

Notice of Design and Construction Report Addendum Completion Detailed Design and Class Environmental Assessment

Highway 401 Townline Road Interchange – Eastbound On-Ramp Closure, within the Highway 401 Interchange and Highway Improvements from Hespeler Road to Townline Road, City of Cambridge and Township of Puslinch (GWP 3044-23-00)

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. to complete a Design and Construction Report Addendum to address proposed ramp closures at the Highway 401 Townline Road interchange. The study area for the Addendum is shown on the key map.

The Addendum is for the *Detailed Design and Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) study for improvements on Highway 401 from Hespeler Road to Townline Road* in the City of Cambridge, Region of Waterloo completed in 2019. The Class EA was approved in November 2013 following the preparation and filing for a Transportation Environmental Study Report (GWP 8-00-00). The Design and Construction Reports (DCRs) for the two phases of construction were made available for public review in November 2017 and April 2019 respectively.

The most recent phase of construction (Phase 2) was completed in 2024, and included Highway 401 widening to 10 lanes, reconstruction of the Highway 401 bridge and interchange at Hespeler Road, ramp tie-ins at the Highway 401 interchanges, expansion of the Townline Road commuter parking lot, and rehabilitation of the Wellington Road 32 overpass, and adding a new section of noise wall on the south side of Highway 401 to the west of Franklin Boulevard. Drainage, illumination, retaining wall, and signage improvements were added.

REASON FOR THE DCR ADDENDUM

During construction of Phase 2, an area of deep muskeg (organic) material was encountered within the footprint of the planned embankment widening on Highway 401 east of Townline Road in the eastbound lanes. Foundation improvements are required prior to embankment widening and to address deficiencies in the highway platform. Closure of the Highway 401 eastbound on-ramp from south on Townline Road is required to accommodate construction. The ramp closure was not included in the DCRs, and therefore requires the completion of a DCR Addendum to address the change.

THE PROCESS

A DCR Addendum has been prepared to document the changes related to the required Highway 401 eastbound on-ramp closure. The DCR Addendum is available for a 30-day review period from **December 10, 2025 to January 12, 2026**. The document will be available on the project website (www.highway401-hespeler-townline.ca). The Addendum was prepared under the Ministry of Transportation's Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for Provincial Transportation Facilities, 2000 as a Group 'B' project, as the project construction is ongoing under the 2000 EA provisions. Comments can be provided to our study team by **January 12, 2026**.

All comments and concerns can be sent to either of the study team members:

**Kevin Welker P.Eng., Senior Principal,
Practice Leader - Transportation**

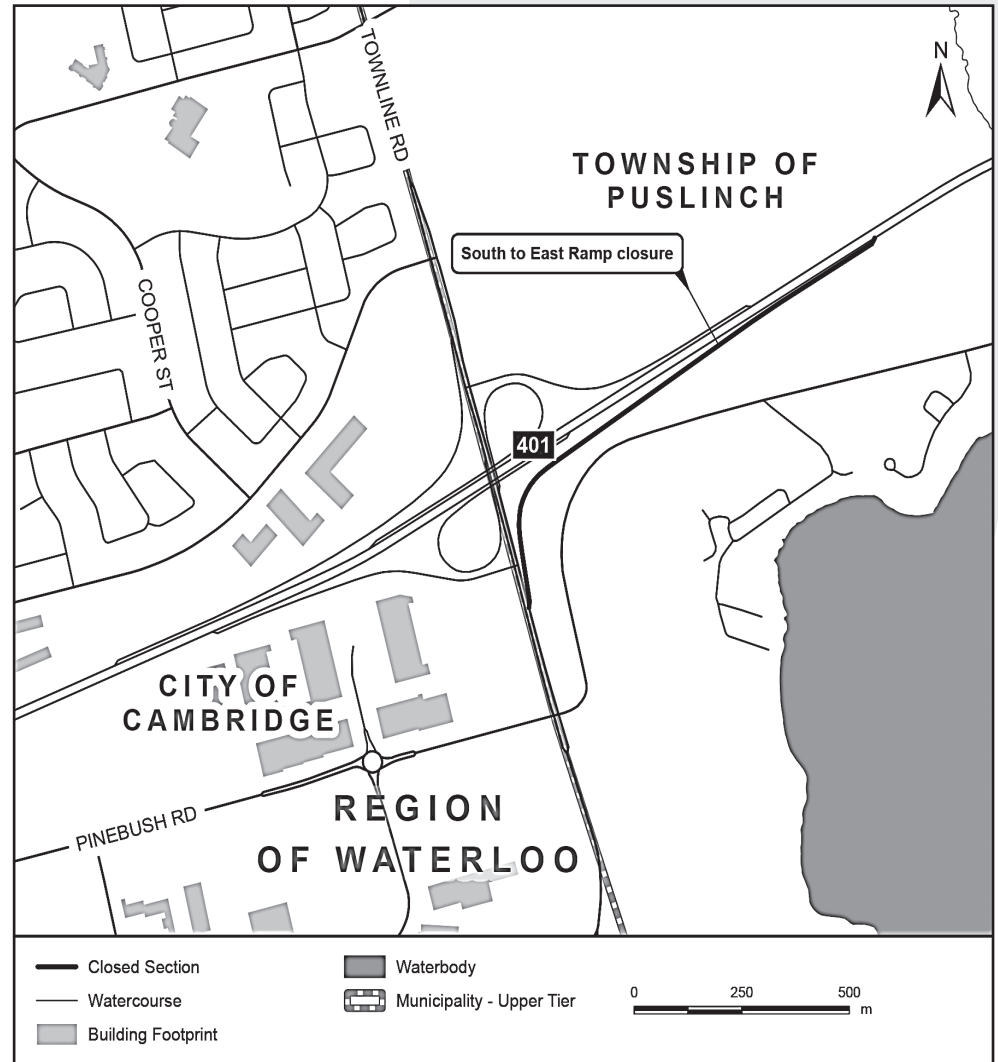
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REQUESTS TO THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, CONSERVATION AND PARKS

This project was approved as part of the Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) in November 2014 where an opportunity for "bump up" was provided. The project is no longer eligible for such provisions as those provisions have since been replaced by Section 16 orders. Section 16 orders may only be requested if the order may prevent, mitigate, or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. Requests on other grounds will not be considered. Requests should include the requester's contact information and full name.

Requests should specify what kind of order is being requested, how an order may prevent, mitigate or remedy potential adverse impacts on Aboriginal and treaty rights, and any information in support of the statements in the request. This will ensure that the ministry is able to efficiently begin reviewing the request. The request should be sent in writing or by email to the following as well as to the project contacts above:

**Minister of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks**
Ministry of Environment,
Conservation and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
e-mail: Minister.mecp@ontario.ca

**Director
Environmental Assessment Branch**
Ministry of Environment,
Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Floor
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5
e-mail: EABDirector@ontario.ca

All media inquiries shall be directed to MTO's Communications Branch at 416-327-1158 or mto.media@ontario.ca. Information collected will be used in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record. If you have accessibility requirements to participate in this project, please contact one of the team members listed above.