Re: Notice of Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Abandonment Highway 5 Grindstone Creek Bridge Utility Relocation Class Environmental Assessment (EA) and Conceptual Design

In December 2016, the City of Hamilton completed the Highway 5 Grindstone Creek Bridge Utility Relocation Class Environmental Assessment (EA) and Conceptual Design. The purpose of this study was to identify and evaluate alternative solutions to permit the replacement and potential relocation of existing water, wastewater, hydro and telecommunications utilities to facilitate yet to be designed future bridge rehabilitation activities. The boundary of the study area is shown below.

The Project File Report along with related documents can be found at the Project Website: https://www.hamilton.ca/city-planning/master-plans-class-eas/highway-5-grindstone-creek-utility-relocation.

After the completion of the 2016 Class EA study, the preferred alternative was to relocate existing utilities to a separate Utility Bridge in advance of the existing bridge rehabilitation, which would allow for an expedited rehabilitation of the existing bridge.
During the detailed design stage, it was determined that property acquisition was necessary to construct the parallel utility bridge which was not foreseen during the Class EA stage. However, through consultation, it was determined that it would not be possible to acquire the needed land.

In this situation, a new alternative was considered and a conceptual design for a single all-encompassing bridge was completed. This single all-encompassing bridge is considered as a Schedule A+ project in the Municipal Class EA process, and can proceed directly to implementation without the need for further Class EA procedures. In the Public Works Committee meeting on May 30, 2022, the Council approved the recommendation a) in Report PW16085(a) which seeks direction to proceed with a single all-encompassing style of bridge.

Based on the above rationale, it is concluded that the Municipal Class EA process for this project has been abandoned. All of the study findings were documented and can be found on the Project Website: https://www.hamilton.ca/city-planning/master-plans-class-eas/highway-5-grindstone-creek-utility-relocation.

Kind Regards,

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