ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF DRAFT EARLY WORKS REPORT COUNTY ROAD 4 EARLY WORKS- GWP 2008-21-00 HIGHWAY 400 - HIGHWAY 404 LINK (BRADFORD BYPASS)

The Project

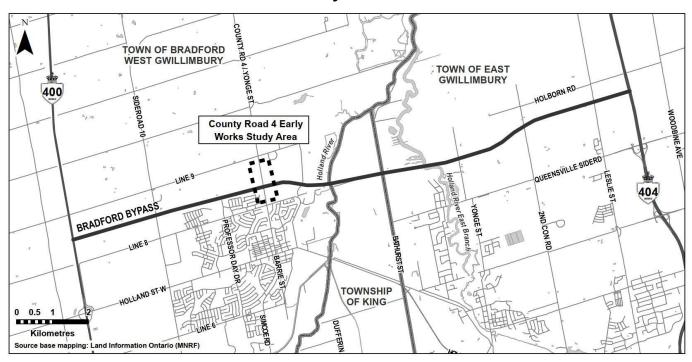
The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has retained AECOM Canada Ltd. (AECOM) to undertake a Preliminary Design project-specific assessment of environmental impacts for the proposed Highway 400 – Highway 404 Link (Bradford Bypass). In accordance with the provisions of the Ontario Regulation 697/21, the MTO intends to move ahead with Early Works. Early Works, as set out in the regulation is focused on a grade separated bridge crossing for the future Bradford Bypass at County Road 4 (Yonge Street).

To promote design efficiencies between the Bradford Bypass Project and the County of Simcoe's widening of County Road 4 (2012 approved Municipal Class Environmental Assessment), MTO will incorporate the widening elements for this section of County Road 4 and include the construction of a multi-use path.

The Early Works Study Area covers County Road 4 from south of Line 9 to Line 8, in the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, County of Simcoe (see **Key Plan**).

Background

The County of Simcoe prepared an Environmental Study Report (2012) for the widening of County Road 4 from north of Line 8 to north of County Road 89 that was approved under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process. The County of Simcoe has since started site preparation works for the widening of County Road 4 from the southern limit (Line 8) to Line 11. In September 2020, MTO initiated the Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Study for the Bradford Bypass (a new 16.2 km controlled access freeway) per the 2002 Environmental Assessment approved recommended plan and alignment and began discussions with municipalities to coordinate projects in the Study Area. As the Bradford Bypass will require a bridge to carry County Road 4 over the new highway, MTO, through consultation with the County of Simcoe, will complete the widening of County Road 4 within the Bradford Bypass study limits and has prepared this Early Works report for the construction of the new bridge over the future highway.



Key Plan



Draft Early Works Report

The environmental impacts related to the Early Works have been assessed in accordance with Ontario Regulation 697/21. In accordance with Section 5 of Ontario Regulation 697/21, MTO has prepared the Draft Early Works Report that is now available for public review.

The Draft Early Works Report summarizes the local environmental conditions within the Early Works Study Area. The report also provides an assessment and evaluation of potential impacts that Early Works will have on the environment, a description of mitigation measures and monitoring activities, and a consultation record.

Review and Comment Period

The Draft County Road 4 Early Works Report will be available for review on the project website (www.BradfordBypass.ca/early-works/) as of January 13, 2022. You can provide comments on the report from January 13, 2022 until February 12, 2022 via the online form provided on the website or address them to the project email (ProjectTeam@BradfordBypass.ca).

Section 11(4) of Ontario Regulation 697/21 provides for an issues resolution process for the County Road 4 Early Works. Any concerns raised during the public review period of the Draft County Road 4 Early Works Report by Indigenous Nations and interested persons (and stakeholders) will be documented in Section 4.7 of the Final Early Works Report.

To view or obtain a copy of the Draft County Road 4 Early Works Report, please visit the project website (www.BradfordBypass.ca/early-works/) or contact the Project Team by phone or email as listed below.

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For up-to-date project information, or to participate in the study, please visit the project website or contact the Project Team directly by e-mail or telephone.

This notice was issued on January 7, 2022 in accordance with Ontario Regulation 697/21: Section 10(3).

Comments are being collected to assist MTO in meeting the requirements of Ontario Regulation 697/21. This material will be maintained on file for use during the Study and may be included in project documentation. Information collected will be used in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. F.31.* 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 this project, please contact the Project Team as listed above.

