

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #2

Niagara to GTA Corridor Planning and Environmental Assessment Study Phase 1

THE STUDY:

Phase 1 of the Planning and Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the Niagara to GTA Corridor, initiated by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO), will support the transportation objectives of the provincial *Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe* by providing for the efficient movement of people and goods within the corridor.

Phase 1 of this study includes the following key steps:

- Develop a Study Plan
- Identify transportation problems and opportunities
- Identify and assess transportation alternatives (i.e. fundamentally different ways of addressing the problems and opportunities)
- Select preferred transportation alternative(s) and recommend a multi-modal Transportation Development Strategy
- Make recommendations for future work in the Niagara to GTA corridor.

Since the last round of Public Information Centres (#1), the following has been completed:

- "Study Vision, Purpose, Goals and Objectives" discussion paper;
- Travel Demand modelling/forecasting approaches developed in consultation with stakeholders;
- "Factors Influencing Transportation Demand in the NGTA Corridor" discussion paper;
- Incorporated work from the recently released Metrolinx *Regional Transportation Plan for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area* and more up-to-date land use information from municipalities; and
- Identification of specific inter-regional transportation problems and opportunities in the study area.

These are important steps that lay the foundation for the examination of alternative transportation system improvements.

PROCESS:

The Niagara to GTA Corridor Planning and EA study will be undertaken in accordance with the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act* (OEAA), the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA), and the *Niagara to GTA Corridor Environmental Assessment Terms of Reference* (ToR), which was approved by the Minister of the Environment in June 2006.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE:

The public is invited to attend these informal sessions to view maps and displays that illustrate the problems and opportunities within the NGTA corridor. Project Team members will be available to answer questions, receive comments and discuss the next steps in this study. PIC #2 will be held on:

Tuesday, February 24th, 2009 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Royal Canadian Legion <i>Upstairs Hall</i> 383 Morningstar Avenue, Welland	Thursday, February 26th, 2009 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Rockton World Fairground 812 Old Highway 8, Rockton	Tuesday, March 3rd, 2009 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Burlington Convention Centre <i>Emerald Hall</i> 1120 Burloak Drive, Burlington
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Information presented at the PIC will also be available on the project website starting February 19th, 2009.

The focus of this round of PICs is to present how future transportation conditions are being predicted, the transportation problems identified through the forecasting exercise, and opportunities identified through the Goals and Objectives Discussion Paper. The Project Team is also seeking youth representatives to join the **Community Advisory Group** (CAG) that has been established for this study.

COMMENTS:

Comments and information regarding this project will be collected to assist the MTO in meeting the requirements of the OEAA. This material will be maintained on file for use during the project and may be included in project documentation. Information collected will be used in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Access to Information Act*. With the exception of personal information (e.g., name and address), all comments will become part of the public record.

For further information, or to be added to the mailing list for this study, please visit the project website or contact:

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