

### THE STUDY

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is undertaking the Highway 7&8 Transportation Corridor Planning and Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study, from Greater Stratford to the New Hamburg Area. The purpose of the study is to identify and address the long-term transportation needs for the Analysis Area and prepare a preliminary design for the provincial roadway components of the recommended plan.

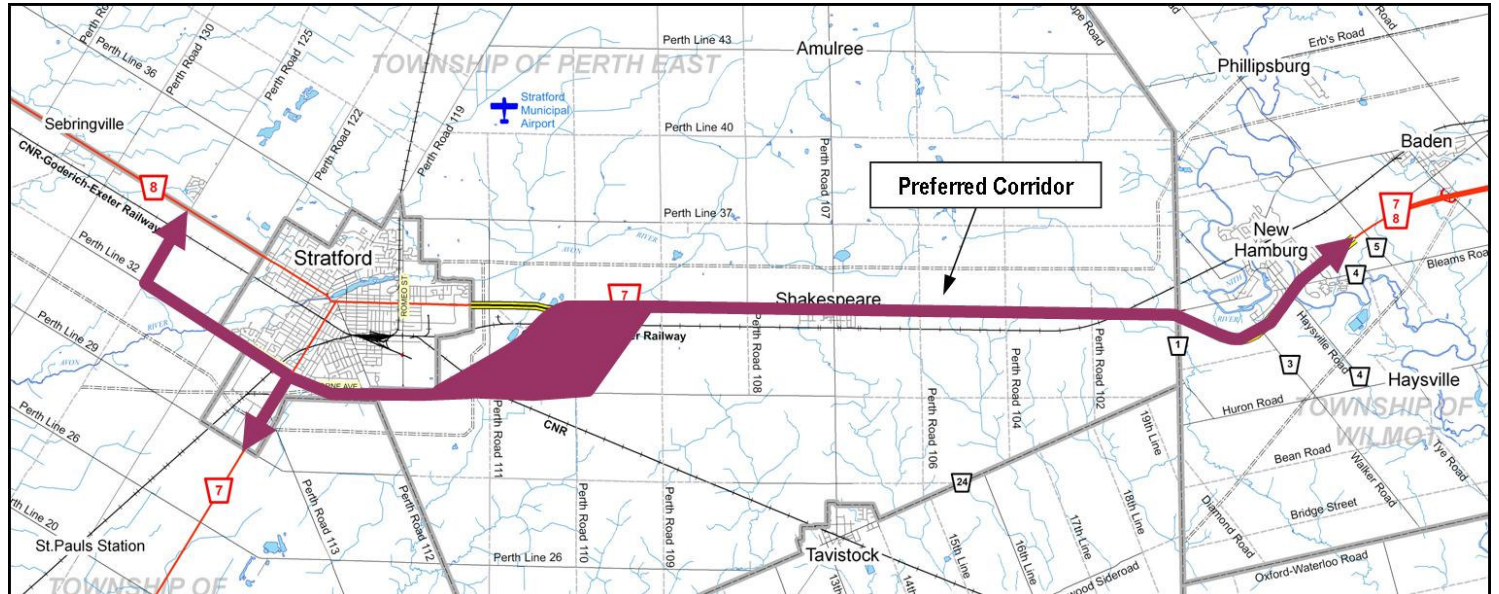
### THE PROCESS

The study is subject to the *Ontario Environmental Assessment (EA) Act* and is being carried out as a Group 'A' project in accordance with the Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000). The study will be documented in a Transportation Environmental Study Report for public review at study completion.

### PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Public involvement and consultation are important aspects of an EA study, with Public Information Centres (PICs) scheduled at key points throughout the EA process to provide opportunities for public and stakeholder input. Over the last year, PICs #2, #2B and #2C were held, at which MTO presented an initial and revised "long list" of corridor alternatives; the screening of this long list, which resulted in an initial and expanded "short list" of corridor alternatives; and the process and criteria to be used to evaluate this short list. The revision and expansion of these lists were made in response to input received from stakeholders.

### THE PREFERRED CORRIDOR



The evaluation of the short list of corridors resulted in the selection of the preferred corridor, which, from west to east, generally includes:

- geometric improvements to the existing 2-lane highway and municipal roads - Highway 8, Perth Road 125, Perth Line 32/Lorne Avenue, plus Erie Street / Highway 7 southerly to Gibb Road / Perth Line 29;
- widen (from 2 to 4/5 lanes) Lorne Avenue / Perth Line 33 from Erie Street to east of Romeo Street;
- new highway route (4/5 lanes) within the broad corridor indicated from east of Romeo Street to Highway 7&8 in the vicinity of Perth Road 110;
- widen (from 2 to 4/5 lanes) Highway 7&8 from the vicinity of Perth Road 110 through Shakespeare to west of Regional Road 1;
- new median barrier on Highway 7&8 through New Hamburg, including modification and/or closure of intersections, with possible local segments of service road; and
- numerous intersection improvements associated with the above.

### PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE (PIC) #3

Members of the public are encouraged to attend PIC #3, to be held as follows:

**Tuesday, July 21, 2009**  
 Festival Inn – Shakespeare Room  
 1144 Ontario Street, **Stratford**  
 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, July 22, 2009**  
 Wilmot Recreation Complex (**new location**)  
 1291 Nafziger Road, **Baden**  
 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, August 11, 2009**  
 Shakespeare and District Optimist Hall  
 3976 Galt Street, **Shakespeare**  
 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The PIC will be conducted in an open house (drop-in) format, with display material, mapping and study documentation available for review. Members of the study team will be in attendance to discuss the study and to respond to questions or concerns. We encourage you to attend the upcoming PIC to view the information, ask questions and provide your comments.

The following information will be presented at PIC #3:

- evaluation of the short list of corridor alternatives and the selection of the preferred corridor, as described in the draft 'Corridor Needs Assessment Report';
- environmental conditions and constraints within the preferred corridor, as described in the draft 'Environmental Conditions and Constraints Report (Part 2)';
- widening / new route alternatives that have been generated for the various sections of the preferred corridor, as described in the draft 'Generation of Detailed Planning Alternatives for Provincial Roadways Report'; and
- process and criteria to be used for the assessment and evaluation of the widening / new route alternatives.

Copies of the above noted information will also be available for review on the study website, at local municipal offices and at local libraries, beginning on **July 21, 2009**.

### COMMENTS

Your input and comments will assist us as we proceed with this Study. Your comments are requested by **September 30, 2009** so they can be considered as the study moves forward. Information is being collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will be part of the public record.

If you are unable to attend the PIC and wish to obtain further information, provide comments, or be added to the study mailing list, please contact one of the individuals listed below or visit our website at [www.7and8corridorstudy.ca](http://www.7and8corridorstudy.ca).

Ms. Brenda Jamieson, P. Eng., Consultant Project Manager  
 AECOM (formerly TSH)  
 300 Water Street, Whitby, ON L1N 9J2  
 Toll-free: 1-866-921-9268, Fax: 905-668-0221  
[Brenda.Jamieson@aecom.com](mailto:Brenda.Jamieson@aecom.com)

Mr. Charles Organ, C.E.T., Project Manager  
 Ministry of Transportation, West Region  
 Planning and Design Section  
 659 Exeter Road, London, ON N6E 1L3  
 Toll-free: 1-800-265-6072 ext. 4591, Fax: 519-873-4600  
[Chuck.Organ@ontario.ca](mailto:Chuck.Organ@ontario.ca)