

THE STUDY

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) initiated the Highway 7 & 8 Transportation Corridor Planning and Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study, from Greater Stratford to the New Hamburg Area in May 2007.

THE PROCESS

The purpose of the study is to:

- Develop a plan that:
 - Identifies factors driving 'Area Transportation Systems' needs;
 - Provides multi-modal strategies (road, transit, etc.) to address the 'Area Transportation System' problems and opportunities within the Analysis Area; and
 - Identifies provincial roadway alternatives to be carried forward.
- Prepare a preliminary design for the provincial roadway components of the recommended plan; and
- Prepare a Transportation Environmental Study Report for public review at study completion.

The study will:

- Be subject to the *Ontario Environmental Assessment (EA) Act* and is being carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Class EA for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000);
- Review and build on the MTO Highway 7 & 8 Study Design – Greater Stratford to New Hamburg Area, December 2005;
- Address the transportation policies and directions of the 'Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe' (recognizing that a portion of the analysis area for this project lies within the GGH);
- Recognize several municipal transportation initiatives in the area; and
- Recognize other relevant transportation corridor studies being undertaken by MTO.

The first Public Information Centre (PIC) was held in July and August 2007. Since PIC#1, the project team has done the following:

- Updated Draft Reports A (Study Plan), B (Overview of Transportation, Land Use and Economic Considerations within the Analysis Area) and F (Environmental Conditions and Constraints (Part 1)) to include input received from the public, agencies and municipalities;
- Identified area transportation system problems and opportunities as described in Draft Report C – Area Transportation System Problems and Opportunities;
- Identified area transportation system alternatives, determined the degree to which these alternatives address problems and opportunities and identified alternative transportation strategies that will proceed to further evaluation and planning as described in Draft Report D – Area Transportation System Alternatives; and
- Generated Preliminary Planning Alternatives (corridors) for provincial components of the Area Transportation System strategy.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE (PIC) #2

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the second round of PICs, to be held as follows:

Monday, June 16th, 2008

Festival Inn – Shakespeare Room
1144 Ontario Street, **Stratford**
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 17th, 2008

New Hamburg Community Centre
251 Jacob Street, **New Hamburg**
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 19th, 2008

Shakespeare and District Optimist Hall
3976 Galt Street, **Shakespeare**
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

This second round of PICs will be informal drop-in centres at which the following will be presented:

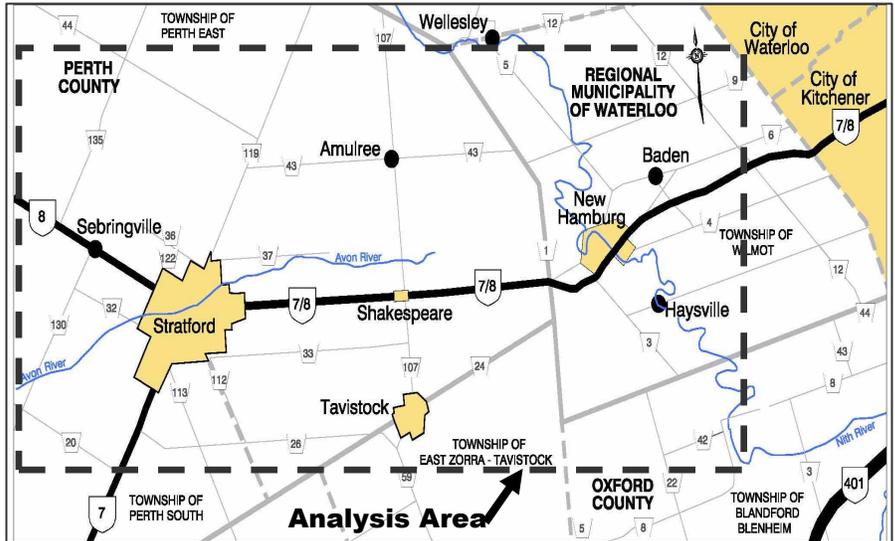
- Highlights of Draft Report "C" Working Paper – Area Transportation System Problems and Opportunities
- Highlights of Draft Report "D" Working Report – Area Transportation System Alternatives
- The Preliminary Planning Alternatives (Corridors) that will be evaluated following this round of PICs.

Copies of the draft reports are also available for review on the study web site and at local municipal offices, beginning on June 16, 2008. Your comments are requested by August 15, 2008, so that they can be considered as the study moves forward.

Staff from MTO and their consultant, Totten Sims Hubicki Associates (TSH), will be in attendance at the PIC to answer questions. You are encouraged to attend the PIC and provide your view and comments so they can be considered. For further information, or if you wish to be added to the project mailing list, please contact:

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Analysis Area

Additional information is available at the Highway 7 & 8 Transportation Corridor website at www.7and8corridorstudy.ca
Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will be part of the public record.