

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE

NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT

427 Transportation Corridor Environmental Assessment (EA) Study

THE STUDY

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is working to provide for the efficient movement of people and goods within the context of the province's Proposed *Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe*. In order to realize the transportation objectives of the Proposed *Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe*, MTO is completing an Environmental Assessment Study (EA) for the 427 Transportation Corridor that supports the Proposed Growth Plan.

The EA will address existing and short-term transportation problems related to the present Highway 427 terminus at Regional Road 7, truck traffic to and from the CPR Vaughan Intermodal Facility, and interregional traffic on Highways 7, 27 & 50. The primary objective is to address transportation issues in the area south of the Greenbelt and to facilitate planning and development.

THE PROCESS

The EA will be undertaken as an Individual Environmental Assessment under the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act* (OEAA). It will be conducted in accordance with the planning process documented in The *427 Transportation Corridor Environmental Assessment Terms of Reference*, which was approved by the Minister of the Environment in November 2005. This document provides a framework to guide the preparation of the subsequent EA.

The EA will consider every phase of the planning process including: The Need for the Undertaking; Alternatives to the Undertaking (fundamentally different ways of addressing the problem); Alternative Methods (route alternatives); Preferred Alternative/Preliminary Design; and Preparation of an Environmental Assessment Report.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public input is encouraged throughout the EA. Input will be facilitated through the project website (www.427corridor.com) and a series of Public Information Centres (PICs). The PICs will occur at three key study milestones and will provide an opportunity for members of the public to see results, exchange information and ask one-on-one questions of the Project Team. Notices providing the time and location for each PIC will be posted on the project website, published in local newspapers and sent to persons on the project mailing list.

Upon completion of the EA, an Environmental Assessment Report will be prepared to document all of the EA phases. This report will be submitted to the Minister of the Environment (MOE) for an approval decision. The MOE will undertake a formal public and agency review process for the EA Report and will consider all comments when making a decision whether to approve, conditionally approve, or not to approve the undertaking.

COMMENTS

Comments and information regarding this project are being collected to assist the MTO in meeting the requirements of the OEAA. 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*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

If you wish to obtain additional information about the study, be included on the study mailing list, or provide input at any point during the study, please contact any of the following Project Team members:

Mr. Dean Kemper, P.Eng.
Senior Project Engineer
Central Region
Ontario Ministry of Transportation
1201 Wilson Ave., 3rd Floor, Bldg. D
Downsview, ON M3M 1J8
Phone: 416-235-4664
Fax: 416-235-3446
E-mail: project-team@427corridor.com

Mr. Michael Chiu, P.Eng.
Consultant Project Manager
McCormick Rankin Corporation
2655 North Sheridan Way
Mississauga, ON L5K 2P8
Phone: 905-823-8500
Fax: 905-823-8503
E-mail: project-team@427corridor.com

Mr. Michael Bricks, MCIP, RPP
Senior Environmental Planner
Ecoplans Limited
2655 North Sheridan Way, Suite 280
Mississauga, ON L5K 2P8
Phone: 905-829-6262
Fax: 905-823-2669
E-mail: project-team@427corridor.com

Ms. Susan Sieradzki
Environmental Planner
Central Region
Ontario Ministry of Transportation
1201 Wilson Ave., 3rd Floor, Bldg. D
Downsview, ON M3M 1J8
Phone: 416-235-5549
Fax: 416-235-3446
E-mail: project-team@427corridor.com

