

**PUBLIC INFORMATION** CENTRE February 4, 2015 **Build Belleville Project Centre** 



# SIDNEY STREET CORRIDOR **IMPROVEMENTS BELL BOULEVARD TO TRACEY STREET**

# **Municipal Class Environmental** Assessment

## **PROBLEM/OPPORTUNITY AND STUDY AREA**

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**Volume/traffic movements** have increased at the Sidney **Street/Bell Boulevard** intersection since Bell **Boulevard was extended to** Wallbridge Loyalist Rd.

**Sidney Street/Bell Boulevard** intersection improvements are necessary to:

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- Minimize congestion
- Accommodate traffic
- Improve safety

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**Development is anticipated on** these vacant lots. Corridor improvements for safe turning movements are necessary.

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### **SIDNEY STREET**

**Corridor improvements are** envisioned to accommodate walking and cycling. There is a continuous sidewalk on the east side of Sidney Street only, and no cycling facilities exist along Sidney Street.

To Wallbridge Loyalist Road

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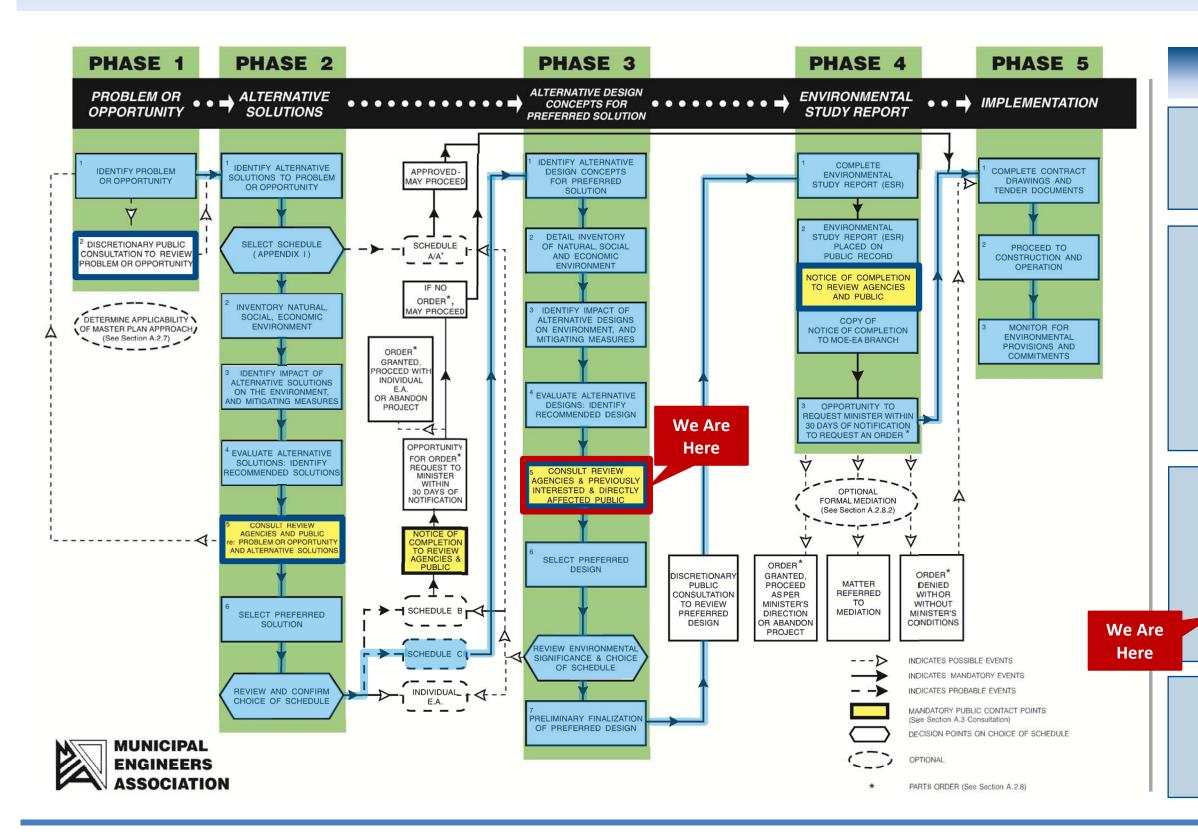
The Sidney Street/Tracey **Street/Tracey Park Drive** intersection is offset. Improvements are necessary to improve traffic flow and safety.

> CASCADE PARK

PARKDALE PARK

**To Dundas Street** 

## SCHEDULE 'C' MUNICIPAL CLASS EA PROCESS







### **Summarized Process**

### PHASE 1

Identify Problem/Opportunity Issue Notice of Study Commencement Consult the Public on Problem or Opportunity

#### PHASE 2

Develop Alternative Solutions to the Problem

Inventory Environmental Conditions

Evaluate the Feasibility and Impact of the Alternative Solutions

Consult the Public with the Preferred Solution

Select the Preferred Solution

#### PHASE 3

Develop Alternative Designs for the Preferred Solution

Evaluate Feasibility and Impact of Alternative Designs

Consult the Public with the Preferred Design

### PHASE 4

Document the Study in an Environmental Study Report

Issue the Notice of Study Completion

# SUPPORTING STUDIES FOR THE PROJECT

### **Environmental Studies**



### **Natural Environment Study**

A natural environment study was completed to identify natural features, including species at risk, which had potential to occur within the study area. The study was based on a review of the surrounding lands, a review of publicly available background information, and agency consultation. The results of the study were used to assess the project impacts on the natural environment, and identify appropriate mitigation measures.



### **Archaeology Study**

A Stage 1 archaeological study was completed to document information about the study area's geography, history, current land conditions and any previous archaeological research within the vicinity. The assessment provided a description of features in the study area and concluded that there were no significant areas of archaeological potential.



### **Built and Cultural Heritage Evaluation**

A built and cultural heritage evaluation was completed to identify potential cultural heritage properties in the study area. The study reviewed historical information on land use history, and reviewed municipally and provincially designated historical sites and districts within the study area. No heritage features were identified in the study area.

### **Design Studies**



#### **Geotechnical Investigation**

A geotechnical investigation was completed to characterize the existing pavement and subgrade conditions, including information on groundwater levels, and details of topsoil and subgrade soils conditions within grassed areas where road widening was considered. The geotechnical investigation was used to support project design and provided preliminary recommendations for the reuse, recycling and/or disposal of existing site material.



### **Traffic Study**

A Traffic Analysis Report was completed for Sidney Street and the intersections with Bell Boulevard and Tracey Street / Tracey Park Drive. The study examined:

- the City's recent Transportation Master Plan and other background documents;
- volumes);
- turning lanes;
- and
- collision history and other safety factors.



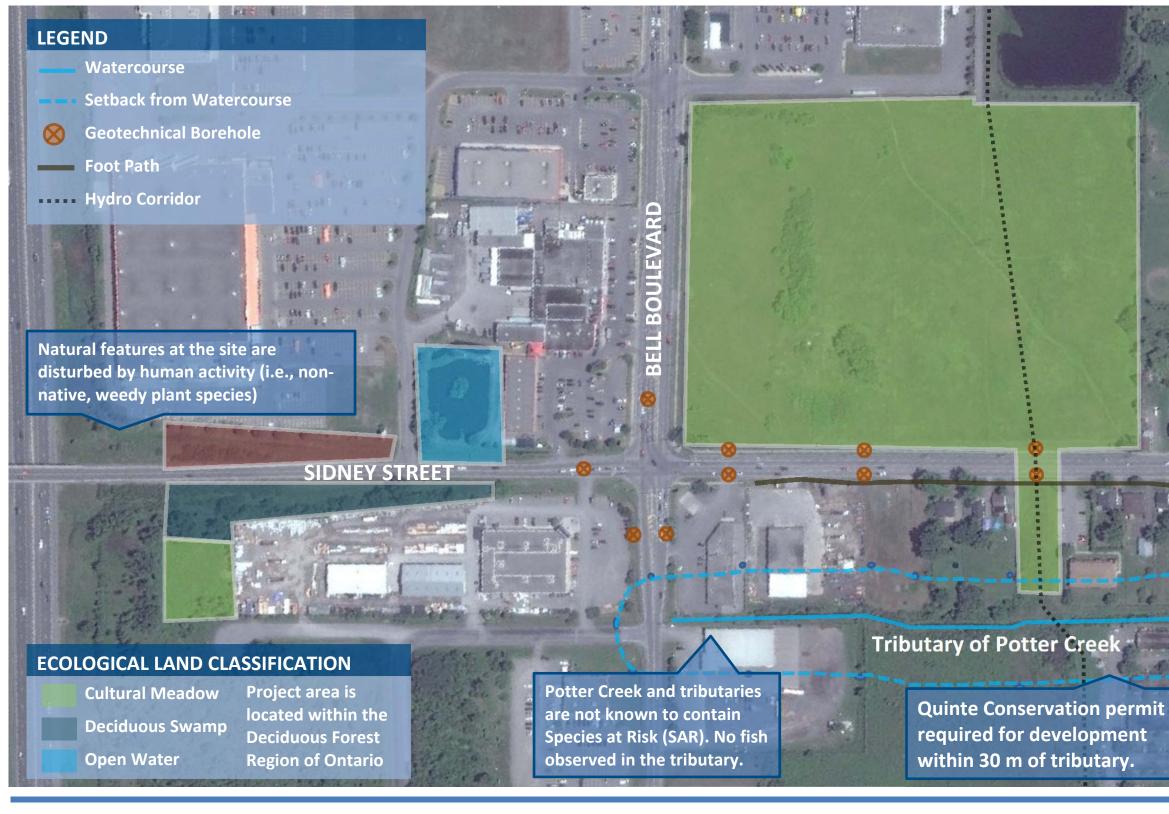


• recent turning movement counts at intersections (traffic

• current and future intersection operations (Level of Service); the need and justification for additional through lanes and

• the off-set intersection of Tracey Street and Tracey Park Drive;

# **EXISTING FEATURES / KEY STUDY RESULTS**







#### **Traffic Assessment examined:**

• turning lanes;

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- signal timing
- re-alignment of Tracey Street and Tracey Park Drive
- through lanes (at Bell Boulevard intersection)

# **ALTERNATIVE DESIGNS FOR SIDNEY STREET**

As part of the study process, 5 scenarios were considered for the Sidney Street corridor, to address the Problem/Opportunity:

- **Do Nothing** As part of the EA process, the City is required to evaluate the impact of NOT addressing the problems/opportunities in the study area. Under this scenario, there would be no changes to the existing condition of Sidney Street.
- **Alternative 1.** Widen Sidney Street symmetrically to the east and west, with traffic islands at the Tracey Street / Tracey Park Drive intersection.
- Alternative 2. Widen Sidney Street predominantly to the west side, with traffic islands at the Tracey Street / Tracey Park Drive intersection.
- **Alternative 3.** Widen Sidney Street predominantly to the east side, with traffic islands at the Tracey Street / Tracey Park Drive intersection.
- Alternative 4. Widen Sidney Street to the east and west, without traffic islands at the Tracey Street / Tracey Park Drive intersection, and with a slight shift to the east mid-corridor.

Each of these scenarios was evaluated relative to regulatory/policy standards, issues brought forward by the public, City guidelines, and design standards. The results of the evaluation are shown on the next presentation board.





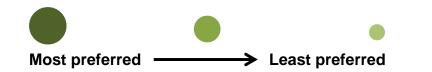
Large drawings of each of the alternative designs are provided on the tables. Please write your thoughts on the drawings about any of the alternatives.

# **EVALUATION OF THE SIDNEY STREET ALTERNATIVES**



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Category	Regulatory / Policy/ Design Requirement	General Objective	Project-specific Target	DO NOTHING	ALTERNATIVE 1 Symmetrical widening with traffic islands at Tracey Street / Tracey Park Drive	ALTERNATIVE 2 Widening predominantly to the west side	ALTERNATIVE 3 Widening predominantly to the east side	ALTERNATIVE 4 Widening without traffic islands at Tracey Street / Tracey Park Drive and slight shift east mid-corridor
Natural Environment	Provincial Policy Statement (2014)	Protection of fish habitat	No development or site alteration in fish habitat or riparian areas (defined as areas within 15m from top of bank)					
	Migratory Birds Convention Act (1994)	Protection of nesting habitat of migratory birds in Canada	No clearing of trees, shrubs or meadow grasses that would result in the destruction of nests of migratory birds				•	
	Ontario Regulation 319/09 – Quinte Conservation Authority	Protection of public safety and property from natural hazards, and protection of wetlands, shorelines and watercourses	No unapproved excavation, filling, site grading or development within 30 m of the Potter Creek tributary					
nment	City of Belleville Official Plan (2002)	Provision of a safe, convenient and functional transportation network	Provision of sufficient carrying capacity on Sidney Street to accommodate anticipated traffic growth					
			Incorporation of dedicated cycling corridors or lanes where feasible					
			Provision of street lighting and sidewalks where pedestrian traffic is anticipated					
		Application of high standards of urban design wherever possible	Use of tree plantings using species native to this climatic region which are suited to urban streetscapes Locate services and					
			plant to eliminate or avoid visual clutter; increase the level of public safety; and reduce the risk of service interruption through accident or natural disaster					
		Providing accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities	Install ramps at intersections and across curbs; avoid use, wherever possible, of steps or impediments to access Use of audible pedestrian signals					
s Envir			where demand warrants					
Social and Economic Environmen	Public concerns identified for the project	Improve ease of driveway access during high traffic conditions	Improve driveway access through design					
cial and F		Improve pedestrian safety on the west side of Sidney Street Address difficulty with left	Improve pedestrian safety through provision of pedestrian facilities Improve Sidney Street / Bell					
Soc		turns from Sidney St. onto Bell Blvd. in both directions due to traffic congestion and lack of advance signal	Boulevard intersection function through design	•				
	Property Impacts	Consideration of effects on property ownership	Minimize the total amount of residential and commercial property frontage lost		•		•	
			Minimize the number of properties where the house frontage would no longer meet the City's 7.5 m standard setback from the property line			•	•	
		-	Minimize the number of properties requiring full buy out		•		•	•
		Consideration of the usable portion of existing driveways Consideration of effects on	Minimize number of driveways that would become non-functional for parking Minimize restrictions on turning			•	•	
		ability to access residential driveways	movements entering/exiting driveways on residential properties					
Transportation Design	TAC Geometric Design Guide and City of Belleville Design Standards	Design of driving lanes to meet the standards for arterial roadways	Driving lane width equal to standard					
		Adequate provision for traffic signals	Traffic signals to be incorporated at both intersections in the study area					
		Safe separation of pedestrians from driving lanes	Provision of a boulevard buffer between any proposed sidewalks and driving lanes					
		Maintenance of through- traffic during construction	Construction staging to maintain at least one lane of traffic open in either direction during construction					
		Protect other infrastructure in the project area	Minimize the need to interfere with or relocate existing utilities					



A detailed analysis of the alternatives can be found on the City's website at: www.buildbelleville.ca



# **ALTERNATIVE DESIGNS FOR THE TRACEY STREET /** TRACEY PARK DRIVE INTERSECTION

As part of the study process, 4 scenarios were considered for the Tracey Street / Tracey Park Drive intersection, to address the **Problem/Opportunity:** 

- **Do Nothing** As part of the EA process, the City is required to evaluate the impact of NOT addressing the problems/opportunities in the study area. Under this scenario, there would be no changes to the existing condition of the Tracey Street / Tracey Park Drive intersection.
- Alternative 1. Realign Tracey Street on the east side of Sidney Street, to improve the overall geometry of the intersection.
- Alternative 2. Realign Tracey Park Drive on the west side of Sidney Street, to improve the overall geometry of the intersection.
- Alternative 3. Change the alignment of both Tracey Street and Tracey Park Drive on both sides of Sidney Street to improve the overall geometry of the intersection.

Each of these scenarios was evaluated relative to regulatory/policy standards, issues brought forward by the public, City guidelines, and design standards. The results of the evaluation are shown on the next presentation board.







Large drawings of each of the alternative designs are provided on the tables. Please write your thoughts on the drawings about any of the alternatives.

# EVALUATION OF THE TRACEY STREET/ TRACEY PARK DRIVE INTERSECTION ALTERNATIVES



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						Prefer	red Alternative
Category	Regulatory / Policy/ Design Requirement	General Objective	Project-specific Target	DO NOTHING	ALTERNATIVE 1 Realign Tracey Street	ALTERNATIVE 2 Realign Tracey Park Drive	ALTERNATIVE 3 Realign combination of Tracey Street and Tracey Park Drive
Natural Environment	Migratory Birds Convention Act (1994)	Protection of nesting habitat of migratory birds in Canada	No clearing of trees that would result in the destruction of nests of migratory birds			•	
Social and Economic Environment	City of Belleville Official Plan (2002)	Provision of a safe, convenient and functional transportation network	Provision of sufficient carrying capacity at the intersection to accommodate anticipated traffic growth	٠			
		Application of high standards of urban design wherever possible	Use of tree plantings using species native to this climatic region which are suited to urban streetscapes				
			Locate services and associated plant to eliminate or avoid visual clutter; increase the level of public safety; and reduce the risk of service interruption through accident or natural disaster				
		Providing accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities	Install ramps at intersections and across curbs and avoid the use, wherever possible, of steps and other impediments to access				
			Use of audible pedestrian signals where demand warrants	•			
	Property Impacts	Consideration of effects on property ownership	Minimize the total amount of residential property frontage lost		•		
			Minimize the number of properties where the house frontage would no longer meet the City's 7.5 m standard setback from the property line		•		
			Minimize the number of properties requiring full buy out		•		
		Consideration of the usable portion of existing residential driveways	Minimize number of driveways that would become non-functional for parking		•		
on Design	TAC Geometric Design Guide and City of Belleville Design Standards	Adequate provision for traffic signals	Traffic signals to be incorporated at the intersection	٠			
		Safe separation of	Provision of a boulevard buffer				

Transportation D		Safe separation of pedestrians from driving lanes	Provision of a boulevard buffer between any proposed sidewalks and driving lanes			
		Protect other infrastructure in the project area	Minimize the need to interfere with or relocate existing utilities		•	



## A detailed analysis of the alternatives can be found on the City's website at: **WWW.buildbelleville.ca**



# **FINAL STEPS**

## **Final Steps:**

- Receive and review comments received from this Public Information Centre, and from external agencies.
- Confirm preferred design and issue the Notice of Study Completion and **Environmental Study** Report for public review.
- Receive and review comments received during the 30-day public review period.

## Your Comments are Important to Us

Please ask questions of the project team (listed below), and complete a comment sheet before you leave. You may also submit your comment sheet and return by mail until March 6, 2015.

### Deanna O'Leary, P.Eng.

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### **Appeals Process**

If concerns regarding the project cannot be resolved in discussion with the City of Belleville, a person or party may request that the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change make an order for the project to comply with Part II of the Environmental Assessment Act (referred to as a Part II Order), which requires an Individual Environmental Assessment. Requests must be received by the Minister within the 30-day review period following issuance of the Notice of Study Completion. If no new or outstanding concerns are brought forward during the review period, the City may complete the detailed design and construction of the project. Anyone wishing to request a Part II Order must submit a written request, by the end of the thirty (30) calendar day review period, to the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change at the following address, with copies sent to the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch, and the City's Project Manager.

Hon. Glen Murray Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change 77 Wellesley St. W, Floor 11 Toronto, ON, M7A 2T5

Director, Environmental Approvals Branch Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change 2 St. Clair Ave W, Floor 12A Toronto, ON, M4V 1L5

## **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy**

Information collected at this Public Information Centre is being collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (R.S.O. 1990). This information will be kept by the City of Belleville on file and may be included in study documentation. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record. Names and addresses will be kept confidential.





### Jennifer Haslett, B.Sc., EP

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