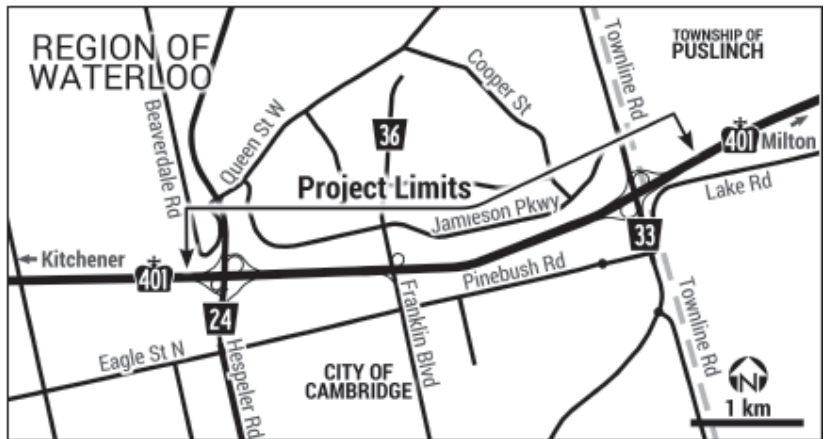


# NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT

## Detailed Design and Class Environmental Assessment Study Highway 401 Interchange Improvements from Hespeler Road to Townline Road, City of Cambridge (G.W.P. 3060-11-00)

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. to undertake 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 as shown on the key plan.



Subject to the outcome of the study, the project includes the reconstruction of the Highway 401 interchanges at Hespeler Road and Franklin Boulevard, including replacement of the bridges. To facilitate these improvements, the project will include reconstruction of Highway 401. The project also includes the rehabilitation of the Townline Road bridge, drainage improvements, illumination, overhead signs, traffic signals and retaining walls. A new noise wall is proposed along the south side of Highway 401 just west of Franklin Boulevard. The study will include the provision for pedestrian/cyclist travel across Highway 401 on Franklin Boulevard in accordance with the active transportation goals of the Region of Waterloo and the City of Cambridge.

All of the proposed improvements will take into consideration the future 10-lane cross-section of Highway 401. The construction staging/traffic management strategy during the replacement of the Franklin Boulevard bridge will include a temporary full closure of this interchange with no access across Highway 401 during construction.

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### PROCESS

This study is following the approved planning process for Group 'B' projects under the MTO *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities* (2000). The Preliminary Design of the project was included in the Highway 401 from Hespeler Road easterly to the Wellington County/Halton Region Boundary study, which concluded with the publication of a Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR). The TESR received Environmental Assessment (EA) clearance in November 2013.

A Public Information Centre (PIC) will be held in 2015 to present the Recommended Plan for improvements as well as the proposed construction staging and traffic management plan. The date, time and location of the PIC will be advertised in local newspapers.

A Design and Construction Report (DCR) documenting this study will be made available for a 30-day public review period with public notice advising of the start of the review period. The DCR is not subject to a Part II Order ('bump-up') request under the provisions of the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

### COMMENTS

We are interested in hearing your comments regarding the project. If you would like to have your name added to the mailing list or to provide comments, please contact one of the following individuals:

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For up-to-date project information and to submit comments to the Project Team at any time during the study, please visit the project website at [www.highway401-hespeler-townline.ca](http://www.highway401-hespeler-townline.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 any accessibility requirements in order to participate in the project, please contact one of the Project Team members listed above.