6 CONSULTATION

Consultation is an integral component of the study. It provides opportunities for two-way communication between the Project Team and interested stakeholders. Consultation activities provide a forum to identify potentially significant environmental issues early in the decision-making process and ensures that they are given appropriate consideration. Throughout the study, the Project Team contacted the following individuals and organizations to provide feedback: External agencies (including Provincial and Federal Ministries and Agencies, and Conservation Halton), the Region of Halton and City of Burlington, Indigenous Communities, major utilities and railway companies, 407 ETR, and members of the public (including affected land and business owners, community / interest groups and the general public).

Throughout the study, stakeholders were engaged through a variety of forums and activities, including:

- The Project Website (www.qew403freeman.ca);
- One pop-up event booth;
- Two Public Information Centres (PICs);
- A Noise Information Package;
- Meetings with External Agencies, the Region and the City, 407 ETR and others;
- Direct contact with the Project Team via mail, email, phone, fax, or online web form; and,
- Newspaper advertisements (for Study Commencement, each PIC, and for the filing of the TESR).

The purpose of this section is to outline the consultation activities undertaken, identify the key issues raised, and indicate how they were resolved.

Copies of study notification materials are included in ` and copies of consultation event materials (including comment sheets, Public Information Centre summary reports and displays) are provided in **Appendix J**.

6.1 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

6.1.1 PROJECT MAILING LIST

At the onset of the Study, a contact list was developed to include provincial and federal agencies, municipalities, elected officials, Indigenous Communities, adjacent property owners obtained from the City of Burlington, other interest groups and potentially interested stakeholders that may hold interest in

In April 2017, notification letters announcing the Study Commencement were distributed by direct mail and email to the contacts on the Study mailing list. A Study Commencement Notice was also posted on the Study website and published in local newspapers on April 28, 2017 as follows:

- Hamilton Spectator
- Burlington Post

6.1.2 PROJECT WEBSITE

The Study website (www.qew403freeman.ca) was launched to coincide with the Study Commencement in April 2017 and has remained active throughout the study. The website provided an opportunity for the public and stakeholders to review up-to-date study information, download study materials and reports and contact the Project Team through the project email address (project-team@qew403freeman.ca) which was provided on the "Contact Us" page. The "Contact Us" page also included a webform feature, where comments could be entered and sent directly to the Project Team at any time during the study. The website was regularly updated with project updates and consultation event materials.

6.1.3 CONSULTATION EVENTS

Public and stakeholder consultation events were held at key project milestones. **Table 6-1** outlines the key consultation events and when they occurred.

Table 6-1: Key Public Consultation Event Dates

Event	Date
Pop-up Event Booth No. 1	August 16, 2017
Public Information Centre #1	October 10, 2017
Public Information Centre #2	September 10, 2019



the Study. As the Study progressed, the contact list was updated to ensure that all identified interested

vsp

6.1.3.1 POP-UP EVENT BOOTHS (AUGUST 16, 2017)

For this project, the purpose of the pop-up event booth was to raise awareness about the project / upcoming consultation events. The booth was set up in advance of the first PIC. The booth was set up at the Burlington Mall Farmer's Market located at Prospect Street and Guelph Line.

The booth was equipped with a large aerial print of the study area and participants were offered numbered dots to place on the aerial plan. Each numbered dot was associated with a numbered comment card that was completed and submitted on site. The result was a series of spatially referenced comments. Participants were also encouraged to write or draw (crayons/markers were provided) a message about their community on non-numbered comment cards that were "pinned" to a cork board as a community-building exercise. The intention was to pique the interest of passers-by and to occupy children while parents/caregivers were providing comments on the study area plan.

6.1.3.2 PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #1 (OCTOBER 10, 2017)

Public Information Centre (PIC) #1 was held as a 'drop-in' style, open house format at the Holiday Inn Burlington Hotel & Conference Centre in the City of Burlington. The purpose of the PIC was to provide an overview of the existing conditions (environmental, transportation, structural), problem / opportunities, alternatives, evaluation process and next steps in the Class EA process.

A Notice of PIC #1 was posted on the project website and published on September 29, 2017 through local newspapers, as follows:

- Hamilton Spectator
- Burlington Post

Provincial (MPPs) politicians with ridings in the study area were sent PIC notification letters via mail on September 20, 2017.

Notification letters were distributed by direct mail or e-mailed to contacts on the study mailing list on September 29, 2017, including government agencies (federal and provincial), Indigenous Communities, local municipalities, utility service providers and interested stakeholder groups.

In addition, a copy of the PIC notice was mailed directly to approximately 3,500 adjacent property owners in the study area.

Approximately forty-five (45) people attended the PIC, of which forty-one (41) attendees chose to sign in. Representatives from agencies, including Halton Region, City of Burlington, and H&R REIT, attended the preview session. Media representatives did not attend the PIC. Five (5) attendees submitted

Table 6-2: Key Comments from PIC #1 - October 10, 2017

Comment Received Concerns/questions regarding the proposed QEW and Highway 403 interchange alternatives and their potential impacts. Concerns regarding noise and completing a new noise study. Concerns/guestions regarding HOV Lanes and addressing traffic issues on the QEW between Oakville and Burlington.

6.1.3.3 PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #2 (SEPTEMBER 10, 2019)

PIC #2 was held as a 'drop-in' style, open house format at the Holiday Inn Burlington Hotel & Conference Centre in the City of Burlington. The purpose of PIC #2 was to provide an opportunity to review the evaluation of alternatives and the preliminary design of the Recommended Plan, along with anticipated environmental impacts and proposed mitigation strategies.



comment sheets at the PIC. Table 6-2 summarizes the most frequent comments provided and outlines

Comment Response

- All comments about the proposed QEW and Highway 403 interchange alternatives and their potential impacts were reviewed and taken into consideration as the Project Team examined opportunities to develop a shortlist evaluation with a higher level of detail to refine the alternatives and identify a technically preferred alternative.
- A noise assessment was undertaken to determine the potential noise impacts associated with the preferred alternative. Noise sensitive areas were identified and noise modelling was completed, to determine whether noise mitigation measures were warranted.
- The study considered alternatives that include HOV lanes and the traffic analysis conducted considered weekend traffic volumes as well as weekday volumes. The HOV strategy is intended to encourage commuters to carpool or use transit in this corridor rather than use single occupant vehicles.

wsp

The Notice of PIC #2 was posted on the project website and published through local newspapers, as follows:

- Hamilton Spectator September 5, 2019
- Burlington Post August 29, 2019

Provincial (MPPs) politicians, with ridings in the Freeman Interchange study area, were sent PIC #2 notification letters via mail on August 21, 2019.

Notification letters were distributed by direct mail or e-mailed to contacts on the study mailing list on August 27, 2019, including government agencies (federal and provincial), Indigenous communities, local municipalities, utility service providers and interested stakeholder groups. In addition, a copy of the PIC #2 notice was mailed directly to approximately 3,500 adjacent property owners in the study area and emailed/mailed to the public contacts on the contact list.

Of the forty (40) people who attended the PIC, thirty-nine (39) attendees chose to sign in. Representatives from City of Burlington attended the preview session. Media representatives did not attend the PIC.

A total of thirty-one (31) comments were received either at PIC #2 or via mail, email, telephone, fax, or the webform after the event. **Table 6-3** outlines the most frequent comments provided and how these were addressed by the Project Team.

Table 6-3: Key Comments from PIC #2 - September 10, 2019

Comment Received	Comment Response
Questions and concerns relating to noise impacts along the QEW: • QEW north of the Skyway Bridge	We have noted your concerns related to noise. The noise assessment for the proposed improvements under this Class EA study is
QEW and the North Shore Blvd. west on and off ramp from the QEW	complete and the findings and recommendations are available for public review on the project website.
 QEW between Guelph Line and Waterdown Road 	
QEW between Brant Street & Guelph Line	
Indian Point neighbourhood	

Comment Received

Concern regarding sufficient horizontal and vertical clearances for trucks and taking oversized loads and long combination vehicles (LCV) into consideration when identifying a preferred alternative.

Concerns/questions regarding truck speeds on Toronto-bound QEW to Highway 403 two lane inner loop ramp and merging operations.

Concerns with impacts to wildlife movements and the North Aldershot Environmental Sensitive Area.



Comment Response

The Study is being designed to meet MTO's current design standards. Oversize loads are subject to permit if the dimensions or weight of the vehicle and/or load exceed the limits set out in the Highway Traffic Act.

The response noted a review of collision history for the existing inner loop ramp shows predominantly single vehicle incidents, followed by rear-end collisions. This suggests that high operating speeds at the entrance to the ramp and sightline limitations of the approaching ramp geometry and end of vehicle queues may be a contributing factor. The response noted how the proposed two-lane loop ramp design mitigates these issues.

The response noted the widening of Highway 403 will be towards the median of the existing highway, and thus will be fully contained within the highway right-of-way. The existing underpass at King Road will require replacement, which will require that King Road be realigned over the highway in order to maintain traffic during construction. The proposed realignment is to the west, in order to avoid Indian Creek on the east side of the existing road. Direct impacts on environmentally sensitive areas have therefore been avoided.

The response noted additional wildlife mitigation measures will be investigated in the Detail Design phase.

Note: This response indicated a realignment of King Road to accommodate the replacement of the structure over Highway 403. Since this



Comment Received	Comment Response
	response has been sent out, this option has been assessed further and the preliminary design has been developed based on replacing the bridge on the current roadway alignment. As a result of this change, property on the west side of King Road will not be impacted.
Concerns and questions regarding on-road bicycle lanes and the impacts of the preferred alternative on dedicated pedestrian/bicycle bridge structures being proposed by the City of Burlington.	The specific design of the bike lanes in the study area is still subject to refinement during the Detail Design phase. The improvements proposed as part of this study will not preclude dedicated pedestrian and bicycle crossings envisioned by the City of Burlington.
Concerns regarding a blocked culvert in the project area.	Response notes the areas of the culvert that are within MTO's right-of-way and within the City's right-of-way. Information was forwarded to the City's Capital Works department and MTO Maintenance is to conduct a field investigation of the culvert.

6.1.4 NOISE INFORMATION PACKAGE

On November 29 and December 1, 2019, a Noise Information Package was provided to the City of Burlington, Halton Region and public contacts on the study mailing list via direct mail or email, and posted on the project website. As noise was identified as one of the most common concerns raised by local residents, the purpose of this information package was to provide an overview of the noise impact assessment carried out for the Recommended Plan. The public were asked to provide comments on the noise assessment findings and recommendations. **Table 6-4** outlines the most frequent comments provided and how these were addressed by the Project Team.

Table 6-4: Key Comments from Noise Information Package Mail out

Comment Received	Comment Response
Concern regarding the current noise volumes and the lack of noise mitigation	Response notes the analysis is being undertaken for this Class Environmental

Comment Received

recommendations in the report, particularly for residences in the areas of:

- QEW between Queensway and Guelph Line
- Highway 403 and Waterdown Road
- North Shore Blvd.
- Craven Avenue
- Freeman Interchange
- Augustus Drive

Concern regarding the installation of noise barriers prior to the highway reconstruction and the subsequent need to remove these noise barriers once reconstruction solutions have been identified and approved.

Comments suggesting planting trees as a noise mitigation strategy. Response notes that the preliminary landscape concept will be included in the Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) and that noise mitigation, which could include options such as berms, tree planting or noise walls, are not warranted in the study area based on MTO policy.

Comments requesting the consideration of
extending the noise barrier to the intersection at
North Shore Blvd. E.Response noted the Noise Information Package
explains that MTO has investigated the existing
noise barrier along the QEW and ramps at
North Shore Boulevard, and has determined
that it, since it is an older noise wall design with



Comment Response

Assessment study to examine the impacts of the proposed improvements to the QEW and Highway 403 within the study area (widening and interchange improvements) and follows the MTO Environmental Guide for Noise.

This policy assesses predicted increases in noise levels due to planned highway expansion works, as opposed to existing noise levels that may have increased over the years, due to a general increase in traffic volumes.

Response notes the study team is looking at both shorter term and longer term ultimate needs. In the case of any new infrastructure recommended as part of the study, the study team has looked at the location and configuration of these against the ultimate needs to confirm that it can be constructed in areas that will work with the future widenings. While it cannot be guaranteed that something constructed as part of an earlier phase will not need to be relocated in the future, the study team has done the best possible assessment at this time.



Comment Received	Comment Response
Comment noting the aged and damaged cement barrier wall that is losing its structural integrity across from Campbell Court. Comment inquiring about which factors were considered during the noise assessment study (i.e. wind direction, road surfaces etc)	a limited remaining service life, it will be considered for replacement as part of MTO's highway asset renewal program when funding becomes available. The replacement of this barrier is part of a separate MTO program, and is not related to the Class EA process that our Project Team is currently undertaking for the proposed highway expansion. Response noted the existing noise wall along this location was constructed by the developer of the subdivision and thus is privately owned. Unfortunately, MTO is therefore not in a position to carry out repairs or make improvements. The response noted that the noise assessment is designed to study changes in sound levels associated with the proposed highway improvements. The model takes into account ground types (reflective/absorptive), relative humidity, temperature and traffic speed. Changes in wind speed and direction are not included in the noise model. Even though it is anticipated that vehicular noise emissions are expected to be lower in the future due to advancements in technology, the noise model outcomes did not take this potential noise reduction benefit into account.

6.1.5 Property Owners

During the refinement of the preliminary design following PIC #2, the owners (or owner's representatives) of three (3) privately owned parcels that were impacted by the Recommended Plan were contacted directly by the Project Team. Letters were prepared and sent via Canada Post registered mail and email in April 2020 to notify them of the preliminary property requirements and seek feedback in advance of completing the Class EA. Through the course of discussions, opportunities to further refine the design to reduce or avoid the property impact were examined, and led to the withdrawal of the property request at two locations.



6.2 EXTERNAL AGENCY AND STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Federal and Provincial agencies, local municipalities, utilities and potentially interested stakeholders were notified at the beginning of the study via letter and email in April 2017 informing them of the study and soliciting their comments. The following agencies, municipalities, businesses and other stakeholders were consulted with during the Study:

Federal Agencies

- Transport Canada
- CN Railway

Provincial Agencies

- Conservation Halton
- Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
- Ontario Trails Council
- Ministry of Indigenous Affairs
- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- Infrastructure Ontario
- Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
- Metrolinx

Schools/School Boards

- ▶ Fern Hill School
- Burlington Christian Academy
- Halton District School Board
- Halton Student Transportation Services
- Halton Catholic District School Board
- Conseil Scolaire Viamonde
- Conseil Scolaire Catholique Providence
- Service de transport Francobus

Emergency Services

- Ontario Provincial Police
- Burlington Fire Department
- ► Halton Region Paramedic Service
- ► The CUMIS Group Limited
- Burlington Downtown Core Residents
- Burlington Chamber of Commerce
- Ontario Trucking Association
- Burlington Environmental Association
- Burlington Taxi
- Burlington Road Safety Committee

Municipal Agencies

- City of Burlington
- Burlington Transit
- Regional Municipality of Halton

Utility Services

- Hydro One Networks Inc.
- Bell Canada
- Burlington Hydro
- Telus
- Union Gas
- TransCanada Pipelines



Potentially Interested Stakeholders

- ▶ 407 ETR
- Waterfront Regeneration Trust
- Bay Area Restoration Council
- Burlington Sailing and Boating Club
- Hamilton Port Authority
- Canada Centre for Inland Waters
- Ontario Federation of Agriculture
- Oakville Cycling Club
- The Halton Outdoor Club
- Penta Properties
- Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital
- St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton
- Mapleview Shopping Centre
- IKEA Canada
- Royal Botanical Gardens
- ► Terracap
- Costco Wholesale
- Halton / North Peel Naturalist Club
- Halton Region Salmon & Trout Association
- Cama Woodlands Nursing Home
- ► The Christian & Missionary Alliance
- King Paving & Materials Company
- A & A Truck Driver Training Services
- Mercedes-Benz Burlington
- Nalco Canada Co



A summary of external agency participation is provided in **Table 6-5**. The comments in **Table 6-5** are grouped by agency. Relevant correspondence is included in **Appendix K**, which is shown in chronological order.

The Project Team met with various stakeholders several times to provide information and updates as well as to seek input and respond to questions and comments. Notes of all meetings are on file with MTO. A summary of the Agency and Stakeholder meetings is provided in **Table 6-6.** Refer to **Appendix L** for copies of the meeting minutes with all stakeholders consulted throughout this Environmental Assessment.



Table 6-5: Summary of External Agency Correspondence

Agency / Participant	Comment Received	Act
Federal Government Agencies		
Transport Canada	 Email received on September 28, 2017 providing information on the following: Navigable Waters Protection Act and application 	The Project Team ackn required at this time.
	 Minor Works and Waters (Navigable Waters Protection Act) Order 	
	Railway Safety Act	
Derek Basso CN Rail	 Email received on January 30, 2018 noted the following: There appears to be CN property within the said boundaries and therefore CN Rail has concerns regarding this project. Please keep CN on the project mailing list. 	Response sent noted th Rail crossing locations between Brant Street at Fairview St. / Plains Ro been in contact with CN structural inspection at keep CN Rail informed next step in the study is alternatives shown at P completed to a higher le shown at PIC #1 and w not limited to; natural er impacts (including noise impacts, traffic performate evaluation of the short-libe identified and will be
Susanne Glenn-Rigny CN Rail	Email received on September 5, 2019 noted that future communications about this project can be sent to CN's Design and Engineering team through Derek Basso	No response required a
Provincial Government Agencies		
Nancy Mott, Senior Strategic Advisor	Email received on April 28, 2017 noting the following:	Response sent noted th
Niagara Escarpment Commission	Property is outside Niagara Escarpment Plan Area.	has been removed from
Dan Minkin	Email received on May 23, 2017 provided the following	Response noted the fol
Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport	 information: The Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport's mandate 	As noted in the April Stage 1 Archaeolog of the study to deter archaeological sites



ction Taken / Response

knowledged the information, no response

that the Project Team has noted the two CN s within the study area, including the QEW and Guelph Line, and north of the Road interchange. The Project Team have CN Rail previously to obtain permits for at these crossings and we will continue to d in the project as the study progresses. The is the evaluation of the shortlist of PIC #1. The shortlist evaluation will be r level of detail than the long-list screening will consider evaluation criteria including, but environment impacts, socio-economic ise and air quality), cultural environment mance, staging impacts and cost. From the rt-list, a technically preferred alternative will be presented at PIC #2

at this time.

that the Niagara Escarpment Commission om the project contact list.

following:

oril 25, 2017 study commencement letter, a ogical Assessment will be completed as part cermine if there are any registered es within or near the study area. The Report



Agency / Participant	Comment Received	Act
	 Completing 'MHSTCI' Criteria for Evaluating Archaeological Potential and Criteria for Evaluating Marine Archaeological Potential for potential impacts to archaeological resources Completing MHSTCI's Criteria for Evaluating Potential for Built 	will be submitted to and Culture Industri Assessment and re- identified.
	 Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes Environmental Assessment Reporting 	The Project Team w screenings for the s additional assessme and Waterdown Roa
Trevor Bell, Environmental Resource Planner and EA Coordinator Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	 Letter received on May 24, 2017 noted the following: The "Areas of Interest" document provides guidance regarding the ministry's interests with respect to the Class EA process. Please identify the areas of interest which are applicable to the project and ensure they are addressed. 	 Response noted the fol The Project Team b secondary source in the study limits. Info the local Conservation
	The proposed project may have the potential to affect Aboriginal or treaty rights protected under Section 35 of Canada's Constitution Act 1982.	 Impact assessment environmental spec the effects of the presence of the presence
	The proponent must contact the Director of Environmental Approvals Branch subsequent to initial discussions with the communities identified by MECP.	area: fish and fish h assessment; noise; contamination; land
	The MECP will then assess the extent of any Crown duty to consult for the circumstances and will consider whether additional steps should be taken, including what role the proponent will be asked to play in them.	cultural heritage, ar ongoing throughout Indigenous commu study.
	The Notice of Completion and final TESR must be provided when completed.	
Nadine Navarro, Manager of RER Project Planning Metrolinx	 Email received on June 6, 2017 noted the following: We received the notice regarding the EA study and are particularly interested in the point regarding preparing concept designs for a new transitway from west of Brant Street to Aldershot GO Station – can you provide some further information about early thoughts re connecting at Aldershot GO. 	 Response noted the fol MTO had looked at 403, extending west part of this Preliminate exploring this opport identified a preferret would want to have possible to the Alderet



to the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, stries (MHSTCI) outlining the results of the recommendations for further work, if

a will also complete cultural heritage e structures built 40 years ago to determine if ments are required, including the King Road Road Bridges over Highway 403.

following:

a biologists have contacted MNRF to gain e information about Species at Risk (SAR) in information requests were also submitted to ation Authority.

nts will be completed for the following ecialists to assess the impacts and minimize proposed improvements within the study habitat; terrestrial ecosystems; groundwater e; air quality; erosion and sediment control; ndscape architecture; built heritage and and archaeology Indigenous engagement is ut the Class Environmental Assessment with punities, who may have an interest in the

following:

at a conceptual BRT Transitway along Hwy est from 407 to the Aldershot GO Station. As inary Design/Class EA Study, we are ortunity a little further. We have not red alignment at this time, but ideally, we ve the BRT Transitway terminate as close as dershot GO Station. Once we have some



Agency / Participant	Comment Received	Acti
		preliminary drawings beneficial to meet ar design.
Alexandra Goldstein, Advisor, RER Project Planning, Planning & Policy Metrolinx	 Email received on October 25, 2017 noted the following: Much of the work we do is focused on planning for and protecting our GO rail stations. I was wondering if it is possible to get any information on the potential implications of the work you are doing as part of the QEW/Highway 403 Interchange Design Study and EA on Aldershot Station, or any information in general on the transitway extension to the station. 	 Response noted the foll The Project Team is on Hwy 403 to direct although some works Road itself. As part conceptual design of Hwy 403 from the QI westerly to the Alder continuation of the 4 throughout the GTA "tie-in" point at the w been determined, but intersection into an e currently runs throug
	Response email received on October 26, 2017 inquiring about the following:	Response noted the foll
	 Have you gotten into exploring how the transitway services and GO services at Aldershot might interact? Is there any formal rationale for connecting/terminating at Aldershot? 	The Aldershot GO S potential terminus fo undertaken by MTO focus on protecting la along the south side of the service connec the conceptual trans network as close as as to minimize the us
Regional / Municipal Agencies and Emergency Services		
Colleen Black, Administrative Assistant on behalf of Rob Monteith Burlington Fire Department	 Email received on May 1, 2017 noted the following: Only concern would be around any changes in access points onto and off of highways. 	 Response sent noted th Acknowledged conce and off the highways
	Interest in the transitway from west of Brant to Aldershot GO.	informed about th



gs done up, I agree that it would be very and get Metrolinx's feedback on our concept

ollowing:

is not expecting any of the proposed works ectly impact the Aldershot GO Station, orks may be proposed along Waterdown art of the EA Study, MTO is undertaking the of a bus transitway along the south side of QEW/403/407 Freeman Interchange lershot GO Station. Essentially, this will be a e 407 transitway which MTO is proposing TA between Burlington and Hwy 35/115. The e western end of the transitway has not yet but it is assumed that it will connect via a Tn extension of the service road which ough the Aldershot GO Station.

ollowing:

Station had been previously examined as a for the transitway during a previous study O back in 2005. This EA Study will mostly g land for a conceptual transitway corridor de of Hwy 403, rather than looking at details nection. That said, it is our intention to have nsitway corridor tie into the existing road as possible to the Aldershot GO Station, so use of surface streets by transit vehicles.

the following:

ncern regarding changing access points on ys and will keep the Fire Department e project as the study progresses.



Agency / Participant	Comment Received	Act
		 A technical preferred profiles for the trans public comment at full
Halton Region Paramedic Services	Comment Form received on May 15, 2017 requesting information on any anticipated road closures.	 Response noted the foll During this Study, prodeveloped, and furth phase. The Project team en Services is on the structure consultation en 1, tentatively schedu
Walter Scattolon on behalf of Melissa Green-Battiston, Supervisor Transportation Planning Public Works, Halton Region	 Email received on June 1, 2017 noted the following: In response to the Notice of Study Commencement for the Study and Class EA, documents have been enclosed to outline Halton Region's existing and proposed Transportation, Water and Wastewater infrastructure within the identified study area limits. 	Response acknowledge and proposed transport within the study limits.
John Zunic, Transportation Planning Technologist City of Burlington	 Email received on November 17, 2017 noted the following: It may be of benefit for the Project Team to meet with individuals in the Capital Works and Transportation Services departments at the City of Burlington to gain a better understanding of the various natural environment, transportation, and stormwater opportunities and constraints contained within the study area. Document attached with City comments on each alternative board. 	 Response noted the foll An exit to Brant Stree of alternatives, howe insufficient spacing As part of this study analysis of the altern and refine improven factors that will be c evaluation of alterna The Project Team a alternatives may imp management facilitie reaching out in this na 19th with the Project drainage, stormwate transportation plann



red alternative and the conceptual plans and nsitway will be presented for agency and t future consultation events.

ollowing:

preliminary construction staging will be In the subsequent Detail Design

ensured that Halton Region Paramedic study mailing list and will be notified of n events, including public information centre eduled for Fall of this year.

ged Halton Region providing the existing protection, water and wastewater infrastructure

ollowing:

treet was considered during the development wever it is not technically feasible as there is g between adjacent interchanges.

dy, a future conditions traffic operations ernatives is being completed to help identify ement alternatives, and is one of many e considered in the assessment and matives to identify the preferred alternative.

a acknowledges that some improvement mpact an existing drainage and stormwater lities. The Project Team appreciates the City is regard, and a meeting took place on June ect Team and City staff in regards to ater management and discussions on nning.



Agency / Participant	Comment Received	Ac
		The existing QEW/ due in part to the la QEW split to two la Highway 403, resu Freeman Westbour propose to mitigate westbound lane on order to develop ar
		 Traffic analysis cor the existing eastbo currently operating transportation need forecasted.
		The Project Team I Alternative 2A, incl Road to the north a location due to the consideration, amo shortlist assessment
		The next step in the alternatives shown completed to a high screening shown a criteria.
Utilities and Other Interested Parties/Stakeholders		1
Roopa Boya, CAD Technician, Engineering Telecon Design Inc. – Central Canada	 Email received on April 28, 2017 noting: GT has no Plant within 2m of proposed work – NO CONFLICT 	Response acknowledg facilities within 2 m of t
	 Attachment: Completed Application for Plant Location and Consent/Request Form 	
Hendrik Nommik Cogeco Data	 Email received on May 1, 2017 noting the following: Cogeco Peer 1 does not have any structure in the outlined area. 	Response acknowledg Peer 1 facilities within



W/Highway 403 existing congestion issues are a lack of lane balance at the split; four lanes on lanes to QEW Niagara and two lanes to sulting in a lot of weaving. The Highway 403 / bund Alternatives (1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3A and 3B) ate this issue by providing an additional on QEW from Guelph Line to Highway 403, in an either/or lane at the QEW/403 split.

onducted as part of this study has shown that bound QEW to westbound 403 loop ramp is ng at capacity. As this study is planning for reds to 2041, increased traffic volumes are

n has noted the impacts associated with including the realignment of North Service in and constructability. These impacts in that he varying topography will be a key nongst other environmental factors in the ment and evaluation of alternatives.

the study is the evaluation of the shortlist of vn at PIC #1. The shortlist evaluation will be igher level of detail than the long-list at PIC #1 and will consider evaluation

dged that there are no conflicts with Telecon f the study area.

dged that there are no conflicts with Cogeco n the study area.



Agency / Participant	Comment Received	Act
Daphne Everitt CUMIS Group	Web Comment Form received on June 5, 2017 requesting to be kept apprised of the status of the project and any required access to our property at either 151 or 99 North Service Road.	 Response provided note As requested, we have a study mailing list and events, including pu scheduled for Fall of
Dana Anderson MHBC Planning, Urban Design & Landscape Architecture	 Email received on June 11, 2017 noting the following: We are the planning consultants for Astra Capital. While our client does not have any issue providing consent for permission to enter their properties, they would like to clarify a few matters: The study area shown on the key plan does not include our clients property. We want to confirm their properties are not directly impacted by the QEW/403 interchange. The Notice of Study commencement indicates the study objectives include rehabilitation/replacement of bridges in the study area. Does this include the bridge over the QEW on King Road? If yes, what is the nature of the bridge replacement? Will it be maintained as two lanes? Is it being widened to 4 lanes? What tis the distance of the replacements and impacts of replacement or widening – how far does the consideration of this bridge extend north and south of the QEW right-of-way? What drainage and illumination improvements are being considered along the frontages of our client's property? Are the alternatives for the bridge rehab and replacement being considered as part of this EA? When and how will the client be notified of when the field work will be conducted? How long will the investigative work be conducted for? When and how will the investigative findings be provided to our client? Will they be provided with 	 Response sent noting t The study area inclu Road to the QEW/44 property falls within Specific improveme yet been identified. Highway 403 and/or need to widen the K Specific drainage ar been identified. We jurisdiction of the Cir improvements will b accommodate impro Typically, if the parce themselves at the pup parcel is vacant, the making further conta previously granted). Information would be



oted the following:

have ensured that you are included on the and will be notified of future consultation public information centre 1, tentatively of this year.

the following:

cludes Highway 403 from west of Waterdown /403/407 interchange, and thus your clients' in the study area.

hents for the King Road structure have not d. We do not anticipate that improvements to for the Freeman Interchange will result in a King Road structure.

and illumination improvements have not yet /e note that North Service Road is under the City of Burlington; drainage and illumination be made to municipal roads if required to provements to provincial facilities.

rcel is occupied, the field staff will identify property at the time of field work. If the hey would typically access the site without ntact (provided permission to enter had been d).

be contained within the overall reporting.



Agency / Participant	Comment Received	Act
	separate information or information as part of the overall reporting?	
Hydro One Networks	 Comment received on November 7, 2019 noting the following: Confirmed that Hydro One has high voltage transmission facilities within your study area. 	No response required a
	At this point in time we do not have enough information about your project to provide you with meaningful input with respect to the impacts that your project may have on our infrastructure.	
	This response does not constitute any sort of approval for your plans and is being sent to you as a courtesy to inform you that we must be consulted on your project.	
	Please note that the proponent will be held responsible for all costs associated with modification or relocation of Hydro One facilities, as well as any added costs that may be incurred due to increase efforts to maintain our facilities.	
TPUCC Markup Hydro One	Email received on September 12, 2019 noting that Hydro One <u>does not</u> own or operate any high voltage underground facilities in the areas identified in your attachments.	No response required a
Telus Utility Markups	Email received on September 28, 2017 noting that TELUS has no infrastructure in the area of the proposed work. Permit expires six(6) months from approval date.	No response required a
Indira Sharma Telus	Email received on September 5, 2019 noting that TELUS has no infrastructure in the area of your proposed work. Permit expires six (6) months from approval date.	No response required a



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Table 6-6: Key External Agency and Stakeholder Meetings

Key External Agency / Stakeholder	Meeting Date	Meeting Purpose
Penta Properties Inc.	June 21, 2017	A meeting was held with Penta Properties Inc. to introduce the study and scope of the QEV study.
Halton Region and City of Burlington	March 20, 2017	A meeting was held to introduce the Freeman Interchange EA to the Region and the City a regarding the study area and any existing and proposed Regional and City of Burlington tra the study will look to continue the HOV lanes along the QEW to terminate north of the Burli operational improvements and structural rehabilitations including any bridge rehabilitations. Transportation commitments and expressed interest in implementing AT facilities on the credit of the terminate operational commitments and expressed interest in the terminate operational and the city and the terminate operation commitments and expressed interest in the terminate operational and the city of the terminate operation commitments and expressed interest in the terminate operation operation commitments and expressed interest in the terminate operation operation operation commitments and expressed interest in the terminate operation operation operation commitments and expressed interest in the terminate operation o
Hydro One	January 30, 2018	The Project Team provided a brief overview of the study and study area and identified the R One transmission station located to the southwest of the Freeman Interchange. Hydro One be provincially owned and not specially owned by Hydro One. Hydro One advised that impa- impacts/relocation of the towers either side, but also the towers either side of the immediate formal comment, preliminary engineering drawings would be required. Hydro One advised process could take a number of years and so early notification is advised.
407 ETR	March 5, 2018	A meeting was held with 407 ETR to provide an overview of the QEW and Highway 403 Free EA Study. The Project team noted that the study is assessing existing structural needs and the QEW and Highway 403, as well as interim and long-term operational improvements. The alternatives evaluation stage, after presenting the alternatives at Public Information Centre Project Team provided an overview of the structures identified for short-term rehabilitation. their best practices regarding semi-integral conversion of post-tensioned structures. 407 ETR rehabilitations can be included in their capital budget. The Project Team provided an overview stages) that would be required to facilitate the structural rehab at 10-321 and 10-320. The F structures within the freeway-to-freeway interchange, and the interim and long-term improver require improvements to these structures.
407 Transitway Project Team	March 7, 2018	A teleconference was set up to initiate discussion between the Freeman EA and the adjace provided an overall update on project status: presented long list of alternatives at PIC 1 in 0 evaluation. Parsons provided an overall update on project status: project only initiated a few alternatives. Their study limits will be changing to west of Brant St. to Hurontario St. and the approximately 6 months. Parsons had initial concepts and confirmed that they are looking a west of Brant St.
Conservation Halton	June 14, 2018	The Project Team provided an overview of the project including the study area, schedule at team presented on the Drainage and Environmental features of the study area and project
City of Burlington	June 19, 2018	A meeting was held with the City of Burlington to recap PIC #1 held on October 10, 2017 at assessment and evaluation of alternatives phase. The Project Team presented an overview alternatives for QEW and Highway 403 within the study area. On April 26, 2018, Burlington Official Plan. The City also advised the three existing GO Stations located in Burlington (Alter reviewed and future planning developed as part of their Mobility Hubs Study and will form s



EW and Highway 403 (Freeman) Interchange EA

and obtain initial comments and feedback transportation plans. The Project Team noted that rlington Skyway. There was also discussion on is. The Region noted ongoing Active crossing road structures.

e key focus was the route adjacent to the Hydro ne advised that lands outside of the station could pacts to the lines could not only result in ate towers. Hydro One advised that to provide d that should towers need to be relocated, the

Freeman Interchange Preliminary Design & Class and opportunities for future capacity expansion on The project was completing the shortlist re #1 that was held on October 10, 2017. The n. The Project Team requested 407 ETR share ETR requested the rehabilitation scope of work R noted cost estimates are required so that the rview of the preliminary construction staging (3e Project Team noted 407 ETR owns a number of ovements being planned as part of this study may

cent 407 Transitway project. The Project Team October 2017 and currently undergoing shortlist ew months ago and they are still developing heir schedule has been pushed back g at both east and west alignments along 407 ETR,

and where the project is in the schedule. The ct next steps in the project.

and provide a study update. The study was in the ew of the study's shortlisted improvement on City Council adopted Grow Bold: Burlington Aldershot, Burlington and Appleby) are being a secondary plans/amendments to the City's OP.



Key External Agency / Stakeholder	Meeting Date	Meeting Purpose
		The Project Team acknowledged that Halton Region's Active Transportation Master Plan p Street to provide connections to proposed cycling facilities north and south. The City advise (ongoing), mid-block active transportation crossings are also being considered, spanning the North Shore Boulevard, and between Brant St. and Guelph Line.
407 ETR	July 18, 2018	A meeting was held to provide an update of the study and noted that a shortlist alternative preferred alternative. The 407 ETR requested a future meeting with 407 Traffic once the pr wanted to provide input on the recommended improvements. MTO confirmed that they wer structures of a certain age, as issues were found within barrier walls on structures construct what length of service life was considered in AECOM's life-cycle costing. AECOM confirmed standards and practice. The Project Team also provided a brief overview of the staging opt 321. These included ramp closures or ramp modifications. 407 ETR noted desire to keep the stage of
City of Burlington and Halton Region	May 27, 2019	The Project Team reviewed the status of the study and provided an overview of ongoing we long term structural and operational needs of the QEW and Highway 403 within the study a improvements including but not limited to; rehabilitation, capacity expansion, drainage and The Project Team reviewed the Recommended Plan, which consists of 3 phases. The City works. MTO responded that the Immediate Improvements referred to contracts expected by year plan, and the interim and ultimate improvements are not yet scheduled, as they are lo and funding. The Project Team presented the Recommended Plan at each interchange and Road, highlighting changes to municipal and/or regional roadways. The Project Team advis City and Region in advance of PIC #2 to provide further updates on the study and review the team.
Conservation Halton	June 18, 2019	An overview of the Short List Alternative Evaluation and the Recommended Plan was present highlighted that were of interest to Conservation Halton. Ongoing design changes and pote basis. The Project Team noted that PIC #2 is scheduled for September 2019 and a TESR we stormwater management (SWM) component of the study was also presented: the focus of and design criteria used to identify the SWM plan.
City of Burlington and Halton Region	August 22, 2019	The Project Team provided an update to the Freeman EA Study on developments since the 2019. The meeting also provided an overview of the upcoming PIC #2. The Project Team project team noted that the widening is required to facilitate the structural rehabilitation whi rehabilitation is the driver behind this EA study. Halton Region and City requested to be invistaging plans. The study also identified a potential opportunity for active transportation facilitate discussed the Prosperity Corridor and it was noted that the Freeman EA study will be Prosperity Corridor. The next steps in the Freeman EA study included holding the PIC #2 of Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) by the end of 2019.
Conservation Halton	September 3, 2019	The Project Team provided an update to the Freeman EA Study on developments and provided draft terrestrial and aquatic impact assessment was summarized for potential impacts, mitig summary of the drainage impact assessment and proposed stormwater management strate Freeman EA study included holding the PIC #2 on September 10, 2019 and submitting the (TESR) by the end of 2019.



proposes interchange improvements at Brant sed that as part of their new Cycling Master Plan the QEW between Fairview St. / Plains Road and

e evaluation is being completed to identify a preferred alterative was identified. 407 ETR also rere updating their policy regarding barrier walls for ucted between 1985 and 1995. 407 ETR inquired ned that 75 years was used, consistent with MTO options being considered for Sites # 10-320 and 10o the Fairview Street ramps open.

work since PIC #1 in October 2017. The short and v area were being reviewed, and potential d illumination improvements were being assessed. ty inquired about timelines for commencement of d between 2020 and 2023, and are within MTO's 5longer-term and contingent on provincial priorities and crossing road, and along the North Service vised that another meeting would be held with the the material to be presented to the public. esented. Areas of the Recommended Plan were ptential impacts were discussed on a case by case

R will follow. An overview of the drainage and of the presentation was the analysis, methodology

the last meeting with the municipalities in May n provided a recap of the Recommended Plan. The while minimizing traffic impact and that the nvolved in the finalization of the construction cilities at the Brant Street interchange. The City e completed prior to the completion of the conseptember 10, 2019 and submitting the

rovided a recap of the Recommended Plan. The itigation and details design considerations. A ategy was also provided. The next steps in the ne Transportation Environmental Study Report



Key External Agency / Stakeholder	Meeting Date	Meeting Purpose
Utilities Coordination Meeting	February 5, 2020	The Project Team provided an overview of the Freeman EA study as well as recap of the R approach of using 3 phases (Immediate, Interim and Ultimate) was discussed and the design identified with a focus on areas where heavy utility impacts are expected such as Brant St, update on TESR and PDR timelines was also provided. T2 Utility Engineers facilitated a depotential conflict with the Recommended Plan design. Remaining subsurface utilities invest invited to share any new information (since the previous records were sent) that that would
Conservation Halton	February 19, 2020	The Project Team provided an update to the Freeman EA Study on developments and provided summary of the materials presented at PIC #2 held on September 10, 2019 was provided. assessment and proposed stormwater management strategy was also provided. The next submitting the Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) in Spring 2020.
City of Burlington and Halton Region	March 10, 2020	The Project Team provided an update to the Freeman EA Study on developments since the 2019. The Project Team provided a summary of the proposed improvements and recommer recommended plan is divided into 3 phases; immediate – for the QEW structural rehab, inter adding HOV/T lane per direction (QEW) and adding a General Purpose Lane (GPL) per dir operational improvements, and ultimate - Capacity improvements by adding additional GPL improvements. The City inquired what the timelines would be and the Project Team identified while the other 2 phases are subject to provincial funding. Active Transportation, utilities condiscussed. It was confirmed that all existing noise conditions are the responsibly of the development of without the proposed undertaking. The next steps in the Freeman EA study include Study Report (TESR) in Spring 2020.
City of Burlington	June 15, 2020	The Project Team provided an overview of the proposed approach to replacing the Highwa Project Team recently learning of the City's planned land exchange involving the City-owne Road/North Service Road intersection and the adjacent property owner. City of Burlington of with the adjacent owner to permit the relocation of the existing stormwater management fact intersection. MTO and the City agreed that the Ministry's preliminary design for the replace would be modified to replace the bridge on the current King Road alignment, which would se King Road frontage of the City's property and the adjacent property. This will require full clo North Service Road intersection to the entrance to the commercial property just north of Hy construction of the new bridge. The City indicated that if no other reasonable options are fe during the bridge replacement work. MTO and the City agreed that if the King Road bridge prior to the City completing a Municipal Class EA study for the widening of King Road, the I design to ensure that a future twinning of the King Road structure by the City at a later date
Hydro One	July 22, 2020	The Project Team presented an overview of the proposed the scope of work, including WS Transportation Environment Study Report (TESR) and Preliminary Design Report (PDR), n process. The Project Team also reviewed and discussed Hydro One's current comments for construction is to occur in the vicinity of existing Hydro One corridor crossings of the 403 / 0 infrastructure upgrades or replacements forecasted for any of the transmission lines within



Recommended Plan developments to date. The sign details of the Recommended Plan were t, Plains Rd E/Fairview St and King Road. An detailed discussion to identify utilities that were in estigations were discussed and attendees were ld improve the utility conflict plan.

ovided a recap of the Recommended Plan. A I. An updated summary of the drainage impact t steps in the Freeman EA study include

the last meeting with the municipalities in August nended plan. The Project Team noted that the nterim improvements - Capacity improvements by direction (Highway 403), along with localized PL per direction (QEW) and localized operational ified that the immediate phase is on a 5-year plan coordination and a recap of the PIC #2 were also eveloper, this project is modelling for future noise e submitting the Transportation Environmental

vay 403/King Road underpass in light of the ned parcel in the northwest quadrant of the King n confirmed the City's intent to exchange lands facility and development of the lands at the cement of the Highway 403/King Road underpass I significantly reduce or avoid impact along the closure of King Road at Highway 403 (from the Hydro Lane) for the duration of demolition and feasible, the City agrees to the King Road closure e is scheduled for replacement by the Ministry e Ministry will work with the City during detail ite is not precluded.

SP's / T2's responsibilities for producing the noting that the study is following MTO's Class EA for each of the locations where proposed / QEW. Hydro One advised that there are no n the project limits.

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6.2.1.1 INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES CONSULTATION

Indigenous Communities were contacted by the Project Team at key milestones throughout the study process. The following Communities received study commencement, PIC notifications and notification of TESR Completion:

- Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
- Six Nations of the Grand River
- Williams Treaty First Nations
- Alderville First Nation
- Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation
- Chippewas of Rama First Nation
- Beausoleil First Nation
- Curve Lake First Nation
- Hiawatha First Nation
- Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation

Letters were sent by MTO to all of the above-mentioned Indigenous Communities and groups to inform them of the completion of the study. MTO will continue to consult with Indigenous Communities in subsequent design stages. A summary of correspondence received from Indigenous Communities is provided in **Table 6-7**.

Table 6-7: Summary of Comments Received from Indigenous Communities

Indigenous Community	Comment Received	Comment Response
Hiawatha First Nation	 Comments received via email on April 28, 2017 indicated: Receipt of the notice of commencement regarding the QEW and Highway 403 Freeman Interchange. Hiawatha First Nations will contact the Project Team 	 Project Team response noted: The Project team will ensure that the Hiawatha First Nation community is included on the study mailing list and will be notified of future consultation events,

Indigenous Community	Comment Received	Comment Response
	should they have any questions or concerns.	including Public Information Centre #1.
	 Comments received via email on July 20, 2017 indicating: Receipt of the notice of commencement regarding the QEW and Highway 403 Freeman Interchange. 	No response required.
	Hiawatha First Nations will contact the Project Team should they have any questions or concerns.	
Chippewas of Rama First Nation	 Comments received via email on May 5, 2017 noting: Receipt and review of the notice of commencement regarding the QEW and Highway 403 Freeman Interchange. The information was forwarded to the Williams Treaties First Nation Process Co-ordinator/Negotiator who will take any necessary action if required. 	 Project Team response noted: That the Williams Treaties First Nation process Co- ordinator/Negotiator is on the project contact list and will be sent study notification throughout the study. Chippewas of Rama First Nation community will be notified of future consultation events, including public information centre 1.
	Comment received via project email on October 4, 2017 indicated:	No response required.
	Receipt of the Notice of Community Information Centre – QEW and Highway 403 Freeman Interchange – Class Environmental Assessment and Preliminary	





Indigenous Community	Comment Received	Comment Response	
	 Design Study – W.O. 2016-E- 0005. The information was forwarded to the Williams Treaties First Nation Process Co-ordinator/Negotiator who will take any necessary action if required. 		
	 Comment received via email on August 28, 2019 noting: Receipt of the notice about the second Public Information Centre for the QEW and Highway 403 interchange. No comments or concerns regarding the project at this time. 	 Project Team response: Acknowledged the comments provided. Noted that the Chippewas of Rama First Nation community will be notified of future consultation opportunities including the notice of filing of the Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) for public review in early 2020. 	
Alderville First Nation	 Comment received via email on August 29, 2019 noting the following: This project falls outside of our treaty territory but more in the territory of the Mississauga's of New Credit. Noted no opinion on this project. 	 Project Team response noted: The Mississaugas of New Credit have also been circulated on this study notice. 	





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