



Stantec Consulting Ltd.
200-835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek Ontario L8J 0B4

April 26, 2018
File: 165001090

Attention: «First_Name» «Last_Name», «Position»
«Organization»
«Address», «Address_2»
«City» «Province» «Postal_Code»

Dear «Title» «Last_Name»,

Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne,
GWP 4060-11-00
Notice of Study Commencement

Stantec Consulting Ltd. has been retained by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to undertake a Planning, Preliminary Design, and Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study on Highway 401 for the replacement and rehabilitation of structures, interchange modifications, future widening of the highway, and commuter parking lot expansions, from 2 km east of Nagle Road to Percy Street (approximately 18 km).

The purpose of the study is to identify a Recommended Plan that addresses current and future transportation needs in the study area as part of the Ministry's ongoing review of current and future safety and operational needs for the provincial highway network.

Two Public Information Centres (PICs) are planned, and notices of the PICs will be advertised in local newspapers and sent to the project mailing list. Upon completion of preliminary design, a *Transportation Environmental Study Report* (TESR) will be prepared and made available for public review. Notices will be published in local newspapers to advise the public of the TESR public review period. A copy of the Notice of Study Commencement is attached.

The purpose of this letter is to introduce the project, to seek your input on the existing conditions within the study area, and to identify any issues, concerns or approval requirements that your organization may have. Your input is requested by June 8, 2018. A comment sheet is attached to facilitate your feedback.

You are encouraged to visit the project website, [**www.highway401cobourgcolborne.ca**](http://www.highway401cobourgcolborne.ca), to obtain current project information and to submit comments to the project team. If you have any questions regarding the study, please contact the undersigned or one of the Project Managers named in the enclosed material.

Regards,

STANTEC CONSULTING LTD.



Nevena Gazibara, B. Sc., MREM, ENV SP
Environmental Planner
Phone: (905) 381-3249
nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

c. M. Waseem, E. Pipe – Ministry of Transportation
G. Cooke, T. Belliveau – Stantec Consulting Ltd.

EXTERNAL AGENCY COMMENT SHEET

Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne GWP 4060-11-00

**Please submit your comments before June 8, 2018. Use the other side if required.
With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.**

Comments may be submitted by mail, fax or email to:

Nevena Gazibara, B.Sc., MREM, ENV SP, Environmental Planner
Stantec Consulting Ltd., 200-835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4
Tel. (905) 381-3249, Fax (905) 385-3534
Email: nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

Comments submitted by:

Name of Contact:

Organization:

Address (including Postal Code):

Telephone Number:

Email:

The contact name and mailing address for your organization/agency (please check one):

- Is correct; or
- Should be changed to:

Your interests or concerns regarding the study area or undertaking are (continue on back if required):

Your organization/agency can provide the following environmental (i.e., natural, social, economic or cultural) information and requires the following permits/approvals:

I am providing a copy of background reports/existing information:

- With this comment sheet
- No background information available
- Via email / mail

The level of involvement you wish to have on this project is:

- Active participation
- None, please remove from mailing list
- Participation at key points

Additional comments:

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Tel. (905) 381-3249, Fax (905) 385-3534
Email: nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

Comments submitted by:

Name of Contact:

Kevin Hickey

Organization:

Peterborough Victoria, Northumberland Clarington Catholic District School Board

Address (including Postal Code):

1355 Lansdowne St. W. Peterborough, ON K9J 7M3

Telephone Number:

705 748 4861 x 234

Email:

kevhickey@pvcodsb.on.ca

The contact name and mailing address for your organization/agency (please check one):

Is correct; or

Should be changed to:

Kevin Hickey

Your interests or concerns regarding the study area or undertaking are (continue on back if required):

Any disruption to school bus traffic.

Your organization/agency can provide the following environmental (i.e., natural, social, economic or cultural) information and requires the following permits/approvals:

I am providing a copy of background reports/existing information:

With this comment sheet No background information available
 Via email / mail

The level of involvement you wish to have on this project is:

Active participation None, please remove from mailing list
 Participation at key points

EXTERNAL AGENCY COMMENT SHEET

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Comments may be submitted by mail, fax or email to:

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Stantec Consulting Ltd., 200-835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4
Tel. (905) 381-3249, Fax (905) 385-3534
Email: nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

Comments submitted by:

Name of Contact: Gudrun Ludorf-Weaver

Organization: Sustainable Cobourg

Address (including Postal Code): 703 Carlisle St Cobourg, ON K9A 5E7

Telephone Number: 905-269-9355

Email: gludorfweaver@sustainablecobourg.ca

The contact name and mailing address for your organization/agency (please check one):

Is correct; or
 Should be changed to:

Your interests or concerns regarding the study area or undertaking are (continue on back if required):

1. Increased GHG emissions 2. Low impact Development approach to SWM
3. Active Transportation 4. Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

Your organization/agency can provide the following environmental (i.e., natural, social, economic or cultural) information and requires the following permits/approvals:

N/A

I am providing a copy of background reports/existing information:

With this comment sheet No background information available
 Via email / mail

The level of involvement you wish to have on this project is:

Active participation None, please remove from mailing list
 Participation at key points

Additional comments:

1. Sustainable Cobourg is worried that by widening the FOI to 3 lanes will lead to more vehicles travelling the corridor. This increase of vehicle traffic and construction of highway improvements ~~can~~ could increase GHG emissions significantly.
2. By widening the highway, the amount of impervious surfaces increase. Polluted runoff could contaminate rivers, creeks, streams in the study area. A Low Impact Development approach to Stormwater Management is recommended to treat runoff on-site. How will salt be treated to avoid water contamination?
3. Sustainable Cobourg has worked to improve cycling infrastructure in Cobourg. How will facilities supporting FOI (Ex: Carpool lots, transit) be connected to existing and planned cycling routes?
4. Outlined in Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan, Electric Vehicle infrastructure and charging stations should be widely available on inter-provincial highways. Also, a network of low emission fuelling stations for commercial vehicles and transport trucks should be investigated along the FOI corridor. Improvements could be made to network along the study area.

Vanhell, Shane

From: Gazibara, Nevena
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Vanhell, Shane
Subject: FW: GWP 4060-11-00
Attachments: Comment Sheet - GWP 4060-11-00.pdf

From: Olivia Baudais [mailto:obaudais@veridian.on.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2018 11:26 AM
To: comments@highway401cobourgcolborne.ca
Subject: GWP 4060-11-00

Good morning,

The project GWP 4060-11-00 is not within Veridian service territory.

Please see the correspondence comments sheet.

Sincerely,

Olivia Baudais
Engineering Administrator
55 Taunton Road East
Ajax, Ontario L1T 3V3

Tel: 905 427 9870 x 3207
Tel: 888 445 2881
Fax: 905 619 0210

www.veridian.on.ca
Follow us on Twitter [@VeridianTweets](https://twitter.com/VeridianTweets)



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EXTERNAL AGENCY COMMENT SHEET

Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne GWP 4060-11-00

Please submit your comments before June 8, 2018. Use the other side if required.
With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

Comments may be submitted by mail, fax or email to:

Nevena Gazibara, B.Sc., MREM, ENV SP, Environmental Planner
Stantec Consulting Ltd., 200-835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4
Tel. (905) 381-3249, Fax (905) 385-3534
Email: nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

Comments submitted by: Venidian Connections Inc.

Name of Contact: Olivia Baudais

Organization: Venidian Connections Inc.

Address (including Postal Code): 55 Taunton Rd. E, Ajax ON L1T 3V3

Telephone Number: (905) 421-9870

Email: obaudais@venidian.on.ca

The contact name and mailing address for your organization/agency (please check one):

Is correct; or
 Should be changed to:

Your interests or concerns regarding the study area or undertaking are (continue on back if required):

None - not within Venidian service territory

Your organization/agency can provide the following environmental (i.e., natural, social, economic or cultural) information and requires the following permits/approvals:

N/A

I am providing a copy of background reports/existing information:

With this comment sheet No background information available
 Via email / mail

The level of involvement you wish to have on this project is:

Active participation None, please remove from mailing list
 Participation at key points

Vanhell, Shane

From: Gazibara, Nevena
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 4:06 PM
To: Vanhell, Shane
Subject: FW: GWP 4060-11-00 - Hwy 401
Attachments: GWP 4060-11-00 - Hwy 401.pdf

From: ian.fleming@zayo.com [mailto:ian.fleming@zayo.com] **On Behalf Of** Utility Circulations
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:01 AM
To: Gazibara, Nevena <Nevena.Gazibara@stantec.com>
Subject: GWP 4060-11-00 - Hwy 401

Good Morning Nevena,

Zayo has no existing plant in the area indicated in your submission. No markup and no objection. Thank you.

Ian Fleming
Utility Circulations

EXTERNAL AGENCY COMMENT SHEET

Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment

Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne

GWP 4060-11-00

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Stantec Consulting Ltd., 200-835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4
Tel. (905) 381-3249, Fax (905) 385-3534
Email: nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

Comments submitted by:

Name of Contact: Ian Fleming

Organization: Zayo

Address (including Postal Code):

Telephone Number:

Email: Utility.Circulations@Zayo.com

The contact name and mailing address for your organization/agency (please check one):

Is correct; or

Should be changed to:

Utility Circulations, Utility.Circulations@Zayo.com

Your interests or concerns regarding the study area or undertaking are (continue on back if required):

Zayo has no existing plant in the area indicated in your submission. No markup and no objection. Thank you.

Your organization/agency can provide the following environmental (i.e., natural, social, economic or cultural) information and requires the following permits/approvals:

I am providing a copy of background reports/existing information:

- With this comment sheet
- Via email / mail
- No background information available

The level of involvement you wish to have on this project is:

- Active participation
- Participation at key points
- None, please remove from mailing list

From: Gazibara, Nevena
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 1:29 PM
To: Vanhell, Shane
Subject: FW: Notice of Study Commencement - Hwy 401 from Cobourg to Colborne
Attachments: Study_Commencement_401.pdf

From: Hossain, Zahid <hossainz@northumberlandcounty.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 1:22 PM
To: Gazibara, Nevena <Nevena.Gazibara@stantec.com>
Cc: Marshall, Denise <marshalld@northumberlandcounty.ca>; Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>
Subject: RE: Notice of Study Commencement - Hwy 401 from Cobourg to Colborne

Good afternoon Nevena,

Attached is the external agency comment sheet for preliminary design and class environmental assessment for Highway 401 planning study from Cobourg to Colborne. Please note that the County will be participating actively during this process. Please let us know if you have any concerns.

Regards,

Zahid Hossain, C.E.T., M.Eng., P.Eng. PMP
Project Engineer,
Transportation, Waste and Facilities
County of Northumberland | 555 Courthouse Road, Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6
T 905-372-3329 x 2355 | F 905-372-1746
E hossainz@northumberlandcounty.ca

EXTERNAL AGENCY COMMENT SHEET

Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne GWP 4060-11-00

**Please submit your comments before June 8, 2018. Use the other side if required.
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Comments may be submitted by mail, fax or email to:

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Stantec Consulting Ltd., 200-835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4
Tel. (905) 381-3249, Fax (905) 385-3534
Email: nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

Comments submitted by:

Name of Contact: Denise Marshall, P.Eng.

Organization: County of Northumberland

Address (including Postal Code): 555 Courthouse Road, Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6

Telephone Number: 905 372 3329 x 2429

Email: marshalld@northumberlandcounty.ca

The contact name and mailing address for your organization/agency (please check one):

Is correct; or
 Should be changed to:

Your interests or concerns regarding the study area or undertaking are (continue on back if required):

Stormwater Management

Your organization/agency can provide the following environmental (i.e., natural, social, economic or cultural) information and requires the following permits/approvals:

I am providing a copy of background reports/existing information:

With this comment sheet No background information available
 Via email / mail

The level of involvement you wish to have on this project is:

Active participation None, please remove from mailing list
 Participation at key points

Additional comments:

Northumberland County is divided into two types of land use i.e., Built-up Areas and Rural Areas. Built-up areas are mostly on the south side of Highway 401. Since the recent construction on Highway 401 from Burnham Street (CR 18) to Nagle Road including drainage and storm water improvements throughout the area, the County has observed an increased amount of storm water onto the south of Highway 401 (Built-up Areas). The County wishes to be involved actively on this project to better understand the existing and proposed storm water and to ensure mitigating measures are implemented as part of this and any future work on Hwy 401.

Vanhell, Shane

From: Gazibara, Nevena
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 3:56 PM
To: Vanhell, Shane
Subject: FW: Notice of Study Commencement - Hwy 401 from Cobourg to Colborne
Attachments: cmt_1090_study_commencement_fnl.doc

FYI

From: Belliveau, Tim
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 2:26 PM
To: Hossain, Zahid <hossainz@northumberlandcounty.ca>
Cc: Gazibara, Nevena <Nevena.Gazibara@stantec.com>
Subject: RE: Notice of Study Commencement - Hwy 401 from Cobourg to Colborne

Hi Zahid,

As requested, please find attached the WORD version of the External Agency Comment Sheet. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Nevena.

Regards,
Tim

Tim Belliveau
P.Eng., VMA, ENV SP
Managing Principal, Transportation, Ontario SW & GTA

Direct: (905) 381-3224
Mobile: (905) 973-3482
Fax: (905) 385-3534

Stantec Consulting Ltd.
200-835 Paramount Drive
Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4 CA



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From: Hossain, Zahid [<mailto:hossainz@northumberlandcounty.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, May 3, 2018 2:11 PM
To: Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>
Subject: FW: Notice of Study Commencement - Hwy 401 from Cobourg to Colborne

Good afternoon Tim,

I see Nevena is currently out of the office on vacation, so could you please send me the word document of External Agency Comment Sheet, so, we can fill up and send it back to Nevena, that would be much appreciated.

Regards,

Zahid Hossain, C.E.T., M.Eng., P.Eng. PMP

**Project Engineer,
Transportation, Waste and Facilities**
County of Northumberland | 555 Courthouse Road, Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6
T 905-372-3329 x 2355 | **F** 905-372-1746
E hossainz@northumberlandcounty.ca

From: Hossain, Zahid
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 1:52 PM
To: 'nevena.gazibara@stantec.com'
Subject: FW: Notice of Study Commencement - Hwy 401 from Cobourg to Colborne

Good afternoon Nevena,

The County of Northumberland has received the attached notice of study commencement for Highway 401 from Cobourg to Colborne and we will be participating actively during preliminary design and class EA process. May I request you to send me the word document of External Agency Comment Sheet, so, we can fill up and send it back to you. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Zahid Hossain, C.E.T., M.Eng., P.Eng. PMP
Project Engineer,
Transportation, Waste and Facilities
County of Northumberland | 555 Courthouse Road, Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6
T 905-372-3329 x 2355 | **F** 905-372-1746
E hossainz@northumberlandcounty.ca

From: Bruinsma, Katie
Sent: Tuesday, May 01, 2018 8:53 AM
To: Pannu, Mobushar; Marshall, Denise; Gillispie, Brooke; McBride, Dan
Cc: McConnell, Steve; Holzmann, Les; Wood, Kenny; Tinney, Carmen; Essegheier, Kaela; Hossain, Zahid
Subject: Notice of Study Commencement - Hwy 401 from Cobourg to Colborne

Good Morning All,

Please see the attached Notice of Study Commencement from Stantec Consulting Ltd. who has been retained by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to undertake a Planning, Preliminary Design, and Class Environmental Assessment for Highway 401 from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00).

The original notice has been provided to Denise and the scanned copy has been saved: <W:\A16-Intergovernmental Relations & Agencies\A16 - Ministry of Ontario\A16 - Ministry of Transportation\GWP 4060-11-00 Hwy 401 Cobourg to Colborne>

Thank you,

Katie Bruinsma, née Smallwood
Administrative Clerk
Environmental & Technical Services Division
Transportation, Waste & Facilities Department

County of Northumberland
555 Courthouse Road
Cobourg, Ontario K9A 5J6
Tel: (905) 372-3329 ext 2349 | Toll Free: 1-800-354-7050 ext 2349

Fax: (905) 372-1696 | www.northumberlandcounty.ca
bruinsmak@northumberlandcounty.ca

From: Gazibara, Nevena
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 10:09 AM
To: Vanhell, Shane
Subject: FW: EA Notice - Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
Attachments: Notice of Study Commencement - Cobourg to Colborne.pdf

From: Eichenberger, Nicholle (IO) <Nicholle.Eichenberger@infrastructureontario.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 9:48 AM
To: comments@highway401cobourgcolborne.ca
Subject: EA Notice - Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne

Dear Project Managers:

Thanks for sending us the Notice of Commencement for the Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne.

Our records indicate that Ministry of Infrastructure (MOI) property identified by PIN 511030200 is within your project's study area. In this regard, please let us know if MOI land may be required for your project so we can advise you of our process to acquire this land. If MOI land is not required for your project, please continue to consult us as a directly affected party.

Sincerely,

Nicholle Eichenberger
Environmental Management Co-op
Infrastructure Ontario
1 Dundas Street West, Suite 2000, 22nd Floor, 22-051
Toronto, ON M5G 2L5
E-mail: nicholle.eichenberger@infrastructureontario.ca
Phone: 416-212-6975

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From: Gazibara, Nevena
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 4:52 PM
To: Vanhell, Shane
Subject: FW: Highway 401, Cobourg to Colborne, GWP 4060-11-00
Attachments: Highway401CobourgColborne.pdf

,

From: Mitchell, Vicki (MOECC) <Vicki.Mitchell@ontario.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 3:55 PM
To: comments@highway401cobourgcolborne.ca
Cc: Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Redmond, Courtney (MOECC) <Courtney.Redmond@Ontario.ca>
Subject: Highway 401, Cobourg to Colborne, GWP 4060-11-00

Attn: Greg Cooke
Muhammad Waseem

Thank you for the notice of project commencement. Here are MOECC preliminary comments.

*Vicki Mitchell
Regional EA Coordinator
MOECC Eastern Region
1259 Gardiners Road, Kingston ON
(613) 540-6852*

By email only

May 24, 2018

Stantec Consulting Ltd.

Attention: Gregg Cooke, P.Eng., Consultant Project Manager
comments@highway401cobourgcolborne.ca

Dear Mr. Cooke:

Re: Highway 401 Planning Study, Cobourg to Colborne, GWP 4060-11-00

Thank you for the Notice of Study Commencement letter dated April 26, 2018. Your letter indicates that the project is being planned as a Group B project in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities, MTO 2000*.

Please provide copies of all future notices by email, and a copy of the final TESR on a thumb drive.

MOECC Areas of Interest

MOECC staff recommend that the issues discussed below be considered during highway planning, design and construction. We are aware that many of these issues are typically addressed in detail through special provisions in the contract. The following comments are standard MOECC comments for highway projects, and may not all apply to the proposed project.

The documentation prepared for this project should consider the following issues:

- 1) Impacts to surface water due to construction in or near a watercourse, erosion, spills, or highway operation,
- 2) Impacts to wells due to spills, extensive dewatering or highway operation,
- 3) Management of surplus materials, waste or contaminated soil and groundwater
- 4) Noise impacts, both permanent and temporary.

We recommend that you contact this office as soon as possible during the environmental assessment process if you become aware of:

- contaminated sites in the study area or influence area of the project,
- a source water protection vulnerable area in the vicinity of the project, or
- issues that are contentious to the general public, aboriginal community, or a review agency.

We recommend that complaint response protocols be developed to address reported well water disturbances, noise, dust and claims of property damage.

Water Resources

We recommend that the proponent consider development of Dewatering and Excess Water Management Plans for collection, assessment, classification, conveyance, treatment and discharge of ground, surface and storm water encountered within the study area during construction.

We recommend that the proponent develop an Excavation and Sediment Control Plan and a Spill Prevention and Contingency Plan for the project. Spills should be reported to the Spills Action Centre at 1-800-268-6060.

If the highway construction involves taking, dewatering, storage or diversion of water in excess of 50,000 litres per day, the activity may be required to be registered on the Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR) or may require a Permit To Take Water. The process to be used depends on the source of the water, the quantity of water taken, and the type of construction activity. EASR requirements for water takings for road construction and construction dewatering are prescribed in Ontario Regulation 63/16 under the Environmental Protection Act. The Permit To Take Water requirements are prescribed in Section 34, Ontario Water Resources Act.

Where dredging is required, consideration should be given to appropriate storage, handling, dewatering and disposal of excavated material.

Guidance on nearshore construction and dredging may be obtained from this Ministry's *Guidelines for Evaluating Construction Activities Impacting on Water Resources* dated January 1995 and *Evaluating Construction Activities Impacting on Water Resources, Part III A, Part III B, and Part III C* dated February 1994.

Stormwater management should be designed in accordance with this Ministry's *Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual, March 2003*.

MOECC has concerns with the use of a cured-in-place process (CIPP) for culverts. Styrene released into the environment can result in harm to fish.

Source Protection

Water supplies must be protected during this project. This includes assessment early in the process whether a project is occurring within a source water protection vulnerable area. If the project is occurring in a vulnerable area, then there may be policies in the local Source Protection Plan (SPP) that need to be addressed (requirements under the Clean Water Act). The proponent should contact and consult with the appropriate Conservation Authority/Source Protection Authority (CA/SPA) to discuss potential considerations and policies in the SPP that apply to the project.

The TESR should include a section on Source Water Protection. Specifically, it should discuss whether or not the project is located in a vulnerable area or changes or creates new vulnerable areas, and provide applicable details about the area. If located in a vulnerable area, proponents should document whether any project activities are a

prescribed drinking water threat and thus pose a risk to drinking water (please consult with the appropriate CA/SPA). Where an activity poses a risk to drinking water, the proponent must document and discuss in the report how the project adheres to or has regard to applicable policies in the local SPP. If creating or changing a vulnerable area, proponents should document whether any existing uses or activities may potentially be affected by the implementation of source protection policies. This section should be reflected in other sections of the report, such as the identification of net positive/negative effects of alternatives, mitigation measures, evaluation of alternatives etc. Even if the project activities in a vulnerable area are deemed to not to be a drinking water risk, there may be other policies that apply, so consultation with the local CA/SPA is important.

Contaminated Sites and Waste Management

The proponent should consider the potential that the project may be constructed in an area of contamination. If an area of contamination is present, the TESR should determine the appropriate management of contaminated soil, sediment or groundwater as well as consider health and safety measures.

If areas of contaminated soil or groundwater are encountered during construction, the contaminated soil must be managed in accordance with MOECC standards. The *Environmental Protection Act* (EPA) and Regulation 347 require waste to be classified and disposed of appropriately. When determining the waste category, the proponent must ensure compliance with Schedule 4 of Regulation 347. Ontario Regulation 153/04 and the accompanying *Soil, Ground Water and Sediment Standards for Use Under Part XV.1 of the Environmental Protection Act* provide direction on assessment, restoration and soil criteria.

Excess materials generated during construction must be handled in accordance with this Ministry's *Protocol for the Management of Excess Materials in Road Construction and Maintenance*. The principles of this protocol are reflected in OPSS 180.

We recommend that the proponent consider development of an Excess Materials Management Plan for identification, assessment, excavation, conveyance, treatment, staging, grading and/or off-site disposal/re-use of soils and aggregates generated within the study area during construction.

Noise and Vibration

Evaluation and mitigation of noise impacts should be done in accordance with *A Protocol for Dealing with Noise Concerns During the Preparation, Review and Evaluation of Provincial Highways Environmental Assessments*. Construction noise should be handled in accordance with Section 8 of the above noise protocol. Section 8 requires adherence to municipal noise bylaws, general noise control measures to be specified in MTO contract documents, investigation of noise complaints, and compliance with MOECC sound level criteria for construction equipment if complaints are persistent.

Where blasting is required, we recommend that protocols be set up and followed for on-site and receptor blast monitoring (vibration and concussion), and that 48 hour notice be given to area residents prior to blasting.

If you have questions or concerns about the above comments, please contact me at (613) 540-6852 or vicki.mitchell@ontario.ca.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vicki Mitchell".

Vicki Mitchell
Environmental Assessment Coordinator
Eastern Region

cc: Muhammad Waseem, P.Eng, MTO

Courtney Redmond, MOECC

From: Gazibara, Nevena
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 4:54 PM
To: Vanhell, Shane
Subject: FW: Hwy 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00)
Attachments: 2018-05-24 cobourg colborne.pdf

From: Hatcher, Laura (MTCS) <Laura.E.Hatcher@ontario.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 4:52 PM
To: comments@highway401cobourgcolborne.ca
Subject: Hwy 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00)

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a letter with comments from MTCS on the above mentioned project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Laura

Laura Hatcher, MCIP, RPP
Heritage Planner
Heritage Program | Programs and Services Branch | Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport
401 Bay Street Suite 1700 Toronto ON M7A 0A7
Tel. 416.314.3108 | email: laura.e.hatcher@ontario.ca

**Ministry of Tourism,
Culture and Sport**

Heritage Program Unit
Programs and Services Branch
401 Bay Street, Suite 1700
Toronto ON M7A 0A7
Tel: 416 314 3108
Fax: 416 212 1802

**Ministère du Tourisme,
de la Culture et du Sport**

Unité des programmes patrimoine
Direction des programmes et des services
401, rue Bay, Bureau 1700
Toronto ON M7A 0A7
Tél: 416 314 3108
Téléc: 416 212 1802



May 24, 2018 (EMAIL ONLY)

Greg Cooke
Project Manager
Stantec
E: comments@highway401cobourgcolborne.ca

RE: MTCS file #: 0008852

Proponent: Ministry of Transportation
Subject: Notice of Commencement

Hwy 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00)

Location: Cobourg, Grafton, Colborne Ontario

Dear Ms Gazibara:

Thank you for providing the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) with the Notice of Commencement for your project. MTCS's interest in this Environmental Assessment (EA) project relates to its mandate of conserving Ontario's cultural heritage, which includes:

- Archaeological resources, including land-based and marine;
- Built heritage resources, including bridges and monuments; and,
- Cultural heritage landscapes.

Under the EA process, the proponent is required to determine a project's potential impact on cultural heritage resources. The recommendations below are for a Group B project under the Class EA for Provincial Transportation Facilities, as described in the notice of study commencement. If any municipal bridges may be impacted by this project, we can provide additional screening documentation as formulated by the Municipal Engineers Association in consultation with MTCS.

Please note that the [Standards and Guidelines for Conservation of Provincial Heritage Properties](#) (S&G), prepared pursuant to Section 25.2 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (OHA), came into effect on July 1, 2010. All Ontario government ministries and public bodies that are prescribed under Ontario Regulation 157/10 must comply with the S&Gs. They apply to property that is owned or controlled by the Crown in right of Ontario or by a prescribed public body.

While some cultural heritage resources may have already been formally identified, others may be identified through screening and evaluation. Indigenous communities may have knowledge that can contribute to the identification of cultural heritage resources, and we suggest that any engagement with Indigenous communities includes a discussion about known or potential cultural heritage resources that are of value to these communities. Municipal Heritage Committees, historical societies and other local heritage organizations may also have knowledge that contributes to the identification of cultural heritage resources.

Archaeological Resources

Your EA project may impact archaeological resources and you should screen the project with the MTCS [Criteria for Evaluating Archaeological Potential](#) to determine if an archaeological assessment is needed. MTCS archaeological sites data are available at archaeology@ontario.ca. If your EA project area exhibits archaeological potential, then an archaeological assessment (AA) should be undertaken by an

archaeologist licenced under the OHA, who is responsible for submitting the report directly to MTCS for review.

Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage Landscapes

The MTCS [Criteria for Evaluating Potential for Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes](#) should be completed to help determine whether your EA project may impact cultural heritage resources. The Clerks for the municipalities in which the project is located can provide information on property registered or designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Municipal Heritage Planners can also provide information that will assist you in completing the checklist. The draft [MTO Ontario Heritage Bridge Guidelines for Provincially Owned Bridges](#) screening criteria have also been established for cultural heritage evaluation of bridges under the Class EA for Provincial Transportation Facilities.

A Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (CHER) is used to determine the cultural heritage value or interest of a potential Provincial Heritage Property. If potential or known heritage resources exist, MTCS recommends that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), prepared by a qualified consultant, should be completed to assess potential project impacts. Our Ministry's [Info Sheet #5: Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Plans](#) outlines the scope of HIAs. Please send the HIA to MTCS and the local municipalities for review, and make it available to local organizations or individuals who have expressed interest in review.

Environmental Assessment Reporting

All technical heritage studies and their recommendations are to be addressed and incorporated into EA projects. Please advise MTCS whether any technical heritage studies will be completed for your EA project, and provide them to MTCS before issuing a Notice of Completion. If your screening has identified no known or potential cultural heritage resources, or no impacts to these resources, please include the completed checklists and supporting documentation in the EA report or file.

Thank-you for consulting MTCS on this project: please continue to do so through the EA process, and contact me for any questions or clarification.

Sincerely,

Firstname Lastname
Heritage Planner
laura.e.hatcher@ontario.ca

It is the sole responsibility of proponents to ensure that any information and documentation submitted as part of their EA report or file is accurate. MTCS makes no representation or warranty as to the completeness, accuracy or quality of the any checklists, reports or supporting documentation submitted as part of the EA process, and in no way shall MTCS be liable for any harm, damages, costs, expenses, losses, claims or actions that may result if any checklists, reports or supporting documents are discovered to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent.

Please notify MTCS if archaeological resources are impacted by EA project work. All activities impacting archaeological resources must cease immediately, and a licensed archaeologist is required to carry out an archaeological assessment in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act and the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.

If human remains are encountered, all activities must cease immediately and the local police as well as the Registrar, Burials of the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services (416-326-8800) must be contacted. In situations where human remains are associated with archaeological resources, MTCS should also be notified to ensure that the site is not subject to unlicensed alterations which would be a contravention of the Ontario Heritage Act.

From: [Penyk, Henry \(MNRF\)](#)
To: [Gazibara, Nevena](#)
Subject: Re: Preliminary design and Class EA Hwy 401 from Cobourg to Colborne (18-HAMI-NOR-EAE-2677 and PB2018-0448)
Date: Wednesday, June 06, 2018 2:35:07 PM
Attachments: [BW_Cranberry_\(Little\)_Lake_Wetland.pdf](#), [CranberryLakeWetlandSummary.pdf](#), [FishScreeningMapCH2018-06-06.pdf](#), [FishScreeningTableCH2018-06-06.xlsx](#)

Good Afternoon Nevena,

MNRF Peterborough District has received your email (dated 04-26-2018) regarding the MTO Environmental Assessment for Highway 401 rehabilitation and future widening with respect to the project area located in the from 2km east of Nagle Road to Percy street (approximately 18 km). We provide the following general information and technical advice for your consideration:

General: MNRF Data and Information

MNRF's natural heritage and natural resources GIS data layers (including wetlands, ANSIs, and species at risk observations) can be obtained through the Ministry's [Land Information Ontario \(LIO\) website](#). You may also view natural heritage information online (e.g. Provincially Significant Wetlands, ANSIs, woodlands, species at risk 1 km screening squares) using the [Natural Heritage Make a Map](#) tool. To determine which species are protected under the Endangered Species Act, please refer to the [Species at Risk in Ontario List](#).

We recommend that you use the above-noted sources of information during review of your project proposal.

Wetlands

The subject property is adjacent to Provincially Significant Wetlands, Cranberry (little) Lake PSW adjacent to 401 at County Road 23 exit (North Side of 401). We recommend contacting your local Conservation Authority for more information on approvals that may be required.

In areas without Conservation Authority (CA) coverage, the delegated CA responsibilities fall to the municipality.

Fisheries

All crossings involve cold water streams, both spring and fall spawners, apply both in water work timing windows (Oct. 1 to June 30th).

Attached to the email is the relevant map and table for Fisheries information.

Please contact Department of Fisheries and Oceans and/or the local Conservation Authority for any approvals that may be required and/or sediment/erosion control measures that may be required to be installed prior/during/after construction.

Species at Risk

A review of our best available information indicates that there are observations of the following species (endangered/threatened/special concern) in the immediate area of the

site (1 km radius):

1. American Eel (END)
2. Bank Swallow (THR)
3. Barn Swallow (THR)
4. Eastern Meadowlark (THR)
5. Peregrine Falcon (SC)
6. Silver Lamprey (Great Lakes – Upper St. Lawrence Populations) (SC)
7. Snapping Turtle (SC)
8. Wood Thrush (SC)

Also, there are observations of the following species (endangered/threatened/special concern) in the general area (5 km) of the proposed activities:

1. Blanding's Turtle (THR)
2. Bobolink (THR)
3. Butternut (END)
4. Canada warbler (SC)
5. Cerulean Warbler (THR)
6. Chimney Swift (THR)
7. Cucumber Tree (END)
8. Eastern Hog-nosed Snake (THR)
9. Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid (END)
10. Eastern Ribbonsnake (SC)
11. Eastern Wood-peewee (SC)
12. Lake Sturgeon (Great Lakes – Upper St. Lawrence River Population) (THR)
13. Little Brown Myotis (END)
14. Loggerhead Shrike (END)
15. Northern Brook Lamprey (SC)
16. Red-headed Woodpecker (SC)
17. Short-eared Owl (SC)

Although no other threatened or endangered species or their habitat have been documented in the area of the proposed projects, these features may be present and this list should not be considered complete.

Species listed as endangered or threatened on the Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) list are protected under the Endangered Species Act, 2007 (ESA). Section 9(1) of the ESA prohibits a person from killing, harming, harassing, capturing or taking a member of a species listed as endangered, threatened or extirpated on the SARO list. Section 10(1) of the ESA prohibits the damage or destruction of habitat of a species listed as endangered or threatened on the SARO list.

Since comprehensive mapping for most species at risk is not available, a site assessment is recommended to identify the presence of any species at risk and/or their habitat on the subject lands, as a decision should not be made in the absence of such information. The focus of the site assessment can include a review of the information about known occurrences provided by MNRF above along with other information sources such as species distributions and habitat requirements as well as field visits using MNRF approved protocols during the appropriate seasons by a qualified professional.

Due to the species that are potentially present at this site, the following recommendations should help prevent adverse impacts:

Birds

Workers must be vigilant and check work areas for the presence of breeding birds and nests containing eggs and/or young. If breeding birds and/or nests are encountered, works should not continue in the location of the nest until after August 1 (or as soon as it has been determined that the young have left the nest). Please note that the breeding bird season in the subject area extends from April 15 to July 31.

Specific Barn Swallow Information: Barn Swallow nests may be present under bridges and/or culverts. Therefore, the underside of these structures should be assessed for Barn Swallow nests before proceeding. If no nests are present, a contravention of the ESA is unlikely. However, if nests are present, construction should not begin until after August 15 of any year. If nests will be impacted during the nesting season or if the structure will no longer be suitable for nesting post-construction, ESA requirements will apply to the activity. A regulatory provision is available that allows eligible activities that impact to Barn Swallow to register and follow all the rules in regulation in place of applying for a permit under the ESA. [See this website for more information on regulatory requirements for Barn Swallow.](#)

Turtles and Snakes

Workers must be vigilant and check work areas for the presence of turtles. If turtles or snakes are encountered, whenever possible, work should be temporarily suspended until the animal is out of harm's way. Workers should report any turtle observations (including photographs and coordinates) to the Peterborough District Office immediately at 705-755-2001. **Please note that the turtle nesting season in the subject area extends from May 15th to September 30th.** Therefore, activities which may cause adverse impacts to a species or habitat (e.g. use of heavy equipment) should commence after September 30th.

If you are proposing to conduct SAR/habitat surveys, please contact us for appropriate survey protocols.

Butternut:

If a Butternut tree(s) is identified and is to be removed, trimmed or is in close proximity to the application of herbicides, a Butternut Health Assessment must be conducted by an individual trained and certified by MNRF as a Butternut Health Assessor (BHA) as per the Ontario [Butternut Assessment Guidelines \(Dec 2014\)](#). All Butternut Health Assessments must be submitted to the MNRF District office for a 30 day review period before proceeding. Depending on the results of the assessment, you may have different options for how to proceed. Please see our [online factsheet](#) for more information. Please note that the ideal time of year to properly identify Butternut is during the leaf on period (approximately June to August). Workers should report any Butternut observations (including photographs and coordinates) to the Peterborough District Office immediately upon discovery. For those Butternut that are not proposed for removal, a minimum protective buffer of a 25 metre radius from the stem of each Butternut is required to prevent root disturbance. A larger area up to 50 m is also considered protected habitat for the tree. Within the 25 metre buffer area, activities that would remove or significantly compact the roots and soil, and cause direct harm to the Butternut are not permitted. Within the 25-50 metre buffer area, activities that would significantly damage or destroy habitat e.g. by impacting the tree's ability to disperse seeds are also not permitted. Removal of other vegetation and careful logging practices within this radius are permitted.

Regulatory Provisions and Further Registration Options

The ESA provides regulatory provisions for certain eligible activities to proceed without an ESA permit. To be eligible, the proponent register with the MNRF and adhere to specific rules in regulation under the ESA. To assess your eligibility please see the links below:

- [Information on the ESA regulatory provision](#)
- [ESA regulation \(O. Reg. 242/08\)](#).

If an impact to a species at risk or its habitat cannot be avoided, a person(s) should contact MNRF to discuss options, including applying for an authorization under the ESA. In situations where an activity is not registered with or authorized by the MNRF, a person(s) must comply with the ESA by modifying proposed activities to avoid impacts to species at risk and habitat protected under the ESA.

It is highly recommended that landowners and on-site workers familiarize themselves with [MNRF's Species at Risk website](#).

During on-site activities, should any species at risk or their habitat be potentially impacted, MNRF should be contacted immediately and operations should be modified to avoid any negative impacts to species at risk or their habitat until further discussions with MNRF can occur regarding opportunities for mitigation. If any species at risk are found, the MNRF Peterborough District Office should be contacted at **705-755-2001**. If possible, pictures of the species at risk and coordinates for the location where it was observed should be provided to MNRF.

Petroleum Wells & Oil, Gas and Salt Resource Act

There may be petroleum wells within the proposed project area. Please consult the Ontario Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Library website (www.ogslibrary.com) for the best known data on any wells recorded by MNRF. Please reference the 'Definitions and Terminology Guide' listed in the publications on the Library website in order to better understand the well information available. Any oil and gas wells in your project area are regulated by the *Oil, Gas and Salt Resource Act*, and the supporting regulations and operating standards. If any unanticipated wells are encountered during development of the project, or if the proponent has questions regarding petroleum operations, the proponent should contact the Petroleum Operations Section at 519-873-4634.

General Information Regarding MNRF approvals:

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act

Please note that you may require a Scientific Collector's Permit from our office if you will be doing any fish or wildlife sampling, collection, salvage, or relocation within Peterborough District. For more information about Scientific Collector's Permits, please contact Julie Formsma, Fish and Wildlife Technical Specialist at 705-755-3296.

Other Approvals

It is the responsibility of the proponent to acquire all other information and necessary approvals from any other municipal, provincial or federal authority under other legislation. We recommend that you contact your local Conservation Authority, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, etc.

If you have any questions regarding the above comments, don't hesitate to contact me. Please reference file number **18-HAMI-NOR-EAE-2677 and PB2018-0448** for any future correspondence.

Sincerely,
Henry Penyk

Henry Penyk

Land Use Planning Assistant
Peterborough District, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
300 Water St. Peterborough ON, K9J 3C7

Henry.penyk@ontario.ca

Please note: As part of providing [accessible customer service](#), please let me know if you have any accommodation needs or require communication supports or alternate formats.

EXTERNAL AGENCY COMMENT SHEET

Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne GWP 4060-11-00

Please submit your comments before June 8, 2018. Use the other side if required.
With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

Comments may be submitted by mail, fax or email to:

Nevena Gazibara, B.Sc., MREM, ENV SP, Environmental Planner
Stantec Consulting Ltd., 200-835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4
Tel. (905) 381-3249, Fax (905) 385-3534
Email: nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

Comments submitted by:

Name of Contact: Gudrun Ludorf-Weaver

Organization: Sustainable Cobourg

Address (including Postal Code): 703 Carlisle St Cobourg, ON K9A 5E7

Telephone Number: 905-269-9355

Email: gludorfweaver@sustainablecobourg.ca

The contact name and mailing address for your organization/agency (please check one):

Is correct; or
 Should be changed to:

Your interests or concerns regarding the study area or undertaking are (continue on back if required):

1. Increased GHG emissions 2. Low impact Development approach to SWM
3. Active Transportation 4. Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

Your organization/agency can provide the following environmental (i.e., natural, social, economic or cultural) information and requires the following permits/approvals:

N/A

I am providing a copy of background reports/existing information:

With this comment sheet No background information available
 Via email / mail

The level of involvement you wish to have on this project is:

Active participation None, please remove from mailing list
 Participation at key points

Additional comments:

1. Sustainable Cobourg is worried that by widening the FOI to 3 lanes will lead to more vehicles travelling the corridor. This increase of vehicle traffic and construction of highway improvements ~~can~~ could increase GHG emissions significantly.
2. By widening the highway, the amount of impervious surfaces increase. Polluted runoff could contaminate rivers, creeks, streams in the study area. A Low Impact Development approach to Stormwater Management is recommended to treat runoff on-site. How will salt be treated to avoid water contamination?
3. Sustainable Cobourg has worked to improve cycling infrastructure in Cobourg. How will facilities supporting FOI (Ex: Carpool lots, transit) be connected to existing and planned cycling routes?
4. Outlined in Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan, Electric Vehicle infrastructure and charging stations should be widely available on inter-provincial highways. Also, a network of low emission fuelling stations for commercial vehicles and transport trucks should be investigated along the FOI corridor. Improvements could be made to network along the study area.

From: contactform@highway401cobourgcolborne.ca on behalf of [Contact Form](#)
To: comments@highway401cobourgcolborne.ca
Subject: highway401cobourgcolborne.ca message
Date: Monday, June 11, 2018 12:58:44 PM

from: Northumberland Federation of Agriculture

email: nfa.lisam@gmail.com

message below:

Please add us to the mailing list for updates to this project.

EXTERNAL AGENCY COMMENT SHEET

Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne GWP 4060-11-00

Please submit your comments before June 8, 2018. Use the other side if required.
With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

Comments may be submitted by mail, fax or email to:

Nevena Gazibara, B.Sc., MREM, ENV SP, Environmental Planner
Stantec Consulting Ltd., 200-835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4
Tel. (905) 381-3249, Fax (905) 385-3534
Email: nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

Comments submitted by:

Name of Contact:

Leah Stephens, Env. Planner/Reg. Officer

Organization:

Lower Trent Conservation

Address (including Postal Code):

714 Murray St., RR 1 Trenton, ON K8V 5P2

Telephone Number:

613.394.4829 or 613.394.3915 ex. 220

Email:

leah.stephens@ltc.on.ca

The contact name and mailing address for your organization/agency (please check one):

Is correct; or

Should be changed to:

Leah Stephens

Your interests or concerns regarding the study area or undertaking are (continue on back if required):

Upstream/downstream floodplain mapping available for Barnum House Creek & Shelter Valley Creek. and interested if any modifications may impact floodplain mapping.

Your organization/agency can provide the following environmental (i.e., natural, social, economic or cultural) information and requires the following permits/approvals:

See above— floodplains identified for Barnum House Creek and Shelter Valley Creek.

I am providing a copy of background reports/existing information:

With this comment sheet
 Via email / mail

No background information available

- can provide upon request.

The level of involvement you wish to have on this project is:

Active participation
 Participation at key points
 None, please remove from mailing list



Stantec Consulting Ltd.
200 – 835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4

August 27, 2018
File: 165001090

Attention: Nicholle Eichenberger, Environmental Management Co-op

Infrastructure Ontario
1 Dundas Street West
Suite 2000, 22nd Floor, 22-051
Toronto ON M5G 2L5

Dear Ms. Eichenberger,

**Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received**

Thank you for your interest in the above-mentioned study. Your comments regarding Infrastructure Ontario (IO) property (PIN 511030200) within the study area have been noted and forwarded to the project team for consideration. Several design alternatives will be developed and evaluated as part of this Preliminary Design study to determine the Recommended Plan. As part of this evaluation process, property impacts will be considered and avoided / minimized where possible. Once a Recommended Plan is selected, a property plan will be developed which will identify properties required for acquisition during future study stages.

IO will continue to be consulted directly for the duration of the Preliminary Design study, and will be notified if any of the design alternatives impact the identified property.

Again, thank you for your comments. Your contact information has been added to the project mailing list, and you will be notified in advance of the first Public Information Centre and at key project milestones.

Regards,
Stantec Consulting Ltd.

Nevena Gazibara, B. Sc., MREM, ENV SP
Environmental Planner
Phone: 905-381-3249
Fax: 905-385-3534
Nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

c. M. Waseem, E. Pipe – Ministry of Transportation
G. Cooke, T. Belliveau – Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Stantec Consulting Ltd.
200 – 835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4

August 27, 2018
File: 165001090

Attention: Laura Hatcher, Heritage Planner

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Heritage Program Unit
401 Bay Street
Suite 1700
Toronto ON M7A 0A7

Dear Ms. Hatcher,

**Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received**

Thank you for your interest in the above-mentioned study. Your comments regarding archaeological resources within the study area have been noted and forwarded to the project team for consideration. A Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment will be undertaken as part of Preliminary Design. A Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment will be undertaken during future phases of the project, if recommended in the Stage 1 Assessment.

Your comments regarding built heritage and cultural heritage landscapes within the study area have also been noted and forwarded to the project team for consideration. The *Criteria for Evaluating Potential for Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes* will be completed and included in final environmental documentation at the end of the study. Built heritage and cultural heritage landscapes will be considered during the evaluation of alternatives and determination of the Recommended Plan. Efforts will be made to avoid/minimize the impacts to these resources, and mitigation measures for heritage resources will be recommended for the Recommended Plan. A *Cultural Heritage Assessment Report* (CHAR) will be completed as required by the *Environmental Guide for Built Heritage and Cultural Heritage Landscapes*. The CHAR will identify potential built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes (BHCHL) within the study area for consideration during the development and evaluation of alternatives. The CHAR will evaluate the cultural heritage value or interest of potential BHCHL to determine significance according to O.Reg. 9/06.

In addition to the CHAR, Cultural Heritage Evaluation Reports (CHER) will be prepared for all bridges older than 40 years. The *MTO Heritage Screening Report for Structural Culverts* was reviewed and no further heritage investigations are required for culverts screened out in the report. The project team will utilize the MTO Structural Culvert

August 27, 2018

Laura Hatcher, Heritage Planner

Page 2 of 2

**Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received**

Heritage Screening Form and will complete CHERs for culverts will be completed on an as-needed basis for culverts that have not been screened out previously. The completed reports will be circulated to the MTCS for review.

A *Transportation Environmental Study Report* (TESR) will be completed at the end of this study and will document all archaeological and cultural heritage studies undertaken as part of this project.

Again, thank you for your comments. Your contact information has been added to the project mailing list, and you will be notified in advance of the first Public Information Centre and at key project milestones.

Regards,

Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Nevena Gazibara, B. Sc., MREM, ENV SP

Environmental Planner

Phone: 905-381-3249

Fax: 905-385-3534

Nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

c. M. Waseem, E. Pipe – Ministry of Transportation
G. Cooke, T. Belliveau – Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Stantec Consulting Ltd.
200 – 835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4

August 27, 2018
File: 165001090

Attention: Kevin Hickey, Manager of Purchasing, Planning and Facility Administration

Peterborough Victoria Northumberland Clarington Catholic District School Board
1355 Lansdowne Street West
Peterborough ON K9J 7M3

Dear Mr. Hickey,

**Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received**

Thank you for your interest in the above-mentioned study. Your comments regarding potential delays and disruptions to school bus routes during construction have been noted and forwarded to the project team for consideration. Input will be solicited throughout the study and during the development and evaluation of alternatives including consideration of detour requirements and potential impacts to existing school bus routes. Advanced notice of construction will be provided during later study stages (i.e., Detail Design and construction) to school boards with buses that have the potential to be affected by construction.

Again, thank you for your comments. Your contact information has been added to the project mailing list, and you will be notified in advance of the first Public Information Centre and at key project milestones.

Regards,

Stantec Consulting Ltd.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nevena Gazibara'.

Nevena Gazibara, B. Sc., MREM, ENV SP

Environmental Planner

Phone: 905-381-3249

Fax: 905-385-3534

Nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

c. M. Waseem, E. Pipe – Ministry of Transportation
G. Cooke, T. Belliveau – Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Stantec Consulting Ltd.
200 – 835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4

August 27, 2018
File: 165001090

Attention: Ms. Leah Stephens, Environmental Planner/Regulatory Officer
Lower Trent Conservation Authority
714 Murray Street
RR 1
Trenton ON K8V 5P2

Dear Ms. Stephens,

Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received

Thank you for your interest in the project. Your comments have been noted and forwarded to the project team for consideration.

Your comments with respect to floodplain protection and potential floodplain impacts near Barnum House Creek and Shelter Valley Creek have been noted. As part of this Preliminary Design study, vulnerable source water and floodplain areas will be determined and identified early in the project prior to the development of alternatives. We kindly request that you provide us with any available floodplain mapping and other natural environment information that you have for the study area. Correspondence with the Conservation Authorities will continue throughout the study and your input and information will aid in the development and evaluation of design alternatives. A *Transportation Environmental Study Report* (TESR) will be completed near the end of this study and will include a section on sourcewater protection and floodplain protection. This section will address vulnerable areas within the study area, whether project activities pose a threat to drinking water, whether the project will create or change a vulnerable area including impacts to floodplains, and discussion of how the project will adhere to applicable source protection policies. Likewise, proposed protection and mitigation measures for floodplain and source protection will be considered during the evaluation of alternatives and will be documented in the TESR for this study.

Preliminary design of stormwater management features for the study area will be undertaken for the Recommended Plan once it has been determined. The stormwater management design for this study will be completed utilizing the MTO Drainage Management Manual (1998) and the MTO *Highway Drainage Design Standards* (2008), which was developed in accordance with the Ministry of the

August 27, 2018

Ms. Leah Stephens, Environmental Planner/Regulatory Officer

Page 2 of 2

Reference: **Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment**
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received

Environment and Climate Change's (MOECC) *Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual*, March 2003.

Thank you for your comments. Your contact information has been added to the project mailing list, and you will be notified in advance of the first Public Information Centre and at key project milestones.

Regards,

Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Nevena Gazibara, B. Sc., MREM, ENV SP

Environmental Planner

Phone: 905-381-3249

Fax: 905-385-3534

Nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

c. M. Waseem, E. Pipe – Ministry of Transportation
G. Cooke, T. Belliveau – Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Stantec Consulting Ltd.
200 – 835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4

August 27, 2018
File: 165001090

Attention: Denise Marshall, Manager of Project Engineering

County of Northumberland
555 Courthouse Road
Cobourg ON K9A 5J6

Dear Ms. Marshall,

**Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received**

Thank you for your interest in the above-mentioned study. Your comments regarding stormwater management within the study area have been noted and forwarded to the project team for consideration. Several design alternatives will be developed and evaluated as part of this Preliminary Design study to determine the Recommended Plan. A proposed design of the stormwater management improvements will be completed once the Recommended Plan has been selected/determined. The County of Northumberland will be provided with the proposed stormwater management design for review at that time, and meetings with the project team may be held if necessary.

The project team will also organize a series of Municipal Advisory Committee meetings that the County will be invited to participate in throughout the duration of the study. The purpose of the meetings will be for municipalities to obtain information and updates on the study and to discuss the study with project team members. Additional details regarding the meetings will be provided when invitations are sent out. The County will continue to be consulted throughout the project and input on the design alternatives is encouraged.

Again, thank you for your comments. Your contact information has been added to the project mailing list, and you will be notified in advance of Municipal Advisory Committee meetings, the first Public Information Centre, and at key project milestones.

Regards,

August 27, 2018

Ms. Marshall

Page 2 of 2

**Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, GWP 4060-11-00
Response to Comments Received**

Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Nevena Gazibara, B. Sc., MREM, ENV SP

Environmental Planner

Phone: 905-381-3249

Fax: 905-385-3534

Nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

c. M. Waseem, E. Pipe – Ministry of Transportation
G. Cooke, T. Belliveau – Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Stantec Consulting Ltd.

200 – 835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4

August 27, 2018
File: 165001090

Attention: Henry Penyk, Land Use Planning Assistant

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry-Peterborough District
300 Water Street
Peterborough ON K9J 3C7

Dear Mr. Penyk,

**Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received**

Thank you for your interest in the project. The natural heritage information including observations of Species at Risk and aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems you have provided has been forwarded to the project team for inclusion into the study. The information will be included in the existing conditions documentation and will aid in the development and evaluation of alternatives and the development of protection and mitigation measures, as required.

Our project team will utilize all available natural heritage secondary source resources and databases including the following resources:

- MNRF's Natural Heritage Information Centre online database (MNRF 2018a)
- Land Information Ontario Natural Heritage Area Mapping tool (MNRF 2018b)
- Species at Risk Act (SARA), Schedule 1(Government of Canada 2018)
- Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) List (MNRF 2018c)
- The 2nd Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (OBBA; Cadman *et al.* 2007)
- Atlas of Mammals of Ontario (AMO; Dobbyn 1994)
- Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas (ORAA; Ontario Nature 2018)

Your comments and recommendations regarding petroleum wells and contaminated sites have been noted. The scope of this study includes a modified Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) that will include a review of publicly available historical records pertaining to potential environmental concerns (including the Ontario Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Library), the completion of a site visit (a windshield survey to verify information from historical records), and the preparation of a *Contamination Overview Study Report* (COS) to document the findings. The COS report will identify potentially contaminating activities in the study area that may pose a potential environmental concern to subject properties in the study area.

August 27, 2018

Henry Penyk

Page 2 of 3

**Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received**

Summaries of the relevant findings of the COS will be provided in the study documentation, as required. If determined to be necessary, recommendations for further studies such as Phase II ESAs and Preliminary Site Screenings (PSS) will be made in the COS.

Your comment regarding the Cranberry Lake Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW) has also been noted and PSWs will be considered in the development and evaluation of alternatives and where possible impacts to PSWs will be avoided.

The project team is consulting with other external agencies such as the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport, and the Lower Trent and Ganaraska Conservation Authorities to obtain key regulatory information and existing conditions information. The MNRF and other agencies will continue to be consulted throughout the project and their input will be incorporated into the development and evaluation of alternatives.

Upon completion of the project, a *Transportation Environmental Study Report* (TESR) will be prepared to document the following:

- The major features of the proposed work;
- A full description of the consultation program;
- Identification of all project approvals, licenses and permits that have been or must be obtained;
- Environmental impacts, mitigation, and protection measures that will be implemented; and
- Commitments to future work.

The TESR will be circulated to the MNRF for review.

Thank you again for your comments. Your contact information has been added to the project mailing list, and you will be notified in advance of the first Public Information Centre and at key project milestones.

August 27, 2018

Henry Penyk

Page 3 of 3

Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received

Regards,

Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Nevena Gazibara, B. Sc., MREM, ENV SP

Environmental Planner

Phone: 905-381-3249

Fax: 905-385-3534

Nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

c. M. Waseem, E. Pipe – Ministry of Transportation
G. Cooke, T. Belliveau – Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Stantec Consulting Ltd.
200 – 835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4

August 27, 2018
File: 165001090

Attention: Mr. Gundrun Ludorf-Weaver

Sustainable Cobourg
703 Carlise Street
Cobourg ON K9A 5E4

Dear Mr. Ludorf-Weaver,

**Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received**

Thank you for your interest in the project.

Your comments with respect to stormwater management and consideration of low impact development as part of this project have been noted. Vulnerable source water areas will be determined for the project. The Ganaraska and Lower Trent Conservation Authorities (CAs) have been notified of the project, and their input has been requested. Correspondence with the CAs will continue throughout the study and their input and information will aid in the development and evaluation of design alternatives. This study will identify and address vulnerable areas within the study area, whether project activities pose a threat to drinking water, whether the project (including road salt application) will create or change a vulnerable area, and discussion of how the project will adhere to applicable source protection policies.

Preliminary design of stormwater management facilities, including consideration of severe weather events, will be completed for the Recommended Plan in accordance with the latest MTO drainage standards and guidelines (<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/publications/drainage/index.shtml>).

Likewise, source protection will be considered during the evaluation of alternatives, and determination of proposed mitigation measures, and will be documented in the *Transportation Environmental Study Report* (TESR) for this study (which will be circulated to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks for review).

Active transportation will be considered as part of this project including connections to existing active transportation facilities and opportunities for improved/enhanced facilities will be reviewed as part of the interchange and carpool lot design alternatives.

August 27, 2018
Mr. Ludorf-Weaver
Page 2 of 2

**Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received**

Your comments regarding electric charging station infrastructure along Highway 401 will be considered as the study progresses and potential charging facilities at the carpool lots in the study area will be considered and evaluated with respect to feasibility and use.

Greenhouse gas emissions are considered indirectly in the study, as one of the goals of the study is to improve traffic operations on Highway 401. Future traffic projections and measures to reduce travel time, reduce time following, and Level of Service (LOS) improvements are key factors for the widening of Highway 401. These items can play an important role in reducing engine idling, a key factor that contributes to greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, the Recommended Plan includes two proposed carpool lots which may reduce the number of vehicles and vehicle trips on the highway and encourage ridesharing.

Thank you for your comments. Your contact information has been added to the project mailing list, and you will be notified in advance of the first Public Information Centre and at key project milestones.

Regards,
Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Nevena Gazibara, B. Sc., MREM, ENV SP
Environmental Planner
Phone: 905-381-3249
Fax: 905-385-3534
Nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

c. M. Waseem, E. Pipe – Ministry of Transportation
G. Cooke, T. Belliveau – Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Stantec Consulting Ltd.

200 – 835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4

August 30, 2018
File: 165001090

Attention: Vicki Mitchell, Environmental Resource Planner & EA Coordinator

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks -Technical Support
1259 Gardiners Road
Unit 3
Kingston ON K7P 3J6

Dear Ms. Mitchell,

**Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received**

Thank you for your interest in the project. Your comments have been noted and forwarded to the project team for consideration.

Your comments and recommendations regarding water resources have been noted. As part of this Preliminary Design study, a high-level (desktop) groundwater review will be completed, with a background review of publicly available information for the study area, including: regional groundwater studies, regional geological/hydrogeological mapping, and source water protection reports. The review will be completed in collaboration with the geotechnical, contamination and natural environmental specialists and the information will be documented in an existing conditions report. The need for a Permit to Take Water will be determined during Detail Design.

The development of Dewatering and Excess Water Management Plans, an Excavation and Sediment Control Plan, and a Spill Prevention Contingency Plan, if required, would be completed during future project stages (i.e., Detail Design) once construction methods and design details are determined. Likewise, registration of the activity on the Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR) or the obtaining of a Permit to Take Water (PTTW), if required, will take place during future phases of the project.

Preliminary design of stormwater management features for the study area will be undertaken for the Recommended Plan once it has been determined. The stormwater management design for this study will be completed utilizing the MTO Drainage Management Manual (1998) and the MTO *Highway Drainage Design Standards* (2008),

**Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received**

which was developed in accordance with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) *Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual*, March 2003.

With respect to your comments regarding cured-in-place culvert construction methods and potential impacts to fish and fish habitat, the MTO is aware of the concerns and this construction method will not be used for culverts for this study. Further refinements to culvert design and construction methods will be confirmed during Detail Design.

Vulnerable source water areas will be determined for the project. The Ganaraska and Lower Trent Conservation Authorities (CAs) have been notified of the project, and their input has been requested. Correspondence with the CAs will continue throughout the study and their input and information will aid in the development and evaluation of design alternatives. The TESR will include a section on sourcewater protection. This section will address vulnerable areas within the study area, whether project activities pose a threat to drinking water, whether the project will create or change a vulnerable area, and discussion of how the project will adhere to applicable source protection policies. Likewise, source protection will be considered during the evaluation of alternatives, and determination of proposed mitigation measures, and will be documented in the *Transportation Environmental Study Report* (TESR) for this study (which will be circulated to the MOECC for review).

The scope of this study includes a modified Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) that will include a review of publicly available historical records pertaining to potential environmental concerns, the completion of a site visit (a windshield survey to verify information from historical records), and the preparation of a *Contamination Overview Study Report* (COS) to document the findings. The COS report will identify potentially contaminating activities in the study area that may pose a potential environmental concern to subject properties in the study area. Summaries of the relevant findings of the COS will be provided in the TESR, as required. If determined to be necessary, recommendations for further studies such as Phase II ESAs and Preliminary Site Screenings (PSS) will be made in the COS.

Following Preliminary Design, the project team will determine whether an excess materials management plan is required, and if required, a plan will be developed during Detail Design for the identification, assessment, excavation, conveyance, treatment, grading and disposal and reuse of soils and aggregates generated during construction.

Noise impacts will be evaluated during this Preliminary Design study and will be considered during the evaluation of alternatives. Proposed mitigation measures relating

August 30, 2018

Vicki Mitchell

Page 3 of 3

Reference: **Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment**
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne
GWP 4060-11-00 – Response to Comments Received

to the Recommended Plan will be documented at the end of the study. A detailed Noise Assessment will be conducted as part of this project and recommendations will be developed in accordance with the MTO's *Environmental Guide for Noise* (2006). This Noise Assessment will include a review of available data (topography, potential future receptors, socio-economic factors, existing noise levels, zoning changes and traffic data), modelling of future anticipated construction noise within the study area, and mitigation recommendations. The Noise Assessment Report will document the analysis, modelling and results of the acoustic assessment, and mitigation measures required (including design, technical and administrative feasibility). In addition, the project team will identify municipal noise bylaw permitting requirements for future study stages (Detail Design) and consideration for construction noise impacts and mitigation measures (as per Section 8 of the noise protocol). Blasting is not likely to occur for the construction of this project, but that information will be confirmed during Detail Design and if required, appropriate on-site protocols and mitigation measures will be developed during later study stages.

Thank you again for your comments. Your contact information has been added to the project mailing list, and you will be notified in advance of the first Public Information Centre and at key project milestones.

Regards,

Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Nevena Gazibara, B. Sc., MREM, ENV SP

Environmental Planner

Phone: 905-381-3249

Fax: 905-385-3534

Nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

c. M. Waseem, E. Pipe – Ministry of Transportation
G. Cooke, T. Belliveau – Stantec Consulting Ltd.



The Corporation of the Township of Hamilton

8285 Majestic Hills Drive
P.O. Box 1060, Cobourg, ON K9A 4W5
Tel: 905-342-2810 Fax: 905-342-2818
Email: info@hamiltontownship.ca
Web: www.hamiltontownship.ca

November 9, 2018

Mr. Terry Hoekstra, C.E.T.
Manager of Engineering and Capital Projects
Town of Cobourg
740 Division Street, Building 7
Cobourg, ON K9A 0H6

Dear Terry:

Re: Nagle Road – 401 Widening and Interchange

Thank you for meeting with us last week, regarding the upcoming Environmental Assessment to examine the long term options related to transportation and access to northeast Cobourg, Nagle Road, lands in the Township and the future changes for Highway 401.

The lands in the vicinity, of Nagle Road and Highway 401 are identified in our Official Plan generally as Rural, and this location is identified as potential interchange site. Deposits of High Mineral Aggregate Resources are also noted in this vicinity, north of the 401, see attachment.

The Township has included Nagle Road as a Township road in our Road network. We continue to see this as an important component in our road network. Specifically, if there are improvements to the bridge, potentially widening of the 401 and installation of an interchange, the Township would want to maintain and continue the access between the Town and the Township, to the Hamlet of Baltimore, and include the ability to directly access the 401.

We view this interchange as an important access for Town and Township residents, and especially for our Fire Department. With emergency service vehicles located in Station 1 (Baltimore), our Fire Department is regularly responding to the many needs and emergencies on the 401. This additional access will be a very positive safety improvement.

Nagle Road – 401

We would be happy to provide you, or the Town's consultants more information and background material, or to participate in follow up discussions this on project.

Again, thank you for your consideration on this matter.

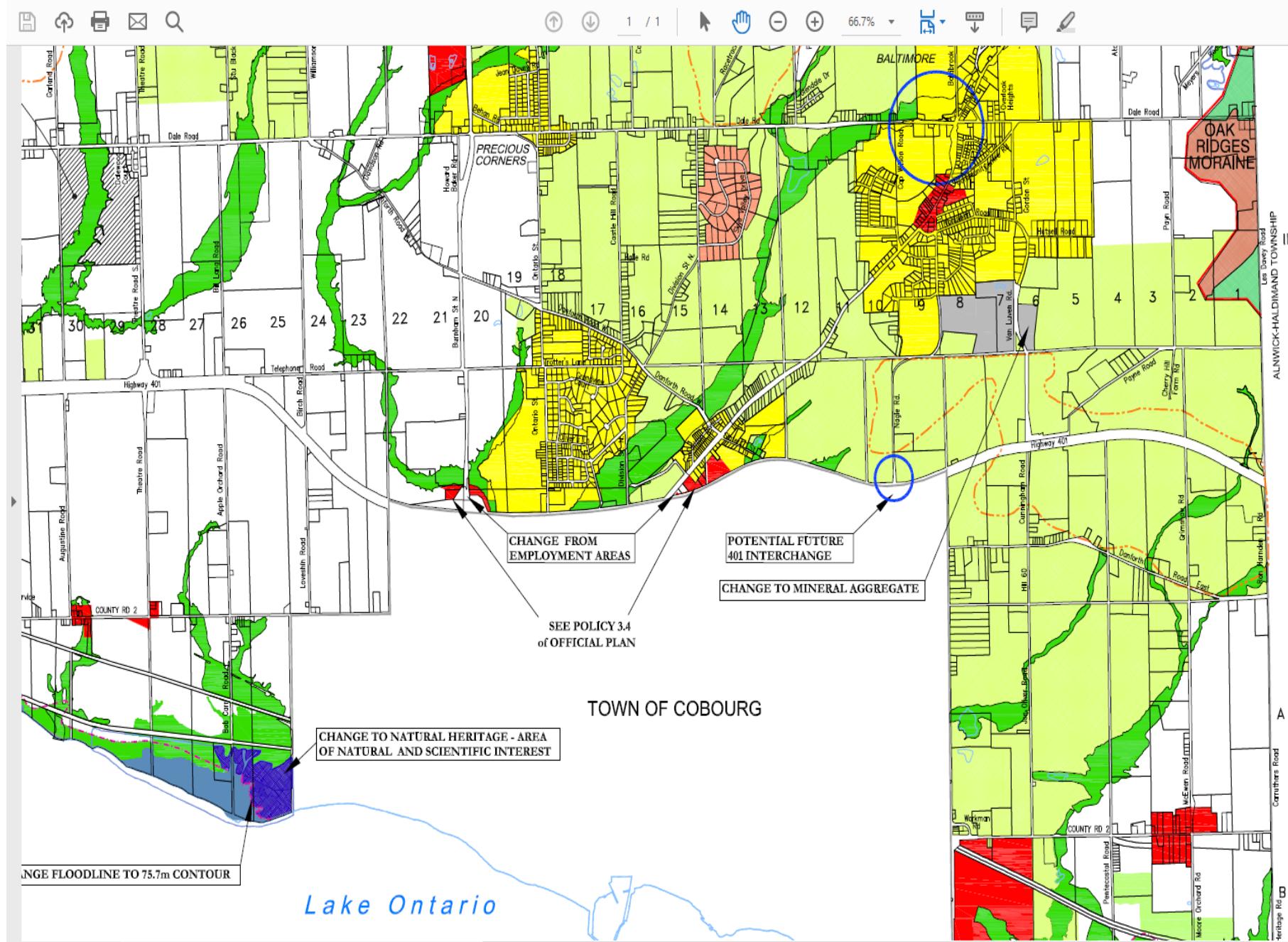
Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "ARTHUR ANDERSON", is written over two horizontal lines.

Arthur Anderson
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment

cc. Stephen Peacock, CAO, Cobourg
Laurie Wills, Director of Public Works, Cobourg
Paul Heffernan, Manager, Operational Support & Infrastructure



Gazibara, Nevena

From: Spang, Elizabeth (MNRF) <Elizabeth.Spang@ontario.ca>
Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2018 1:08 PM
To: Werner, Julie
Cc: Gazibara, Nevena
Subject: RE: Preliminary Design and Class EA Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00)

Good afternoon Julie:

Apologies for the delay in responding to this inquiry. MNRF Peterborough District has reviewed the location of the additional watercrossing over a tributary of Midtown Creek (just west of Nagle Road in Cobourg, UTM: 17T 728189 4875012). We can provide you with the following information from our data:

(limited) ARA data for Midtown Creek (PB-0005-UHA)

Fish Species: Blacknose Dace, Brook Stickleback, Brook Trout, Creek Chub, Fathead Minnow
Thermal = Cold
Recommended Restricted In-water work window = Oct. 1 to June 30.

According to our records, there are no known aquatic species at risk in immediate area.

I trust this is what you need.

Best wishes for the holidays!

Liz Spang, M.PI

District Planner
Peterborough District
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
300 Water Street, 1st Floor South
Peterborough, ON K9J 8M5
Tel: (705) 755-3360
Fax: (705) 755-3125
Email: Elizabeth.Spang@ontario.ca

From: Werner, Julie <Julie.Werner@stantec.com>
Sent: November 6, 2018 10:57 AM
To: Spang, Elizabeth (MNRF) <Elizabeth.Spang@ontario.ca>
Cc: Gazibara, Nevena <Nevena.Gazibara@stantec.com>
Subject: Preliminary Design and Class EA Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00)

Good morning Ms. Spang,

My name is Julie Werner and I am a planner with Stantec Consulting Ltd. I left you a message on Monday afternoon in regards to a request for fisheries information for the MTO Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP

4060-11-00) project number 165001090. Henry Penyk, a Land Use Planning Assistant from MNRF has already provided Stantec with most of the watercourse information on June 6, 2018 (see *let_1090_mnrf_20180606.pdf*). However we are missing the information for 1 Unnamed Tributary (Trib OA) just east Nagle Road (see *FishScreeningMap_Trib_OA_missing.pdf* & *TribOA_FishFishHab_Figure.pdf*).

Are you able to provide us with the same information Mr. Penyk did for this one tributary? I have include a table below which summarizes the data we require. Please feel free to call myself or Nevena Gazibara, the lead Planner with any questions you may have.

Nevena Gazibara B.Sc., MREM, ENV SP

Environmental Planner

Direct: 905 381-3249
Fax: 905 385-3534
nevena.gazibara@stantec.com
Stantec
200-835 Paramount Drive
Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4 CA

Data Required from MNRF:

Tributary	Species Identified	Thermal Regime	Timing Window (no in-water work)
Unnamed OA			

Thank you,

Julie Werner B.A., GISP
Environmental Planner, GIS Analyst

Direct: 905 321-3245
Mobile: 905 928-9240
Julie.Werner@stantec.com

Stantec
200-835 Paramount Drive
Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4 CA



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From: [Gazibara, Nevena](#)
To: [Werner, Julie](#)
Subject: FW: GRCA Comments - GWP 4059-17-00 - Hwy 401 Nagle Rd Interchange study
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:18:02 AM
Attachments: [Hwy401@NagleRd.pdf](#)

From: Joanne May <jmay@grca.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 1, 2019 11:04 AM
To: Gazibara, Nevena <Nevena.Gazibara@stantec.com>
Subject: GRCA Comments - GWP 4059-17-00 - Hwy 401 Nagle Rd Interchange study

Good morning,

Please see attached comments regarding the above noted study.

Thank you,

Joanne May
Administrative Assistant
Planning & Regulations Department
Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority
(905) 885-8173 ext. 244



Consider the environment. Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

EXTERNAL AGENCY COMMENT SHEET

Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study GWP 4059-17-00

Please submit your comments before March 15, 2019. Use the other side if required.
With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

Comments may be submitted by mail, fax or email to:

Nevena Gazibara, B.Sc., MREM, ENV SP, Environmental Planner
Stantec Consulting Ltd., 200-835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4
Tel. (905) 381-3249, Fax (905) 385-3534
Email: nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

Comments submitted by:

Name of Contact:

KEN THAYER

Organization:

GANARASKA REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Address (including Postal Code):

2216 COUNTY ROAD 28, PORT HOPE, ON L1A 3V8

Telephone Number:

905.885.8173 x245

Email:

kthayer@gca.on.ca

The contact name and mailing address for your organization/agency (please check one):

- Is correct; or
- Should be changed to:

Your interests or concerns regarding the study area or undertaking are (continue on back if required):

SEE ATTACHED LETTER

Your organization/agency can provide the following environmental (i.e., natural, social, economic or cultural) information and requires the following permits/approvals:

NATURAL HERITAGE, NATURAL HAZARDS

I am providing a copy of background reports/existing information:

- With this comment sheet
- No background information available
- Via email / mail

The level of involvement you wish to have on this project is:

- Active participation
- Participation at key points
- None, please remove from mailing list

Additional comments:

SEE ATTACHED LETTER



Ganaraska Region
Conservation Authority

2216 County Road 28
Port Hope, ON L1A 3V8

Phone: 905-885-8173
Fax: 905-885-9824
www.grca.on.ca

MEMBER OF
CONSERVATION ONTARIO

March 1, 2019

GRCA File: HAM1 06 2019

Nevena Gazibara
Environmental Planner
Stantec Consulting Ltd.
200-835 Paramount Drive
Stoney Creek, ON L8J 0B4

Dear Ms. Gazibara:

Re: Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study, GWP 4059-17-00)
Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment

Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) has received your notice regarding the above noted property. Please be advised that the eastern portions of the study area falls within the neighbouring jurisdiction of Lower Trent Conservation Authority (LTCA). With respect to the subject lands within GRCA's Jurisdiction we would like to note the following:

1. Portions of the study area are regulated under Ontario Regulation 168/06, this Authority's *Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation*.
2. The study area contains four identified watercourses within GRCA's area of jurisdiction. Our concerns for new construction would include maintaining setbacks to address channel bank erosion, sediment control during construction, no negative impacts to the Regulatory Storm Flood Plain and to ensure no degradation to water quality.
3. There are associated floodplain lands associated with the watercourses. Our primary concern is the protection of life and property from the flood hazard. We have specific criteria and requirements for construction in the flood plain.
4. Wetlands are located within the eastern portions of study area GWP 4060-11-00. Wetlands are diverse and productive ecosystems that are hydrologically significant to a watershed. They store water during flood events and provide low flow augmentation during dry periods. The vegetation and organic soils of wetlands aid in the filtration of nutrients and sediments that enhance water quality and assist in the maintenance of cool water temperatures. Wetlands also provide habitat for diverse and uncommon species of flora and fauna. In general, GRCA does not support new development in wetlands, including buildings, structures, roadways, ponds etc.

March 1, 2019
Gazibara, Nevena
Page 2 of 2

The proposed interchange at Nagle Road does not fall within any of the aforementioned areas.

Should you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Ken Thajer, MCIP, RPP
Coordinator, Planning & Regulations

From: [Gazibara, Nevena](#)
To: [Charette, Monique \(MECP\)](#)
Cc: [Waseem, Muhammad \(MTO\)](#); [Pipe, Erin \(MTO\)](#); [Belliveau, Tim](#); [Cooke, Gregg](#)
Subject: RE: MECP SAR Contact for Existing MTO Environmental Assessment (Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne - GWP 4060-11-00)
Date: Monday, July 29, 2019 1:36:00 PM

Good afternoon Monique,

I'm following up from my previous email to see if you had a chance to review the terrestrial and aquatic existing conditions reports for the above-mentioned project and whether you are still interested and available to meet with our project team and the MNRF to discuss the above-mentioned project.

Once I receive your response I will send out potential meeting date options to you and the project team to see when would be the best time to meet.

Kind regards,

Nevena Gazibara B.Sc., MREM, ENV SP
Environmental Planner

Direct: 905 381-3249
Fax: 905 385-3534
nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

Stantec
200-835 Paramount Drive
Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4



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From: Gazibara, Nevena
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 2:19 PM
To: Charette, Monique (MECP) <monique.charette@ontario.ca>
Cc: Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>; Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>; Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>
Subject: RE: MECP SAR Contact for Existing MTO Environmental Assessment (Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne - GWP 4060-11-00)

Hi Monique,

In follow-up to our telephone conversation earlier today, please find the terrestrial and fish and fish habitat existing conditions reports for the Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne on the FTP site below. We have provided these same reports to the MNRF for review in advance of project discussions and a potential meeting with the project team.

Login Information

Browser link: <https://tmpsftp.stantec.com>

FTP Client Hostname: tmpsftp.stantec.com **Port:** 22 (can be used within an FTP client to view and transfer files and folders; e.g., FileZilla)

Login name: s0618121421

Password: 1016172

Disk Quota: 2GB

Expiry Date: 6/18/2019

Kind regards,

Nevena Gazibara B.Sc., MREM, ENV SP

Environmental Planner

Direct: 905 381-3249

Fax: 905 385-3534

nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

Stantec

200-835 Paramount Drive

Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4



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From: Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 11:50 AM

To: Gazibara, Nevena <Nevena.Gazibara@stantec.com>

Cc: Charette, Monique (MECP) <monique.charette@ontario.ca>; Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>

Subject: FW: MECP SAR Contact for Existing MTO Environmental Assessment

Hi Nevena;

Please contact Monique to include her in our discussions with MNRF regarding wildlife and SAR movement and corridors for the Hwy 401 corridor study between Cobourg and Colborne.

Thanks,
Erin

From: Species at Risk (MECP)

Sent: May-28-19 11:26 AM

To: Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>

Subject: RE: MECP SAR Contact for Existing MTO Environmental Assessment

Good morning Erin,

I am your contact for this project and would be happy to discuss SAR movement and corridors with you

Monique Charette

Management Biologist
Permissions and Compliance Section
Species At Risk Branch
Land and Water Division
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
51 Heakes Lane
Kingston, ON K7M 9B1
(613) 531-5715

From: Pipe, Erin (MTO)
Sent: May-14-19 3:36 PM
To: Species at Risk (MECP) <SAROntario@ontario.ca>
Cc: Charette, Monique (MECP) <monique.charette@ontario.ca>
Subject: MECP SAR Contact for Existing MTO Environmental Assessment

Hello;

I am part of an Eastern Region MTO project team working on an environmental assessment and preliminary design on Highway 401 from Cobourg to Colborne (approx. 18km) which is within the former Peterborough District MNRF boundaries. The project is part way through preliminary design. The major components of the scope of work include the replacement or rehabilitation of structural culverts (i.e. greater than 3m in diameter) under the highway, replacement of bridges (either over watercourses or over/under Highway 401) and the footprint of the future six-lane and eight-lane cross-section of the highway. Alternatives will be generated and evaluated and a recommended plan will be identified. Following the preliminary design, there will be multiple detail design projects that will be built as funding and approvals are secured.

At this time, MTO and our service provider/consultant, Stantec, would like to get in touch with MECP SAR staff to discuss SAR movement and SAR movement corridors within the limits of the study. This is an opportunity to look at whether existing infrastructure can be enhanced/retrofitted etc. to facilitate wildlife and SAR movement or whether additional infrastructure may be needed to address wildlife/SAR movement.

In 2018 Stantec received natural environment information through an information request from MNRF under File No: 18-HAMI-NOR-EAE-2677 and PB2018-0448.

Stantec has recently contacted Liz Spang, Planner, Peterborough District MNRF regarding wildlife movement/wildlife corridors. Liz requested copies of Stantec's Fisheries Existing Conditions Report and the Terrestrial Existing Conditions Report for review. These reports can also be provided to the MECP.

MTO and Stantec are interested in meeting with MECP staff and MNRF staff to open a discussion about wildlife and SAR movement/corridors within the limits of the project.

Please let me know if you need any further information to move forward with providing an MECP SAR contact for this MTO EA study.

Thank you,

Erin Pipe
Environmental Planner
Eastern Region MTO
1355 John Counter Boulevard
Kingston, ON K7L 5A3
613-545-4660
erin.pipe@ontario.ca



Stantec Consulting Ltd.
200-835 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek Ontario L8J 0B4

September 4, 2019
File: 165001090 & 165001106

Attention: «First_Name» «Last_Name», «Position»
«Organization»
«Address»
«Address_2»
«City» «Province» «Postal_Code»

Dear «Title» «Last_Name»,

LETTER TO EXTERNAL AGENCIES

Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, GWP 4060-11-00
& Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study, GWP 4059-17-00
Notice of Public Information Centre 1

Stantec Consulting Ltd. has been retained by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to undertake a Planning, Preliminary Design, and Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study on Highway 401 for the replacement and rehabilitation of structures, interchange modifications, establishing the footprint of future six and eight lanes to ensure an appropriate design of the replacement bridges, and commuter parking lot improvements, from 2 km east of Nagle Road to 800 m east of Percy Street (approximately 18 km).

The MTO and the Town of Cobourg have also retained Stantec to undertake a Planning, Preliminary Design, and Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study on Highway 401 for a new interchange near Nagle Road in the Town of Cobourg and the Township of Hamilton. The interchange study is the Town of Cobourg's initiative and is being completed concurrently with the MTO's Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00). Both studies will share the same Public Information Centres (PIC) and Municipal Advisory Committees (MAC), however a separate TESR will be published for each study.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of the combined first Public Information Centre (PIC), for these studies, scheduled on **September 18, 2019 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM** at the **Cobourg Lions Community Centre, 157 Elgin Street East, Cobourg, Ontario**. External agencies and municipal staff are invited in advance of the PIC between **3:00 PM to 4:00 PM**, to attend an External Agency Drop-In Meeting, at the above-mentioned date and location.

The session will provide you with an opportunity to review the preliminary improvement alternatives and proposed evaluation criteria, provide comments, and address questions or concerns directly with representatives of the project team.

If you are unable to attend the External Agency Meeting and would like further information regarding the studies, please contact either the undersigned or one of the project team members named in the enclosed information.

You are encouraged to visit the project website, www.highway401cobourgcolborne.ca, to obtain current project information and to submit comments to the project team. If you have any questions regarding the studies, please contact the undersigned or one of the Project Managers named in the enclosed material.

Regards,

STANTEC CONSULTING LTD.



Nevena Gazibara, B. Sc., MREM, ENV SP
Environmental Planner
Phone: (905) 381-3249
nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

- c. M. Waseem, E. Pipe – Ministry of Transportation
- T. Hoekstra – Town of Cobourg
- G. Cooke, T. Belliveau – Stantec Consulting Ltd.

Encl: OGN

From: [Spang, Elizabeth \(MNRF\)](#)
To: [Gazibara, Nevena](#)
Cc: [Warren, Catherine \(MNRF\)](#)
Subject: RE: GWP 4060-11-00 Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne- Terrestrial and Aquatic Existing Conditions Reports
Date: Thursday, October 31, 2019 1:36:48 PM

Good afternoon Nevena:

Thank you very much for circulating the Fisheries and Terrestrial Existing Conditions Reports to MNRF for review and comment. I apologize sincerely for the delay in getting comments to you. We are looking forward to discussing this project further with your team and appreciate you reaching out. MNRF understands that the project entails future widening of the highway from 4 to up to 8 lanes along with rehabilitation of structures, interchange modifications, and commuter parking lot improvements. MNRF previously provided background information to the project team on August 8, 2018 (general background data including fisheries data for all watercrossings), and on Dec 12, 2018. MNRF's comments on the existing conditions reports at this time can be found below.

Fish and Fish Habitat Existing Conditions Report – Hwy 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, prepared by Stantec, dated Nov 9, 2018

In general, the report was well done. MNRF has the following comments to provide:

- Permanent vs Intermittent streams: MNRF considers any water feature present for 9 months or more to be permanent. Some creeks were identified by MNRF as permanent, but during Stantec's field visits in September they were found to be dry and labeled as intermittent. Without further, multiple year investigations, it is inconclusive whether these streams are in fact permanent or intermittent. MNRF defaults to a permanent designation.
- MNRF ARA data identified some streams as containing Chum Salmon. This is highly unlikely. Chinook and Coho salmon are the only pacific salmon known to currently occur in Lake Ontario and its tributaries. Atlantic salmon may also be present and are identified in Shelter Valley Creek. We have confirmed that the ARA data reporting Chum Salmon is incorrect; the catch of Coho salmon in Colborne Creek in 2006 was improperly entered as Chum salmon. We will be correcting this in our data layers.
- The timing window for NO in-water work that MNRF provided in 2018 for all water crossings was Oct 1 – June 30. It appears that Table 3-1 references the opposite dates (July 1 – Sept 30) when in-water work IS permitted. MNRF would appreciate confirmation that our understanding is correct and that the correct timing window will be applied.
- As you know, since the report was authored, the responsibility for species at risk

in Ontario has been shifted to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). MECP should be consulted for advice regarding any aquatic species at risk that may be affected by the project.

Terrestrial Ecosystems Existing Conditions Report – Hwy 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, prepared by Stantec, dated Nov 5, 2018

In general, the report provides a good start to inventorying the existing features in the study area; However, there are significant gaps in identifying natural heritage features that have not yet been evaluated. The EA process should address the infrastructure policies (section 3.2) of the *2019 A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe* (the “Growth Plan”). MNRF has the following specific comments to provide:

- MNRF appreciates the background work done to map ELC vegetation communities along the entire corridor and conduct preliminary investigations for significant wildlife habitat following MNRF’s Ecoregion Criteria Schedules. MNRF agrees with the conclusion statement that 'Further investigations of these candidate features (turtle wintering areas, amphibian breeding habitat, animal movement corridors and Snapping turtle habitat) are recommended during detailed design.' MNRF recommends adding habitat for special concern species (see further comment below), turtle nesting area investigations, as well as additional large culvert inspections for nesting birds. Surveys should be done at the appropriate time of year using established methodologies.
- Table 3.2 lists potential habitat for several special concern species within the study area such as breeding habitat for several SC birds. Habitat for special concern species should also be considered significant wildlife habitat. The August field surveys were not conducted at the appropriate time of year to capture breeding birds. MNRF recommends further field investigations during detail design to confirm whether these species are present to identify appropriate mitigation measures.
- MNRF strongly recommends considering enhancing opportunities for wildlife movement across the widened highway corridor by including ecopassages in the design. Turtles and amphibians in particular are very sensitive to population impacts from road mortality. Candidate areas could include larger valley features that already include watercrossings of some kind that could be enhanced to provide safe passage for a variety of wildlife. A potential best bet opportunity for an ecopassage (reptile/amphibian, perhaps other larger animals too) is suggested at the unnamed creek crossing 1.4 km W of Cranberry (Little) Lake Wetland PSW. There are other potential opportunities at the water crossing/valley near Craig Road (Fig 4) that provides a direct connection from a nearby Oak Ridges Moraine Natural Linkage Area to the north to the Growth

Plan NHS north and south of the highway, or possibly at Shelter Valley Creek connecting down to Grafton Swamp PSW at Lake Ontario. MNRF would welcome further discussion with MTO/Stantec about ecopassages. MNRF can provide BMPs for wildlife fencing and ecopassage design for reptiles and amphibians. If MTO has any information to share (e.g. areas with higher vehicle-wildlife conflicts, field assessments of water/valley crossings with good potential), it would be appreciated.

- There are Stratum 2 deer wintering areas within the study area that were not referenced in the report. Deer wintering areas are mapped by MNRF and should be considered significant wildlife habitat as well. Mitigation options for significant wildlife habitat types can be found in the SWH Mitigation Support Tool, found here: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/natural-heritage-planning-resources-municipal-planning>.
- **Growth Plan:** On May 2, 2019, the Province issued a revised Provincial Plan document called '*A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe*' (2019). This Plan replaced the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017 as of May 16, 2019. The entire study area is located within the Growth Plan and most of the study area is located within the Growth Plan Natural Heritage System (NHS). The Infrastructure policies of the Growth Plan state that an environmental assessment should demonstrate "*that any impacts on key natural heritage features in the Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan, key hydrologic features and key hydrologic areas have been avoided, or if avoidance is not possible, minimized and to the extent feasible mitigated.*" (S. 3.2.5). The Growth Plan can be accessed here: <https://www.ontario.ca/document/place-grow-growth-plan-greater-golden-horseshoe>. Please see the Growth Plan definitions for a list of key natural heritage features and key hydrologic features. Please note that not all key natural heritage features or key hydrologic features have been mapped in advance and field verifications may be required to map some of these features.
- The report does not investigate whether any of the wooded areas within the study area have potential to be significant woodlands. Significant woodlands are key natural heritage features within the Growth Plan NHS (in addition to being a significant natural heritage feature in the PPS). MNRF is of the opinion that there are woodlands in the study area that have potential to be significant. MNRF recommends that the 2010 Natural Heritage Reference Manual criteria be used to determine woodland significance in Northumberland County. Given that Northumberland County has approximately 36% forest cover, a minimum size of 50 ha is recommended. This size must be identified based on contiguous woodland polygons (excluding gaps less than 20 m wide), regardless of whether they extend outside of the study area (i.e. woodland size must not be cut off at

the study area boundary for the purposes of measuring their overall size). It should be noted that the County of Northumberland is currently developing their own significant woodlands criteria and policies, but they are not yet in place. The municipality is ultimately the approval authority to determine woodland significance for municipal planning purposes. Municipal criteria may exceed the minimum standard set by the Province (e.g. by choosing a smaller threshold to capture more woodlands). For the purposes of the EA, MNRF recommends, at a minimum, a basic analysis of woodlands based on size in order to determine potential significant woodlands and any required measures that are required to avoid, or if avoidance is not possible, minimize and mitigate impacts to the extent possible in accordance with the Growth Plan and the PPS.

- The report does not address unevaluated wetlands, many of which exist in the study area according to the ELC mapping provided. The Growth Plan identifies all wetlands, regardless of significance, as key hydrologic features, which are protected throughout the Growth Plan area (except within settlement areas designated in a municipal official plan). MNRF recommends that the criteria in the 2005 “Technical Definitions and Criteria for Key Natural Heritage Features in the Natural Heritage System of the Protected Countryside Area” (found here: <http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page10197.aspx>) be used to identify wetlands subject to the Growth Plan. Essentially all wetlands are protected unless there is rationale that small wetlands less than 0.5 ha in size do not provide certain functions (see criteria for details). ELC is an acceptable method to map wetlands subject to the Growth Plan wetland policies. MNRF recommends that any wetlands identified in the ELC mapping be considered key hydrologic features (and additionally key natural heritage features if located within the Growth Plan NHS) and be avoided, or if avoidance is not possible, impacts are minimized and mitigated to the extent possible in accordance with the Growth Plan.
- As you know, since the report was authored, the responsibility for species at risk in Ontario has been shifted to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). MECP should be consulted for advice regarding any species at risk that may be affected by the project.
- MNRF manages two acquired crown land areas that are immediately adjacent to the highway within the study area. One is located near Payne Road on south side of the Hwy in Lot 5, Con 1, Hamilton. The second area is two distinct parcels on either side of Vernonville Rd, north side of Hwy in Lots 10 & 11, Con 1, Haldimand. MNRF requests to be contacted for discussion if any impacts from the project are expected on these two Crown land areas.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I will be out of the office on maternity leave

starting November 18, 2019. Let me know if a teleconference can be scheduled before that time. During my absence, inquires regarding this project can be directed to my planner colleague, Catherine Warren, cc'd. Please reference the MNRF file numbers **18-HAMI-NOR-EAE-2677 and PB2018-0448** in any future correspondence.

Kind regards,

Liz Spang, M.Pl

District Planner
Peterborough District
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
300 Water Street, 1st Floor South
Peterborough, ON K9J 8M5
Tel: (705) 755-3360
Fax: (705) 755-3125
Email: Elizabeth.Spang@ontario.ca

From: [Gazibara, Nevena](#)
To: [Charette, Monique \(MECP\)](#); [Spang, Elizabeth \(MNRF\)](#)
Cc: [Waseem, Muhammad \(MTO\)](#); [Pipe, Erin \(MTO\)](#); [Cooke, Gregg](#); [Belliveau, Tim](#)
Subject: RE: GWP 4060-11-00 Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne- Terrestrial and Aquatic Existing Conditions Reports
Date: Monday, October 28, 2019 4:25:00 PM

Thanks very much for following up Monique.

We are still waiting to hear back from Elizabeth from the MNRF and then hopefully we can schedule a conference call/meeting to discuss the project within the next several weeks.

Kind regards,
Nevena Gazibara B.Sc., MREM, ENV SP
Environmental Planner

Direct: 905 381-3249
Fax: 905 385-3534
nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

Stantec
200-835 Paramount Drive
Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4



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From: Charette, Monique (MECP) <monique.charette@ontario.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 10:58 AM
To: Gazibara, Nevena <Nevena.Gazibara@stantec.com>; Spang, Elizabeth (MNRF) <Elizabeth.Spang@ontario.ca>
Cc: Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>; Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>; Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>
Subject: RE: GWP 4060-11-00 Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne- Terrestrial and Aquatic Existing Conditions Reports

Good morning Nevena,

I'm sorry I haven't been in touch with you sooner. I would be happy to join you on a con call to discuss the project. Would it be possible to schedule a meeting in a couple of weeks?

Thanks
Monique

From: Gazibara, Nevena <Nevena.Gazibara@stantec.com>
Sent: October-09-19 9:20 AM
To: Spang, Elizabeth (MNRF) <Elizabeth.Spang@ontario.ca>; Charette, Monique (MECP)

<monique.charette@ontario.ca>

Cc: Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Pipe, Erin (MTO)

<Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>; Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>; Belliveau, Tim

<tim.belliveau@stantec.com>

Subject: RE: GWP 4060-11-00 Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne- Terrestrial and Aquatic Existing Conditions Reports

Good morning Elizabeth and Monique,

I'm following up to see if you two have had time to review the existing conditions reports for the above-mentioned study and whether the project team can schedule a joint conference call/meeting with you to discuss the project, existing natural heritage features, and sensitive areas and constraints, to consider as the project moves forward and preliminary design alternatives are refined and evaluated.

Please let me know your interest and availability in a meeting with the project team.

Kind regards,

Nevena Gazibara B.Sc., MREM, ENV SP
Environmental Planner

Direct: 905 381-3249

Fax: 905 385-3534

nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

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Stoney Creek ON L8J 0B4



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[Redacted]

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From: Spang, Elizabeth (MNRF) <Elizabeth.Spang@ontario.ca>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 10:45 AM
To: Gazibara, Nevena <Nevena.Gazibara@stantec.com>
Cc: Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>; Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>; Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>
Subject: RE: GWP 4060-11-00 Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne- Terrestrial and Aquatic Existing Conditions Reports

Hello Nevena:

I've successfully downloaded the reports. Thanks for reaching out and for sharing them with us. I'll be in touch when we've had an opportunity to review.
As mentioned on the phone, the contact for species at risk reviews/inquiries is now the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks at SAROntario@ontario.ca.

Cheers,

Liz Spang, M.PI

District Planner
Peterborough District
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
300 Water Street, 1st Floor South
Peterborough, ON K9J 8M5
Tel: (705) 755-3360
Fax: (705) 755-3125
Email: Elizabeth.Spang@ontario.ca

From: Gazibara, Nevena <Nevena.Gazibara@stantec.com>
Sent: May 10, 2019 4:14 PM
To: Spang, Elizabeth (MNRF) <Elizabeth.Spang@ontario.ca>
Cc: Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>; Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>; Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>
Subject: GWP 4060-11-00 Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne- Terrestrial and Aquatic Existing Conditions Reports

Good afternoon Elizabeth,

As per our telephone discussion the other day, please find a temporary FTP site with the terrestrial and aquatic existing conditions reports for the above-mentioned project for your reference.

Login Information

Browser link: <https://tmpsftp.stantec.com>

FTP Client Hostname: tmpsftp.stantec.com **Port:** 22 (can be used within an FTP client to view and transfer files and folders; e.g., FileZilla)

Login name: s0524135614

Password: 2654096

Disk Quota: 2GB

Expiry Date: 5/24/2019

Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the files.

Once you have had a chance to review the reports we can discuss a potential meeting with you and the project team.

Kind regards,

Nevena Gazibara B.Sc., MREM, ENV SP
Environmental Planner

Direct: 905 381-3249

Fax: 905 385-3534

nevena.gazibara@stantec.com

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From: Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 8:10 AM
To: Addley, Diana <Diana.Addley@stantec.com>
Cc: Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>; Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>; Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>
Subject: FW: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne-MECP Comments

Hi Diana;

Please find below comments from Monique Charette of MECP's SAR Branch. Monique was provided the fisheries and terrestrial existing conditions reports prior to the teleconference Nevena organized which also included MNRF (Catherine Warren and Colin Higgins).

Erin

From: Charette, Monique (MECP) <monique.charette@ontario.ca>
Sent: February-06-20 4:28 PM
To: Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>
Subject: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne-MECP Comments

Good afternoon Erin,

My apologies for not responding sooner. I have reviewed the Terrestrial Ecosystems Existing Conditions Report, Fish and Fish Habitat Existing Conditions Report, the mainline and Nagle exhibits and wildlife collision information. I've provided comments on only some of the species at risk listed in the reports however all species at risk and/or species at risk habitat should be considered in the detailed design stage.

Blanding's turtle

We recommend that targeted surveys for Blanding's Turtles be conducted since suitable wetland features are present within the Study Area. Blanding's Turtles also use terrestrial habitat for nesting, thermoregulation and movement. Potential nesting habitat which could include meadows, rocky outcrops, agricultural fields and trails should be considered when evaluating potential impacts on the species.

Blanding's Turtles are also known to travel long distances moving through different habitats especially in spring and fall. Surveys should not be limited to determining whether turtles are using aquatic features or whether there is nesting potential within the Study Area. Surveys should also consider turtle movement as they could be travelling through the Study Area if suitable habitat is found on both sides of the highway. There are several figures in Appendix A that show the existing highway crossing multiple watercourses, some of which are connected to waterbodies. These areas could be potential movement corridors.

In addition to conducting surveys, we recommend that habitat mapping be prepared to show where Category 1, 2 and 3 may be present. The survey results and maps will help inform potential mitigation measures and/or potential overall benefit projects if deemed required. Is there a possibility of adapting existing culverts or new ones to be suitable for Blanding's Turtle passage?

Eastern Whip-poor-will

Although the disturbance from the 401 may prevent the use of the ROW by Eastern Whip-poor-will (EWPW), they may be found in suitable habitat adjacent to the ROW and possibly outside of the Study Area which only includes a 120m area. Activities taking place in the ROW may have an indirect impact on potential adjacent territories. The EWPW has a General Habitat Description under the ESA which includes suitable habitat up to 500m of the nest or centre of approximated defended territory. In Ontario, territory range is thought to be approximately 9Ha. We recommend that a broader area be considered when evaluating potential impacts on this species.

Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark

Although densities may be lower closer to the 401, if the habitat is suitable and surveys indicate Bobolink and/or Eastern Meadowlark are present, the ESA applies. Birds may generally avoid the ROW as a result of the disturbance associated with the highway, however they may still be in suitable habitat adjacent to the ROW and could be impacted by activities taking place in the ROW. An example of this would be the interchange at Hwy. 401/38 in Kingston where 3 Eastern Meadowlark were observed breeding in close proximity to the highway. Mitigation measures may be required to ensure potential impacts are minimized for these species.

Eastern Small-footed Myotis

The Eastern Small-footed Myotis has been found roosting in a variety of different habitats, both anthropogenic (buildings, bridges) and natural (trees). Although they mainly rely on rock roosts, we recommend that anthropogenic features also be considered when conducting surveys. We also believe that if present, the Eastern Small-footed Myotis could potentially use the rocks surrounding some of the existing culverts (eg. unnamed tributaries 0A and 0B). We recommend that these areas also be considered in future surveys.

Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis and Tri-coloured Bat

Although habitat was only found irregularly at the periphery of the ROW and not within the ROW, potential impacts should still be considered especially if tree clearing is to occur in close proximity to suitable habitat. Also, bats often move from one roost site to another within an area. We recommend that potential networks of roosts be considered when conducting surveys.

These bats forage along waterways and forest edges. There are multiple figures in Appendix A that show the highway crossing watercourses that flow through mixed forests, coniferous forests, deciduous forests and coniferous swamps. We recommend that these areas be evaluated as potential movement corridors for bats.

Overall Comment

Surveys are recommended for species that have the potential to be present based on the availability of suitable habitat. Confirming the presence of species at risk and/or their habitat will help inform mitigation measures and potential overall benefits that may be required in the future. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss the type of surveys that may be required or if you have any questions related to my comments.

Sincerely,

Monique Charette

Management Biologist
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Permissions and Compliance Section
Species At Risk Branch
51 Heakes Lane
Kingston ON, K7M 9B1
(613) 583-3162

From: Addley, Diana
Sent: Saturday, April 11, 2020 2:49 PM
To: monique.charette@ontario.ca
Cc: Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>; Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>; Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>
Subject: FW: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne-MECP Comments

Hello Monique,

Thank you for taking the time to review the existing conditions reports and to provide comments on behalf of MECP. The attached letter has been prepared in response to these comments.

In addition, please find a copy of the notes recorded during the November 12, 2019 meeting held in relation to this project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any comments, questions and/or concerns.

Kind regards,

Diana Addley

Senior Environmental Planner

Direct: 905 415-6401

Mobile: 647 588-7112

Diana.Addley@stantec.com

Stantec

150 - 1555 Wentworth Street

Whitby ON L1N 9T6



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April 9, 2020
File: 165001132

Attention: Monique Charette, Management Biologist
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Permissions and Compliance Section
Species At Risk Branch
51 Heakes Lane
Kingston ON, K7M 9B1
Email: monique.charette@ontario.ca

Dear Ms. Charette,

Reference: Response to MECP Comments, Draft Terrestrial Ecosystems Existing Conditions Report
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00)
Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study (GWP 4059-17-00)

Thank you for taking the time to review and provide comments on behalf of the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) in relation to the Terrestrial Ecosystems Existing Conditions (TEEC) report prepared by Stantec and dated November 5, 2018. This letter provides Stantec's response to the comments received via email by Ms. Erin Pipe of the Ontario Ministry of Transportation, (MTO) from the MECP on February 7, 2020, in relation to the TEEC report and associated terrestrial Species at Risk (SAR) considerations in relation to the above-referenced projects.

As part of your response, specific recommendations were noted in relation to eight of the fourteen SAR listed in the TEEC report, including Blanding's Turtle, Eastern Whip-poor-will, Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, Tri-coloured Bat and Eastern Small-footed Myotis. It is understood that all SAR and/or SAR habitat should be considered during the detailed design stage of these projects, including the other species listed within the TEEC report (i.e., Chimney Swift, Least Bittern, Bank Swallow, Barn Swallow and Louisiana Waterthrush).

A summary of habitats for the eight SAR described in the TEEC report is provided in Table 1 (attached), as well as the MECP's associated comments and/or recommendations. As noted in the TEEC report, an Impact Assessment report will be prepared once the Preliminary Design has been completed, at which time site-specific mitigation recommendations will be identified to reduce the likelihood of negative impacts to SAR within the Study Area, including but not limited to conducting targeted surveys for SAR during Detail Design.

In accordance with the Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000), the Class EA process consists of four main stages: Planning, Preliminary Design; Detail Design; and, Construction. As noted above, this Study consists of the Planning and Preliminary Design stages, and as such focuses on 'roughing out' a design. As noted in Section 2 of the MTO's Environmental Guide for Highway Design (2013), an overall appreciation of environmental constraints can be determined during Preliminary Design based on a collection of background information, until it is supplemented by field investigations that may be completed once the design is sufficiently advanced and a better understanding

April 9, 2020

Monique Charette, Management Biologist

Page 2 of 2

Reference: [Response to MECP Comments, Draft Terrestrial Ecosystems Existing Conditions Report Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne \(GWP 4060-11-00\) Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study \(GWP 4059-17-00\)](#)

of impacts is established. The environmental information gathered during Detail Design is intended to fill in information gaps, update information, and enhance the information level of detail acquired during the previous stages.

Based on the February 2020 response, it is understood that MECP is recommending targeted surveys for SAR where suitable habitat is present in the Study Area at the Preliminary Design stage in order to assess potential impacts and inform the recommended mitigation measures. However, please note that a conservative approach is typically undertaken during the Planning and Preliminary Design stage, which includes the evaluation of alternatives. As such, suitable habitat for SAR is identified based on Ecological Land Classification surveys and wildlife habitat assessments conducted for the Study Area, and a species' presence is assumed. Once a Recommended Plan has been identified, site-specific avoidance and mitigation measures are recommended for each SAR or SAR habitat. Consideration is given to species such as Blanding's Turtle and Eastern Whip-poor-will, whose regulated or general habitat extends beyond the 120 m Study Area boundary.

Thank you again for taking the time to review the TEEC and provide comments on behalf of the MECP. Stantec will provide the Impact Assessment report to MECP upon its completion and welcomes MECP's comments on the proposed avoidance and mitigation measures, including recommendations for targeted surveys for SAR during Detail Design. As part of this project, MTO intends to avoid or reduce potential impacts of the project activities on SAR, to the extent possible.

Should you have any additional questions, comments and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned

Regards,

Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Diana Addley

Senior Environmental Planner

Direct: 905 415-6401

Email: Diana.Addley@stantec.com

Attach.: Table 1 – SAR Habitat Suitability

- c. Erin Pipe, MTO
- Muhammad Waseem, MTO
- Gregg Cooke, Stantec
- Debra Giebrecht, Stantec
- Melissa Cameron, Stantec

Table 1 – SAR Habitat Suitability

Species	Habitat Suitability in Study Area (as described in the TEEC Report)	MECP Comment / Recommendation
Blanding's Turtle	Suitable wetland habitat is present in proximity to the ROW.	Targeted surveys to confirm habitat use in wetlands and candidate nesting habitat. Conduct mapping of Category 1, 2 and 3 habitats.
Eastern Whip-poor-will	Suitable open woodland habitat is present in the Study Area; however, disturbance from Highway 401 may limit use.	Consider potential impacts outside the Study Area within 500 m of a nest or defended territory.
Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark	Grassland features within the Study Area may provide breeding habitat for; however, nesting is unlikely to occur in the ROW due to disturbance from Highway 401.	These species may nest in proximity to Highway 401 where suitable habitat is present. Mitigation measures may be required to minimize impacts.
Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis and Tri-coloured Bat	Suitable roost occur irregularly at the periphery of the ROW.	Surveys to confirm roosts and movement by bats among roosts, and evaluation of movement corridors within the Study Area.
Eastern Small-footed Myotis	Suitable habitat is not present in the Study Area.	Rocks around some existing culverts may provide suitable roosting habitat. Targeted surveys are recommended.

From: Warren, Catherine (MNRF) <Catherine.Warren@ontario.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 11:52 AM
To: Addley, Diana <Diana.Addley@stantec.com>
Cc: Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>; Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>; Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>
Subject: RE: GWP 4060-11-00 Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne - Terrestrial and Aquatic Existing Reports

Hello Diana,

Thank you very much for this letter and the opportunity to respond. I have attached a PDF which shows the locations of deer wintering areas in the project area as requested. MNRF looks forward to discussing eco-passage location and design. It is expected that areas to focus on would be known mortality hot-spots as well as intuitive/suspected areas (e.g. where watercourses and/or wetlands are adjacent to or traverse the Hwy 401. MNRF also has a few additional questions and clarifications to share:

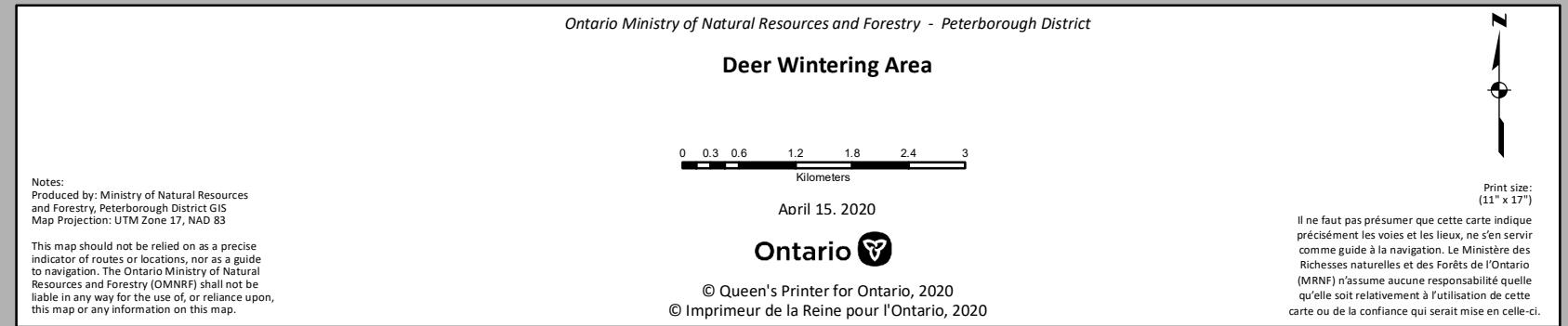
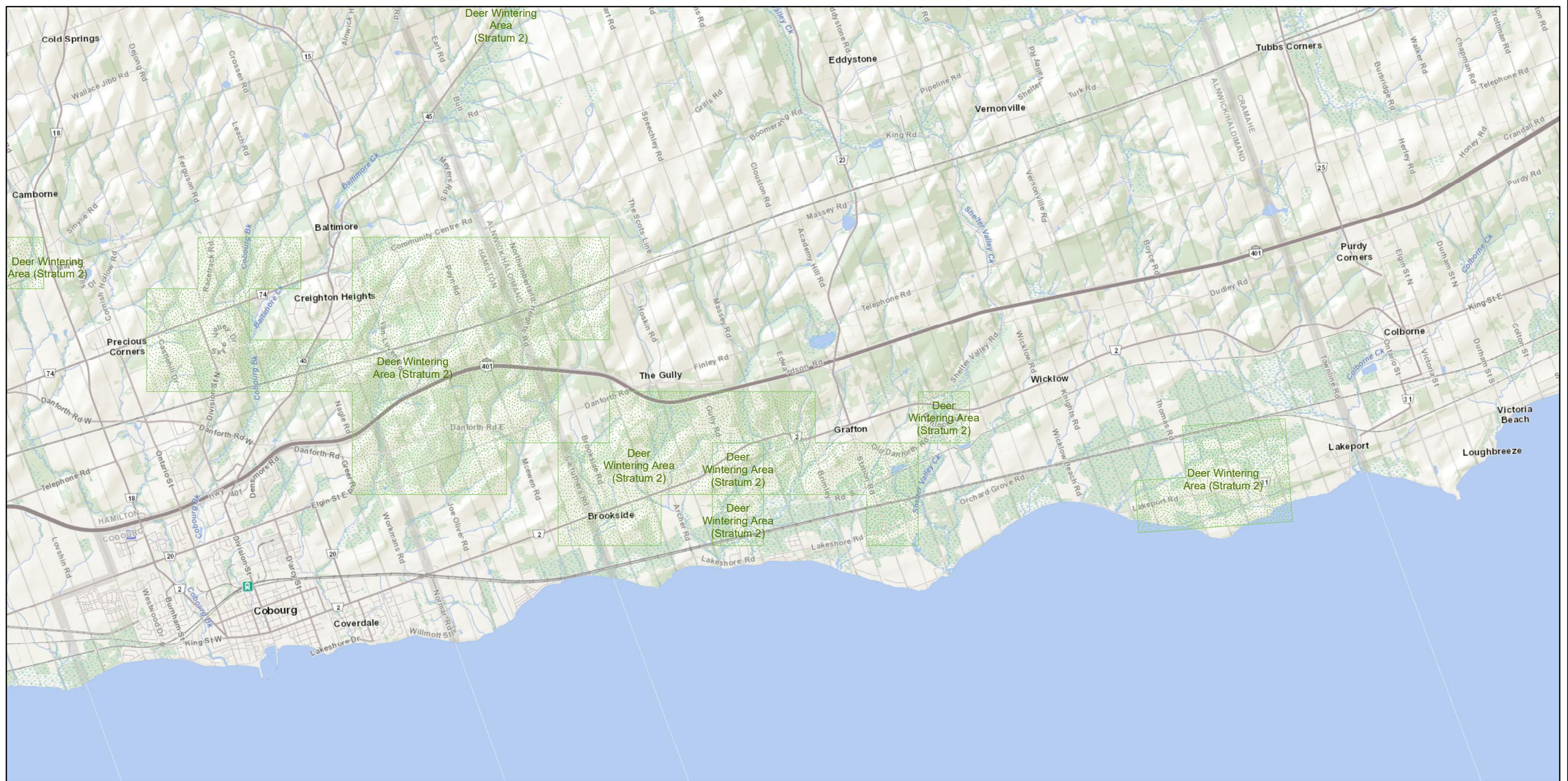
Regarding the 2nd paragraph, last sentence of the letter: MNRF does not believe the fish species in Colborne Creek should be changed from Coho salmon to Chum salmon. Chum salmon are not in the Great Lakes or their tributaries. We recommend leaving the species as Coho salmon for that area.

Regarding the 3rd paragraph, last sentence: The letter indicates that information will be included about the delineation of significant woodlands in the assessment report. MNRF would like to know if something similar will take place for Significant Valleylands. We suspect that Shelter Valley Creek may qualify as a Significant Valleyland.

With respect to your discussion on the second page about the project being evaluated under the MTO Class EA, MNRF agrees that is appropriate. To clarify, our previous comments on the matter were submitted to flag the newer additional policies which relate to infrastructure that exist in *A Place to Grow* in addition to/alongside the EA requirements, described in section 3.2.5 of that document.

Would you also be able to confirm the timing window you are using for no in-water works?

All the best,
Catherine



From: Addley, Diana <Diana.Addley@stantec.com>

Sent: April 11, 2020 4:03 PM

To: Warren, Catherine (MNRF) <Catherine.Warren@ontario.ca>

Cc: Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>; Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>; Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>

Subject: GWP 4060-11-00 Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne - Terrestrial and Aquatic Existing Reports

CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Hi Catherine,

Thank you for taking the time to provide comments on behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in relation to the existing conditions reports completed as part of the above-referenced study. Stantec received your comments via email on Thursday, October 31, 2019. The attached letter has been prepared in response to these comments.

In addition, please find a copy of the notes recorded during the November 12, 2019 meeting held in relation to this project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any comments, questions and/or concerns.

Kind regards,

Diana Addley

Senior Environmental Planner

Direct: 905 415-6401

Mobile: 647 588-7112

Diana.Addley@stantec.com

Stantec

150 - 1555 Wentworth Street

Whitby ON L1N 9T6



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April 9, 2020
File: 165001090

Ms. Catherin Warren
District Planner
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry- Peterborough District
300 Water Street, 1st Fl
Peterborough ON K9J 3C7

Dear Ms. Warren,

**Reference: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, Ontario (GWP 4060-11-00)
Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study (GWP 4059-17-00) - Response to
Comments Received on Natural Environment Existing Conditions Reports**

Dear Ms. Warren,

Thank you for taking the time to review the Terrestrial and Fisheries Existing Conditions Reports and provide comments on behalf of the MNRF in relation to the above-mentioned project. In addition, thank you for participating in the conference call with the project team and with the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) held on November 12, 2019.

With respect to your comments and suggestions regarding the Fish and Fish Habitat Existing Conditions report, please note that the project team will incorporate these changes into the Fish and Fish Habitat Impact Assessment Report, which will be completed once a preferred plan is selected for the project. It is anticipated that this report will be completed in June 2020. As part of these changes, we will: revise the intermittent watercourses to reflect that they are permanent; revise the Colborne Creek fish species from Coho salmon to Chum salmon; and, confirm the in-water timing restrictions.

Your comments and suggestions regarding the Terrestrial Ecosystems Existing Conditions report have also been noted. Similarly, the project team will incorporate these changes into the Terrestrial Ecosystems Impact Assessment Report, which will be completed once a preferred plan is selected for the project. With respect to your comments regarding targeted species surveys, our team will provide recommendations for additional investigations in the Impact Assessment Report; however, as noted during the November 2019 conference call, these investigations are typically completed during the Detail Design stage, once refinements are made to the recommended plan. We will also include information and delineation of significant woodlands in the assessment report.

It is understood that there was a discussion regarding deer wintering areas during the November 2019 conference call. It would be appreciated if the information and mapping related to these areas could be provided to inform the Impact Assessment Report for this project.

As part of our evaluation of design alternatives, the project team will seek to select alternatives that avoid or minimize impacts to unevaluated wetlands, where possible. These features will be included in the natural environment evaluation criteria as part of the evaluation of alternatives.

Reference: Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, GWP 4060-11-00
Response to Comments Received on Natural Environment Existing Conditions Reports

Once the project team selects the preferred plan and confirms property impacts, we will contact you if any impacts are anticipated to the MNRF-managed properties within the study area.

With respect to your comments related to the Growth Plan (2019- A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe), please note that this project is being completed under the MTO Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for *Provincial Transportation Facilities*, which is an approved process under the Environmental Assessment Act. MTO's Class EA document defines the groups of undertakings and associated EA processes which MTO must follow. The MTO Environmental Reference for Highway Design, which was developed in consultation with provincial and federal agencies, provides the standards and requirements for environmental investigations completed as part of the MTO Class EA process. As such, key hydrologic features are identified as part of the Class EA process, and impacts to these areas avoided or mitigated, to the extent possible.

The project team has noted your recommendations and information regarding potential eco-passages within the study area. This information will be considered, and incorporated into the design of the preferred plan, where possible. The project team will contact you and the MECP once a preferred plan has been selected to discuss potential opportunities for eco-passages within the study area.

Thank you again for taking the time to provide comments on behalf of the MNRF. Should you have any additional comments, questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,

Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Diana Addley
Senior Environmental Planner
Phone: (905) 415-6401
Email: Diana.Addley@stantec.com

c. M. Waseem, E. Pipe – Ministry of Transportation
G. Cooke, T. Belliveau – Stantec Consulting Ltd.

From: Addley, Diana
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 9:01 PM
To: monique.charette@ontario.ca; catherine.warren@ontario.ca; Higgins, Colin (MNRF)
<colin.higgins@ontario.ca>
Cc: Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>; Waseem, Muhammad (MTO)
<Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Cameron, Melissa <Melissa.Cameron@stantec.com>; Cooke,
Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>
Subject: RE: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00)

Hello,

Stantec has reviewed opportunities for establishing wildlife crossings within the study area for this project, the findings of which are documented within the attached memorandum for your review, and for discussion during our Wednesday, June 17 conference call.

Please do not hesitate to let us know if you have any comments, questions and/or concerns, or would like to discuss anything in more detail.

Kind regards,

Diana Addley
Senior Environmental Planner

Direct: 905 415-6401
Mobile: 647 588-7112
Diana.Addley@stantec.com

Stantec
150 - 1555 Wentworth Street
Whitby ON L1N 9T6



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-----Original Appointment-----

From: Addley, Diana
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Addley, Diana; monique.charette@ontario.ca; catherine.warren@ontario.ca; Pipe, Erin (MTO); Waseem, Muhammad (MTO); Cameron, Melissa; Cooke, Gregg
Cc: Higgins, Colin (MNRF)
Subject: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00)

When: Wednesday, June 17, 2020 10:00 AM-11:30 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Web Meeting

Good afternoon,

Please accept this meeting invitation to review and discuss eco-passage opportunities in relation to the above-referenced study.

A meeting agenda and web meeting/call-in details will be provided in advance of the virtual meeting.

Kind regards,

Diana Addley

Senior Environmental Planner

Direct: 905 415-6401

Mobile: 647 588-7112

Diana.Addley@stantec.com

Stantec

150 - 1555 Wentworth Street

Whitby ON L1N 9T6



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To: Erin Pipe, Muhammed Waseem
MTO, East Region
File: 165001090

From: Melissa Cameron
Stantec, London

Date: June 8, 2020

Reference: Wildlife Ecopassages Opportunities and Constraints: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, Ontario (GWP 4060-11-00) and Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study (GWP 4059-17-00)

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. to undertake a Planning, Preliminary Design, and Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study on Highway 401 for the replacement and rehabilitation of structures, interchange modifications, future widening of the highway to 6-lanes (interim) and 8-lanes (ultimate), and commuter parking lot expansions along approximately 18 km of highway between Cobourg and Colborne, Ontario (the Project). In consultation with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), a request was made for MTO to explore opportunities for establishing wildlife crossings (ecopassages) of Highway 401 in the Study Area (for natural heritage, defined as all lands within 120 m of the highway right-of-way). The purpose of this memo is to review existing studies and best management practices for wildlife use of ecopassages and identify opportunities to improve landscape connectivity for wildlife in the Study Area.

Best Practices for Ecopassages in Ontario and Recent Research

In preparation of this memo, Stantec reviewed the MNRF Best Management Practices (BMP) for Mitigating the Effects of Road Mortality on Amphibian and Reptile Species at Risk in Ontario (MNRF 2016) and a recent literature review prepared for the American Association of State Highways and Transport Officials (AASHTO; Gunson and Huijser 2019).

MNRF's BMP recommends that when a culvert exceeds 25 m in length, an overpass, bridge or viaduct (> 3m wide (CSA-S6-00) should be considered in order to facilitate wildlife movement across a highway (MNRF 2016). Viaducts and bridges spanning a watercourse provide an opportunity for dry pathways adjacent to the creek or river. In order to increase effectiveness and introduce natural light into longer tunnels, grated openings (skylights) are recommended. Fencing along roadways can be used as a standalone measure (without ecopassages) to prevent road mortality, or to direct animals toward suitable crossing structures (MNRF 2016). The length of fencing beyond the ecopassage should be determined by the target species and their mean and maximum movement distances (MNRF 2016).

June 8, 2020

Erin Pipe, Muhammed Waseem
Page 2 of 7

Reference: Wildlife Ecopassages Opportunities and Constraints: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, Ontario (GWP 4060-11-00) and Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study (GWP 4059-17-00)

A recent literature review of the state of practice for road crossing structures and barriers to small wildlife (amphibian, reptiles and small mammals) reviewed 62 peer-reviewed articles, 30 technical reports, 6 academic theses and 27 conference proceedings (Gunson and Huijser 2019). The average size of concrete box culverts in this review was 2.4 m wide by 1.8 m high. Several studies supported small mammal use of long tunnels, including culverts up to 82 m long under a four-lane highway in the Laurentians, Quebec (e.g. Plante et al. 2019). Painted turtles and a Snapping turtle were shown to use two 24 m-long culverts in line with a 15 m fenced gap connecting wetlands on either side of the Highway 69 expansion near Parry Sound (Eco-Kare International 2019), while Blanding's turtle used culverts 25 m long under Highway 24 (Caverhill et al. 2011) and 50 m long under Terry Fox Drive in Ottawa (Dillon Consulting Ltd. 2014). Fencing used to direct wildlife into existing drainage culverts has proven effective in some applications, including for Blanding's turtle (Caverhill et al. 2011).

Natural Corridors in the Study Area and Road Mortality Data

Approximately 27% of the Ecodistrict in which the Study Area is located (6E-13) consists of natural forest cover (deciduous, coniferous and mixed forests). Valleys generally run from north to south toward Lake Ontario. The Study Area crosses two large natural corridors, Barnum House Creek/Grafton Creek (including Barnum House Creek Conservation Area south of highway 401) and Shelter Valley, as well as numerous smaller wooded valleys with watercourses. MNRF identified Barnum House Creek/Grafton Creek and Shelter Valley, as well as a wooded valley along an unnamed tributary west of the Danforth Road underpass, as key locations for wildlife passage. One provincially-significant wetland (Cranberry Lake) is within the Study Area, north of Highway 401 near the interchange of County Road 23 (Figure 1). Deer wintering areas have been identified by MNRF to the north and south of the Study Area indicating that deer are likely to move across the highway in response to seasonal habitat and foraging needs (Figure 1, inset map). Potential species at risk (SAR) and species of conservation concern (SOCC) in the Study Area which may benefit from the availability of ecopassages include: Snapping Turtle, Painted Turtle and Blanding's Turtle.

MTO provided Stantec with a table summarizing all collisions in the Study Area from 2012 to 2016, including wildlife-vehicle collisions. For collisions involving wildlife the species was not noted but data are believed to represent vehicle-deer collisions as these are more likely to result in a reportable incident than a collision with smaller mammals or reptiles. Clusters of wildlife-vehicle collisions were noted at six intersections in the Study Area: County Road 25/Percy Street, Boyce Road, Shelter Valley Road, County Road 23/Lyle Street, Gully Road, and Danforth Road. Except where these intersections were located within a valley,

June 8, 2020

Erin Pipe, Muhammed Waseem
Page 3 of 7

Reference: Wildlife Ecopassages Opportunities and Constraints: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, Ontario (GWP 4060-11-00) and Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study (GWP 4059-17-00)

the collision points did not appear to correspond well to topography or linear natural corridors.

Opportunities and Constraints for Wildlife Passage in the Study Area

Drainage and structural studies completed for the Project have identified seven structural culverts for replacement either during the future highway expansion from 4 to 6-lanes (interim strategy) or from 6 to 8-lanes (long-term strategy; Table 1). All proposed structure replacement locations are shown on Figure 1.

Three large box culverts are proposed for replacement as part of the interim strategy which range in length from 100 m (21X-0576/C0) to 170 m (21X-0467/C0). Rather than a full replacement, these concrete culverts will be slip-lined with a slightly smaller steel arch culvert (Table 1). Increasing culvert size at these locations is not deemed feasible as open-cut construction is not possible and a large tunnel boring machine would be required to create an opening for a larger culvert. Skylights at the centre median are also not possible as these would be located within the paved shoulder. Furthermore, given that the length of these culverts is considerably greater than is considered suitable for wildlife passage, an increase in size may not substantially improve the culvert's function as an ecopassage.

Two large box culverts are proposed for replacement as part of the long-term strategy. One of these structures (i.e., 21X-0468/C0) may be suitable for enlargement to provide better wildlife passage as open-cut construction is possible, however the culvert length may ultimately remain a barrier for wildlife moving under the highway (Table 1). Culvert 21X-0468/C0 would connect a large wetland south of Highway 401 with a wooded upland located to the north of the highway, but connectivity north of this wooded upland toward the Oak Ridges Moraine is limited by agricultural land uses.

Two existing large open-bottom arch culverts (10 m and 15 m width) are present in the Study Area and cross the two most significant natural corridors: Barnum House Creek/Grafton Creek (21X-0270/C0) and Shelter Valley (21X-0272/C0; Table 1). Given the large size of these culverts and the presence of Deer Wintering Areas northwest and south of the highway in these locations (Figure 1, inset map), they likely support movement of both small and large wildlife under Highway 401. Both structures are proposed for replacement by bridges as part of the long-term strategy and represent the best opportunity in the Study Area for wildlife movement across Highway 401 (Table 1).

June 8, 2020

Erin Pipe, Muhammed Waseem
Page 4 of 7

Reference: Wildlife Ecopassages Opportunities and Constraints: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, Ontario (GWP 4060-11-00) and Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study (GWP 4059-17-00)

Table 1: Ecopassage Opportunities based on Proposed Culvert Replacements and Natural Corridors¹.

Culvert ID	Existing Culvert Dimensions (width x height)	Interim Improvement Strategy	Long-term Improvement Strategy	Landscape Feature	Opportunity for Ecopassage
21X-0467/C0 ²	3.1 m x 1.8 m box	slip-line with new culvert 2.7 m x 1.8 m	possible rehab	wooded valley; unnamed tributary 02	Limited, due to culvert size and length
21X-0468/C0	3.1 m x 1.5 m box	culvert rehabilitation	culvert replacement; opportunity to increase size	woodland and wetland, primarily to south; unnamed tributary 03	Good, but not a key landscape feature and no replacement for 30 yrs
21X-0469/C0	3.7 m x 1.8 m box	culvert rehabilitation and extension	culvert replacement	wooded valley: Barnum House Creek	Limited, due to culvert size and length but adjacent to large culvert/ future bridge

June 8, 2020

Erin Pipe, Muhammed Waseem
Page 5 of 7

Reference: Wildlife Ecopassages Opportunities and Constraints: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, Ontario (GWP 4060-11-00) and Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study (GWP 4059-17-00)

21X-0270/C0 ²	9.8 m x 4.9 m arch	culvert rehabilitation and retaining walls	replace with bridge	wooded valley: Barnum House Creek	Excellent , existing large diameter culvert/future bridge and follows key landscape feature
21X-0470/C0	3.1 m x 1.8 m box	slip-line with new culvert 2.7 m x 1.8 m	possible rehab	wooded valley; unnamed tributary 06	Limited, due to culvert size and length
21X-0272/C0 ²	15.2 m x 7.7 m arch	none	replace with bridge	wooded valley: Shelter Valley Creek	Excellent , existing large diameter culvert/future bridge and follows key landscape feature
21X-0576/C0	3.1 m x 2.5 m box	slip-line with new culvert 2.7m x 1.8 m	possible rehab	wooded valley and wetland, primarily to north; unnamed tributary 09	Limited, due to culvert size and length

1 - Table 1 is to be read in conjunction with Figure 1 which shows the locations of all structures in relation to natural features.

2 - identified by MNRF as potential ecopassage location

June 8, 2020

Erin Pipe, Muhammed Waseem
Page 6 of 7

Reference: Wildlife Ecopassages Opportunities and Constraints: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, Ontario (GWP 4060-11-00) and Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study (GWP 4059-17-00)

Recommendation

Two excellent opportunities for an ecopassage are present in the Study Area where existing large open-bottom arch culverts connect two significant natural corridors across Highway 401. The function of these culverts could be improved through installation of fencing to direct wildlife toward the culvert openings. The length and placement of fencing in the Study Area should be determined by the Project priorities, such as a reduction in deer-vehicle collisions on Highway 401 or facilitating movement of small wildlife (reptiles, amphibians and small mammals) across the highway. Additional improvements for wildlife movement are expected as part of the long-term strategy where these two large culverts will be replaced by bridges. These recommendations shall be further reviewed during the detail design stage of the Project, pending funding and approvals. The timing of the detail design is currently unknown.

Stantec Consulting Ltd.



Melissa Cameron M.Sc, M.LA, OALA
Ecologist / Landscape Architect

Phone: 519 645-3351
melissa.cameron@stantec.com

Attachment: Figure 1

c. D. Addley, D. Giesbrecht, G. Cooke, T. Belliveau (Stantec)



Sean Spisani B.Sc., ERGC
Senior Ecologist

Phone: 905 381-3223
sean.spisani@stantec.com

June 8, 2020

Erin Pipe, Muhammed Waseem
Page 7 of 7

Reference: Wildlife Ecopassages Opportunities and Constraints: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, Ontario (GWP 4060-11-00) and Highway 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study (GWP 4059-17-00)

References

Caverhill B, Johnson B, Phillips J, Nadeau E, Kula M, Holmes R. 2011. Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) and Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*) habitat use and movements in the Oakland Swamp wetland complex, Ontario, Canada, and their response to the Provincial Highway 24 exclusion fence and aquatic culvert ecopassage from 2010-2011. Report prepared by the Toronto Zoo, Adopt-A-Pond program, Toronto, ON.

Dillon Consulting. 2014. Terry Fox Drive extension project wildlife guide system monitoring report, year 3 of 3; and three year summary. Page 77. Project 12-6019. City of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario.

Eco-Kare International. 2019a. Effectiveness monitoring of wildlife crossing structures and exclusion fencing on Highway 69: Parry Sound District: 2016-2018. Draft report submitted to the Ministry of Transportation.

Gunson, K., and Huijser, M. 2019. Road Passages and Barriers for Small Terrestrial Wildlife, Literature Review and Annotated Bibliography. Prepared for the AASHTO Committee on Environment and Sustainability, in association with Louis Berger US Inc. (a WSP Company), September 2019. 140 pp.

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. April 2016. Best Management Practices for Mitigating the Effects of Roads on Amphibians and Reptile Species at Risk in Ontario. Queen's Printer for Ontario. 112 pp. Accessed online at: https://files.ontario.ca/bmp_herp_2016_final_final_resized.pdf

Plante J., J. Jaeger, and A. Desrochers. 2019. How do landscape context and fences influence roadkill locations of small and medium-sized mammals? *Journal of Environmental Management*. 511–520.



Legend

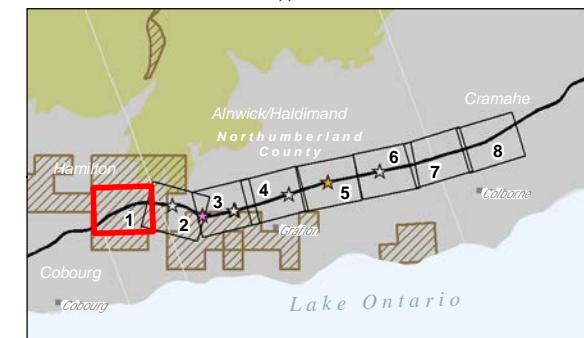
- Wild Animal Collision
- Hydro Line
- Culvert
- Watercourse (Intermittent)
- Watercourse (Permanent)
- MTO Right-Of-Way
- Municipal Boundary, Lower
- Wetland, Not evaluated per OWES

0 200 400 Meters
1:10,000 (At original document size of 11x17)

Notes

- Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N
- Base features produced under license with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry © Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2018.
- Orthoimagery obtained from Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

Deer Wintering Area Excellent
Oak Ridges Moraine Good
Greenbelt Natural Heritage System Limited



Project Location
County of Northumberland
Prepared by JW on 2020-06-05
165001090 REVA

Client/Project
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY 401 PLANNING STUDY FROM COBOURG TO COLBORNE (GWP 4060-11-00)

Figure No.
1 - 1
Title
Ecopassage Opportunities



Legend

- Wild Animal Collision
- Project Structures
- Opportunity For Ecopassage
 - ★ Good
 - ★ Limited
- Culvert
- - - Watercourse (Intermittent)
- Watercourse (Permanent)
- MTO Right-Of-Way
- Municipal Boundary, Lower
- Wetland, Not evaluated per OWES

0 200 400 Meters
1:10,000 (At original document size of 11x17)

Notes

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- Base features produced under license with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry © Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2018.
- Orthoimagery obtained from Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

■ Deer Wintering Area	★ Excellent
■ Oak Ridges Moraine	★ Good
■ Greenbelt Natural Heritage System	★ Limited



Project Location
County of Northumberland

165001090 REVA
Prepared by JW on 2020-06-05

Client/Project
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY 401 PLANNING STUDY FROM COBOURG TO
COLBORNE (GWP 4060-11-00)

Figure No.
1 - 2

Title
Ecopassage Opportunities







Legend

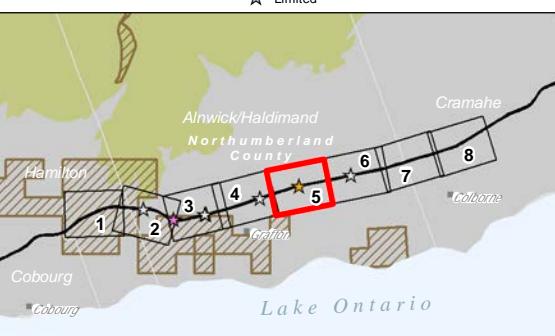
- Wild Animal Collision
- Project Structures
- Opportunity For Ecopassage
- Excellent
- Culvert
- Watercourse (Intermittent)
- Watercourse (Permanent)
- MTO Right-Of-Way
- Municipal Boundary, Lower
- Wetland, Not evaluated per OWES

0 200 400 Meters
1:10,000 (At original document size of 11x17)

Notes

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Deer Wintering Area
Oak Ridges Moraine
Greenbelt Natural Heritage System



Project Location
County of Northumberland

Prepared by JW on 2020-06-05

Client/Project
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY 401 PLANNING STUDY FROM COBOURG TO COLBORNE (GWP 4060-11-00)

Figure No.
1 - 5

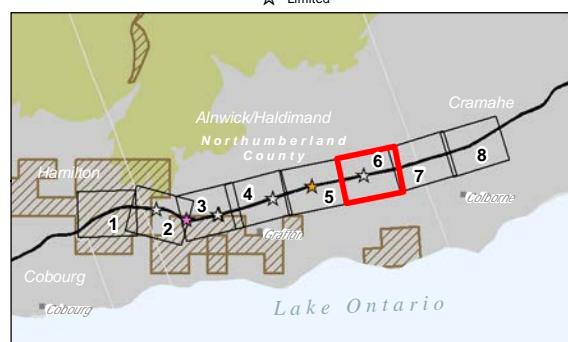
Title
Ecopassage Opportunities



Notes

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- Orthoimagery obtained from Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

Deer Wintering Area Excellent
 Oak Ridges Moraine Good
 Greenbelt Natural Heritage System Limited



Project Location
County of Northumberland
Prepared by JW on 2020-06-05
165001090 REVA

Client/Project
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY 401 PLANNING STUDY FROM COBOURG TO
COLBORNE (GWP 4060-11-00)

Figure No.
1 - 6
Title
Ecopassage Opportunities



Legend

- Wild Animal Collision
- Project Structures
- Culvert
- Watercourse (Intermittent)
- Watercourse (Permanent)
- MTO Right-Of-Way
- Municipal Boundary, Lower
- Wetland, Not evaluated per OWES

0 200 400 Meters
1:10,000 (At original document size of 11x17)

Notes
 1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N
 2. Base features produced under license with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry © Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2018.
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Deer Wintering Area Excellent
 Oak Ridges Moraine Good
 Greenbelt Natural Heritage System Limited



Project Location
 County of Northumberland
 Prepared by JW on 2020-06-05
 165001090 REVA

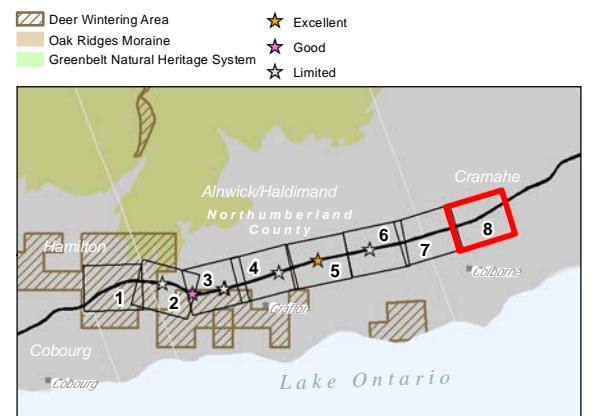
Client/Project
 MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION
 HIGHWAY 401 PLANNING STUDY FROM COBOURG TO COLBORNE (GWP 4060-11-00)

Figure No.
 1 - 7
 Title
 Ecopassage Opportunities



Notes

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Client/Project
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY 401 PLANNING STUDY FROM COBOURG TO
COLBORNE (GWP 4060-11-00)

Figure No.
1 - 8

Title
Ecopassage Opportunities



Stantec Consulting Ltd.
1555 Wentworth Street, Unit #150, Whitby, ON L1N 9T6

August 13, 2020

Attention: First Name Last Name

Position

Organization

Address

City, Province Postal Code

Dear First Name,

Reference: Notice of Online Public Information Centre #2

Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00)

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. to undertake a Planning, Preliminary Design, and Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study on Highway 401 for the replacement and rehabilitation of structures, interchange modifications, establishing the footprint of future six and eight lanes to address current and future transportation needs, and commuter parking lot improvements, from 2 kms east of Nagle Road to 800m east of Percy Street (approximately 18 kms).

This project is being carried out in accordance with the approved environmental planning process for Group 'B' projects under the MTO Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000) and will be documented in a Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR).

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the second Public Information Centre (PIC) has been planned. In light of COVID-19 and associated physical distancing requirements for the foreseeable future, this PIC will be held online.

As indicated in the attached notice, the online PIC will be available for your review on Thursday, August 27, 2020 on the project website (www.highway401cobourgcolborne.ca). A recorded presentation will be offered as part of the online PIC, as well as an online survey for your feedback, until September 25, 2020. The PIC will provide an overview of the evaluation of alternatives, the preliminary preferred design and the preliminary assessment of the anticipated environmental impacts and mitigation measures.

Information that has been shared to date is available for your review on the project website including study notices, background information and the information presented at PIC 1. Should you have any comments, questions, or concerns, or wish to discuss anything in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,

Stantec Consulting Ltd.

Diana Addley

Senior Environmental Planner

Phone: 905-415-6401

Email: Diana.Addley@stantec.com

- c. M. Waseem – Ministry of Transportation
- E. Pipe – Ministry of Transportation
- G. Cooke – Stantec Consulting Ltd.
- T. Belliveau – Stantec Consulting Ltd.



September 4th, 2020

Stantec Consulting Ltd.
Attn: Diana Addley, Senior Environmental Planner
1555 Wentworth St., Unit #150
Whitby, ON L1N 9T6

Dear Ms. Addley,

Re: Notice of Online Public Information Centre #2, Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed at the Regular Council Meeting of Thursday, September 3rd, 2020:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Sherry Gibson, seconded by Councillor Jim Hogg;

"Be it resolved that the correspondence from Stantec, dated August 13th, 2020, Re: Notice of Online Public Information Centre #2, Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne be received and filed; and further that Council would like to ensure that Stantec and MTO provide consistent, frequent and robust communication with the affected property owners due to the fact that property owners have contacted Council with their concerns

CARRIED."

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A Smith".

Alexandra Smith
Acting Clerk
Township of Alnwick/Haldimand
905-349-2822 ext. 25
asmith@ahtwp.ca

Cc. Muhammad Waseem, MTO
Gregg Cooke, MTO
MPP David Piccini

Robinson, Jennifer

From: Addley, Diana
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 12:50 PM
To: Robinson, Jennifer
Subject: FW: 401 Expansion - Shelter Valley Pines
Attachments: 401 Expansion - Shelter Valley Pines.pdf

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: kward@nccofc.ca <kward@nccofc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 12:47 PM
To: comments@highway401cobourgcolborne.ca
Subject: 401 Expansion - Shelter Valley Pines
Importance: High

September 29, 2020

Re: Comments: Highway 401 Cobourg-Colborne

To:

Mr. Gregg Cooke, P.Eng
Consultant Project Manager

Mr. Muhammad Waseem, P.Eng.
MTO Senior Project Engineer – Highway Engineering

Ms. Diana Addley
Consultant Senior Environmental Planner Manager of Engineering and Capital Projects

Mr. Terry Hoekstra, C.E.T.

It was with great concern that the Northumberland Central Chamber of Commerce learned of the Ministry of Transportation's proposal to expropriate land owned by the Shelter Valley Pines Golf Course for the purpose of the 401 expansion.

Shelter Valley Pines Golf Course is a privately owned and operated commercial enterprise located within the Municipality of Alnwick Haldimand - a township largely dependent on tourism and agribusiness, and with limited potential for industrial development. Shelter Valley Pines Golf Course is a key component in local tourism, attracting visitors and providing much needed jobs in an underserviced rural area.

The COVID-19 outbreak has already had a significant financial impact on local businesses, and we have seen Shelter Valley Pines Golf Course rally, regroup, and reopen within the strict safety parameters of pandemic protocol. Further disruption to this business would result in years of lost income while the redesigned course is being constructed.

We urge you to review the proposal, to take the further-reaching impact of this proposed action into consideration, to investigate alternatives, and to work with the owners of Shelter Valley Pines to ensure minimal impact and appropriate compensation for this vital business.

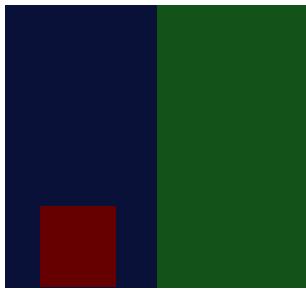
Sincerely,

Denise Liboiron

Denise Liboiron, Chair of the Board, Northumberland Central Chamber of Commerce

Kevin Ward

Kevin Ward, President & CEO, Northumberland Central Chamber of Commerce



NORTHUMBERLAND CENTRAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

TOWN OF COBOURG · HAMILTON TOWNSHIP · ALNWICK/HALDIMAND TOWNSHIP

September 29, 2020

Re: Comments: Highway 401 Cobourg-Colborne

To:

Mr. Gregg Cooke, P.Eng
Consultant Project Manager

Mr. Muhammad Waseem, P.Eng.
MTO Senior Project Engineer – Highway Engineering

Ms. Diana Addley
Consultant Senior Environmental Planner

Mr. Terry Hoekstra, C.E.T.
Manager of Engineering and Capital Projects

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We urge you to review the proposal, to take the further-reaching impact of this proposed action into consideration, to investigate alternatives, and to work with the owners of Shelter Valley Pines to ensure minimal impact and appropriate compensation for this vital business.

Sincerely,

Denise Liboiron

Denise Liboiron, Chair of the Board, Northumberland Central Chamber of Commerce

Kevin Ward

Kevin Ward, President & CEO, Northumberland Central Chamber of Commerce

Robinson, Jennifer

From: Addley, Diana
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 4:52 PM
To: Robinson, Jennifer
Subject: FW: MNRF land for 401 expansion Cobourg to Colborne

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

From: Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 4:51 PM
To: Warren, Catherine (MNRF) <Catherine.Warren@ontario.ca>; Soulliere, Pat (MNRF) <pat.soulliere@ontario.ca>
Cc: Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>; Addley, Diana <Diana.Addley@stantec.com>; Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>; Molleson, Jennifer (MTO) <Jennifer.Molleson@ontario.ca>
Subject: RE: MNRF land for 401 expansion Cobourg to Colborne

Dear Ms. Warren:

Thank you for your email pertaining to the impacts to MNRF's property with PIN No. 511340155. The information that you have provided in your email is really appreciated and provides us an insight into the property acquisition process for MNRF's owned properties.

The subject property is required to accommodate future Highway 401 improvements as part of our ongoing long range planning, preliminary design (PD), and environmental assessment (EA) study from Cobourg to Colborne. The study is still underway with tentative completion by early next year. Once EA clearance is secured, sometime early next year, the ministry may then proceed with the property acquisition process starting next year or beyond. At that time someone from MTO's property office will contact you to start the property acquisition process. The timing of construction is currently unknown.

Should you have any property related questions, please contact Jennifer Molleson (property supervisor) at (613) 331-2500 or via email: Jennifer.Molleson@ontario.ca.

Regards,

Muhammad Waseem, P. Eng.
Senior Project Engineer – Highway Engineering
Project Delivery East
Ministry of Transportation | Eastern Region
1355 John Counter Boulevard | Kingston, ON K7L 5A3
T: 613-449-2615 | F: 613-540-5106
Email: Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca

From: Warren, Catherine (MNRF) <Catherine.Warren@ontario.ca>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 11:36 AM
To: Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>
Cc: Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Soulliere, Pat (MNRF) <pat.soulliere@ontario.ca>
Subject: RE: MNRF land for 401 expansion Cobourg to Colborne

Hello Gregg and Muhammad,

I have updated information to share with you about transferring lands from MNRF to MTO via a Minister's Order.

It is actually against MNRF policy to transfer control of lands to MTO via a Minister's Order.

The way forward for patented land in MNRF title required by MTO is actually for MNRF to 'de-patent' the required land area under Section 38 of the PLA, and then MTO can use the powers of their Act to expropriate, which is how they typically acquire control of unpatented PLA lands.

For the land area identified in the MTO proposal, MNRF would either have to de-patent all of Part 4, Plan RDC 32 (which is ~84 acres). Or, MTO could register a survey of the (smaller) area required for highway widening, and MNRF can then de-patent only that area discretely identified on the new survey.

All the best,
Catherine

From: Warren, Catherine (MNRF)
Sent: September 16, 2020 10:28 AM
To: Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>
Cc: Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Soulliere, Pat (MNRF) <pat.soulliere@ontario.ca>
Subject: MNRF land for 401 expansion Cobourg to Colborne

Hello Gregg and Muhammad,

Thank you very much for circulating the notice of a Public Information Centre for this project. I am sorry for the delay in getting back to you, our office is only able to check our paper mail occasionally at this time.

Thank you for advising us about the MNRF property (pin 511340155, Part 4, RDC 32) that has been identified in the future Highway 401 footprint. I consulted with MNRF Lands & Waters staff on this matter and have some information to share.

From the plan, it appears that the MTO potential highway widening area represents just a small portion of Part 4, RDC 32 (Part 4 is ~84 acres in area). So, if the land that will be requested by MTO is just the portion highlighted in the notice, then that smaller area will have to be surveyed out by MTO. If MTO wishes to acquire *all* of Part 4 of Plan RDC 32, then that proposal will require a closer examination by MNRF as the site has been used for tree research (cross breeding and forestry development) and other public usage. In either of these cases the transfer would require a MNRF-to-

MTO Minister's Order. My co-worker, Pat Souliere can assist you with this process. You can contact him at pat.souliere@ontario.ca

All the best,
Catherine

Catherine Warren
District Planner
Peterborough District
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
300 Water Street, 1st Floor South
Peterborough, ON K9J 8M5
Tel: (705) 772-9012 *new phone number
Fax: (705) 755-3125
Email: catherine.warren@ontario.ca

Please note: As part of providing accessible customer service, please let me know if you have any accommodation needs or require communication supports or alternate formats.

From: Resi Walt <Resi.Walt@ofa.on.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 2:52 PM
To: Addley, Diana <Diana.Addley@stantec.com>
Cc: Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>; Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>; Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>
Subject: RE: Highway 401 Planning Study, from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00)

Hi all, thanks for the opportunity to share feedback. I have a letter attached from NFA with our comments.
Thank you!
Resi

Resi Walt

Member Service Representative
Hastings, Lennox and Addington, Northumberland, Prince Edward

Tel: 613.847.3037
Toll free: 1.877.277.3037
resi.walt@ofa.on.ca

Ontario Federation of Agriculture

200 Hanlon Creek Boulevard
Guelph, ON N1C 0A1



From: Addley, Diana <Diana.Addley@stantec.com>
Sent: March 11, 2021 4:35 PM
To: Resi Walt <Resi.Walt@ofa.on.ca>
Cc: Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <Muhammad.Waseem@ontario.ca>; Pipe, Erin (MTO) <Erin.Pipe@ontario.ca>; Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>; Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>
Subject: Highway 401 Planning Study, from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00)

Good afternoon,

The Ministry of Transportation retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. to complete a Planning, Preliminary Design, and Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study on Highway 401 for the replacement and rehabilitation of bridges and culverts, interchange modifications, establishing the future footprints for interim 6-lanes and ultimate 8-lanes to address current and future transportation needs, and commuter parking lot improvements, from 2 kms east of Nagle Road to 800

m east of Percy Street (approximately 18 kms). The study area location is provided in the attached key plan. As noted in the previous study notifications issued to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, additional information about this project can be reviewed on the project website: <http://www.highway401cobourgcolborne.ca/>

As part of this Class EA study, the project team is assessing future replacement needs of the bridges along Highway 401 within the study area, including the crossings located at Danforth Road East and Gully Road. The project team recognizes the surrounding agricultural lands, and is interested in understanding the needs of local farmers in the area. As such, could you kindly let us know if any farmers use the existing crossings to access their fields on both sides of Highway 401?

We appreciate any feedback you are able to provide.

Kind regards,

Diana Addley

Senior Environmental Planner

Direct: 905 415-6401

Direct: 647 588-7112

Diana.Addley@stantec.com



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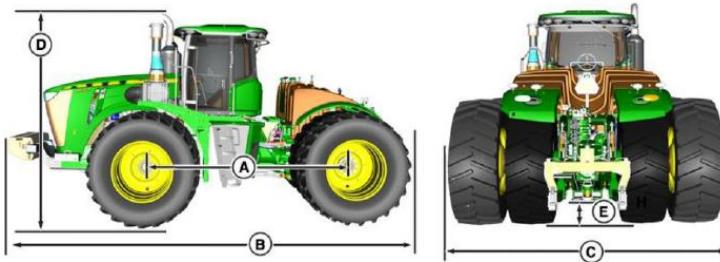
Re: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne, and Highway 401 401 Nagle Road Interchange Study

The Northumberland Federation of Agriculture (NFA) appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback regarding this project. Our farmers absolutely use this route to access their land on both sides of Highway 401.

NFA represents over 750 farm families and works in partnership with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) to be the voice of agriculture in Northumberland County. We are part of a vibrant and innovative industry which uses the latest technology to grow food more efficiently.

Our main concern is the ease in movement of agricultural equipment across bridges, with the most important consideration needing to be given to the size of our equipment. We ask that the size and scale of tractors and implements be considered in the design of any new infrastructure. We have put together a small list of equipment sizes for you to consider, plus a diagram of one of the largest tractors on the market.

- No-till drills – widths of 20 ft. and height exceeding 15 ft.
- Tractor with dual wheels – width of 15 ft.
- Haybine – width of 9-13 ft.
- John Deere's largest tractor available for purchase is 8416 mm long and 4900 mm wide



C-overall width (with outside duals)	4900 mm (192.9 in.)	4900 mm (192.9 in.)	4900 mm (192.9 in.)	4900 mm (192.9 in.)	4900 mm (192.9 in.)	4900 mm (192.9 in.)	4900 mm (192.9 in.)
Overall width (with wide tires)	--	--	4496-mm (177.7-in.) Scraper Special	4496-mm (177.7-in.) Scraper Special	4496-mm (177.7-in.) Scraper Special	4496-mm (177.7-in.) Scraper Special	4496-mm (177.7-in.) Scraper Special
Overall width (with narrow tires)	--	--	4420-mm (174-in.) Scraper Special	4420-mm (174-in.) Scraper Special	4420-mm (174-in.) Scraper Special	4420-mm (174-in.) Scraper Special	4420-mm (174-in.) Scraper Special

Furthermore, the legal width limit is 20 feet so we believe any bridge should accommodate that from the centre line to the right side of the shoulder, on the side the driver is on. As well, if there is to be a bicycle lane, then the road needs to be wider still.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input.

Sincerely,
Sid Atkinson
President, Northumberland Federation of Agriculture

From: [Robinson, Jennifer](#)
To: [Jennifer Current](#)
Cc: [Cooke, Gregg](#); [Belliveau, Tim](#); [Waseem, Muhammad \(MTO\)](#); [Robin van de Moosdyk](#); [Troy Gilmour](#); [comments@highway401cobourgcolborne.ca](#); [Addley, Diana](#)
Subject: RE: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00) - Grafton Heights Plan of Subdivision
Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 2:53:10 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hello,

Based on a review of our correspondence records, it is understood that a response to your questions below was not previously provided.

It should be noted that due to the pandemic and the Township's Procedural By-Law, the project team was unable to present the Preferred Plan at a Township Council meeting in advance of Public Information Centre (PIC) 2. However, the Preferred Plan at Lyle Street was previously shared with the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand as part of the Public Information Centre (PIC) 2 materials provided to you via email on August 17, 2020.

Regardless, we sincerely apologize for the delay in responding to your questions and would like to offer the following responses at this time:

1. Has the proposed road realignment been circulated to the property owners in this area including the owners of the Grafton Heights subdivision lands?

The possibility of changes to the subdivision access because of modifications to Lyle St was discussed many times with previous town Planner and staff at the time of Subdivision application review. The proponent was informed that Lyle Street would likely shift and their entrance could be through a new cul-de-sac. The Lyle Street alternatives were presented at PIC 1 on September 18, 2019. The Preferred Plan, including the Lyle Street realignment and cul-de-sac, was presented at online PIC 2 from August 27 to September 25, 2020. The study documentation is currently available online at www.highway401cobourgcolborne.ca.

2. While I was not involved in the initial review of the Grafton Heights draft plan, it is my understanding that the reason the road entrance is so wide was that MTO required a condominium entrance (commercial entrance) and there are topographical issues. If the subdivision entrance is no longer going to access County Road 23, does MTO still require a condominium entrance?

Lyle Street (County Road 23) is a County road and the entrance width is determined by the County of Northumberland requirements. A condominium entrance was permitted because the entrance location does not have sufficient separation from the MTO ramp terminal to qualify for a municipal road intersection. A plan of subdivision entrance is considered a municipal road and the setback for a municipal road along Class 1 highway is 400m (minimum). A condominium entrance is required.

3. If a Plan of Condominium is no longer required for a common element road (as was required by MTO) will MTO cover the costs associated with the required changes?

A Plan of Condominium is required.

4. While MTO comments indicate that the cost of the future extension of the cul-de-sac would be determined in the future, I believe that these details should be determined before the Township provides concurrence to the proposed changes.

The assumption of the Preferred Plan is that the road realignment and interchange

reconfiguration will occur in advance of the development. In this case, the developer will be responsible for extending the future cul-de-sac to the entrance. However, if the development occurs first, then MTO will construct the future cul-de-sac to the entrance.

5. Who is responsible for maintenance of the cul-de-sac post construction?

The ownership of the cul-de-sacs (Old Lyle Street) will be transferred to the Township, to maintain access to the properties on the west side of Lyle Street (including Grafton Heights).

6. Does MTO and/or Northumberland County own all of the land required for the road relocation and 401 bridge reconstruction?

MTO owns the majority of the property; however, some additional property is required for the realignment of Lyle Street. The red-blue dashed line represents the limits of additional property required.



The Class Environmental Assessment (EA) study process, including the findings of the technical studies, the potential environmental impacts of the project and proposed mitigation measures, will be documented within a Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR), which is tentatively scheduled to be completed in summer 2023. A Notice of Study Completion will be issued once the TESR has been

completed, at which time it will become available for public comment for a minimum of 30 days. Additional details regarding this Class EA study, including the information shared at Public Information Centres 1 and 2, is available for review on the study website ([Highway 401 Cobourg to Colborne \(highway401cobourgcolborne.ca\)](http://Highway 401 Cobourg to Colborne (highway401cobourgcolborne.ca))).

Thank you again for providing your questions. Should you have any additional questions, comments or concerns, and/or would like to speak to a member of the project team with respect to the above responses, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Jenn Robinson

Environmental Planner, Transportation GTA
Jennifer.Robinson@stantec.com
Stantec



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From: Jennifer Current <jcurrent@ahtwp.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 2:39 PM
To: Addley, Diana <Diana.Addley@stantec.com>
Cc: Cooke, Gregg <gregg.cooke@stantec.com>; Belliveau, Tim <tim.belliveau@stantec.com>; Waseem, Muhammad (MTO) <muhammad.waseem@ontario.ca>; Robin van de Moosdyk <rvdm@ahtwp.ca>; Troy Gilmour <tgilmour@ahtwp.ca>
Subject: RE: Highway 401 Planning Study from Cobourg to Colborne (GWP 4060-11-00) - Grafton Heights Plan of Subdivision

Good morning Diana,

I have had a preliminary examination of the proposed road realignment and have a couple of initial comments:

1. Has the proposed road realignment been circulated to the property owners in this area including the owners of the Grafton Heights subdivision lands?
2. While I was not involved in the initial review of the Grafton Heights draft plan, it is my understanding that the reason the road entrance is so wide was that MTO required a condominium entrance (commercial entrance) and there are topographical issues. If the subdivision entrance is no longer going to access County Road 23, does MTO still require a condominium entrance?
3. If a Plan of Condominium is no longer required for a common element road (as was required by MTO) will MTO cover the costs associated with the required changes?
4. While MTO comments indicate that the cost of the future extension of the cul-de-sac would be determined in the future, I believe that these details should be determined before the

Township provides concurrence to the proposed changes.

5. Who is responsible for maintenance of the cul-de-sac post construction?
6. Does MTO and/or Northumberland County own all of the land required for the road relocation and 401 bridge reconstruction?

Thanks,
Jennifer

Jennifer Current
Senior Planner
Township of Alnwick/Haldimand
10836 County Road 2, P.O. Box 70
Grafton, Ontario K0K 2G0
905-349-2822 ext.23
jcurrent@ahtwp.ca

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From: Addley, Diana <Diana.Addley@stantec.com>
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To: Jennifer Current <jcurrent@ahtwp.ca>
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Hi Jennifer,

With respect to the preferred plan, please note that the cul-de-sac can be extended in the future to accommodate the draft plan of subdivision in this area. The configuration of the future cul-de-sac and where it extends to will be confirmed in the future, when more specific information is available about the timing for both the bridge replacement and the development. At that time, it will also be determined who is responsible for construction of the extension.

Kind regards,

Diana Addley
Senior Environmental Planner
Direct: 905 415-6401
Mobile: 647 588-7112
Diana.Addley@stantec.com

Stantec
150 - 1555 Wentworth Street

Whitby ON L1N 9T6



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Hi Jennifer,

As discussed this morning, please find the preferred plan associated with the above referenced project showing the Grafton Heights draft Plan of Subdivision, located west of County Road 23/Lyle Street and south of Highway 401.

Thank you, and please do not hesitate to let us know if you have any questions and/or would like to discuss anything in more detail.

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