



Region of Waterloo

PUBLIC NOTICE



Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment (EA) Notice of 30-day Review Period for Phase 1 Draft Report

The Region of Waterloo's Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment Phase 1 Draft Report will be available for a 30-day public review period in accordance with the Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment Terms of Reference that were approved by Ontario's Minister of the Environment.

WHEN: May 19 – June 19, 2006

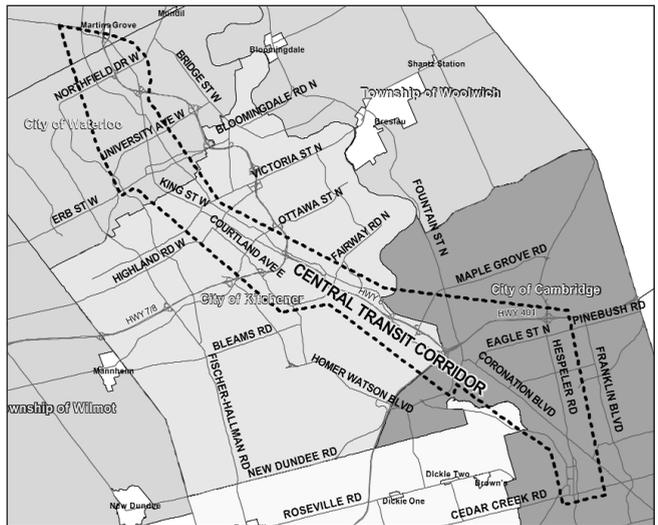
WHERE: Copies of the Phase 1 Draft Report will be posted on the website at www.region.waterloo.on.ca/transitea and available for review at Regional and Local Municipal Clerks' offices and libraries (see website or call Regional staff for a list of locations).

BACKGROUND

The Region of Waterloo is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the development of rapid transit in the Central Transit Corridor that extends from Cambridge to Waterloo (see map at right). An EA is a process used in Ontario to determine the potential affects and benefits a project may have on the natural, social, cultural and economic environments, as a means of informing the decision-making process.

The phases of the Region of Waterloo Rapid Transit EA include:

- **Phase 1:** Evaluation and selection of a preferred transportation system strategy (i.e. the Rapid Transit undertaking versus other transportation alternatives);
- **Phase 2:** Evaluation of alternative technologies and route design, identification of a preferred transit system;
- **Phase 3:** Preliminary design of the recommended transit system.



The Phase 1 Draft Report contains the results of the evaluation of Rapid Transit and three other strategic transportation alternatives – Baseline, Road Improvement and Expansion and Improved Conventional Transit to determine which transportation strategy best meets the goals of the Regional Growth Management Strategy (RGMS) and contributes to the quality of life in the Region. Based on the results of this evaluation, the RGMS/Rapid Transit Project Team is proposing that Rapid Transit be the Preferred Transportation Strategy for Waterloo Region.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Region encourages members of the public, stakeholder groups and agencies to actively participate in the Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment process. The public is invited to attend the following meeting:

The Phase 1 Draft Report will be tabled for information:

June 6, 2006 Planning and Works Committee, 9 a.m., Regional Council Chambers
150 Frederick St., Kitchener.

If you would like to appear as a delegation, please contact the Regional Clerk's Office at ferin@region.waterloo.on.ca or (519) 575-4420. To be added to the project mailing list or for further information on the project and ongoing public consultation opportunities, please visit the project website at www.region.waterloo.on.ca/transitea or contact:

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All comments and information received 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. Under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Environmental Assessment Act*, unless otherwise stated in the submission, any personal information such as name, address, telephone number and property location included in a submission from the public will become part of the public record files for this matter and can be released, if requested, to any person.