

Notice of Public Information Centre #1

407 East Environmental Assessment (EA) Study

THE STUDY

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) in consultation with the Region of Durham, its constituents and surrounding municipalities, is undertaking an individual Environmental Assessment study to address the long-term transportation needs in the Region of Durham and surrounding areas. The study will examine regional transportation problems and opportunities for a 30-year planning horizon. The efficient and safe movement of people and goods within the Region of Durham, the Greater Toronto Area, the City of Kawartha Lakes, the City of Peterborough and the Counties of Northumberland and Peterborough will become more critical as population and employment levels in all of these areas continue to grow.

THE PROCESS

The 407 East Environmental Assessment study consists of two stages: (1) the Environmental Assessment Terms of Reference (ToR) and (2) the Environmental Assessment. On January 17 2005, the Minister of the Environment approved the ToR for 407 East. The approved ToR is available for review at local municipal offices, libraries and on the project web site at www.407eastea.com.

The Environmental Assessment study commenced in February 2005. The study will address the requirements of the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act* and the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* in accordance with the approved process detailed in the ToR.

Public involvement is an important aspect of the study in terms of identifying transportation problems and opportunities and assessing potential impacts and mitigation methods. In order to facilitate participation, an extensive public consultation process is planned, including Public Information Centres (PICs) at key points throughout the study.

At any time during the Environmental Assessment study, municipalities, stakeholders and the public can provide input and comments. At the conclusion of the study, an Environmental Assessment will be submitted to the Minister of the Environment for review and approval. Further notices will be posted at that time.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The first set of PICs will present the "Transportation Problems and Opportunities" and the assessment and evaluation of the "Alternatives to the Undertaking" (alternate ways of addressing the transportation needs in the analysis area). A preferred "Alternative to the Undertaking" (transportation alternatives) and preliminary Study Area will also be presented. The Public Information Centres will be conducted in an open house format from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; there will be no formal presentation. This will provide an opportunity for members of the public to discuss the project and relay comments directly to the study team. The dates, times and locations of the first series of PICs are:

Tues. May 30, 2006

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Garnett B Rickard
Recreation Complex
2440 Highway 2
Bowmanville

Wed. May 31, 2006

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

General Sikorski's
Polish Veterans Club
1551 Stevenson's Road
North Oshawa

Wed. June 7, 2006

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Ajax Community Centre
HMS Room
75 Centennial Road
Ajax

Thurs. June 8, 2006

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

McKinney Centre
222 McKinney Drive
Whitby

COMMENTS

Interested persons may contact the project team regarding issues of concern at any time during the study. Comments and information regarding this project are continually being collected to better assist MTO in meeting the requirements of the Ontario and Canadian *Environmental Assessment Acts*. This material will be maintained on file for use during the project and may be included in project documentation. Information collected will be used in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. All comments received, with the exception of personal information, will become part of the public record.

If you are unable to attend the PICs and wish to obtain further information or provide comments, please contact one of the individuals listed below. Alternatively, you can provide comments via our web site at www.407eastea.com.

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