

May 25, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

**RE: Notice of Publication of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report
Highway 400 – Highway 404 Link (Bradford Bypass)
Preliminary Design and Assessment of Environmental Impacts
Ontario Ministry of Transportation**

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be available for public review from **June 1, 2023** until **June 30, 2023** in accordance with Ontario Regulation 697/21, Sections 20, 25 and 26, for the Bradford Bypass.

The Study

The Ministry of Transportation has retained AECOM Canada Ltd. to undertake a Preliminary Design and project-specific assessment of environmental impacts in accordance with Ontario Regulation 697/21 for the Bradford Bypass. Under the regulation, the study is following the streamlined assessment process that includes environmental commitments from the 2002 approved Environmental Assessment for Preliminary Design of the Technically Preferred Route.

The Bradford Bypass will be a 16.3-kilometre, controlled access freeway to connect Highway 400 and Highway 404 with proposed full and partial interchanges, and grade separated crossings. The route extends from Highway 400 between 8th Line and 9th Line in Bradford West Gwillimbury (County of Simcoe), will cross a small portion of King Township, and will connect to Highway 404 between Queensville Sideroad and Holborn Road in East Gwillimbury (Regional Municipality of York).

The current study proposes preliminary design refinements to the route alignment and interchanges, design updates to the freeway interchanges, and grade separated crossings at local roads and watercourses, including new bridges over the Holland River and Holland River East Branch. This project will also include design integration with planned work on Highway 400, such as the design development for the replacement of the 9th Line structure on Highway 400.

The key map on the enclosed *Ontario Government Notice* shows the study area, the Updated Technically Preferred Route (Recommended Plan), and locations of the proposed interchanges and bridge and rail structures.

Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Various environmental impacts related to the Bradford Bypass have been assessed in accordance with Ontario Regulation 697/21. In accordance with Sections 20 and 25, the ministry has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report. The Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report documents the evaluation of alternatives considered for this project, presents the Updated Technically Preferred Route, and documents the environmental impacts, proposed mitigation measures and environmental commitments. Currently, additional archaeological investigations are being completed to finalize the impact assessments in accordance with Ontario Regulation 697/21 and are not included in this posting. This information will be available for additional public and Indigenous community review once completed.

Consultation Period and Contact Information

The Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be available for review on the Project Website from **June 1, 2023** until **June 30, 2023**. Comments and feedback on the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report can be provided to the ministry via the Project Website, email or by telephone.

An additional public review and Indigenous community consultation period will occur when the remaining archaeological investigations are completed and incorporated into an updated Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report. Details about this subsequent Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report posting will be conveyed through an additional notice.

Any concerns raised during the review periods by Indigenous communities, interested persons, and stakeholders will be documented in the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

Section 26 (4) of Ontario Regulation 697/21 provides for an issues resolution process for the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report. The issues resolution process and of the outcome of the process, including what, if anything, the ministry did or will do in respect of the concerns raised will be documented in the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

Project Website: <https://www.bradfordbypass.ca/consultation/>

Project Team Email: ProjectTeam@BradfordBypass.ca

Toll-Free Telephone Number: 1-877-247-6036

If you have accessibility requirements in order to participate in this study, or to be placed on the Project Contact List, please use a contact method noted above or visit the “Contact Us” page on the Project Website. There is an opportunity at any time during the study for interested persons to provide input to the Project Team regarding the study. Comments are being collected to assist the ministry in meeting the requirements under Ontario Regulation 697/21. This material will be maintained on file for use during the Study and may be included in project documentation. Information collected will be used in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

We thank you for your participation and interest in the Preliminary Design and project-specific assessment of environmental impacts for the Bradford Bypass and look forward to your involvement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Sorochinsky', written in a cursive style.

Tim Sorochinsky, P.Eng.

AECOM Canada Ltd., Project Manager

cc. W. Ma – Ministry of Transportation Project Manager
A. MacLean – Ministry of Transportation Project Manager
R. Lariviere – Ministry of Transportation Project Manager
R. Gribbon – Ministry of Transportation Senior Environmental Planner
R. Sheikh – AECOM Deputy Project Manager
H. Wright – AECOM Senior Environmental Planner
M. Atherton – AECOM Environmental Planner

Enclosed: Ontario Government Notice

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT
- HIGHWAY 400 - HIGHWAY 404 LINK (BRADFORD BYPASS)
PRELIMINARY DESIGN AND ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

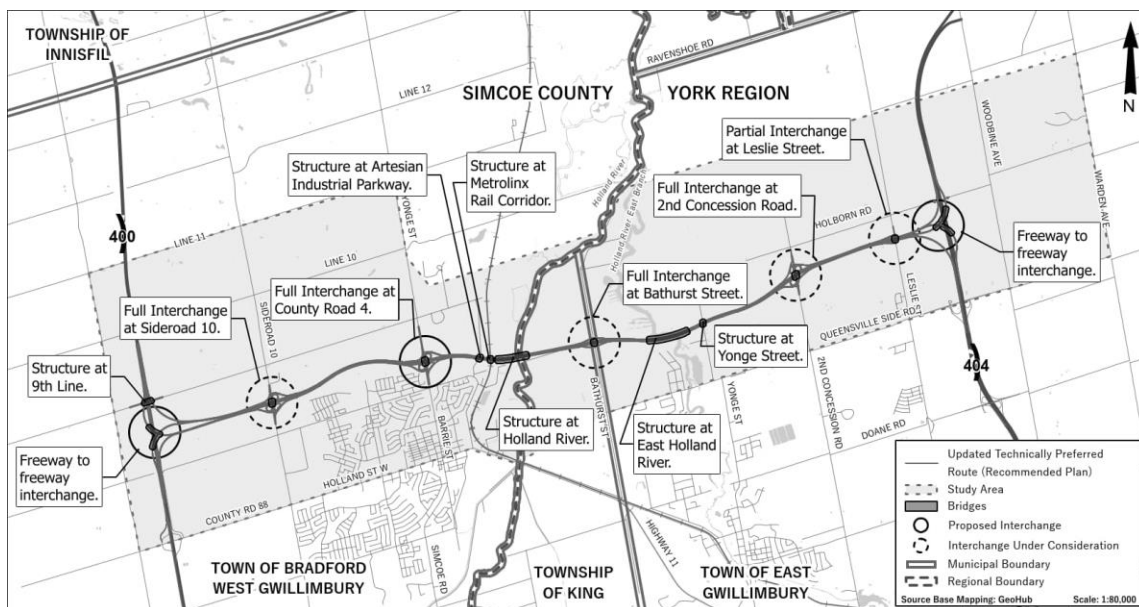
THE STUDY

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DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

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CONSULTATION PERIOD AND CONTACT INFORMATION

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Upon completion of the consultation and the issues resolution process, the ministry will prepare and file the Final Environmental Impact Assessment Report in accordance with Ontario Regulation 697/21, Section 27.

Project Website: <https://www.bradfordbypass.ca/consultation/>

Project Team Email: ProjectTeam@BradfordBypass.ca

Toll-Free Telephone Number: 1-877-247-6036

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This notice was issued on **May 25, 2023**, in accordance with Ontario Regulation 697/21: Section 25.