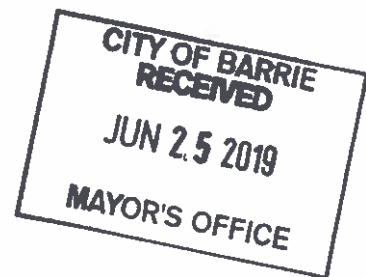




Stantec Consulting Ltd.  
600-171 Queens Avenue, London ON N6A 5J7



June 18, 2019  
File: 165001100

**Attention: Nina Brancaccio, Executive Assistant to the Mayor**  
City of Barrie  
70 Collier Street, P.O. Box 400  
Barrie ON L4N 4T5

Dear Ms. Brancaccio,

**Reference: Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment, G.W.P. 2337-16-00,  
Highway 400/Essa Road Interchange**

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is undertaking a Class Environmental Assessment (EA) study and Detail Design for the reconstruction of the Highway 400/Essa Road Interchange, including the replacement of the Highway 400 overpass structures at Essa Road. The study area is within the City of Barrie. A notice with additional details is enclosed.

The purpose of this letter is to introduce the study and to seek your input on the project so you may identify any issues or concerns that you may have.

The Detail Design includes:

- Replacement of the Highway 400 bridges at Essa Road
- Reconstruction of the Highway 400/Essa Road interchange to accommodate the future ultimate widening of Highway 400
- Limited widening of Highway 400 to accommodate construction staging
- Replacement of traffic signals at the new ramp terminals
- Storm sewer replacement, and stormwater management and median tall wall concrete barrier improvements
- Widening of Essa Road to 6 lanes for the City of Barrie, within the interchange

Please communicate any concerns or questions related to this project to the undersigned. A comment form is provided for your convenience. Please return the form by July 19, 2019.

# Notice of Study Commencement

## Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment (G.W.P. 2337-16-00) Highway 400/Essa Road Interchange

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) retained **Stantec Consulting Ltd.** to complete the Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment (EA) study for the reconstruction of the Highway 400/Essa Road interchange, including the replacement of the Highway 400 overpass structures at Essa Road. The study area is within the City of Barrie.

### THE PROJECT

The Detail Design includes:

- Replacement of the Highway 400 bridges at Essa Road
- Reconstruction of the Highway 400/Essa Road interchange to accommodate the future ultimate widening of Highway 400
- Limited widening of Highway 400 to accommodate construction staging
- Replacement of traffic signals at the new ramp terminals
- Storm sewer replacement, stormwater management and median tall wall concrete barrier improvements
- Widening of Essa Road to 6 lanes for the City of Barrie, within the interchange

### THE PROCESS

This study is following the approved planning process for Group 'B' projects under the MTO *Class EA for Provincial Transportation Facilities* (2000). This will include an assessment of potential impacts of the project works on the study area environment, and addressing the concerns raised during the consultation process. The Preliminary Design of the project was documented in the *Highway 400 Improvements from 1 km South of Highway 89 to the Junction of Highway 11 Transportation Environmental Study Report* (TESR), and TERS Addendum to update the study (W.O. 06-20016). The TERS received EA clearance in 2006 and the TERS Addendum received EA clearance in 2017.

A Design and Construction Report (DCR) documenting the project will be prepared describing the existing environmental conditions, design features, detours and construction staging, impacts, and mitigation measures. A project website will be maintained for the duration of this project. At the conclusion of the study, the DCR will be made available for a 30-day public review period with public notice advising of the start of the review period.

### COMMENTS

If you wish to obtain additional information, provide comments, or have any accessibility requirements in order to participate in this project, please contact one of the project team members listed below:

**Mr. Dave Emery, P.Eng.**  
Project Manager  
Stantec Consulting Ltd.  
200-835 Paramount Drive  
Stoney Creek, ON L8J 0B4  
tel: 905-381-3221  
e-mail: dave.emery@stantec.com

**Ms. Heather Glass, P.Eng.**  
Senior Project Engineer  
Ministry of Transportation, Central Region  
159 Sir William Hearst Avenue  
Toronto, ON M3M 0B7  
tel: 416-235-5521  
e-mail: heather.glass@ontario.ca

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: [www.hwy400essaroad.ca](http://www.hwy400essaroad.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.

