Appendix F: Consultation and Engagement
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1 Study Approach

1.1 Introduction

The City of Hamilton has retained IBI Group to conduct the Birch Avenue Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA). The City is planning to convert Birch Avenue from one-way to two-way traffic, and the MCEA is required to develop a preferred solution that resolves drainage and bridge clearance issues, and best accommodates all modes of travel including transit, traffic, walking and cycling.

This document is a Consultation and Engagement strategy for the MCEA. It includes two key components:

1. Stakeholder Management Plan - which provides an overview of the key audiences that will be engaged, and a demonstration of our commitment to the planning process; and

2. Engagement and Communication Plan – an overview of the proposed consultation and engagement techniques and tactics which will be used to gather input over the course of the study, including the proposed public information centre (PIC)

The strategy has been developed as a flexible guide for this study. It should be considered a living document that may evolve over time.

1.2 Background

Birch Avenue, between Burlington Street East and Barton Street East, currently has three lanes in the southbound direction. The Road was identified as a preferred candidate for two-way conversion in the City’s 2018 Transportation Master Plan. While the conversion to two-way traffic is pre-approved under the MCEA process, there are a number of other physical and operational constraints to be resolved in the EA.

The road has three rail bridges referred to in the City’s database as Bridges 330, 331, and 332. Bridge 330, south of Burlington Street E, is a CN spur line that serves industrial users in the area. Bridge 332 north of Barton Street is CN’s mainline to the USA. Both Bridge 330 and Bridge 332 have vertical clearance below standards and are a safety risk for tall vehicles. Bridge 331 south of Brant Street is abandoned and slated for removal.

There are drainage and stormwater issues along the corridor and in particular at the rail crossings where the road elevation is below the water table. These areas are prone to flooding, and this complicates the bridge clearance issue as lowering the roadway to improve clearance will worsen the drainage issue.

The City has identified Birch Avenue as an active transportation corridor with preliminary plans for a multi-use trail along the west side of the road, though plans are to be reviewed and refined as part of the EA.

The City is also preparing for the construction of the Hamilton Transit Maintenance and Storage Facility at 80 Brant Street (with access off of Birch Avenue), which will generate bus traffic and employment traffic along the corridor. The EA will develop recommended traffic control and lane configuration for the road.

1.3 Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) Process

This plan assigns an appropriate level of engagement to each audience and provides a mechanism to gain input on the study. Specifically, the objective is to engage and consult with
stakeholders and the community in an open and transparent process. The process will adhere to relevant MCEA and regulatory requirements (e.g. AODA).

If the City proceeds with a road clearance solution that impacts stormwater management, potential options to address this may include works that require a Schedule B Environmental Assessment under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process (2000, as amended to 2015).

The Schedule B process generally includes improvements and minor expansions to existing facilities where there is the potential for some adverse environmental impacts, and therefore, the municipality is required to proceed through a screening process including consultation with those who may be affected.

Schedule B covers the first two phases of the MCEA process (Exhibit 1):

- **Phase 1 Problem or Opportunity**: which identifies the deficiency or opportunity. The problems or opportunities may or may not be evident to the public, but it is necessary to document factors which lead to the conclusion that an improvement or change is needed. The outcome of this phase is a clear statement of the problem or opportunity being addressed.

- **Phase 2 Alternative Solutions**: develops alternative solutions that can solve the problem and evaluates them against natural, social and economic environments criteria. This step includes taking an inventory of the natural, social and economic environments and provides consultation with review agencies and the public to solicit comments and inputs. The outcome of this phase is the selection of the preferred solution.

Exhibit 1: Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process
2 Stakeholder Management Plan

This section provides an overview of the key audiences and the level of engagement considered appropriate for each audience.

2.1 Audience Groups

The core audiences have been segmented into stakeholder groups that are internal to the City’s public servants and external to it. The individuals and groups have been listed below.

**Project Management and Project Team**

The study will be carried out under the direction of the Project Team comprised of staff from the City of Hamilton and IBI Group:

- Megan Salvucci, Project Manager, Asset Management, City of Hamilton
- City of Hamilton representatives from:
  - Asset Management
  - Design
  - HSR
  - Hamilton Water
  - Cultural Heritage
  - Natural Heritage
  - Transportation Planning
  - Transportation Operations & Maintenance

- Bruce Mori, Project Director, IBI Group
- Scott Johnston, Project Manager, IBI Group
- Trevor Jenkins, Environmental Assessment Coordinator, IBI Group

The Project Management team has responsibility for coordination and delivery of the study.

**Technical Agencies and Utilities**

Key external technical agency and utility contacts are listed in Exhibit 2. These agencies will be involved as needed. Additional agencies and utilities may be involved, and will be circulated notices such as Notice of Study Commencement/PIC and Notice of Study Completion.

**Exhibit 2: Key External Review Agencies and Utilities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CN Rail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton Conservation Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydro One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metrolinx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alectra Utilities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Council & Senior Management Team
Members of City Council, including the Ward 3 Councillor, and the City’s Senior Management Team will be involved and engaged as needed.

Residents, Property Owners and Businesses
Individuals who live, work and own property within the study area will be a key audience group.

2.2 Incorporating Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Practices
The City of Hamilton’s ‘Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Handbook’ (Draft) was reviewed to identify EDI practices that could be incorporated into this study. The handbook provides advice and guidance on overcoming barriers to community engagement, which may include:

- Language limitations;
- Accessibility concerns;
- Lack of time and resources (e.g. childcare, transportation);
- Lack of trust in governments and institutions; and,
- Fatigue from past engagements that led to few or no results.

2.2.1 Planning Inclusive Events
The venue and date of the Public Information Centre (PIC) will be selected in the Fall. The following criteria will be considered when picking a site and date:

- Checking to make sure that the date does not conflict with special events, such as religious ceremonies, celebrations or special days;
- Holding the PIC at a time that is convenient to most people (e.g. businesses, residents);
- Providing adequate notice for participants to make necessary arrangements for transportation, attendant or childcare. Note that the MCEA regulations prescribe notification procedures that the study must adhere to;
- The venue will be accessible by public transit and will meet modern accessibility requirements (e.g. wide aisles for those using mobility devices, accessible parking, washrooms, accessible parking);
- Providing necessary accessibility services at the event if requested before the PIC (e.g. interpretation services, ASL); and
- Strive for a venue with a gender-neutral washroom or, at a minimum, trans-friendly restrooms.

The venue for Project Team Meetings will be meeting rooms located at the City of Hamilton’s offices at City Centre, which is assumed to be compliant with the above.

2.2.2 Managing Inclusive Events
The execution of the PIC and Project Team meetings will adopt the following principles:

- Will have IBI Group staff attend the events that have completed Accessible Customer Service training;
- Ensure staff are trained to use pronouns preferred by transgender people;
• Collecting feedback through a variety of channels;
• Identifying and using the City of Hamilton’s Indigenous land acknowledgement protocol;
• Notifying community groups and partners of the study to help increase participation;
• Include information on accessible services at the facility and the transportation options available; and,
• Not using language that may be offensive to different groups, and attempting to make sure that staff represent a diverse group, whenever possible.

2.2.3 Equity and Inclusion in Communications

Communication materials for this study will incorporate the three principles identified in the handbook whenever possible under the MCEA process requirements:

1. People have different communication needs (literacy, visual and auditory) and consume information differently. Communication materials should be varied and able to address differing communication needs of individuals;

2. Communication materials should be readily accessible, distributed in a variety of locations, and available in both traditional and non-traditional spaces; and

3. Written texts should be simple, easy to understand, and available in the different languages and cultural frameworks of the stakeholders.

Achieving this can be done by:

• Breaking down complex technical ideas into language that is simple, easy to understand and respectful of diversity. Options to do this may include using charts, pictures, pictograms and other visual materials to overcome literacy and language barriers;

• Images used in materials will primarily be of the Study Area (a roadway), so it is unlikely that they will include representations of people. If photos do contain people, the effort will be taken to ensure they are reflective of the population and equity-seeking groups. These groups include all aspects of diversity including, but not limited to: gender, gender expression, age, ability, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation and socio-economic status;

• Communications will be free from jargon, slang, colloquialisms and unfamiliar expressions unless required by the environmental assessment process or other regulatory/legislative requirement;

• Speech, written materials and any other programming materials produced for this study will use inclusive language, which may include accessibility/inclusionary symbols on marketing materials;

• Communication materials will aim to accommodate different visual, auditory and linguistic abilities as applicable to relevant environmental assessment process or other regulatory/legislative requirements. All materials will be made WCAG AA accessible. When communicating ideas at the Public Information Centre and Project Team meetings, a variety of medians may be used to convey ideas including text, speaking, charts, photos, diagrams, pictograms and other forms.

• Content will be made available through a variety of ways, including through the in-person Public Information Centre, on the project website, and via phone through the City’s Project Manager. We suggest the Project File Report be made available in
community facilities located nearby to the study area, such as Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre.

- All materials will identify a project contact(s). The contacts will be the individuals to whom feedback and requests for additional information can be sent. The contacts will likely be the City and Consultant project managers.
- Materials will use AODA supportive fonts, sizes, styles and colouring.
## 3 Engagement Activities

The engagement activities planned for the Study are in Exhibit 3.

### Exhibit 3: Proposed Engagement Activities for the Birch Ave MCEA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Content/Approach</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Deliverable</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Engagement Plan</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #1</td>
<td>• Project Team</td>
<td>Initial kick-off meeting. IBI Group will present the understanding of the issues, review the work plan, and gather information from the City's subject matter experts.</td>
<td>• Confirmation of IBI Group's understanding of the issues. &lt;br&gt;• Gather additional insight and information from the Project Team.</td>
<td>• Meeting minutes.</td>
<td>Tuesday July 9, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #2</td>
<td>• Project Team</td>
<td>Review emerging findings of alternatives considered and discussion on proposed approach.</td>
<td>• Generate feedback/discussion on alternatives considered and address technical issues that are identified</td>
<td>• Meeting minutes.</td>
<td>September 23, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Team</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #3</td>
<td>• Project Team</td>
<td>Review findings of technical studies, structural assessment, future transportation assessment and emerging findings of water, storm and sanitary assessment.</td>
<td>• Collect feedback on the future transportation assessment and water, storm and sanitary assessment.</td>
<td>• Meeting minutes.</td>
<td>October 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Information</td>
<td>• All</td>
<td>Open house event to present the problem/opportunity statement, alternatives considered, criteria used to evaluate the options, and the preliminary preferred option. The intent is to generate feedback and build buy-in from community partners.</td>
<td>• Identify any issues or opposition to the study from stakeholders and the public, and address them as appropriate.</td>
<td>• Public Information Summary Report.</td>
<td>November 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Team</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #4</td>
<td>• Project Team</td>
<td>Confirm the preferred solution and discuss the draft Project File Report.</td>
<td>• Confirm the preferred solution.</td>
<td>• Meeting minutes.</td>
<td>October/November 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council Presentation</td>
<td>• City Council &lt;br&gt;• Public</td>
<td>Present recommended solution for Council endorsement.</td>
<td>• Approval to Issue Notice of Completion</td>
<td>• TBC</td>
<td>Winter 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Stakeholder</td>
<td>• Agencies &lt;br&gt;• Public &lt;br&gt;• Staff &lt;br&gt;• Interested Parties</td>
<td>Engage key stakeholders in compliance with MCEA requirements and as per the request of the stakeholder. Further communications may be required with certain stakeholders during detailed design.</td>
<td>• Receive support for the preferred solution</td>
<td>• TBC</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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## 4 Communication Activities

The engagement activities planned for the Study are in Exhibit 4.

### Exhibit 4: Proposed Communication Plan for Birch Avenue MCEA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Content/Approach</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Deliverable</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Website</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Post project materials (including all notices, boards, summary report) as they become available.</td>
<td>• Ensure materials are available.</td>
<td>• Notice of Study Commencement.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Notice of Study Commencement | All    | The Notice of Study Commencement to be:  
  • Published twice in the same newspaper; once two weeks before PIC and once one week before PIC;  
  • Mailed to adjacent property owners, Indigenous Communities and other key stakeholders; and,  
  • E-mailed to all stakeholders and Indigenous Communities.  
  Follow-up calls to Indigenous Communities one week after issuing the Notice to confirm receipt. | • Mandatory MCEA Point of Contact #1.  
  • Identify any issues or opposition to the study and address them, as appropriate. | • Notice of Study Commencement prepared by the City.                                      | October 2019                                        |
| Notice of Completion    | All      | Same approach as for the Notice of Study Commencement.                                                                                                                                                           | • Mandatory MCEA Point of Contact #2.  
  • Confirm the preferred solution and address outstanding concerns, as appropriate.       | • Notice of Completion prepared by the City                                             | Winter 2020                                              |
5 Deliverables

The following deliverables will be provided during the course of this assignment:

- Notice of Study Commencement and Notice of Study Completion, prepared by the City;
- Four Project Team meetings, including all materials and meeting minutes;
- One Project webpage, hosted by the City; and,
- Documentation of all correspondence for the final Project File report.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Street Address</th>
<th>City and Province</th>
<th>Postal Code</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addington</td>
<td>David</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Heritage Planner</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Economic Development</td>
<td>71 Main Street W. 6th Floor</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8P 4Y5</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x1214</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ammendolia</td>
<td>Carlo</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Manager, Development Engineering Construction</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Economic Development</td>
<td>71 Main Street W. 6th Floor</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8P 4Y5</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x2155</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ariyo</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Manager, Community initiatives</td>
<td>Community &amp; Emergency Services</td>
<td>28 James Street North, 5th Floor</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8R 2K1</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x1564</td>
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<tr>
<td>Banbridge</td>
<td>Mark</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Director, Water and Wastewater Planning &amp; Capital</td>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>77 James St. N., Suite 400</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8R 2K3</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x5929</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buffett</td>
<td>James</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Manager, Parking Enforcement and School Safety</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Economic Development</td>
<td>80 Main Street West</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8P 1H6</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x3177</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cunliffe</td>
<td>Dave</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Fire Chief</td>
<td>Hamilton Fire Department</td>
<td>1227 Stone Church Road East</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8V 2C6</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x3343</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dalle Vedove</td>
<td>Debbie</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Director of Transit</td>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>2200 Upper James St.</td>
<td>Mount Hope, ON</td>
<td>L8R 1W0</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x1800</td>
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<tr>
<td>DiDomenico</td>
<td>Jennifer</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Manager, Policy and Programs</td>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>77 James St. N., Suite 400</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
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<td>905-546-2424 x5996</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fabac</td>
<td>Anila</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Manager of Development</td>
<td>Planning and Economic Development</td>
<td>71 Main Street W. 5th Floor</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8P 4Y5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ferguson</td>
<td>David</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Superintendent, Traffic Safety</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:egirt@hamiltonpolice.on.ca">egirt@hamiltonpolice.on.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girt</td>
<td>Eric</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Commander in Charge</td>
<td>Hamilton Police Service</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden</td>
<td>Alissa</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Cultural Heritage Planner (Urban)</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Economic Development</td>
<td>71 Main Street W. 5th Floor</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8P 4Y5</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x1214</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graham</td>
<td>Cynthia</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Manager of Landscape Architectural Services</td>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>77 James St. N., Suite 400</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8R 3K3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grice</td>
<td>Andrew</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Director, Hamilton Water</td>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>77 James St. N., Suite 400</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8R 2K3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hollingworth</td>
<td>Brian</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Director, Transportation Planning and Parking</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Economic Development</td>
<td>77 James St. N., Suite 400</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8R 2K3</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x2953</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacobson</td>
<td>Kris</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Director, LRT Project Office</td>
<td>Planning and Economic Development</td>
<td>36 Hunter Street East</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8N 3W8</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x6396</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerr-Wilson</td>
<td>Ian</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Manager of Heritage Resource Management</td>
<td>Planning and Economic Development</td>
<td>28 James St. North, 2nd Floor</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8R 2K1</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x7147</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kessler</td>
<td>Raymond</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Manager, Real Estate</td>
<td>Planning and Economic Development</td>
<td>71 Main Street W. 7th Floor</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8P 4Y5</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x7019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kiddie</td>
<td>Melissa</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Natural Heritage Planner (Suburban)</td>
<td>Planning and Economic Development</td>
<td>71 Main Street W., 5th Floor</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8P 4Y5</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x1290</td>
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</table>
## Project Mailing List

**Updated June 28, 2019**

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<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Street Address</th>
<th>City and Province</th>
<th>Postal Code</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Korah</td>
<td>Binu</td>
<td>Manager of Engineering Approvals</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Economic Development</td>
<td>71 Main Street West, 6th Floor</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8P 4Y5</td>
<td>905-546-2424 x1322</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lam</td>
<td>Judy</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Manager, Urban Renewal</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Economic Development</td>
<td>71 Main Street West, 6th Floor</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8P 4Y5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leenders</td>
<td>Ken</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Director, Licensing and By-Law Services</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Economic Development</td>
<td>77 James Street North, Suite 250</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8R 2K3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leitch</td>
<td>Stuart</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Manager, Capital Delivery</td>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>77 James St. N., Suite 400</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8R 2K3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mahood</td>
<td>Alissa</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Manager, Community Planning &amp; Design</td>
<td>Planning and Economic Development</td>
<td>71 Main Street West, 6th Floor</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCauley</td>
<td>Shane</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Manager, Customer Service and Community Outreach</td>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>530 Wentworth Street North</td>
<td>Hamilton, ON</td>
<td>L8L 5W2</td>
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## Project Mailing List

**Updated June 28, 2019**

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<tr>
<td>Soldo</td>
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<td>71 Main Street West, 7th Floor</td>
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<td>Vander Heide</td>
<td>Jason</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Manager of Transit Planning &amp; Infrastructure</td>
<td>Transit (HSR)</td>
<td>2200 Upper James Street</td>
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<td>330 Wentworth Street North</td>
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<td>D’Angelo</td>
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<td>Waite</td>
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<td>Fazio</td>
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### Councillors

| Nann      | Neinder | Ms. | Councillor, Ward 3 | City of Hamilton | 71 Main Street West, 2nd Floor | Hamilton, ON | L8P 4Y5 | 905-546-2424 x4550 |        |
| Guiolatti | Daniela | Ms. | Executive Assistant Ward 3 | City of Hamilton | 71 Main Street West, 2nd Floor | Hamilton, ON | L8P 4Y5 | (905) 546-4550 | Daniela.Guiolatti@hamilton.ca |

### Conservation Authority

<p>| Peck        | Scott | Mr. | Director, Watershed Planning &amp; Engineering | Hamilton Conservation Authority | 838 Mineral Springs Road, Box 81067 | Ancaster, ON | L9G 4X1 | 905-525-2181 x130 Fax: 905-648-4622 | <a href="mailto:tspeck@conservationhamilton.ca">tspeck@conservationhamilton.ca</a> |
| Stone       | Michael | Mr. | Manager, Watershed Planning Services | Hamilton Conservation Authority | 838 Mineral Springs Road, Box 81067 | Ancaster, ON | L9G 4X1 | (905) 525-2181 ext 133 | <a href="mailto:mstone@conservationhamilton.ca">mstone@conservationhamilton.ca</a> |</p>
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<td>Karam</td>
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<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Ministry of Transportation</td>
<td>Downsview, ON</td>
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<td>416-265-4112</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ehab.Armanious@ontario.ca">Ehab.Armanious@ontario.ca</a></td>
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<td>Ms.</td>
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<td>Ministry of Tourism, Culture &amp; Sport</td>
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<td>1 Stone Rd W, 4th Floor</td>
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<td>Barbara</td>
<td>Slattery</td>
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<td>119 King St W, 12th Floor</td>
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## Project Mailing List

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<td>Berlin</td>
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<td>Environmental Facilities Coordinator</td>
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<td>2 - 777 Memorial Avenue</td>
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<td>Sawyer</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jason.white@ontario.ca">jason.white@ontario.ca</a></td>
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<td>Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada</td>
<td>10 rue Wellington, Gatineau, QC</td>
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<td>Puvananthan</td>
<td>Anjala</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
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<td>Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency</td>
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<td>Metis Consultation</td>
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<td>Metis Nation of Ontario</td>
<td>Metis Nation of Ontario</td>
<td>66 Slater Street Suite 1100, Ottawa, ON</td>
<td>K1P 5H1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tel: (613) 798-1488 Fax: (613)725-4225</td>
<td><a href="mailto:RussellO@metisnation.org">RussellO@metisnation.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hill</td>
<td>Ava</td>
<td>Chief</td>
<td>Six Nations of the Grand River</td>
<td>Six Nations of the Grand River Territory</td>
<td>1695 Chiefswood Road P.O. Box 5000, Ohsweken, ON</td>
<td>N0A 1M0</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chief Ava Hill Tel: (519) 445-2201 Fax: 519-445-4208</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca">lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca</a>; <a href="mailto:arleenmaracle@sixnations.ca">arleenmaracle@sixnations.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Linn</td>
<td>Robin</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Land &amp; Resources</td>
<td>Six Nations of the Grand River Territory</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>MacNaughton</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Chief</td>
<td>Haudenosaunee Development Institute</td>
<td>2634 6th Line Road RR #2</td>
<td>Ohsweken, ON</td>
<td>N0A 1M0</td>
<td></td>
<td>519-445-4222</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amnaughton@bellnet.ca">amnaughton@bellnet.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaForme</td>
<td>Stacey</td>
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<td>2789 Mississauga Road RR #6</td>
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<td></td>
<td>905-768-1133 ext. 204</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stacey.laforme@newcreditfirstnation.com">stacey.laforme@newcreditfirstnation.com</a></td>
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<td>LaForme</td>
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<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>Huron-Wendat Nation Council</td>
<td>255 Place Chef Michel-Laveau</td>
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<td>G0A 4V0</td>
<td>418-843-3767 ext 2105</td>
<td><a href="mailto:maxime.picard@cnhw.qc.ca">maxime.picard@cnhw.qc.ca</a></td>
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</tr>
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<td>LaForme</td>
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<td>Mississaugas of New Credit First Nation</td>
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<td>N0A 1H0</td>
<td></td>
<td>905-803-3417</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mark.laforme@newcreditfirstnation.com">mark.laforme@newcreditfirstnation.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sault</td>
<td>Fawn</td>
<td>Manager, Department of Engineering Projects</td>
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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:david.colley@hamiltonschoolbus.ca">david.colley@hamiltonschoolbus.ca</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BIAs and Neighbourhood Groups/Organizations**
- Barton Village BIA
- The Sherman Hub Community Planning Team
- North Central Community Association
- Lucy Day Group
- Keith Neighbourhood Hub
- Gibson Landsdale Planning Team (GALA)
## Project Mailing List
Updated June 28, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Seymour</td>
<td>Mark.</td>
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<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Ontario Trucking Association</td>
<td>555 Dixon Road</td>
<td>Toronto, ON</td>
<td>M9W 1H8</td>
<td>416-249-7401</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

**Other Related Community Groups:**
- Citizens for Citizens Ward
- Three Neighbourhoods
- Environment Hamilton
- Citizens at City Hall (CATCH)
- Weaver Community Hub
- Hamilton Wentworth Council of Home & School Associations
- Hamilton Community Foundation

**Transportation**
Birch Avenue Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

Public Information Centre Summary

Prepared for City of Hamilton by IBI Group

January 7, 2020
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## Appendices

Appendix A: Notifications

Appendix B: Display Boards
1 Introduction

This report summarizes the public feedback collected during the Public Information Centre (PIC) of the Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for the Birch Avenue between Burlington Street East and Barton Street East, in the City of Hamilton.

The PIC was held on Monday, November 11, 2019 at the Norman Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre (192 Wentworth Street N., Hamilton) from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The event followed a drop-in format, and provided opportunities for attendees to learn about the project and provide their input. The purpose of the PIC was to:

- Introduce the study to the public and stakeholders;
- Review the issues, needs and opportunities that can be improved upon when two existing bridges on Birch Avenue are replaced;
- Present the alternative solutions and preliminary preferred solution to address existing drainage issues;
- Understand concerns and feedback related to the project and the alternative solutions; and,
- Provide an opportunity to participate in the planning and decision making process, by providing comments to the Project Team.

1.1 Project Background

The City of Hamilton initiated an environmental assessment following Schedule B of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process for Birch Avenue between Burlington Street and Barton Street (Exhibit 1). The EA was initiated in fall 2019 with circulation of the Notice of Commencement.

The trigger for the EA is the need to address drainage issues along the corridor, particularly flooding issues at Bridges 330 and 332. The secondary focus is to address substandard road clearance under two bridges, and implement previously-approved plans to add cycling infrastructure along the corridor and implement two-way traffic. The preferred drainage solution will be influenced by decisions respecting the secondary focus areas.
1.2 Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process

The study is being completed as a Schedule B project under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011, and 2015). Schedule B projects are required to complete Phases 1 and 2 of the process (Exhibit 1.2) and prepare a Project File Report.

This report summarizes the public consultation for the Phase 2 activities.

Exhibit 1.2: Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process
2 Notification of Public Information Centre

The notice for the Open House was published and distributed with the Notice of Study Commencement. The notice was sent to potentially interested stakeholders, local residents, Indigenous communities, utilities and agencies, and the broader public through a variety of channels noted below. Copies of PIC notice, letters and other promotions are included in Appendix A.

Notifications were distributed to stakeholders and potentially interested parties, as well as published in print and digitally to the general public:

- **Newspaper Notification**: the notification was published in the Hamilton Spectator on November 1 and 8, 2019;
- **Indigenous Communities**: notifications were sent on October 21, 2019 by letter and email. Phone calls were also made in the weeks following to each community;
- **Agency and Technical Stakeholder**: notifications were sent on October 21, 2019 by letter. Some received an additional email on October 29, 2019;
- **Community Groups and Associations**: notifications were sent on October 29, 2019 by email;
- **Property Owners and Occupants**: the notification was mailed to all property owners and occupants on October 21, 2019; and,
- **Project Website**: the notification was posted on the project website (hamilton.ca/BirchEA).

The notices provided the following information:

- Notice of Study Commencement;
- Purpose, time, and location of the PIC;
- A project description and map of the study area;
- Contact information for the City project manager; and,
- Information on further opportunities to participate.
3    Information Presented

The PIC was set-up as a drop-in, open house format. Representatives from the City of Hamilton, HSR, Ward 3 Councillor’s Office, and IBI Group were present to talk with attendees and answer questions.

Twenty-one presentation boards were arranged in an easy-to-view format, and provided information on the study process, the EA process, the various design alternatives and evaluation, the findings of the supporting studies and steps moving forward (Exhibit 3.1). The boards was posted to the project website following the PIC and is included in Appendix B.

Exhibit 3.1: Presentation Boards Presented at the PIC

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<tr>
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<td>Improvement Opportunities</td>
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<td>MCEA Process</td>
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<td>Step 1: Feasibility Screening</td>
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<td>Preliminary Preferred Bridge Solution</td>
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<td>20.</td>
<td>Drainage Strategy</td>
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<td>21.</td>
<td>Moving Forward</td>
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4    Attendance

A total of two individuals signed-in at the PIC. A total of eleven project team representatives attended, including staff from the City of Hamilton and HSR, the Ward 3 Councillor’s office and IBI Group.

Attendees were able to participate by:

- Reviewing the information boards to learn more about the topics the study covers;
- Giving feedback directly on the boards using sticky notes;
- Completing a comment sheet available at the PIC and submitting it in-person, or by mail/email after the event;
- Discussing concerns with members of the project team and other representatives in-person;
- Signing-up to the Project Mailing List to receive project updates; and,
- Submitting comments, questions, or feedback before or after the PIC by email, mail, or telephone. The deadline for submitting comments to be part of this report was Monday, November 25, 2019 (two weeks after the PIC).
5 Comments and Questions Received

The comments received at the PIC are summarized in Section 5.1, while feedback received outside of the event is documented in Section 5.2.

5.1 Comments Received at PIC

An attendee talked to project team members and noted that:

- They had experienced flooding issues along the corridor, which they felt posed a safety concern and were supportive of addressing the issue; and,
- Discussed the history of the area, including it once being part of Hamilton Harbour/the Sherman Inlet.

No other comments, either verbally or through a comment sheet, were received at the PIC.

5.2 Other Comments Received

The comment period was open until Monday, November 25, 2019, two weeks after the PIC. The City of Hamilton sent out a Tweet on November 20, 2019 requesting feedback from residents. A copy of the Tweet is included in Appendix A.

No submissions were received.

6 Summary

An extensive effort was undertaken to notify and engage stakeholders about the ongoing project, including direct mail outs to residential and commercial property owners and occupants, Indigenous communities and other potentially interested groups. The feedback that was received was supportive of addressing the drainage issues along the corridor.
Appendix A: PIC Notifications
Figure 1: Hamilton Spectator Notice – November 1, 2019

CITY OF HAMILTON
905.546.2489
www.hamilton.ca | @cityofhamilton

NOTICES

PROPOSED INCREASE TO BUILDING PERMIT FEES IN THE CITY OF HAMILTON

What?

The Planning Committee will consider a report, which includes a staff report recommending an increase of approximately 3% to existing fees to cover expected increased costs for active projects under the Building Code Act, 1992.

Where?

The report will be included in the public meeting of the Planning Committee and the decision of City Council, if taken, will be the subject of a letter written to the Hamilton Spectator on November 1, 2019.

Contact:

Jill Keeler
Planner, Municipal Planning
905-546-2489 Ext. 2341
jill.keeler@hamilton.ca

NOTICES

NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT & PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE (PIC)

Birch Avenue (Burton Street to Burlington Street) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

THE STUDY

The City of Hamilton has initiated a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) study to consider the feasibility of diverting floodwaters into a number of urban locations along the east-central area of the city, including the Burlington Bay area and the east-central area of the city, including the Burlington Bay area and the east-central area of the city. This study will be undertaken to determine the implications of such diversions for the environment, public health, and safety.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

A Public Information Centre (PIC) displaying information will be held to receive public input:

Time: Monday, November 11, 2019
9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
(Open for 90 minutes in the morning)

Location: Room 207, Civic Centre, 50 King Street East, Hamilton

The PIC will be a drop-in style venue where information will be provided about the project and staff will be on hand to answer questions from the public.

The report will be included in the public meeting of the Planning Committee and the decision of City Council, if taken, will be the subject of a letter written to the Hamilton Spectator on November 1, 2019.

Contact:

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Planner, Municipal Planning
905-546-2489 Ext. 2341
jill.keeler@hamilton.ca

NOTICES

NOTICE OF IRRIGATION DRAINAGE STUDY

BIRCH AVENUE MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Prepared for City of Hamilton

PROPOSED INCREASE TO BUILDING PERMIT FEES IN THE CITY OF HAMILTON

What?

The Planning Committee will consider a report, which includes a staff report recommending an increase of approximately 3% to existing fees to cover expected increased costs for active projects under the Building Code Act, 1992.

Where?

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Contact:

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NOTICES
Office believed Divers had gun under shirt, inquest hears

Says coroner plans to revisit report that situation changed when divers rushed into his windshied

CARRIE HAMMOND

The coroner who shot and killed Anthony Davis in 2018 says he’ll re-examine the situation when two divers rushed into his windshied.

The incident occurred in 2018 off the coast of Oakville, Ont., when Davis had his back to his body and was holding a 9 mm handgun. The divers reportedly rushed into the vehicle, then shot Davis in the head.

Under regular circumstances, this would be nearly impossible for divers to achieve. But with the divers rushing into the vehicle, they were able to shoot Davis in the head with their 45-caliber handgun.

The coroner says he’s currently reviewing the evidence in the case, and plans to revisit the report issued in 2018.

If the divers had rushed into the vehicle, the coroner says, Davis would have been shot in the head.

The divers rushed into the vehicle, then shot Davis in the head. The coroner says he’s currently reviewing the evidence in the case, and plans to revisit the report issued in 2018.

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The divers rushed into the vehicle, then shot Davis in the head. The coroner says he’s currently reviewing the evidence in the case, and plans to revisit the report issued in 2018.
October 21, 2019

Department
Nation
Address
City, Province
Postal Code

To Whom it May Concern:

Subject: Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre #1 – Birch Avenue Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

Enclosed for your information, please find a Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre #1 for the Birch Avenue Municipal Class Environmental Assessment.

This notice is also available on the City of Hamilton website at www.hamilton.ca/BirchEA. The materials presented at the PIC will also be available on this website following the PIC.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this project, please contact me at 905-546-2424, ext. 2732 or by email at megan.salvucci@hamilton.ca.

Sincerely,

Megan Salvucci
Project Manager, Capital Infrastructure Planning
City of Hamilton, Public Works
Figure 4: Notice Posted to the Project Website and Circulated to Stakeholders, including Property Owners and Occupants

NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT & PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE (PIC)

Birch Avenue (Barton Street to Burlington Street)
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

THE STUDY

The City of Hamilton has initiated a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA); Schedule B process to develop and assess alternative solutions that address both current and future stormwater management issues along Birch Avenue (Barton Street to Burlington Street) (map below) during the scheduled reconstruction. When reconstructed, the grading of Birch Avenue will be changed to accommodate current road clearance standards under the two bridges along the corridor; the changes in grading will create additional drainage issues along the road. The EA will assess potential solutions to these issues, such as the installation of a stormwater pumping station. Through the reconstruction and as approved under the Transportation Master Plan (2018), the road will also be converted to accommodate two-way traffic and will include active transportation facilities.

Further project information can be found at: www.hamilton.ca/BirchEA

THE PROCESS

This project is being carried out as a Schedule B project under the Municipal Engineers Association Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011, and 2015).

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

A Public Information Centre (PIC) displaying information will be held to receive public input:

DATE: Monday, November 11, 2019
TIME: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (open house/crop in format)
LOCATION: Norman Finkley Lewis Recreation Centre, 192 Wentworth Street North

The PIC will be a drop-in style session where information will be provided about the project and Staff will be looking for stakeholder comments on key issues and concerns.

Upon completion of the study a Project File Report (PFR) will be prepared and made available for public review and comment. Another advertisement will be published at that time, indicating where the report can be viewed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS INVITED

There is an opportunity at any time during this process for interested persons to review outstanding issues and bring concerns to the attention of the Project Managers. If you have any questions or would like to be added to the study mailing list, please contact:

Megan Salvucci  Scott Johnston
Project Manager, Asset Management  Project Manager
City of Hamilton, Public Works Dept.  IBI Group
Phone: 905-546-2424 ext. 2732  Phone: 416-679-1930 ext. 65533
Email: Megan.Salvucci@hamilton.ca  Email: sjohnston@IBIGroup.com

Please contact the City’s Project Manager regarding accessibility accommodation requirements for the PIC by November 4, 2019.

Comments received through the course of this study will be considered in selecting the recommended improvement(s). Information will be collected 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 would like more information, please contact Megan Salvucci, Project Manager, Asset Management, megan.salvucci@hamilton.ca, 905-546-2424 ext. 2732.

This Notice Issued November 1 and 8, 2019 in the Hamilton Spectator.
Figure 5: Tweet sent by City of Hamilton: November 20, 2019

City of Hamilton @cityofhamilton · Nov 20
A project looking at ways to improve stormwater management along BIRCH Ave (Ward 3) is looking for public comments - review and provide your input by November 25. Learn more about the project: bit.ly/205OJt5. #HamOnt

0 1 3
Appendix B: PIC Display Boards
Birch Avenue Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

Public Information Centre
Monday, November 11, 2019
Norman Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre

We want to hear from you! Please feel free to discuss any questions or comments with the Project Team from the City of Hamilton and IBI Group.

Land Acknowledgement

The City of Hamilton recognizes and acknowledges that we are located on the traditional territories of the Mississauga and Haudenosaunee nations, and within the lands protected by the “Dish With One Spoon” wampum agreement.
Introduction and Study Area

Purpose of This Public Information Centre

The purpose of today’s event is to:

• **Introduce the study** to the public and stakeholders;
• Review the **issues, needs and opportunities** that can be improved upon when two existing bridges on Birch Avenue are replaced;
• Present the **alternative solutions and preliminary preferred solution** to address existing drainage and road clearance issues;
• **Understand your concerns and feedback** related to the project and the alternative solutions; and,
• Provide an **opportunity to participate in the planning and decision making process**, by providing your **comments to the Project Team**.

Study Area

• Birch Ave. from Burlington St. E. to Barton St. E., is a three-lane, southbound, minor arterial roadway.
• Birch Ave. is **being converted to two-way traffic**.
• The corridor is approximately **1.0 km in length**.
Welcome

How to Participate

Information Boards
Review the boards to learn about the topics this study covers.

Sticky Notes
Some boards invite you to give your feedback using sticky notes.

Comment Forms
Comment forms are available at the sign-in desk.

Talk with the Project Team
Talk with staff to discuss your ideas, experiences or concerns.

Project Mailing List
Share your email address at the sign-in table to receive updates.

Visit the Study Webpage
www.hamilton.ca/BirchEA
Corridor Needs and Issues

Bridges 330 and 332 are planned to be replaced in the near-term. The replacement provides an opportunity to address existing needs and issues along Birch Ave.

Bridge 330 (the north bridge)
- **Substandard clearance** for the roadway.
- **Experiences drainage issues/flooding** during and after storms events.

Hamilton Transit Bus Facility
- Requires the clearance and drainage issues along Birch Ave. to be improved so that buses can be deployed safely and reliably each day.

Bridge 331 (the centre bridge)
- An **unused rail bridge**.
- **Substandard clearance** for the roadway.
- It will be removed.

Bridge 332 (the south bridge)
- **Substandard clearance** for the roadway.
- **Experiences drainage issues/flooding** during and after storms events.
Improvement Opportunities

The works required to replace Bridges 330 and 332 present an opportunity to implement other planned improvements along Birch Ave. at the same time.

**Birch Ave./Burlington St. intersection**
A crosswalk can be provided at the intersection to allow pedestrians to cross from north to south.

**Two-Way Conversion**
There is an opportunity to implement the planned and Council-approved two-way conversion of Birch Ave.

**Sidewalk Gap**
An in-fill sidewalk can be installed to fill the gap between the Public Works Facility entrance and Burlington St.

**Cycling Infrastructure**
Cycling infrastructure can be installed on Birch Ave., as identified in the Hamilton Transportation Master Plan.
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process

The study is following the ‘Schedule B’ process as outlined in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. The ‘Schedule B’ process requires completing Phase 1 and 2, shown to the right.

The process enables the planning and implementation of municipal infrastructure projects.
Problem/Opportunity Statement

Draft Statement

Birch Avenue is a one-way, minor arterial serving local, through and goods movement traffic. Two bridges on the corridor are nearing the end of their design life and need to be replaced. The height of the bridges above the road (clearance) is substandard, and there are drainage issues that can cause flooding.

In the near-term, the road will be converted to two-way traffic and will become the primary access route to the Hamilton Transit Bus Maintenance and Storage Facility.

The City is looking for opportunities to resolve clearance, address drainage issues, and implement active transportation infrastructure and traffic operational improvements for the benefit of users.
Cultural Environment

Seven built heritage resources were identified:

- Three bridges:
  - Bridges 330 & 332 have no cultural heritage value or interest; and,
  - Bridge 331 has cultural heritage value or interest. Options to commemorate the heritage components are being explored.
- Two commercial buildings;
- One former school; and,
- One industrial building complex.

Four cultural heritage landscapes were identified:

- Two streetscapes; and,
- Two transportation corridors.

With the exception of the three bridges, no impacts are anticipated to the identified features.
Social and Economic Environment

- Birch Ave. runs through the Gibson and Keith/Industrial Sector B neighbourhoods.
- Primarily industrial/employment uses north of Bridge 332 (Princess St.) and residential between Bridge 332 and Barton St.
- No registered archaeological sites within the study area or within 1 kilometer.
- The hydro corridor and Birch Avenue Dog Park are used for recreation and leisure activities
- Part of the Truck Route Network.
Traffic Operations (2031)

Existing Conditions

- Three lanes of southbound traffic. **It carries low volumes for its capacity.**
- All signalized intersections operate at LOS B or better. **Traffic flow is stable** without significant delay or disruptions.

Future Conditions

- Birch Ave. is **being converted to two-way traffic.**
- **Future two-way traffic will operate well,** with intersections at LOS C or better.

Traffic improvements planned for Birch Ave. include:
- One lane of vehicle traffic in each direction;
- Turn lanes at some intersections; and,
- The introduction of a northbound left-turn movement at the Birch Ave. and Burlington St. intersection.

**Level of Service (LOS)** is a letter designation used to describe the operating conditions on a road experienced by users:
- A= Free flow
- B= Reasonably free flow
- C= Stable Flow
- D= Approaching unstable flow
- E= Unstable flow
- F= Forced or breakdown flow
Active Transportation Alternatives

**Existing Conditions**
- Sidewalk gap on the west side, between the Public Works Facility and Burlington St.
- No cycling facilities.
- A multi-use path is planned south of Princess St.

**Future Conditions**
- Cycling facilities are identified in the Transportation Master Plan.
- The Pedestrian Mobility Plan supports providing sidewalks.

**Alternatives for Consideration**

Based on traffic characteristics, **dedicated or separated cycling facilities** are appropriate.

**Dedicated Facilities**
- Typically provided along roads with moderate speeds and volumes
  - Bike Lanes
  - Buffered Bike Lanes

**Separated Facilities**
- Typically provided along roads with higher speeds and volumes
  - Cycle Track
  - Multi-Use Paths
## Active Transportation Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bike Lanes (Conventional or Buffered)</th>
<th>Multi-Use Path</th>
<th>Cycle Track</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate for Road Context</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comfortable &amp; Attractive</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuous &amp; Connected</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feasibility &amp; Cost</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Evaluation</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Circle" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A multi-use path is the preliminary preferred option. The multi-use path is appropriate for the roadway context, will address the sidewalk gap on the west side, and separates users from truck traffic.

The multi-use path will require an easement and/or property acquisition to run through the hydro corridor and around the northern-most hydro tower.

The preferred active transportation solution will be the alternative that will be recommended for implementation.

What do you think about installing a multi-use path on Birch Ave.? 

---

Birch Avenue Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Public Information Centre November 11, 2019
Bridge/Drainage Alternatives

The clearance under the bridges needs to be a minimum of 4.8 metres.

Existing Clearance
Bridge 330 (North Bridge): 4.2 m (east), 4.1 m (west)
Bridge 332 (South Bridge): 4.1 m (both)

1. Do Nothing
2. Raise the Bridge
3. Lower the Road
4. Raise The Bridge & Lower the Road
5. Install a thinner bridge deck

* Drawings are not to scale. For illustrative purposes only.
# Bridge/Drainage Alternative (1)

## Alternative 1: Do Nothing

**Description**
Bridges 330 and 332 would be replaced with structures that have the existing, substandard roadway clearance.

**Supporting Works**
- None.

## Alternative 2: Raise the Bridge

**Description**
The two bridges would be raised by 0.7 metres to increase roadway clearance.

**Supporting Works**
- Will require raising the approach tracks which will have major impacts to rail operations, and possibly at nearby grade crossings.
- A pumping station will be required to address existing drainage issues at the underpasses.

## Alternative 3: Lower the Road

**Description**
Lower the road 0.7 metres under the two bridges to meet the clearance requirements.

**Supporting Works**
- A pumping station will be required to address drainage at the underpasses.
- The amount of water to pump will be larger compared to today due to the lower road profile.
### Bridge/Drainage Alternative (2)

#### Alternative 4: Raise the Bridge and Lower the Road

**Description**
A combination of lowering the roadway 0.4 metres and raising the bridges 0.3 metres to achieve the required clearance.

**Impacts**
- A pumping station will be required to address drainage at the underpasses.
- The amount of water to pump will be larger compared to today due to the lower road profile.

#### Alternative 5: Install a Thinner Bridge Deck

**Description**
This alternative would see the existing bridge decks replaced by a shallower (thinner) design.

**Impacts**
- A pumping station will be required to address existing drainage issues at the underpasses.
Evaluation Process and Criteria

The alternatives were evaluated using the process described below.

**Step 1: Feasibility Screening (Board 17)**

Alternatives that **fail to address the problem or have significant impacts** were removed from consideration.

**Step 2: Technical Evaluation (Board 18)**

Alternatives that passed Step 1 were evaluated against the environmental criteria below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transportation</th>
<th>Drainage and Construction</th>
<th>Natural Environment</th>
<th>Social Environment</th>
<th>Economic Environment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Supports two-way conversion</td>
<td>• Construction area impacts</td>
<td>• Surface water and aquatic habitat</td>
<td>• Cultural heritage impact</td>
<td>• Capital costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Active transportation</td>
<td>• Pumping requirements</td>
<td>• Regulated areas</td>
<td>• Archaeological impact</td>
<td>• Operating costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Roadway safety</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Vegetation and vegetation communities</td>
<td>• Construction phasing impacts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Wildlife and habitat</td>
<td>• Consistent with Urban Official Plan and Transportation Master Plan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Species at risk</td>
<td>• Property impacts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Evaluation Criteria are used to capture the social, economic and environmental effects of the project.

What comments do you have on the evaluation process and criteria?
# Step 1: Feasibility Screening

The five alternatives were screened for feasibility and major impacts (e.g. address clearance issue, impacts on rail operations).

Three alternatives were eliminated which leaves two for further evaluation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative</th>
<th>Raise Bridge</th>
<th>Lower Road</th>
<th>Total Clearance</th>
<th>Infeasible or Major Impacts?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1: Do nothing</td>
<td>0 m</td>
<td>0 m</td>
<td>4.1 m (substandard)</td>
<td>Yes – does not address clearance issue. Removed from consideration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: Raise Bridge</td>
<td>0.7 m</td>
<td>0 m</td>
<td>4.8 m</td>
<td>Yes – raising the bridge would have significant impact on rail operations. Removed from consideration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3: Lower Road</td>
<td>0 m</td>
<td>0.7 m</td>
<td>4.8 m</td>
<td>No – advance to Step 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4: Raise Bridge &amp; Lower Road</td>
<td>0.3 m</td>
<td>0.4 m</td>
<td>4.8 m</td>
<td>No – advance to Step 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5: Thinner Bridge Deck</td>
<td>0 m</td>
<td>0 m</td>
<td>4.1 m (substandard)</td>
<td>Yes – does not address clearance issue. Removed from consideration.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Step 2: Technical Evaluation

Alternatives 3 and 4 score comparably to one another.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative</th>
<th>Raise Bridge</th>
<th>Lower Road</th>
<th>Total Clearance</th>
<th>Transportation</th>
<th>Drainage &amp; Construction</th>
<th>Natural</th>
<th>Social</th>
<th>Economic</th>
<th>Overall Evaluation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3: Lower Road</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>0.7 m</td>
<td>4.8 m (min.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4: Raise Bridge &amp; Lower Road</td>
<td>0.3 m</td>
<td>0.4 m</td>
<td>4.8 m (min.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Low Performing  
High Performing
Preliminary Preferred Bridge Solution

The preliminary preferred solution is Alternative 4: Raise Bridge & Lower Road.

This option provides the required clearance (4.8 metres). The preferred solution will be confirmed during functional and detail design, and refined to identify final dimensions.

The Preferred Solution will be the alternative that will be recommended to City Council for implementation.

Do you have any comments on the preliminary preferred solution?

* Drawing is not to scale. For illustrative purposes only.
Drainage Strategy

The Lake Ontario water table is, on average, 0.7 to 1.4 metres below road level at Bridge 332 and 330, respectively. The water table level has been increasing in recent years, particularly during the summer. This contributes to drainage issues.

To address stormwater drainage:

- **A new, expanded drainage system is required on the east side of the road.** This will increase the carrying capacity of the system to handle stormwater flows, and will help to reduce flooding.

- **Two new pumping stations are required to remove water from the bridge underpasses during and after storm events.** These need to be located in close proximity to the bridges.

The Drainage Strategy is a core component of the preliminary preferred solution.

Do you have any comments on the Drainage Strategy?
Moving Forward

Next Steps

• Review all comments and suggestions received before, during and following this Public Information Centre;

• Prepare the Project File Report and seek City Council approval for the preferred solution;

• Complete Functional Design to determine cost/budget and timeline implications; and,

• Advance to detailed design and prepare for construction, pending funding in partnership with senior levels of government.

Comments/Questions?

Please leave any feedback you may have on one of the comment sheets or email them to the project team by November 25, 2019. Your comments are important and will be reviewed by the City.

Project Team Contacts

If you would like more information on the study, the project team can be reached at:

Megan Salvucci  
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City of Hamilton  
320 – 77 James Street North  
Hamilton, ON L8R 2K3  
(905) 546-2424 ext. 2732  
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