

Ministry of the Environment
and Climate Change

Ministère de l'Environnement et de
l'Action en matière de changement
climatique



Office of the Minister

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ENV1283MC-2015-1554

Ms. Alicia Jakaitis
Transportation Coordinator
Transportation Services, Public Works, Halton Region
1151 Bronte Road
Oakville ON L6M 3L1

Dear Ms. Jakaitis:

Between November 6 and 10, 2014, I received three requests from members of the public that Halton Region (Region) be required to prepare an individual environmental assessment for the proposed Britannia Road Corridor Improvements (Project) located in the Town of Milton.

I am taking this opportunity to inform you that I have decided that an individual environmental assessment is not required. This decision was made after giving careful consideration to the issues raised in the request, the project documentation, the provisions of the Municipal Engineers Association's Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class Environmental Assessment), and other relevant matters required to be considered under subsection 16(4) of the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

The reasons for my decision may be found in the attached table. In the interest of transparency, I encourage you to make this letter available to the greater public on the Region's website.

With this decision having been made, the Region may now proceed with the Project, subject to any other permits or approvals required. The Region must implement the Project in the manner it was developed and designed, as set out in the project documentation and inclusive of all mitigating measures and environmental and other provisions therein.

Ms. Jakaitis
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It is understood that the Region made a number of commitments with respect to protective measures to address potential environmental impacts. In accordance with the Class Environmental Assessment, any commitments made to affected agencies or members of the public must be fulfilled and implemented as part of the Project.

Lastly, I would like to ensure that the Region understands that failure to comply with the *Environmental Assessment Act* and the provisions of the Class Environmental Assessment and failure to implement the Project in the manner described in the project documentation are contraventions of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and may result in prosecution under section 38 of the Act. I am confident that the Region recognizes the importance and value of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and will ensure that its requirements and those of the Class Environmental Assessment are satisfied.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Glen Murray', written over a circular scribble.

Glen Murray
Minister of the Environment and Climate Change

Attachment

c: Requesters

EA File No. 14204
Britannia Road Corridor Improvements (Halton)

Britannia Road Corridor Improvements

Minister's Review of Outstanding Issues Raised by Part II Order Requesters:

Issues	Response
<p>The requesters are concerned that the 47 metre right-of-way will interfere with and have negative impacts to their residential properties, particularly the pond, mature trees, and heritage posts and gate at 8760 Britannia Road, and a berm and mature trees fronting 9300 Britannia road.</p>	<p>The Project was originally designed to accommodate a 47 metre right-of-way in this part of the study area.</p> <p>Through consultation efforts with affected residents, the Region proposed a revised plan to further mitigate potential impacts to residential property owners, including those to the pond, mature trees, and heritage posts and gate on the residential property at 8760 Britannia Road, and the berm and trees on the residential property at 9300 Britannia Road. The revised plan included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing the proposed right-of-way to 42 metres adjacent to the requesters' properties; • reducing the corridor improvement from six lanes to four lanes adjacent to the requesters' properties; • developing additional mitigation measures for potential impacts to the pond in consultation with Conservation Halton and the home owner; • maintaining the existing trees fronting 8760 Britannia Road in the four lane condition; • implementing heritage protection for the heritage posts and gate at 8760 Britannia Road and committing to the protection of these heritage features for the future six-lane widening; and • reducing encroachment onto 9300 Britannia Road to two metres for road widening to accommodate right-of-way landscaping (the existing berm and trees fronting 9300 Britannia Road can remain in the four lane condition). <p>These measures will reduce the Project's encroachment onto private property. Additionally, the Region has committed to implementing mitigation measures to protect or replace the existing trees fronting these residential properties for the future six-lane widening.</p> <p>The Region noted that the pond on the residential property at 8760 Britannia Road actually exists within both the Region's existing right-of-way limits and the residential property limits. Therefore, reshaping/resizing of the pond will be required to</p>

Issues	Response
	<p>accommodate the road widening and culvert improvements. However, the watercourse downstream of the pond has been classified as seasonal fish habitat for cold water species. As the pond contributes to increased in-stream temperatures, it is anticipated that improvements to the pond will serve to improve aquatic habitat downstream of the pond.</p> <p>I am satisfied that the Region has appropriately mitigated potential impacts to natural and cultural heritage features on the residents' properties by reducing encroachment onto these properties, and by committing to working with the property owners to address any residual impacts.</p>
<p>The requesters are of the opinion that if the Project were conducted simultaneously with the Boyne Survey Secondary Plan development, costs and impacts could be minimized.</p>	<p>The Boyne Survey Secondary Plan Area is the third of Milton's three residential growth areas within the current Urban Expansion Area, being built to accommodate growth to the year 2021. It is located directly north of Britannia Road from Tremaine Road to James Snow Parkway, and is planned to accommodate an additional 50,000 residents when fully developed.</p> <p>This Project is part of the Region's Transportation Master Plan, and is required to accommodate traffic increases anticipated as a result of planned growth in the Region.</p> <p>The Region will assess the construction staging plan and timing during the detailed design phase, and will identify any opportunities to coordinate with planned development north of Britannia Road.</p> <p>I am satisfied that the Region will assess construction staging plans and timing during detailed design, and coordinate construction with adjacent development wherever possible to minimize impacts and delays associated with the Project.</p>
<p>The requesters are concerned about potential safety risks to vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians as a result of moving the road closer to the private outdoor hockey rink at 9240 Britannia Road.</p>	<p>The residents of 9240 Britannia Road own a private outdoor hockey rink that is located on their property and used by the local community. The rink is set back approximately 20 metres from the current south edge of Britannia Road. Through a prior land severance, the property owners had given a prior right-of-way dedication to accommodate road widening. No additional lands beyond those previously agreed to are required to accommodate the interim four-lane, nor the ultimate six-lane cross-section.</p>

Issues	Response
	<p>The Region advised the property owners at 9240 Britannia Road that it will be their responsibility to ensure that the use of the hockey rink will not pose a safety risk to users of the road and multi-use pathway. However, the Region has committed to working with the property owner to ensure that all mitigation measures are implemented to the satisfaction of the property owner and any relevant approval agency.</p> <p>I am satisfied that the Region will work with the property owner to ensure that any safety risks are properly mitigated.</p>
<p>The requesters are concerned that road widening will encroach onto their property at 9300 Britannia Road by 7.5 metres, and that moving the road closer to their residence will pose a safety risk to children playing in their front yard.</p>	<p>As a result of further consultation with impacted property owners, the preferred alternative was revised to reduce encroachment onto 9300 Britannia Road from 7.5 metres to two metres in the four-lane condition. The road will not move closer to this residence, as the south edge of the road will be maintained in its current location. Therefore, the Project is not anticipated to pose an increased safety risk to children playing in the front yard of this property.</p> <p>I am satisfied that potential impacts to the residential property at 9300 Britannia road have been adequately mitigated. Given that the road will not move closer to the residence, the Project is not likely to increase the safety risk to children on this property.</p>