

Executive Summary

The United Counties of Prescott and Russell have retained Ainley Group to undertake a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) for the intersection improvements of County Road 3 and County Road 5, within the Township of Russell and Nation Municipality. This project has been classified as a Schedule 'B' undertaking in accordance with the *Municipal Class Environmental Assessment* (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011 & 2015). This Project File Report was prepared in accordance with the MCEA guidelines, and documents the process involved in the selection of the technically preferred alternative for the intersection improvements of County Road 3 and County Road 5.

In accordance with a Schedule 'B' undertaking, Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the MCEA were carried out. Phase 1 requires identification of the problem/opportunity statement, while Phase 2 requires identifying existing conditions, carrying out an environmental screening, identifying preliminary alternative solutions, selecting the preferred recommended solution, and consulting with the public and agencies on the project. An On-line Public Information Centre was held from June 18 to July 9, 2020 where design options and the preliminary preferred alternative for the intersection improvements at County Road 3 and County Road 5 were presented. Comments from agencies and the public were received, and replies were provided to those who requested to receive responses.

The traffic volumes at the County Road 3 and County Road 5 intersection have increased in the past years and are anticipated to continue to increase in the coming years. The technically preferred solution to address the problem statement is reconstruction of County Road 3 and County Road 5 intersection with a single lane roundabout shifted to the southeast of the existing intersection. The technically preferred alternative is a cost effective solution that addresses the problem and opportunity statements by improving traffic volumes and safety conditions at the intersection. The approximate cost for the reconstruction of the intersection with the single lane roundabout is \$2.3 million, with expected construction during the summer / fall of 2023. The preliminary design for the intersection is proceeding in accordance with the current design standards. The reconstruction of the intersection to a single lane roundabout will improve the present and future traffic volumes of the County Road 3 and County Road 5 intersection. As the location of the roundabout is to the southeast, the existing intersection will be used to accommodate traffic during construction to minimize impacts to travelers to the extent possible. It is anticipated that traffic control will consist of single lane roadway closures during the proposed works.

A Notice of Study Completion has been issued concurrently with this posting of the Project File Report on the public record, which will mark the beginning of the 30-day review period.

A request may be made to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for an order requiring a higher level of study (i.e. requiring an individual / comprehensive EA approval before being able to proceed), or that conditions be imposed (e.g. require further studies), only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. Requests on other grounds will not be

considered. Requests should include the requester contact information and full name for the Ministry.

Requests should specify what kind of order is being requested (request for additional conditions or a request for an individual / comprehensive environmental assessment), how an order may prevent, mitigate or remedy those potential adverse impacts, and any information in support of the statement in the request. This will ensure that the Ministry is able to efficiently begin reviewing the request.

The requests should be sent in writing or by email to the contacts below and a copy to the United Counties of Prescott and Russell.

Minister Jeff Yurek
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Email: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Director, Environmental Assessment
and Permissions Branch
Ministry of the Environment,
Conservation, and Parks
1st Floor, 135 St. Clair Avenue West
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5
Email: enviropemissions@ontario.ca