

A Municipal Technical Advisory Group (MTAG) Orientation Session was held regarding the Niagara to GTA Corridor Planning and EA Study on March 27, 2007 at the Casablanca Winery Inn (4 Windward Drive) in Grimsby from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Representatives of the Ministry of Transportation (John Slobodzian, Terry Hilditch, Frank Pravitz, Darlene Proudfoot, and Sam DiFelice), URS, GLPi, MRC, and Ecoplans Ltd. staffed the MTAG Orientation Session. The Orientation Session was an invitation only meeting.

### **Purpose of the MTAG Orientation Session**

The purpose of this MTAG Orientation Session was to present the following:

- Study Team Structure
- Study Overview
- Existing Policy Context
- Approved EA ToR
- Study Process and Objectives
- Study Plan
- Function of the Municipal Technical Advisory Group (MTAG) and Municipal Executive Advisory Group (MEAG)
- Stakeholder Consultation and Outreach
- Process for Generating and Evaluating Transportation System Alternatives

A focused discussion on the Consultation/Outreach Program was held after the presentation. The attendees separated into two working groups to discuss a series of questions (provided in a workshop workbook) focused on how to enhance the consultation and outreach program for this study. A spokesperson from each group reported the results back to the entire group for discussion. The display material included the MTAG Orientation Session presentation and the Workshop Workbook.

### **Attendance**

A total of 17 members of the MTAG from the Region of Niagara, City of Hamilton, Halton Region, and Conservation Authorities signed the registry for the MTAG Orientation Session (see attached list).

In addition to verbal comments, the Project Team encouraged MTAG members to express, in writing, any suggestions, comments or concerns that they had regarding the information presented.

### **Summary of Questions and Comments**

The following summarizes the key questions and comments provided by the MTAG:

- When will the decision point for Phase 1 be reached?
- How are federal agencies represented in the stakeholder groups?
- Has the MEAG been selected or established?
- What is the timeline for the study?
- How will the solution be implemented if it is under the jurisdiction of others?
- Coordination with other studies. (e.g. Hwy 24 and GTA-West)
- Need more control over all types of solutions (e.g. transit) instead of passing on the recommendations to others.

- Various comments on the approach for engaging the MTAG, municipal councils and the Municipal Executive Advisory Group.
- Various comments on the approach for public consultation and outreach including consultation events, notification tools and considerations for establishing a Community Advisory Group.

### **MTAG Attendees**

Darren Kenny	Hamilton Conservation Authority
Rudy Warkentin	Township of Wainfleet
Scott McMillen	Town of Oakville
Edward Soldo	County of Haldimand
David Wong	Town of Oakville
Mary Lou Tanner	Halton Region
Tim Stuart	City of Port Colborne
Joanne Warner	Town of Milton
Tom Eichenbaum	City of Burlington
Hal Morse	Buffalo-Niagara RTC
Corwin Cambray	Regional Municipality of Niagara
Stephen Bedford	Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
Steve Miller	Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority
Bob Wheildon	Township of Puslinch
Christine Lee-Morrison	City of Hamilton
Karl Dren	City of Niagara Falls
Marzenna Carrick	City of Niagara Falls