

NOTICE OF STUDY COMPLETION

Highway 4 Widening and Proposed Talbotville Bypass (GWP 3042-22-00), Highway 3 Twinning (GWP 3041-22-00) Preliminary Design, Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment Study

THE STUDY

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. to complete the Preliminary Design, Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment Study (Class EA) for improvements to Highway 3 from Highway 4 to Centennial Avenue (St. Thomas).

The following has been undertaken as a Group 'A' project (GWP 3042-22-00):

- a new Highway 3 alignment bypassing Talbotville (also known as the Talbotville Bypass), connecting Highway 3 near Ron McNeil Line to Highway 4; and
- the widening of existing Highway 4 (from the new Talbotville Bypass to Clinton Line).

The following has been undertaken as a Group 'B' project (GWP 3041-22-00):

- the twinning of the existing Highway 3 through St. Thomas to the Township of Southwold (Ron McNeil Line to Centennial Avenue).

Construction will follow the environmental assessment and design phase.

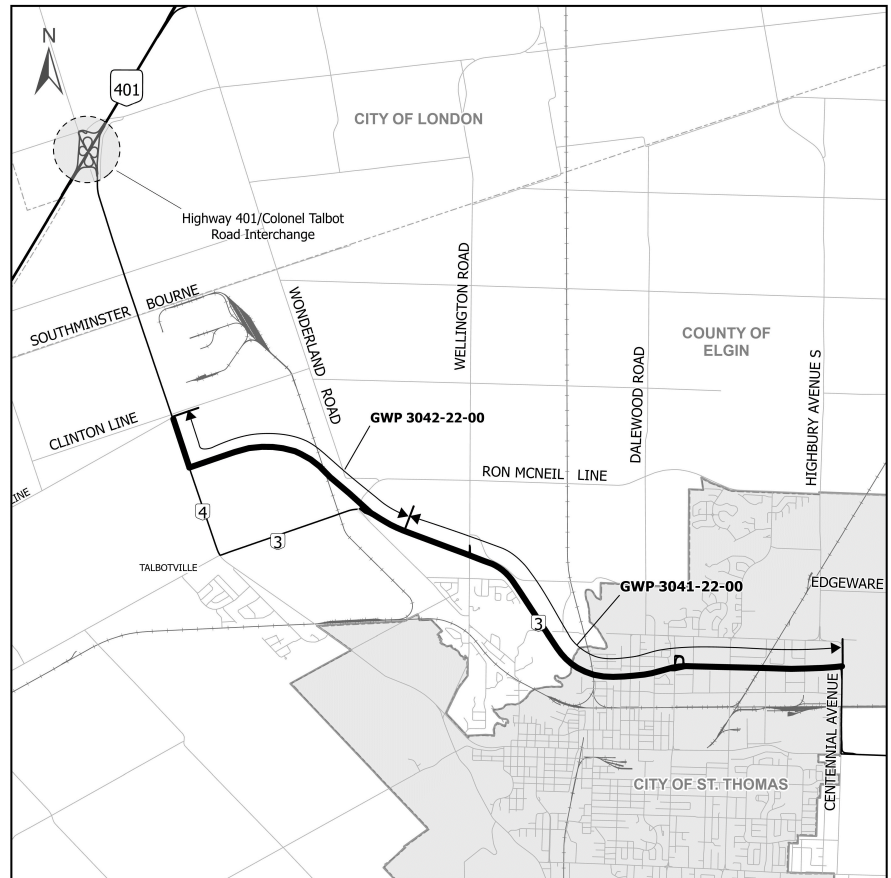
THE RECOMMENDED PLAN

Based on the findings of this Class EA Study, the Recommended Plan includes the following:

- Construction of a new Talbotville Bypass from Highway 4 to Highway 3 at Ron McNeil Line
- Construction of two additional lanes (i.e., twinning) along Highway 3 from Ron McNeil Line to Centennial Avenue, including the Kettle Creek Bridge
- Construction of two additional lanes along Highway 4 from Clinton Line to the new Talbotville Bypass
- Construction of a roundabout at Highway 4 connecting to Talbotville Bypass, a Parclo A3 interchange at Ron McNeil Line/Wonderland Road, and a Parclo A4 interchange at Wellington Road
- Improvements to Highway 3/First Avenue Interchange
- Realignment of Clinton Line/Longhurst Line at Highway 4 intersection

THE PROCESS

This project was completed in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000)*. Group 'A' and 'B' projects are considered approved under the *Environmental Assessment Act* subject to compliance with the Class EA. A summary of the study process, including the identification and evaluation of alternatives, the Recommended Plan, anticipated environmental impacts, proposed mitigation measures, and consultation activities carried out as part of this study, has been



documented within two Transportation Environmental Study Reports (TESRs), one for the Highway 4 Widening and Talbotville Bypass (GWP 3042-22-00), and one for Highway 3 Twinning (GWP 3041-22-00).

The TESRs will be available for public comment between **Monday, February 5 and Tuesday, March 5, 2024** on the study website at (www.highway3elgin.ca).

COMMENTS

Interested persons may provide written comments to our study team by **Tuesday, March 5, 2024**. All comments and concerns can be sent directly to either of the following study team members:

Kevin Welker, P.Eng.

Project Manager
Stantec Consulting Ltd.
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email: comments@highway3elgin.ca

Deanna Pizycki, P.Eng.

Senior Project Engineer
Ministry of Transportation
tel: (519) 859-7492
email: comments@highway3elgin.ca

All media inquiries shall be directed to MTO's Communications Branch at (416) 327-1158 or mto.media@ontario.ca.

We are committed to ensuring that government information and services are accessible for all Ontarians. For communication supports or to request project information in an alternate format, please contact one of the preceding Study Team members.

REQUESTS TO THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, CONSERVATION AND PARKS

In addition, a request may be made to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for an order requiring a higher level of study (i.e., requiring an individual/comprehensive EA approval before being able to proceed), or that conditions be imposed (e.g., require further studies), only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate, or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. Requests on other grounds will not be considered. Requests should include the requester's contact information and full name.

Requests should specify what kind of order is being requested (request for additional conditions or a request for an individual/comprehensive environmental assessment), how an order may prevent, mitigate or remedy potential adverse impacts on Aboriginal and treaty rights, and any information in support of the statements in the request. This will ensure that the ministry is able to efficiently begin reviewing the request.

The request should be sent in writing or by email to the following as well as to the project contacts above:

Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Director Environmental Assessment Branch

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Floor
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5
EABDirector@ontario.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. If you have accessibility requirements to participate in this project, please contact one of the team members listed above.