

# Welcome to the Public Open House for The City Of Hamilton Utility Relocation Schedule "B" Class Environmental Assessment



## Public Information Centre #1

November 5, 2015  
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Knox Presbyterian Church  
80 Mill Street North  
Waterdown, Ontario



# Welcome to the Public Open House for The City Of Hamilton Utility Relocation Schedule "B" Class Environmental Assessment

The objective of this Class Environmental Assessment (EA) is to identify and evaluate the alternative solutions to permit the replacement and potential relocation of existing utilities (water, wastewater, hydro, telecommunications utilities, etc.) as part of the future bridge rehabilitation activities.

## Purpose of Tonight's Meeting

Tonight's Information Centre provides an opportunity for participants to review and provide comments on the work completed to date for this project. The staff of the City of Hamilton and the members of the Project Team are available to answer any questions that you may have about the project details and how the project may impact you.



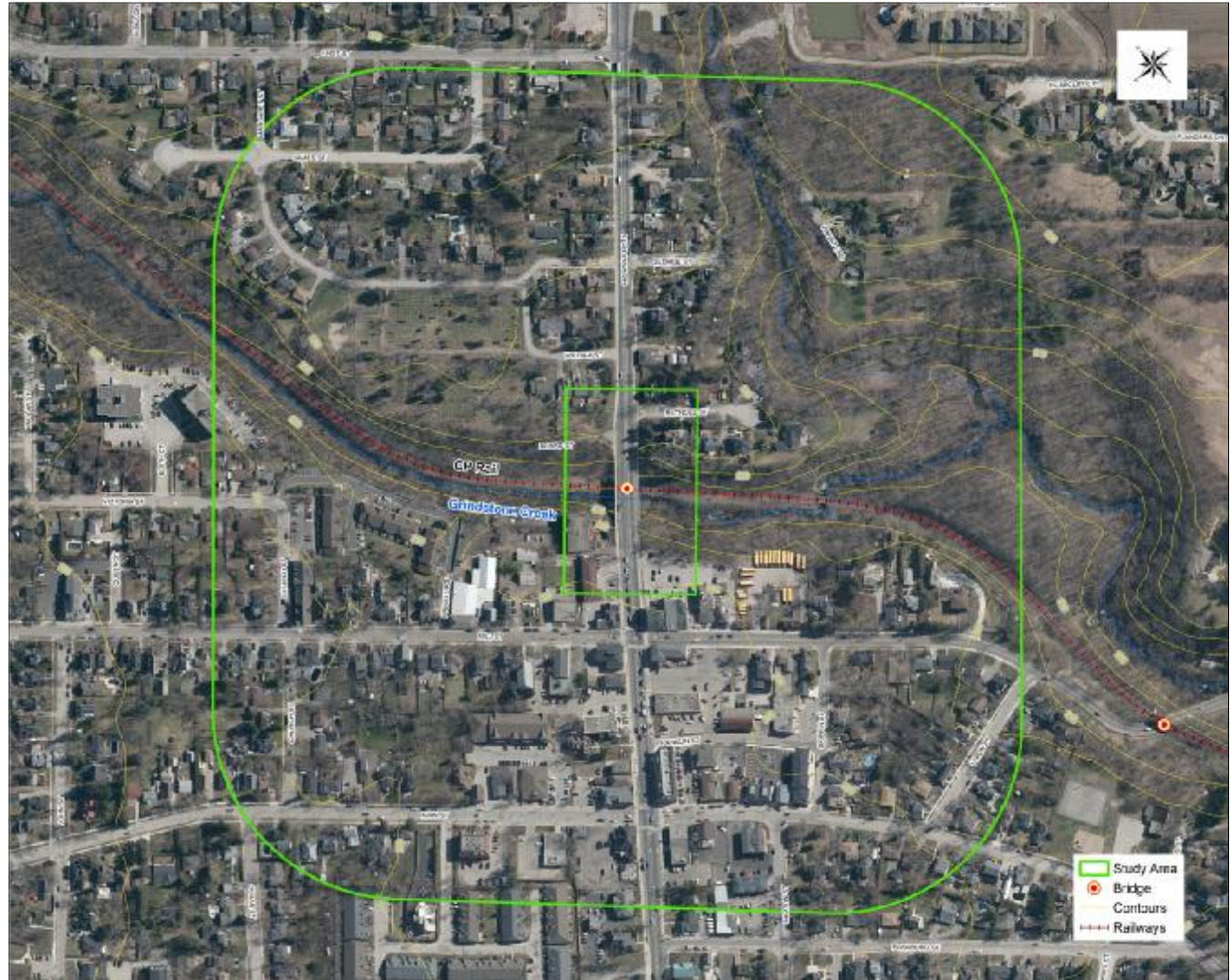


# Study Area



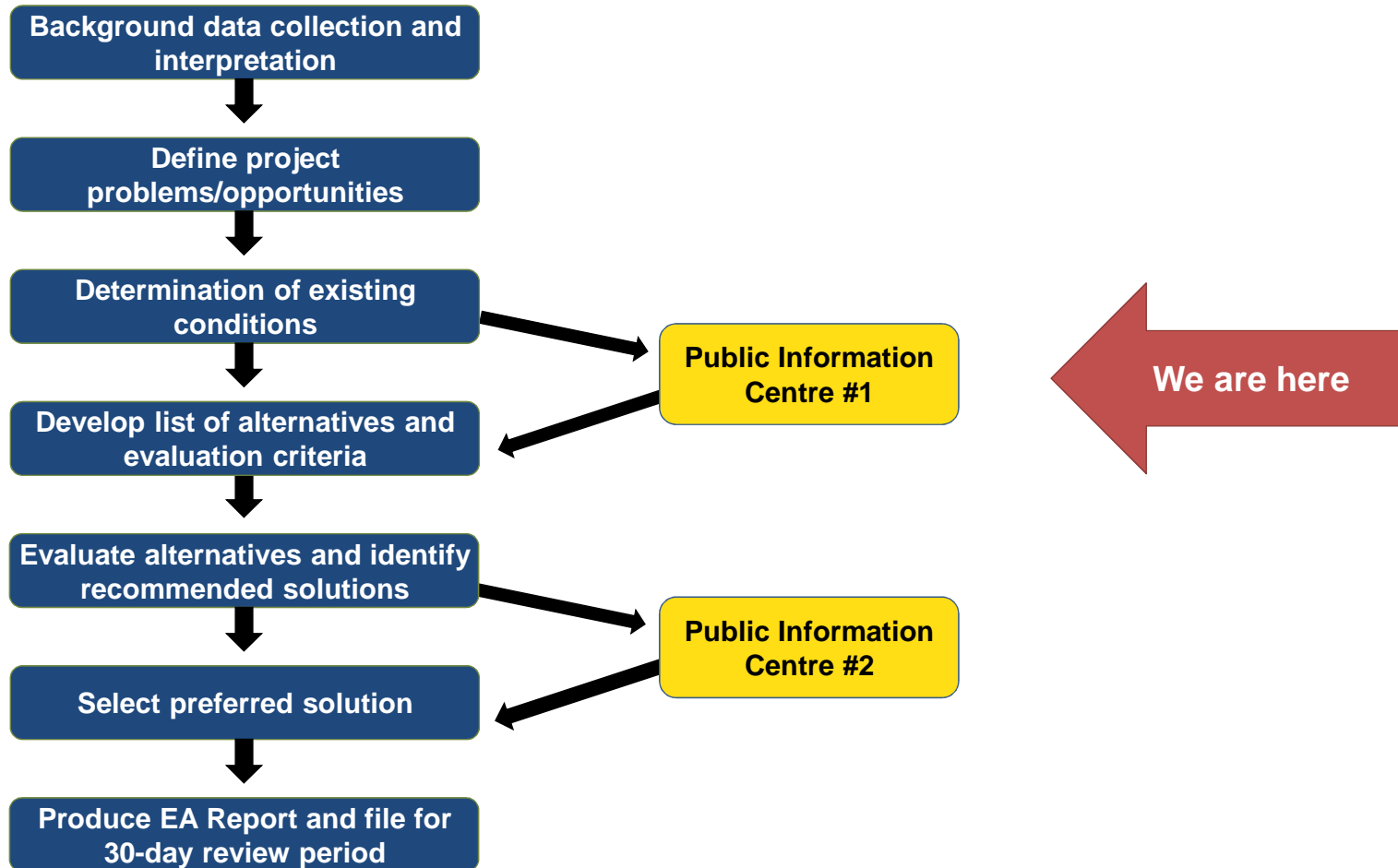
The focus of the study is the Highway 5 Dundas Street (Vinegar Hill) bridge spanning Grindstone Creek and the utilities that run beside, beneath, and within the bridge.

Key Map



# Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process

This study is being undertaken as a Schedule B project under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Process. The flow chart illustrates the key stapes to be undertaken as part of the Class EA process.



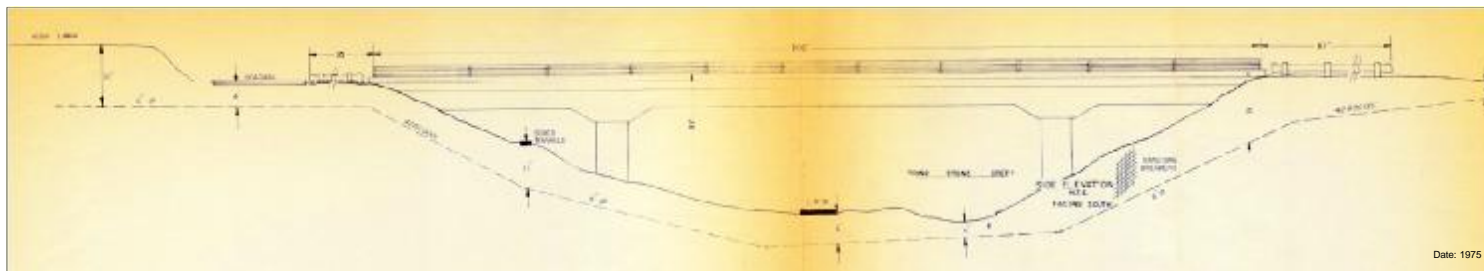


# Problem and Opportunity

## Definition of the Problem

Constructed in 1966, the Highway 5 Grindstone Creek bridge in Waterdown is reaching the end of its life span. The City of Hamilton will initiate reconstruction or rehabilitation of the bridge within 10 years. Prior to the commencement of work, this Class EA will identify and evaluate the alternative solutions to permit the replacement and/or potential relocation of existing utilities (water, wastewater, hydro, telephone, etc.) as part of the future bridge rehabilitation works.

Completing these options will require making potential arrangements including consultation with approval agencies, new bridge construction, and land purchasing. Current City land ownership can be seen in the figure on the right.



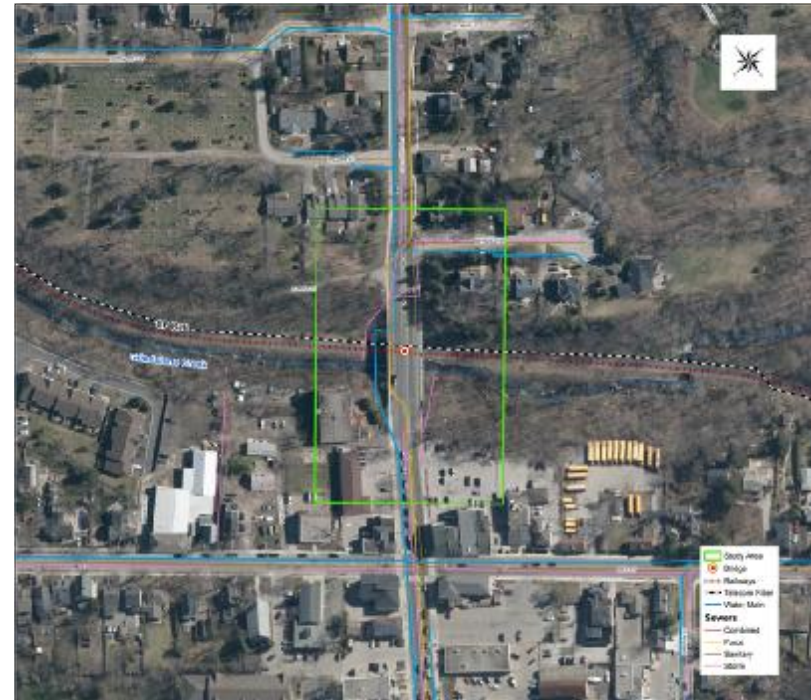
# Existing Infrastructure

## Existing Utilities

- 500mm Ø sanitary forcemain
- 200mm Ø insulated asbestos cement pipe watermain supported below the deck
- 250mm Ø sanitary sewer
- Bell telecommunications
  - 8 embedded 108mm diameter Bell ducts in the north sidewalk
  - 89mm diameter Bell duct supported on the southern exterior girder that was installed in 2009
- One (1) 76mm diameter electrical duct (transite) in each sidewalk

## Other Infrastructure Notes

- Existing pumping station approximately 300m upstream
- Sanitary system is relatively new
- Watermain - 1 of 4 feeds to the east side of Waterdown
- CP Rail infrastructure, includes CP communications lines and Fiber-optic located approximately 5 feet from the edge of the railway tie/rail





# Existing Environmental Conditions

In 2015, Dougan and Associates completed a natural heritage feature characterization of lands within 120 metres of the bridge over Grindstone Creek. Supporting studies included surveys for breeding birds, reptiles, amphibians, odonates, vegetation communities, flora, fish, and fish habitat as well as an assessment of Significant Wildlife Habitat. In addition, available background information from the City of Hamilton, Conservation Halton, and Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) were reviewed.

## Key Findings

### Biophysical Surveys

- 11 common species of breeding birds were recorded.
- All of the 3 vegetation communities recorded within the study area are common in Southern Ontario.
- Of the 109 species of flora documented, 4 are considered locally significant.
- Eastern Gartersnake was the only reptile species found in the study area.
- Frogs and toads are not breeding within the study area; red-backed salamanders are present in the forest north east of the bridge.
- 3 common species of odonates (dragonflies and damselflies) were recorded, indicating that minimal breeding habitat is present in the study area.
- Fish habitat in the vicinity of Bridge 451 exhibits low-medium fish diversity.

### Natural Heritage Assessment

- Natural heritage features/functions associated with the study area include: Significant Wildlife Habitat, Fish Habitat, and potentially Significant Valleylands (pictured, right)
- A portion of the study area is designated as Escarpment Natural Area and is subject to the Niagara Escarpment Plan.



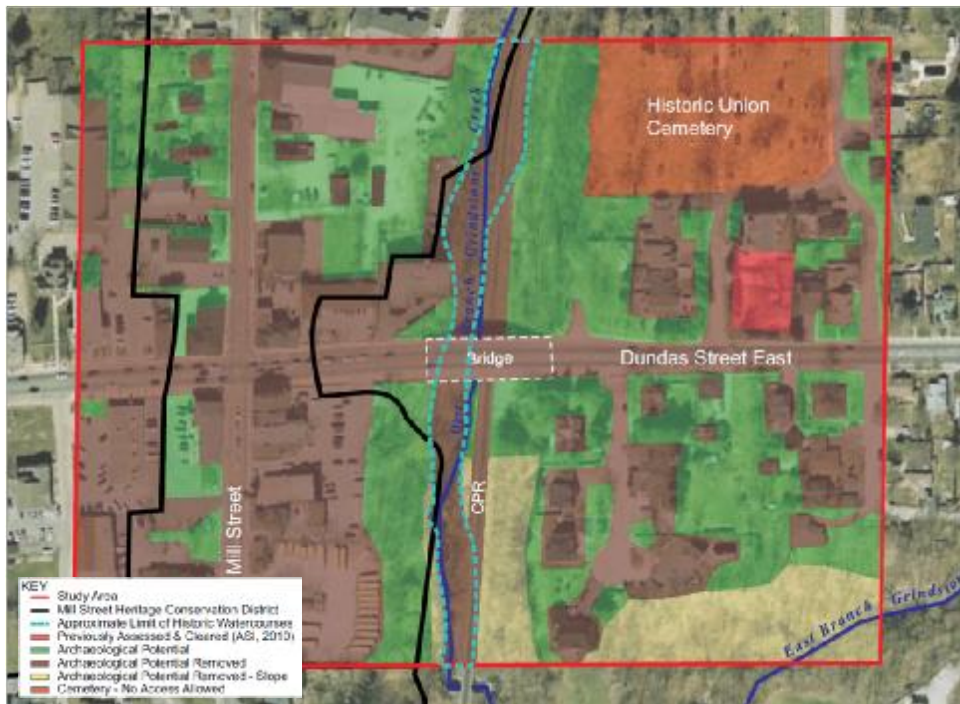
(Dougan and Associates, 2015)

## Recommendations and Next Steps

The preferred option under the EA will take into consideration the natural heritage features and functions of the surrounding environment and will seek to avoid, minimize, and mitigate potential impacts to the ecological form and function of natural heritage features.

# Archaeological Findings

A Stage 1: Archaeological Background Research report for the Grindstone Creek bridge study area was completed in 2015 by Historic Horizon Inc. This stage of the archaeological assessment involves background research and property inspection, in order to determine the presence of archaeological heritage resources and known cultural heritage resources.



## Key Findings

- The study area has intermittent archaeological potential in part of the creek ravine, around remaining 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings, and under old parking areas (as illustrated by green shading in the figure).
- A search of the Ontario Sites Database shows 42 registered archaeological sites or findspots within a one kilometre radius of the bridge, the majority being of Aboriginal origin.
- 19<sup>th</sup> century structures include:
  - Probable mills on the islands north and south of the bridge,
  - The Vances' house and barn, and
  - A structure on the east bank of the ravine.

## Recommendations and Next Steps

The proposed works will not result in subsurface impacts and therefore the Stage 2 archaeological assessment would not have to be completed before the conclusion of this study. This study will make a recommendation as to whether a Stage 2 study is required for areas that may have subsurface impacts.



## Next Steps and Contact Information

After this Public Information Centre the study team will consider verbal and written comments in order to refine the project problems and opportunities.

The next Public Information Centre (PIC #2) will be held in Spring, 2016. At PIC #2, alternatives to address the problems and opportunities will be presented, along with criteria to evaluate the alternatives. You will be notified of Public Information Centre #2.

For more information on this project, or to submit your comments or feedback, and to be placed on our mailing list, please contact:

**Winston Wang**, M.A.Sc., P. Eng.  
Project Manger, Water & Wastewater Planning  
Infrastructure Planning & Systems Design  
City of Hamilton | Public Works Department  
77 James Street North, Suite 400  
Hamilton, Ontario L8R 2K3  
T: 905.546.2424 extension 4092  
[winston.wang@hamilton.ca](mailto:winston.wang@hamilton.ca)

**Dave Maunder**, MSc., P. Eng.  
Project Manager  
Aquafor Beech Ltd  
#6-202 2600 Skymark Avenue  
Mississauga, Ontario L4W 5B2  
T: 905.629.0099 extension 290  
[maunder.d@aquaforbeech.com](mailto:maunder.d@aquaforbeech.com)

Thank You for Participating

