



Ministry of Transportation

407 East Environmental Assessment

Public Information Centre #5
Summary

Technically Preferred Route

DRAFT

February 2009



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Appendix A: Ontario Government Notice (OGN)

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Appendix C: Comment and Response Table

407 East Environmental Assessment

Public Information Centre #5 (PIC # 5): Technically Preferred Route

1.0 Purpose of PIC #5

The fifth round of PICs was held to present the Technically Preferred Route (TPR) for:

- A new east-west transportation corridor (highway / transitway) to extend Highway 407 from Brock Road to Highway 35/115 in Durham Region, and
- Two north-south links (highway / transitway) connecting Highway 401 to the proposed extension of Highway 407 (West Durham Link – Ajax / Whitby area; East Durham Link – Clarington area).

The display panels from PIC#5 are provided in **Appendix A** of this summary document and can be found on the EA Study website, www.407eastea.com.

A Technically Recommended Route (TRR) was presented for public and stakeholder review at PICs in June and July of 2007. Refinements were made to the TRR based on input received from stakeholders, further analysis and preliminary design activities. In general these refinements resulted in a net benefit by further reducing and / or mitigating impacts. A Technical Preferred Route (TPR) was defined as a result of these refinements. The TPR was presented to the public at PIC #4 in June and July of 2008.

The TPR was then subjected to further analysis and preliminary design work to define the corridor in greater detail. Additional route refinements and the location / size of support facilities for the corridor were also determined. Studies and analysis were undertaken to determine potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures / strategies.

PIC #5 presented the TPR and the following information:

- Plans / Drawings of the Technically Preferred Route (TPR) and Crossing Roads
- Recommendations and Design for Crossing Roads (Over, Under or Closure at the TPR)
- Interchange Locations and Configurations
- Local Road Realignment Associated with the TPR
- Railway and Utility Crossings
- Watercourse Crossing Treatments (Bridges, Culverts) and Proposed Mitigation Strategies
- Potential Watercourse Realignment
- Stormwater Management Measures, Including Location / Size of Stormwater Management Ponds
- Lighting Requirements
- Potential Mitigation Measures / Strategies (landscaping, noise walls, wildlife crossings etc.)

- Community Value Plan (CVP) Process and Recommended Plan (enhanced mitigation)
- Property Requirements / Impacts
- Property Acquisition Process
- Project Update, Schedule and Next Steps

Material from previous PICs (PIC#1, PIC#2, PIC#3 and PIC #4) is available on the EA Study website (www.407eastea.com).

2.0 PIC#5 Notice

Notice of PIC #5 was provided to stakeholders through:

- Personal Notification
 - 6,480 people were mailed or emailed notice of the PIC events, their timing and locations via the distribution of a *status update* letter, available on the Study website.

- Newspaper Advertisements
 - Nine (9) newspapers, listed below, printed a notice of the PIC events, their timing and locations two weeks in advance of the PIC.
 - Bowmanville Canadian Statesman
 - Port Perry Star
 - Oshawa This Week
 - Northumberland News
 - Lindsay Daily Post
 - Kawartha Lakes This Week
 - Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser
 - The Toronto Star
 - Peterborough Examiner

- Website / Event Postings
 - The 407 EA website advertised the notice of the PIC, timing and locations.

- Venue Advertising
 - Three (3) of the PIC locations were able to advertise the coming event, including date and time using their outdoor signage.
 - Garnet B Rickard Centre
 - Whitby Faith Baptist Church
 - General Sikorski's Polish Hall

- Posters
 - Twenty-one (21) municipal planning offices displayed posters of information and details regarding the PIC locations and timing.
 - Nine (9) municipal clerk offices and nine (9) public libraries also placed posters on their notice boards.

An additional mailing of status update letters, revisions to the website notice and posters at select municipal and library offices were sent to notify people of schedule changes for the Peterborough PIC. Due to scheduling the Peterborough PIC was rescheduled from Thursday February 5, 2009 to Monday February 2, 2009. The change in schedule was also printed in three newspapers via a revised notice prior to the Peterborough PIC. Both OGN's printed for PIC #5 are included as **Appendix A** of this summary.

- Newspaper Advertisements
 - Port Perry Star
 - Peterborough Examiner
 - Lindsay Daily Post

3.0 PIC#5 Locations, Attendance & Comment Submission

PIC #5 was held at five locations.

1. January 27, 2009 - Clarington Area at the Garnet B. Rickard Centre
2. January 28, 2009 - Whitby Area at the Faith Baptist Church
3. January 29, 2009 - Ajax/Pickering Area at the Ajax Community Centre
4. February 2, 2009 - Peterborough Area at Peterborough Public Library
5. February 3, 2009 - Oshawa Area at General Sikorski's Polish Hall

Ministry of Transportation and consultant representatives, including environmental and technical specialists, were available to respond to stakeholder inquiries.

A total of 663 people signed in at the PICs. Comments were received from 57 members of the public. The numbers of attendees and comment sheets received at each location are summarized below.

PIC Location	Number of Attendees	Comment Sheets
<i>Clarington Area</i>	248	13
<i>Whitby Area</i>	99	15
<i>Pickering/Ajax Area</i>	81	7
<i>Peterborough</i>	24	6
<i>Oshawa Area</i>	211	6
<i>Submitted after PIC events</i>	n/a	18
TOTAL	663	65

4.0 Comment Sheets

As with all previous PICs, comment sheets were available for attendees to document their comments and concerns. Once again the comment sheet asked questions of the public (noted below) to help the Project Team prepare for future consultation events.

PIC Comment Sheet Questions:

- 1) *How did you hear about the PIC?*
- 2) *What did you like about the PIC?*

The public provided the following responses to the three questions:

Question 1

- A majority of people indicated they had received the status update letter notifying them of the PIC by personal mail.
- Others noted they had learnt about it through the newspaper advertisements.

Question 2

- A number of people noted that the staff and material were very helpful. Specifically, people were appreciative of the one-on-one time they were able to have with members of the team to discuss their personal situations and concerns.

A number of comments sheets were completed asking for copies of the mapping displayed at the PIC. These requests were fulfilled February 18, 2009 with 23 requests for material being sent out by mail.

A deadline of March 23, 2009 was specified for comments related to PIC #5 and the material presented.

5.0 General Comments

The comments received at this round of PICs were comparable with those received at PIC#4. Comments submitted at PIC #5 were typically focused on individual properties with a common theme of questions regarding process, next steps, with regard to property acquisition.

Typical comments received via comments sheets and through discussions with members of the public attended the PICs are summarized below.

- Why has there been a change in the impacts to my property?
- What is the amicable purchase process and how is price determined?
- Is this the final route? Will this route change?
- When will construction start/end? Will MTO keep this part of the 407?
- Will this highway be tolled?
- Hurry up, this new highway is needed!
- What are the next steps in the process for this project?

The written comments received and responded to by the Project Team are provided in **Appendix B** of this summary document and can also be found on the project website, www.407eastea.com.

6.0 Next Steps

Based on stakeholder and public input, and future work associated with the Environmental Assessment and Preliminary Design processes, the *Technically Preferred Route* will be finalized as will proposed mitigation and compensation measures/strategies.

The requirements of both the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act (OEAA) and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) are being coordinated.

The OEAA Environmental Assessment Report will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment (MOE) for government and public review. The EA Report will summarize the project work from the initiation of the Study, will document the Recommended Design and will identify project impacts and mitigation measures. The EA report will also identify commitments for future work to be completed as part of the 407 East. Submission of the EA Report is scheduled to occur in July of 2009.

The CEAA Screening Report will be submitted to federal and provincial agencies who have a mandated or legislated interest in the Project. The Screening Report will identify project impacts and mitigation and will be prepared on the basis of the analysis and study undertaken throughout the 407 East Study. Submission of the CEAA Screening Report is scheduled to occur in July of 2009.

The Project Team accepts comments at any time during the EA Study. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact the Project Team at the contact information below:

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