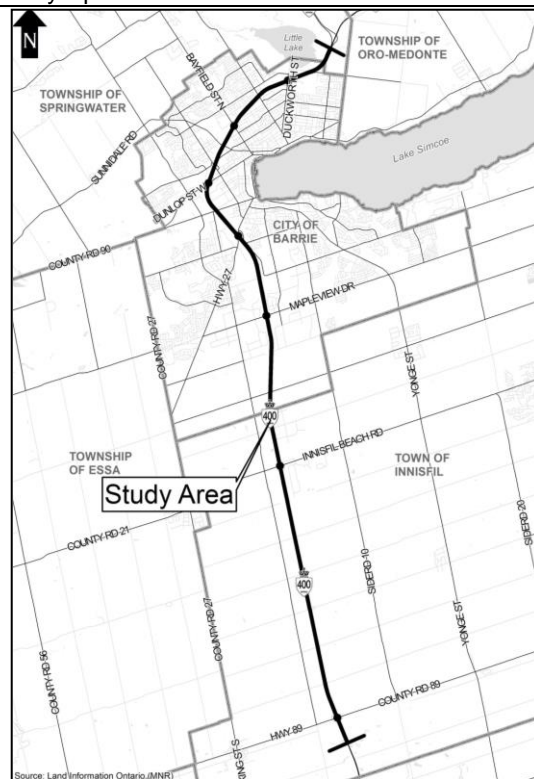
CHANGES TO THE 2004 TESR

The changes to the 2004 TESR include additional property required to accommodate grading modifications along some sections of Highway 400 and various interchanges, and for stormwater management ponds. Other changes to the recommended plan include a new interchange configuration at Mapleview Drive, as well as other interchange modifications, the addition of two (2) newly recommended noise walls, the extension of noise walls previously recommended, and the replacement of various culverts.

THE PROCESS

This study is following the approved planning process for a Group 'B' project under the *MTO Class EA for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000)*.

A TESR Addendum has been prepared to document changes to the recommended plan outlined in the 2004 TESR. The TESR Addendum includes a discussion on the need for the changes to the 2004 TESR, the generation, assessment and evaluation of alternatives, the recommended plan, a summary of environmental issues and potential mitigation measures, a summary of consultation undertaken, and commitments to be carried out during future design and construction. The TESR Addendum is available for a 30-day review period commencing **Thursday November 9, 2017** and ending **Friday December 8, 2017**. The TESR Addendum may be viewed at the following locations during regular business hours and on the project website at: <http://highway400improvements89to11.ca>



Town of Innisfil, Town Hall

2101 Innisfil Beach Road,
Innisfil, ON L9S 1A1
Telephone: 705 436 3710
Monday to Friday: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Innisfil Public Library, Churchill Branch

2282 4th Line, Innisfil, ON L0L 1K0
Telephone: 705 456 2671
Tuesday to Thursday: 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Interested persons are encouraged to review the TESR Addendum and provide written comments to the Ministry of Transportation and AECOM during the 30-day review period (ending **Friday December 8, 2017**). If after consulting with the Ministry and consultant staff, you still have serious unresolved concerns, you have the right to request the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change (in writing to: Ferguson Block, 11th Floor, 77 Wellesley Street West, Toronto, Ontario M7A 2T5) to issue a Part II Order (i.e. bump-up) for this project. A Part II Order may lead to the preparation of an Individual EA. A copy of the Part II Order request that is sent directly to the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change should also be forwarded to the Ministry of Transportation and consultant staff at the addresses below. Only changes described in the TESR Addendum are eligible for Part II Orders. If there are no outstanding concerns at the end of the 30-day review period (ending **Friday December 8, 2017**) the project will be considered to have met the requirements of the Class EA. In the event that a Part II Order request is granted, MTO has the option to withdraw the Addendum.

COMMENTS

To obtain additional information or to provide input please contact the Project Team as follows:

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Email: projectteam@highway400improvements89to11.com, or **visit us at** <http://highway400improvements89to11.ca>

There is an opportunity at any time during the study for interested persons to provide input to the Project Team regarding the study. Comments are being collected to assist MTO in meeting the requirements of the *Ontario EA Act*. This material will be maintained on file for use during the study and may be included in project documentation. Information collected will be used in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record. If you have any accessibility requirements in order to participate in this project, please contact one of the Project Team members listed above.