

NOTICE OF COMPLETION – DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION REPORT #1
Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment
Highway 3 Widening Project – Essex to Leamington
1.2 km East of Essex Road 23 Easterly to 1.1 km East of Essex Road 34, Essex County

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and Infrastructure Ontario (IO) retained GIP Hwy 3 Inc. (GIP) to complete the Design-Build-Finance (DBF) Contract for the widening of Highway 3 from 1.2 km east of Essex Road 23 easterly to 1.1 km east of Essex Road 34, in Essex County. The DBF Contract includes the Class Environmental Assessment (EA), Detail Design, and Construction of the project, which includes the following key improvements:

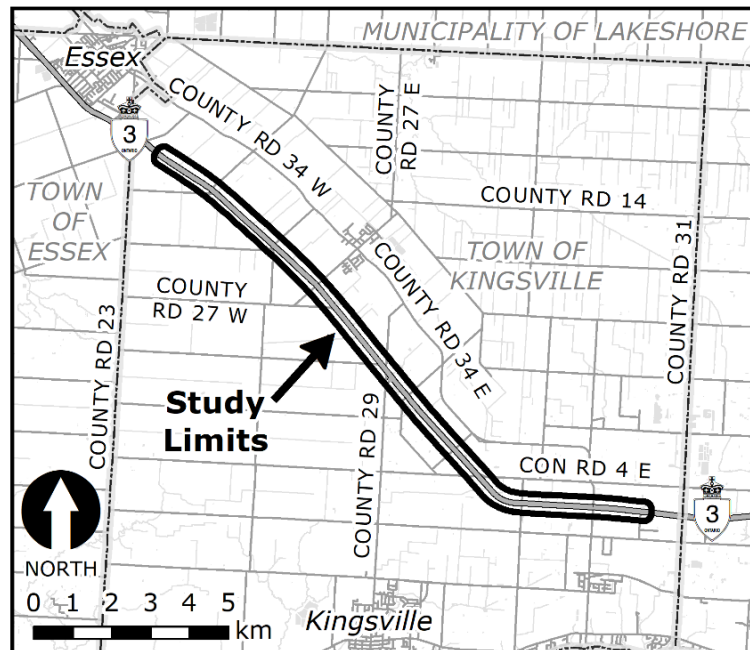
- Widening to a new 4-lane cross-section with a median
- Closure of Cameron Side Road/Concession Road 9, Marsh Road/Concession Road 8, Inman Side Road/South Talbot Road and Upcott Side Road; subject to an Ontario Land Tribunal decision
- Concession Road 8 and McCain Side Road connection and intersection removal
- Traffic signal replacements at Division Road (Essex Road 29) and Union Avenue (Essex Road 34)
- New traffic signals at Belle River Road (Essex Road 27), Essex Road 18, and Graham Side Road
- Realignment of South Talbot Road at Belle River Road (Essex Road 27) and at Division Road (Essex Road 29)
- Realignment and extension of a portion of Division Road (Essex Road 29)
- Realignment of Essex Road 18 at Highway 3
- New noise barrier along the south side of Highway 3, west of Division Road (Essex Road 29)
- Drainage improvements, including abandonment/extension/rehabilitation/replacement of culverts

It is anticipated that, subject to approvals, construction will begin in early 2024 and will be complete in early 2027.

The Highway 3 Widening Project was completed in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000)* as a Group 'B' undertaking. Two (2) Design and Construction Reports (DCRs) will be prepared to document the detailed design, public and agency consultation completed and environmental mitigation measures that will be in place during construction. DCR #1 documents the majority of the project, while DCR #2 will document additional drainage improvements requiring additional time to secure approvals.

DCR #1 will be available for a 30-day comment period between **December 22, 2023** and **January 24, 2024**, at the project website: www.hwy3essex.com.

We encourage you to review DCR #1 and provide any comments to the project team by **January 24, 2024** using the comment form on the project website, or by contacting one of the project team members listed below. A hard copy of DCR #1 will not be provided at public review locations. If you wish to review DCR #1 and require an alternate format, you may contact the project team member listed below to discuss review options.



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Ministry of Transportation

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SECTION 16 ORDER (ABORIGINAL AND TREATY RIGHTS)

In addition, a request may be made to the Minister 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 EA), how an order may prevent, mitigate or remedy those potential adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, and any information in support of the statements in the request. This will ensure that the ministry is able to begin reviewing the request efficiently.

The request should be sent in writing or by email to both of the following MECP contacts, copying the project team members listed above:

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

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

THIS NOTICE ISSUED DECEMBER 20, 2023.