



Region of Waterloo

Project Commencement

Central Transit Corridor Individual Environmental Assessment (EA) Terms of Reference

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo, in consultation with the Cities of Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo, is beginning preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) Terms of Reference for the development of a higher order transit corridor extending from Waterloo to Cambridge.

The need for a higher order transit corridor in Waterloo Region was determined in the *Regional Growth Management Strategy* adopted by Regional Council on June 25, 2003, and also in the *Regional Transportation Master Plan* adopted in 1999. The corridor is intended to act as one of the key catalysts to influence urban form, support downtown core revitalization and control urban sprawl in the Region.

THE PROCESS

This project will fulfil the requirements of the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act* (OEAA) as well as the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA). For a Provincial Individual EA, the EA Act requires that a proponent first prepare a Terms of Reference to define the framework of the proposed EA project. The Terms of Reference must then be approved by the Ontario Minister of Environment. In preparing the Terms of Reference and the subsequent EA project, public input and comment will be invited. If the Terms of Reference are approved by the Ontario Minister of Environment, the EA project will then involve the final selection of Central Transit Corridor routes, facilities, transit technologies and preliminary design, all to be completed as part of an Individual EA. Public consultation and provision of project information will continue through the Individual EA process.

The first opportunity for formal public input into the preparation of the EA Terms of Reference will take place at the following public meeting, where the public will be provided further information on the Individual EA process and continuing opportunities for public input, and will be asked to provide suggestions on higher order transit issues that they feel should be addressed in the subsequent EA:

Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2004

Place: Cafeteria, Eastwood Collegiate Institute
760 Weber Street E, Kitchener
Parking off Jackson Avenue, Clifford Road and
Montgomery Road

Time: Regional Presentation: 6:30 – 7:30 pm
Group Discussions: 7:30 – 9:00 pm

This public meeting will be an opportunity for interested members of the public, and representatives of local stakeholder groups and involved agencies to begin their participation in the Central Transit Corridor EA process. If, at the completion of the EA process, you feel that serious issues remain unresolved, you have the right to ask the Minister of Environment to refer the project to a hearing.

PROVIDING COMMENTS

All comments and information from the public, stakeholder groups and agencies regarding the EA project are being collected to assist the Region in meeting the requirements of OEAA and CEAA. This material will be kept in the project file, and may be included in project documentation 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 wish to be added to the project mailing list or would like further information on the project and upcoming public meeting, please contact either:

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