



Office of the Commissioner
Transportation Services Department

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of Committee of the Whole

From: Paul Jankowski
Commissioner of Transportation Services

Date: August 29, 2019

Re: Highway 400–404 Connecting Link Update

This memorandum provides an update on the recent Provincial announcement to move forward with the Highway 400-404 Connecting Link (commonly known as the Bradford Bypass).

The Environmental Assessment for the Highway 400-404 Connecting Link was approved by the Province in 2002

The Highway 400-404 Connecting Link is a proposed 16 kilometre, four-lane provincial highway that will connect Highway 400 in Bradford-West Gwillimbury to Highway 404 in the Town of East Gwillimbury. The Ministry of the Environment approved the Highway 400-404 Connecting Link Environmental Assessment in 2002. The Environmental Assessment protected lands for future construction of a limited access highway with interchanges at Yonge Street, Bathurst Street and Leslie Street.

The Province designated the Highway 400-404 Connecting Link as a Controlled Access Highway Corridor in 2004

In May 2004, the Province designated the Highway 400-404 Connecting Link as a Controlled Access Highway Corridor to protect the right-of-way for future construction. In [September 2007](#), Council approved Regional Official Plan Amendment 58 to include the designation and alignment update for the Highway 404 and Bradford Bypass. Regional Official Plan Amendment 58 identified the approved alignment for the Bradford Bypass to be shown on the Official Plan Map 9 through modification.

In June 2019, Council reiterated support for the Highway 400-404 Connecting Link

In [June 2019](#), Council reiterated support for the Highway 400–404 Connecting Link as one of three critical highway corridors as part of the freeway network required to achieve provincial Growth Plan population and employment objectives in York Region. Council also requested the Ministry of Transportation Ontario to include the Highway 400-404 Connecting Link in the next Southern Highways Program.

The first step is for the Province to update the 2002 Environmental Assessment

On August 15, 2019, the Minister of Transportation announced the Province will move forward with the Highway 400-404 Connecting Link. The first step is to initiate a review and update to the 2002 Transportation Environmental Study Report. The approved alignment from the 2002 Environmental Assessment is included as Attachment 1.

The Transportation Environmental Study Report will describe the impacts and mitigation measures for the project, confirm the preferred preliminary design and estimate the project cost of the Highway 400–404 Connecting Link.

No commitments for the start of construction have been announced

Staff will work with the Ministry of Transportation Ontario as they review and update the Environmental Assessment and prepare for the detailed design and engineering work to construct the Highway 400-404 Connecting Link. Staff will continue to monitor the Southern Highways Program and update Council as required.

For more information, please contact Brian Titherington, Director of Transportation and Infrastructure Planning at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75901.

Paul Jankowski
Commissioner of Transportation Services

Bruce Macgregor
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment (1)
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