



Received for Information TAPS July
23 2015 per Resolution TAPS106-15

June 26, 2015

Via: Mail

Mr. Mike Kelly
Director of Transportation Services
County of Grey
595 9th Ave. E
Owen Sound, ON
N4K 3E3

Dear Mr. Kelly:

**Re: Intersection Improvements for the Highway 26 Corridor from Grey Road 19 to Grey Road 21
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study
Project No.: 300034729.0000**

The Town of The Blue Mountains ("Town") in partnership with the Ministry of Transportation and County of Grey ("road authorities"), has initiated a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) to consider potential transportation issues and solutions relating to the development in the area of Highway 26 between Grey Road 19 and Grey Road 21.

Included in this study are possible improvements, enhancements or closures of existing intersections at Highway 26 and Grey Road 21/Long Point Road, Lakeshore Road East/Fraser Crescent, Brophy's Lane, Hope Street, Blue Mountain Drive and Timmons Street. Redirection of existing local streets to facilitate consolidation of intersections will be considered. Other considerations include connections to proposed developments, the alignment of the Georgian Trail and pedestrian traffic crossing Highway 26.

The study will evaluate the alternatives with consideration for the natural, cultural, technical and economic environment. The approximate extent of the Study Area for this project is shown on the Map provided in the attached Notice of Commencement.

The study is being carried out in accordance with the planning and design process for projects as outlined in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (October 2000, as amended in 2007 & 2011). A key component of the study will be consultation with stakeholders (public and agencies).

At this stage of the process, the Town is requesting that your organization provide any comments and / or concerns with the proposed project. Specifically, the Town is seeking information on:

- Policies, positions or guidelines implemented or administered by your organization that may affect implementation of the construction and operational phases of the project;
- Background information that is pertinent to the compilation of an environmental inventory of the general area of study;
- Any preliminary comments or concerns that your organization has on the proposed projects; and,
- Other projects proposed within or near the general area of study.

It is essential to the success of this project that the concerns of your organization, and other stakeholders, are identified early in the planning process, such that the appropriate environmental protection measures are incorporated into the overall project design. Input and comments received from the public and agencies will be incorporated into the planning and design of this project.

Your input and questions are encouraged. To provide the study team with your comments, please email HWY26CraigleithEA@rjburnside.com , or for further project information please contact Mr. Ron Kerr, at (705) 797-4293.

Please indicate to us your interest in providing input to this project by responding to our letter by July 31, 2015. All interested stakeholders will be kept up-to-date on project status by means of future mailings.

Your participation in this EA study is much appreciated.

Yours truly,

R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited



Deanna De Forest
EA Coordinator
dd:sr

Enclosure(s) Notice of Commencement
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**The Corporation of the Town of The Blue Mountains
NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT
INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS
HIGHWAY 26 CORRIDOR FROM GREY ROAD 19 TO GREY ROAD 21
MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY**



The Study

Following the Comprehensive Transportation Strategic Plan, March 2010 (Strategic Plan), The Town of The Blue Mountains, in partnership with the Ministry of Transportation and County of Grey ("road authorities"), has initiated a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) to consider potential transportation issues and solutions relating to the development in the area of Highway 26 between Grey Road 19 and Grey Road 21. Alternative Solutions will be developed to consider improvements to the transportation network that meet projected increases in transportation demands (pedestrian, cyclist, vehicle) and address traffic congestion and safety concerns in the area.

Included in this study are possible improvements, enhancements or closures of existing intersections at Highway 26 and Grey Road 21/Long Point Road, Lakeshore Road East/Fraser Crescent, Brophy's Lane, Hope Street, Blue Mountain Drive and Timmons Street. Redirection of existing local streets to facilitate consolidation of Intersections will be considered. Other considerations include connections to proposed developments, the alignment of the Georgian Trail and pedestrian traffic crossing Highway 26.

The study will define the problem, identify and evaluate alternative solutions with consideration for the natural, cultural, technical and economic environment, and determine a preferred solution in consultation with regulatory agencies and the public.

The Process

The study is being planned as a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment following the process described in the Municipal Engineer's Association Guide for Municipal Class EAs (2000, as amended in 2007 & 2011).

Public & Agency Input Invited

Public consultation is vital to this study. The road authorities would like to ensure that anyone interested in this study has the opportunity to get involved and provide input on the project's implementation. As such, the road authorities are interested in receiving comments on local experience with transportation issues in the study area and possible solutions. We invite your comments and input on the planning and design of this project. Please provide your comments to us by July 31, 2015.

A Public Information Centre (PIC) is planned for a later stage in the study and will provide an opportunity for the Road Authorities and Consultant Project Team to share the project status, present the alternative solutions and receive comments and feedback from the general public, neighbourhood residents, community members, agencies and other interested parties. The date and details of the public meeting will be advertised at a future date.

Information about this project can be found at <http://www.thebluemoorntains.ca/highway26ea.cfm>. To provide comments, request additional information, or to be added to the mailing list to receive future project notices, please email HWY26CraigslistEA@rjburnside.com or contact one of the following Project Team members:

Mr. Ron Kerr
Project Manager
R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited
3 Ronell Crescent
Collingwood, Ontario, L9Y 4J6
Telephone: (705) 797-4293
Fax: (705) 446-2399

Mr. Reg Russwurm
Director of Infrastructure and Public Works
Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street, P.O. Box 310
Thornbury, Ontario, N0H 2P0
Telephone: (519) 599-3131 ext. 260
Fax: (519)-599-7723

The road authorities intend to proceed with the planning of this project with consideration of agency and public input. Solution(s) to projected traffic demands, as determined through the EA process, will be implemented as warranted and depending on annual capital budget scheduling.

Project and notice information will be made accessible upon request in accordance with the Accessibility Standard for Information and Communication under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*.

Information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. All comments will become part of the public record. This Notice first issued on July 3, 2015

The approximate Study Area for this project is shown on the Map.



