

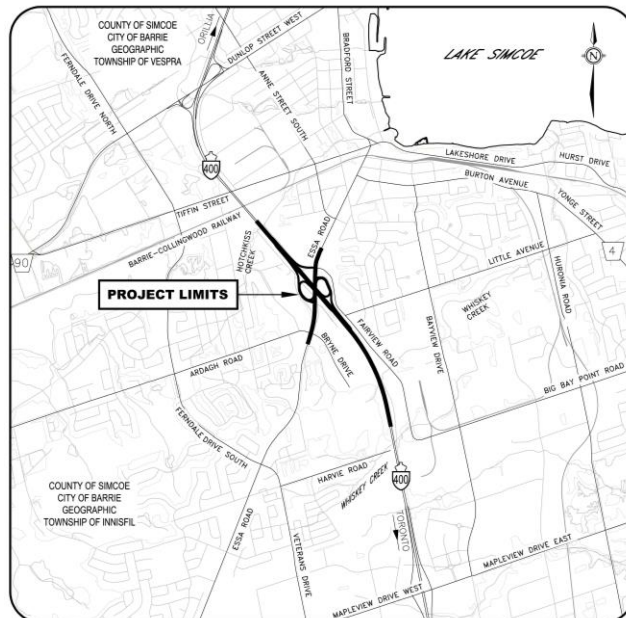
**Notice of Completion – Design and Construction Report
Highway 400/Essa Road Interchange, Barrie, Ontario, Simcoe County
Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment Study (GWP 2337-16-00)**



The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) to complete a Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment (EA) study for the Highway 400/Essa Road bridge replacement and interchange improvements in the City of Barrie, County of Simcoe (see map).

A Design and Construction Report (DCR) has been prepared to summarize the recommended plan, which includes the following improvements:

- Replacement of the Highway 400 bridges at Essa Road to accommodate the future widening of Highway 400 to a 10-lane cross-section
- Widening of Essa Road from four to six lanes between the Bryne Drive/Ardagh Road intersection (west end) and the Fairview Road intersection (east end), with the addition of a Multi-Use Pathway on the north side of Essa Road
- Reconstruction of the Highway 400/Essa Road Interchange, including the addition of a dedicated ramp from eastbound Essa Road to southbound Highway 400 and a new bridge to allow the ramp to cross the commercial access road in the southwest quadrant of the interchange
- Replacement of traffic signals at the new ramp terminals
- Storm sewer replacement, culvert extension and stormwater management measures
- Median tall wall concrete barrier improvements, pavement rehabilitation and safety upgrades



Construction staging has been developed to minimize traffic disruptions. Short-duration lane and ramp closures will be required and detours will be provided. Temporary carpool lot closures will be required but one will remain open at any given time. Upon completion of the DCR review period, the project will be considered to have met the requirements of the Class EA and will proceed to construction. Construction is anticipated to commence in Spring 2022 subject to funding and approvals.

This study followed the approved planning process for Group 'B' projects under the MTO Class EA for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000). **The DCR is available for a 30-day public comment period beginning December 2, 2021 and ending on January 4, 2022.** This document is available electronically on the Project Website: <https://hwy400essaroad.ca/documentation/>

Interested persons may provide written comments to the project team by January 4, 2022. Please visit our project website at www.hwy400essaroad.ca to obtain additional information or provide comments. Comments can also be emailed to comments@hwy400essaroad.ca.

All comments and concerns should be sent directly to the project team below:

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Ministry of Transportation
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comments@hwy400essaroad.ca

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Principal, Transportation
Stantec Consulting Ltd.
Tel: 905-381-3216
comments@hwy400essaroad.ca

Outstanding concerns are to be directed to the proponents listed above for a response, unless the outstanding concerns are regarding potential adverse impacts to constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights, in which case Part II Order requests on these matters should be addressed in writing to:

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

Director, Environmental Assessment Branch
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Floor
Toronto ON, M4V 1P5
EABDirector@ontario.ca

If you have any accessibility requirements in order to participate in this project, please contact one of the Project Team members listed above. Information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Access to Information Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.