

# Welcome to Public Information Centre (PIC) #3

# Highway 7&8 Transportation Corridor Planning and Class Environmental Assessment Study

Festival Inn Shakespeare Room 1144 Ontario Street, Stratford July 21, 2009 5:00pm to 9:00pm

Wilmot Recreation Complex 1291 Nafziger Road, Baden July 22, 2009 5:00pm to 9:00pm Shakespeare and District
Optimist Hall
3976 Galt Street, Shakespeare
August 11, 2009
5:00pm to 9:00pm

## Welcome!



- Please sign in.
  - Please indicate if you would like your name to be added to the study mailing list to receive updates and information regarding the study and invitations to future public involvement events in your area.
- Comment sheets are available to record your comments and suggestions.
- Materials available tonight:
  - PIC reference materials study reports / plans, background materials, etc.
  - Handouts overview of study process, copies of study newsletters

Public Information Centres (PICs) are held at key stages of the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study. The PICs provide the first opportunity to review and comment on the material presented.

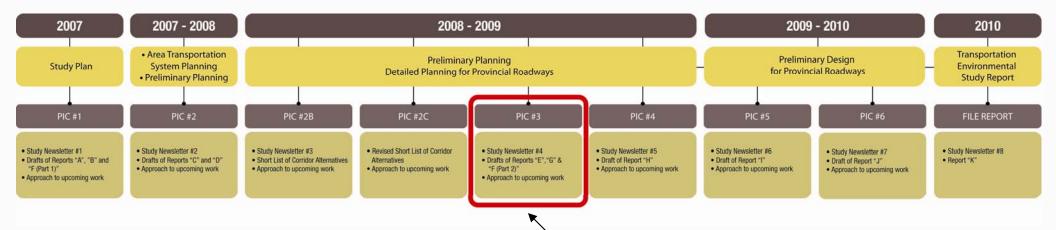
# Purpose of PIC #3



- Provide Update on Highway 7&8 Transportation Corridor Planning Study
- Provide Update on Study Process and Schedule
- Present and obtain information and input on the following key elements:
  - Evaluation of Short List of Corridor Alternatives and selection of Preferred Corridor
  - Environmental conditions and constraints for Preferred Corridor
  - Widening / new route alternatives generated for various sections of Preferred Corridor
  - Process and criteria for the assessment and evaluation of widening / new route alternatives
- The above noted material is draft and subject to change as a result of information and comments provided by stakeholders. Following the review period, all comments received will be considered in finalizing the draft material.

# Overview of Study Process





Submission date for comments is September 30, 2009

### Minimum Review Periods for Study Reports

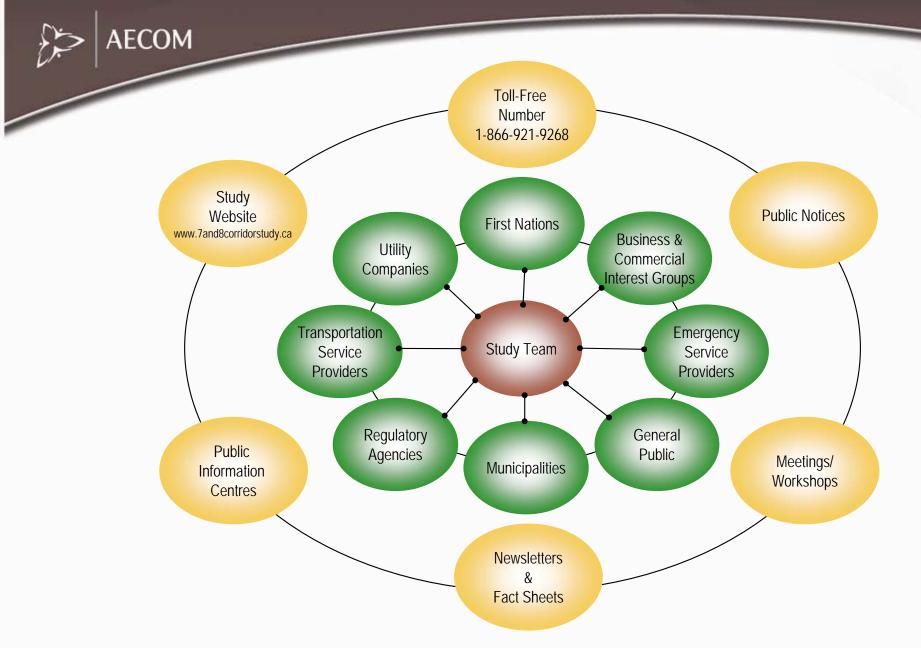
#### 60-day Review Period for Milestone Reports

- Report A: Study Plan for Technical Work, Outreach and Consultation
- Report D: Area Transportation System Alternatives
- · Report E: Transportation Corridor Needs Assessment
- Report H: Selection of Detailed Planning Alternatives for Provincial Roadway
- Report J: Selection of Preliminary/Concept Design Alternatives for Provincial Roadway
- Report K: Transportation Environmental Study Report

#### 30-day Review Period for Working Papers

- Report B: Overview of Transportation, Land Use and Economic Conditions
- within Analysis Area
- Report C: Area Transportation System Problems and Opportunities
- Report F: Environmental Conditions and Constraints
- Report G: Generation of Detailed Planning Alternatives for Provincial Roadway
- Report I: Generation of Provincial Roadway Preliminary Design Alternatives

## **Outreach and Consultation**



Outreach and Consultation are a major component of the Study.

## Study Background – PIC #1 (July/August 2007)



Study Plan for Technical Work, Outreach and Consultation (Report A) Overview of Transportation, Land Use, and Economic Conditions within the Analysis Area (Report B) Identification of Area Transportation System Problems and Opportunities (Report C) Working Paper - Environmental Conditions and Constraints (Report F-1) Develop Long List of Area Transportation System Alternatives Local Freight Marine Municipal Provincial Regional Nothing" Transit\* Rail\* Service\* Service\* Roads\* Highways/ Transit / Transitways\* Passenger Rail\* Determine Degree to which Individual Area Transportation System Alternatives address **Problems and Opportunities** Develop Elements of Area Transportation System Alternatives and Group them into Combinations "Combination #4" "Do Nothing" "Combination #1" "Combination #2" "Combination #3" Existing infrastructure Optimize Existing New/Expanded Non-Widen Municipal Roads New Provincial and programmed Network Road Infrastructure and/or Provincial Highways/Transitways improvements (all modes) Highways Elements from Elements from Combination 1 Optimize Existing Local Elements from Combination 3 (Local Transit Interregions Transit, Interregional Transit, Passenger Rail, Freight Rail, Combination 2 Transit / Passenger Rail, Freight Miden / Improve Municipal Roads Determine the Degree to which Combination Alternatives Address the Problems and Opportunities and Select the Preferred Combination(s) Select the Alternatives that will Proceed to Preliminary Planning

Report A:

 Documents the framework and commitments for conducting the planning and Class EA Study

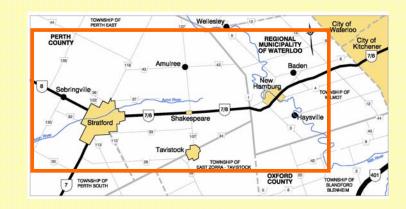
#### Report B:

 Provides a comprehensive overview of transportation, land use and economic conditions within the analysis area

#### Report F (Part 1):

 Documents environmental conditions background data (existing/secondary source information – mapping / constraint mapping, data, reports, supplemented by preliminary field reconnaissance)

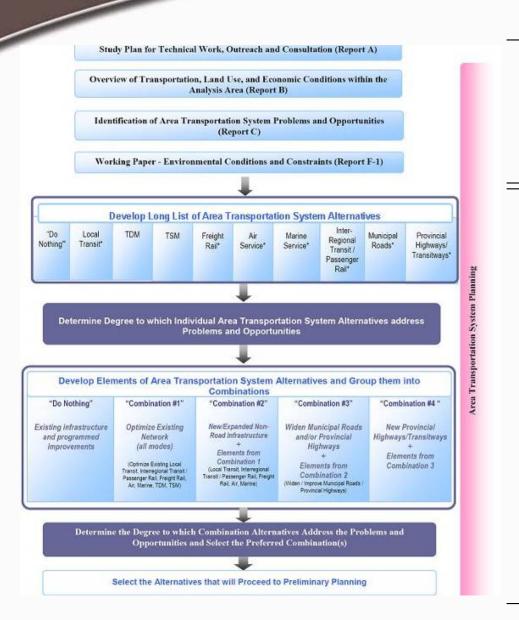
#### **Analysis Area**



OIC #2

## Study Background – PIC #2 (June 2008)





7 #1

#### **Individual Alternatives**

- Individual alternatives do not address the identified problems and opportunities.
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM), Transit, Municipal Road and Provincial Highway/ Transitway alternatives carried forward as supporting elements of Combination Transportation System Alternatives.

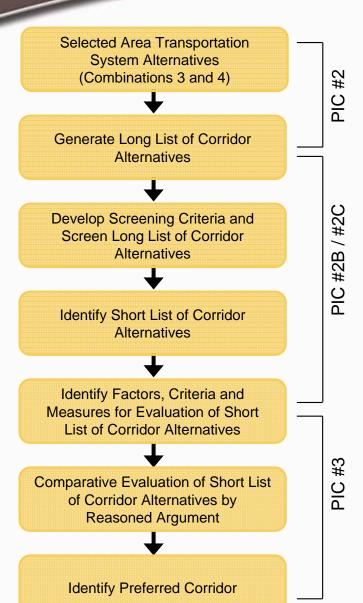
PIC #2

#### **Combination Alternatives**

 Combination 3 (TDM/Transit plus widen Hwy 7&8) and Combination 4 (TDM/Transit plus local bypasses or new highway corridor) carried forward for further review.

## Study Background – PIC #2B/C (Nov/Dec 2008 / April 2009)





- Long List of Corridor Alternatives
  - Existing Highway 7&8 Corridor Alternative
  - By-Pass Corridor Alternatives
  - New Corridor Alternatives
- Screening Process
  - Screened out (removed) corridor alternatives from further consideration which were significantly less desirable than other available alternatives
- Short List of Corridor Alternatives
  - Carried forward to evaluation phase to determine preferred corridor

# Long List of Corridor Alternatives (April 2009)



**Existing Corridor Alternative** 



By-Pass Corridor Alternatives



**New Corridor Alternatives** 



#### Final Short List of Corridor Alternatives (April 2009) AECOM Section 1: West of Section 2: Highway 7 Section 3: East of Stratford to Section 4: West of New Hamburg to East of Stratford Stratford to Highway 7 West of New Hamburg to East of New Hamburg South By-Pass Corridor 1 **Existing Corridor** South By-Pass **Existing Corridor** Corridors 3 & 4 South By-Pass Corridor 1 South By-Pass Corridor South Corridor 1 South By-Pass South By-Pass Corridor 2 Corridors 6 & 7 South By-Pass Corridors 1 & 2 Ontario REVISED SHORT-LISTED CORRIDOR ALTERNATIVES

# Assessment and Evaluation Process and Factors, Sub-Factors and Criteria



Identify Short List of Corridor
Alternatives



Identify Factors, Criteria and Measures for Evaluation of Short List of Corridor Alternatives



Comparative Evaluation of Short List of Corridor Alternatives by Reasoned Argument



**Identify Preferred Corridor** 

Factors/Sub-Factors	Criteria			
	Natural Environmental Factors			
1.1 Fisheries and	1.1.1 Fish Habitat			
Aquatic Ecosystems	1.1.2 Fish Community			
1.2 Terrestrial	1.2.1 Wildlife			
Ecosystems				
2000,0100	1.2.2 Wetlands			
	1.2.3 Forests			
	1.2.4 Vegetation			
	1.2.5 Designated/Special Areas			
1.3 Groundwater	1.3.1 Areas of Groundwater Recharge and Discharge			
	1.3.2 Groundwater Source Areas and Wellhead Protection Areas			
	1.3.3 Large Volume Wells			
	1.3.4 Private Wells			
	1.3.5 Groundwater-Sensitive Ecosystems			
1.4 Surface Water	1.4.1 Watershed / Subwatershed Drainage Features/Patterns			
	1.4.2 Surface Water Quality and Quantity			
	2. Land Use / Socio-Economic Environmental Factors			
2.1 Land Use Planning	2.1.1 First Nations' Land Claims			
Policies, Goals,				
Objectives	2.1.2 Provincial / Federal Land Use Planning Policies/Goals/Objectives			
•	2.1.3 Municipal (local and regional) Land Use Planning Policies / Goals / Objectives			
	2.1.4 Development Objectives of Private Property Owners			
2.2 Land Use – Community	2.2.1 Indian Reserves			
Community	2.2.2 First Nations' Sacred Grounds			
	2.2.3 Urban and Rural Residential			
	2.2.3 Commercial/Industrial			
	2.2.5 Tourist Areas and Attractions			
	2.2.6 Community Facilities / Institutions			
	2.2.7 Municipal Infrastructure and Public Service Facilities			
2.3 Noise Sensitive	2.3.1 Highway Noise			
Areas (NSA's)	2.3.2 Construction Noise			
2.4 Agriculture	2.4.1 Agriculture Canada Land Inventory (CLI) Class 1, 2, 3 Land			
	2.4.2 Agriculture – Farm Infrastructure			
	2.4.2 Agriculture – Parminiastructure  2.4.3 Agriculture – Operations on Individual Farms			
	2.4.5 Agriculture – Operations on Inclindudar Parms     2.4.4 Agriculture – Transportation Linkages between Multiple Farm Operations			
2.5 Land Use -	2.5.1 First Nations' Treaty Rights or Use of Land and Resources for Traditional Purpo			
Resources				
Resources	2.5.2 Parks and Recreational Areas			
	2.5.3 Aggregate and Mineral Resources			
2.6 Major Utility Transmis				
	ty and Waste Management			
2.8 Landscape Composition	2.8.1 Scenic Composition			
	2.8.2 Sensitive Viewer Groups			
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- Composition	2.8.3 Scenic Value of Views/Vistas From the Transportation Facility			
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2.9 Air Quality				
	2.8.4 Specimen Trees			
	Specimen Trees     Local and Regional Air Quality			
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Sub-factors and criteria refined based on stakeholder input.

## Sections 1 & 2: Stratford Area



## 8 Corridor Alternatives



Corridor Alternative 1A/2A



Corridor Alternative 1A/2B



Corridor Alternative 1B/2A



Corridor Alternative 1B/2B



Corridor Alternative 1C/2C



Corridor Alternative 1C/2D



Corridor Alternative 1D/2C



Corridor Alternative 1D/2D

## Sections 1 & 2: Stratford Area



## **Evaluation Results**

Factor Area	Alternative	1A/2A	1A/2B	1B/2A	1B/2B	1C/2C	1C/2D	1D/2C	1D/2D
Natural Environn	nent	•	•	•	•			•	
Land Use / Socio	-Economic	•		•	•				•
Cultural Environr	nent	•	•	•	•			•	•
Transportation						•		•	

This table is a visual representation of the evaluation results. More detailed information is available at the resource table.

Grade of Preference

Most Preferred

Least Preferred

#### Corridor Alternatives 1C/2C and 1C/2D are preferred for the following primary reasons:

- lower potential to affect woodlots and watercourses
- high potential to support provincial and municipal land use policies
- moderate potential to affect urban and rural residential areas
- lower potential to affect commercial / industrial areas and agricultural lands/operations
- lower potential to affect cultural environment
- satisfy transportation criteria / requirements

## Section 3: Stratford to New Hamburg



## 5 Corridor Alternatives











## Section 3: Stratford to New Hamburg



### **Evaluation Results**

Factor Area	Alternative	3A	3B	3C	3D	3E
Natural Environment			•			•
Land Use / Socio- Economic Environment			•	•	•	•
Cultural Environment			•	•		•
Transportation		•	•			



This table is a visual representation of the evaluation results. More detailed information is available at the resource table.

#### Corridor Alternative 3A is preferred for the following primary reasons:

- lower potential to affect watercourses, fish/fish habitat and woodlots
- moderate potential to affect urban area of Shakespeare but opportunity to mitigate effects
- lower potential to affect agricultural lands/operations
- lower potential to affect cultural environment
- satisfies transportation criteria / requirements

## Section 4: New Hamburg Area



## 2 Corridor Alternatives



Corridor Alternative 4A



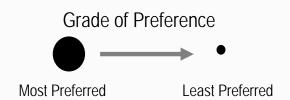
Corridor Alternative 4B

## Section 4: New Hamburg Area



## **Evaluation Results**

Factor Area	Alternative	4A	4B
Natural Enviror	nment		•
Land Use / Soc Environment	cio-Economic		•
Cultural Enviro	nment		•
Transportation			



This table is a visual representation of the evaluation results. More detailed information is available at the resource table.

#### Corridor Alternative 4A is preferred for the following primary reasons:

- lower potential to affect watercourses, fish/fish habitat, wetlands and woodlots
- supports provincial and municipal land use policies
- lower potential to affect residential and commercial/industrial land uses, agricultural lands/operations and resources
- lower potential to affect cultural environment
- comparable ability to satisfy transportation criteria / requirements

## Preferred Corridor

Larger version of plan available on table



Section 1: Highway 8 West of Stratford to Highway 7

Geometric improvements to existing 2lane highway and municipal roads -Highway 8, Perth Road 125, Perth Line 32/Lorne Avenue, plus Erie Street / Highway 7 southerly to Gibb Road / Perth Line 29, including 2 railway crossings. Section 2: Highway 7 to East of Stratford

Widen (from 2 to 4/5 lanes) Lorne Avenue / Perth Line 33 from Erie Street to east of Romeo Street, and new highway route (4/5 lanes), from east of Romeo Street to Highway 7&8 in vicinity of Perth Road 110 including 1 railway crossing. Section 3: East of Stratford to West of New Hamburg

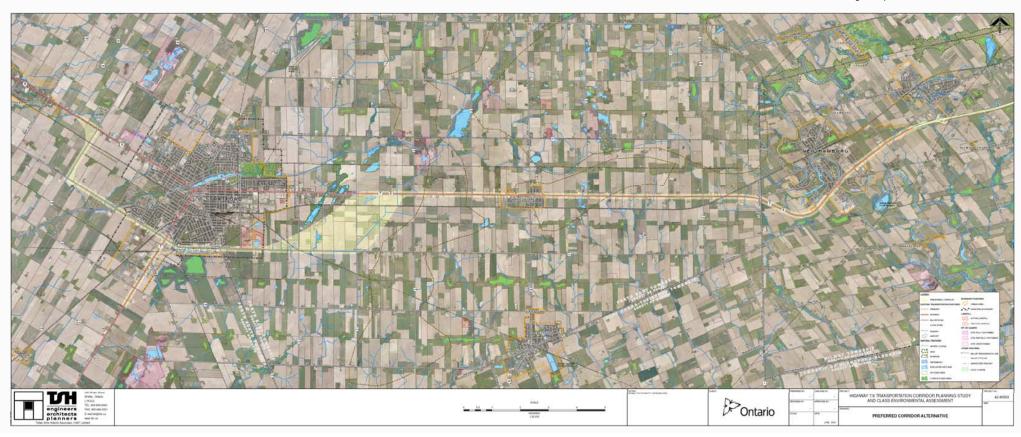
Widen (from 2 to 4/5 lanes) Highway 7&8 from vicinity of Perth Road 110 to west of New Hamburg.

All Sections: Numerous intersection modifications associated with the above.

Section 4: West of New Hamburg to East of New Hamburg

New median barrier on Highway 7&8, modification and/or closure of intersections, plus possible local sections of service road.

All Sections: Cross section requirements to be determined during next phase.



# Report E



## Report E: Transportation Corridor Needs Assessment

- Report E documents the generation, assessment and evaluation of the preliminary planning alternatives, including:
  - process overview for the development, assessment and evaluation of preliminary planning (corridor) alternatives (presented at PICs 1, 2, 2B and 2C);
  - long list of corridor alternatives (presented at PICs 2, 2B and 2C);
  - screening process and criteria (presented at PICs 2B and 2C);
  - short list of corridor alternatives (presented at PICs 2B and 2C); and
  - preferred corridor (presented today).

# Report F (Part 2)



## Report F: Environmental Conditions and Constraints

- Part 1 (presented at PIC 1):
  - documented environmental conditions background data (existing/secondary source information mapping / constraint mapping, data, reports, supplemented by preliminary field reconnaissance); and
  - provided overview/background level of detail to support the selection of 'Area Transportation System' alternatives, and the development and selection of preliminary planning alternatives.
- Part 2 (presented today):
  - documents environmental conditions field investigation work (inventory, survey, testing) and determination of environmental significance for the preferred corridor;
  - provides higher level of detail to support the generation of detailed planning alternatives and the associated environmental impact assessment; and
  - uses the same environmental factor-specific areas and areas of technical expertise as Part 1, but at increased levels of detail.

# Report G

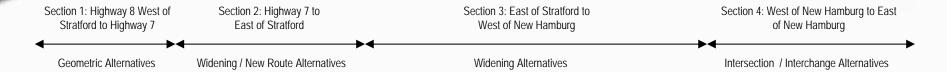


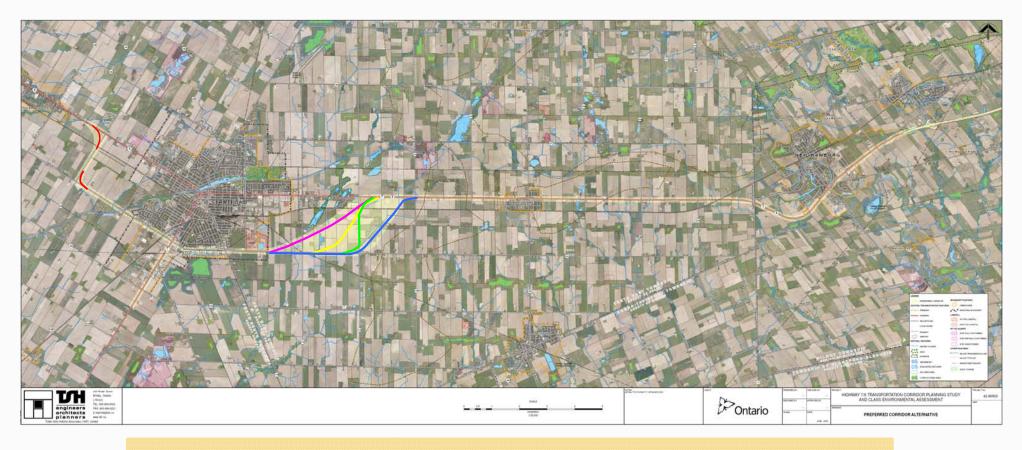
## Report G: Generation of Detailed Planning Alternatives

- Report G documents the generation of detailed planning alternatives (widening/ route alternatives) within the preferred corridor, including:
  - refined study area;
  - description of widening alternatives generated for existing roadway segments of preferred corridor;
  - description of route alternatives generated for new corridor segments of preferred corridor; and
  - process for the assessment and evaluation of the detailed planning alternatives.

# Widening / Route Alternatives



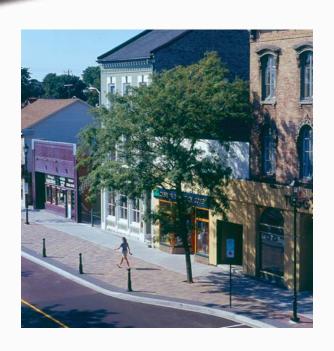




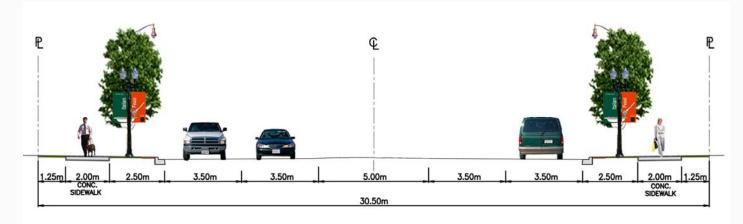
The detailed planning alternatives are presented on the plans on the tables.

# Streetscaping Opportunities









Opportunities for enhanced streetscaping through Shakespeare will be determined through subsequent design phases.

# Process Overview for Assessment and Evaluation of Widening / Route Alternatives

Factors/Sub-Factors



Recommended Preliminary Planning Alternative

Identify Detailed Planning
Alternatives for Existing Provincial Highway and/or
New Provincial Roadway Routes
(provincial highway/provincial transitway)
(presented in Report G)

Additional Information Obtained/Confirmed through Field Investigations

> Identify Factors, Sub-Factors, Criteria and Indicators for Evaluation of Detailed Planning Alternatives

Comparative Evaluation of Detailed Planning Alternatives by Reasoned Argument and Augmented by Arithmetic Methods (as appropriate)

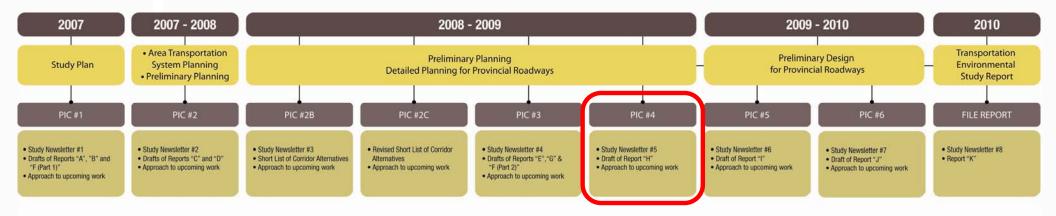
Identify Recommended
Detailed Planning Alternative for
Existing Provincial Highway
and/or New Provincial Routes
(provincial highway/provincial transitway)
(presented in Report H)

	Natural Environmental Factors
1.1 Fisheries and	1.1.1 Fish Habitat
Aquatic Ecosystems	1.1.2 Fish Community
1.2 Terrestrial	1.2.1 Wildlife
Ecosystems	1.2.2 Wetlands
	1.2.3 Forests
	1.2.4 Vegetation
	1.2.5 Designated/Special Areas
1.3 Groundwater	1.3.1 Areas of Groundwater Recharge and Discharge
	1.3.2 Groundwater Source Areas and Wellhead Protection Areas
	1.3.3 Large Volume Wells
	1.3.4 Private Wells
	1.3.5 Groundwater-Sensitive Ecosystems
1.4 Surface Water	1.4.1 Watershed / Subwatershed Drainage Features/Patterns
	1.4.2 Surface Water Quality and Quantity
	2. Land Use / Socio-Economic Environmental Factors
2.1 Land Use Planning	2.1.1 First Nations' Land Claims
Policies, Goals,	2.1.2 Provincial / Federal Land Use Planning Policies/Goals/Objectives
Objectives	2.1.3 Municipal (local and regional) Land Use Planning Policies / Goals / Objectives
	2.1.4 Development Objectives of Private Property Owners
2.2 Land Use -	2.2.1 Indian Reserves
Community	2.2.2 First Nations' Sacred Grounds
	2.2.3 Urban and Rural Residential
	2.2.3 Commercial/Industrial
	2.2.5 Tourist Areas and Attractions
	2.2.6 Community Facilities / Institutions
	2.2.7 Municipal Infrastructure and Public Service Facilities
2.3 Noise Sensitive	2.3.1 Highway Noise
Areas (NSA's)	2.3.2 Construction Noise
2.4 Agriculture	2.4.1 Agriculture Canada Land Inventory (CLI) Class 1, 2, 3 Land
2.4 /igilouituro	2.4.2 Agriculture – Farm Infrastructure
	2.4.3 Agriculture – Operations on Individual Farms
	2.4.4 Agriculture – Transportation Linkages between Multiple Farm Operations
2.5 Land Use -	2.5.1 First Nations' Treaty Rights or Use of Land and Resources for Traditional Purpos
Resources	2.5.2 Parks and Recreational Areas
resources	2.5.3 Aggregate and Mineral Resources
2.6 Major Utility Transmiss	
2.7 Contaminated Property	
2.8 Landscape	2.8.1 Scenic Composition
Composition	2.8.2 Sensitive Viewer Groups
	2.8.3 Scenic Value of Views/Vistas From the Transportation Facility
	2.8.4 Specimen Trees
2.9 Air Quality	2.9.1 Local and Regional Air Quality
2.0 7.11 Quanty	2.9.2 Sensitive Receptors to Air Pollutants and Greenhouse Gases
	3. Cultural Environmental Factors
3.1 Cultural Heritage –	3.1.1 Buildings or "Standing" Sites of Architectural or Heritage Significance, or Ontario
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These criteria will be used to evaluate the detailed planning (widening / route) alternatives. Please provide your input on the evaluation criteria and their relative importance for the evaluation of widening / route alternatives.

# **Next Steps**





### Following this PIC, the Study Team will:

- Respond to comments received through the PIC#3 consultation process
- Finalize the Preferred Corridor
- Finalize widening / new route alternatives to be evaluated
- Assess and evaluate widening / new route alternatives
- Prepare Draft Report H
- Continue outreach and consultation

## Get Involved...Be Involved...Stay Involved



## Thank you for participating in tonight's PIC.

## Your comments are important to us. The following options are available:

- Place your Comment Sheet in the box provided tonight or submit to the Study Team by September 30, 2009.
- Mail a letter (Highway 7&8 Corridor Study c/o TSH, 2000 Argentia Road, Plaza II, Suite 220, Mississauga, ON L5N 1V8) or send a fax (905-858-0016).
- Phone the Study Team toll free at 1-866-921-9268.
- E-mail the Study Team through the Website at <a href="www.7and8corridorstudy.ca">www.7and8corridorstudy.ca</a>

### Workshops / Special Meetings:

• If you're interested in participating in workshops or special meetings to address specific study issues, please indicate this on a comment sheet.

All comments are requested by

September 30, 2009