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Town of Innisfil - 6th Line Interchange Environmental Assessment (EA) Study

Welcome

Welcome to the second Public Open House (POH) meeting. Please sign in on the attendance sheet and obtain a comment sheet at the registration desk.

Should you have any questions regarding the presentation materials, background reports or any other aspect of the study, please speak to the Town or Consultant study team members in attendance.

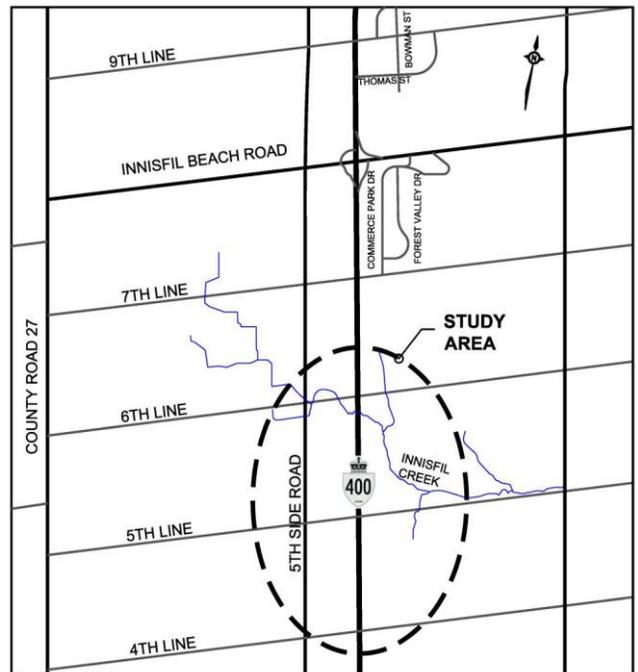
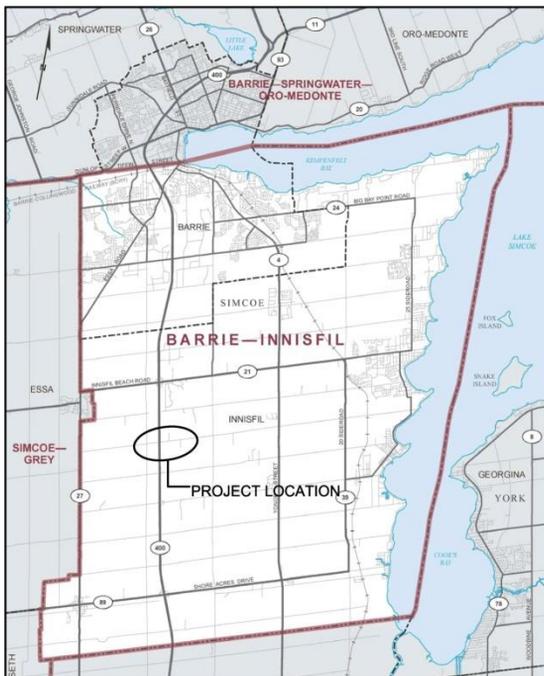
We encourage your input/feedback on the material being presented on the display boards. Please deposit completed comment sheets in the comment box or mail/ e-mail to the address at the bottom of the form by **December 20, 2016**.

There is an opportunity at any time during the EA process for interested persons to provide written input. Any comments received will be collected under the *Environmental Assessment Act* and *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and, with the exception of personal information, will become part of the public record.

Introduction

The Town of Innisfil is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study to plan for a new interchange on Highway 400. The study is assessing alternatives for a new interchange in the central area of Simcoe County. This new interchange will provide better access to proposed development areas (Innisfil Heights and Alcona).

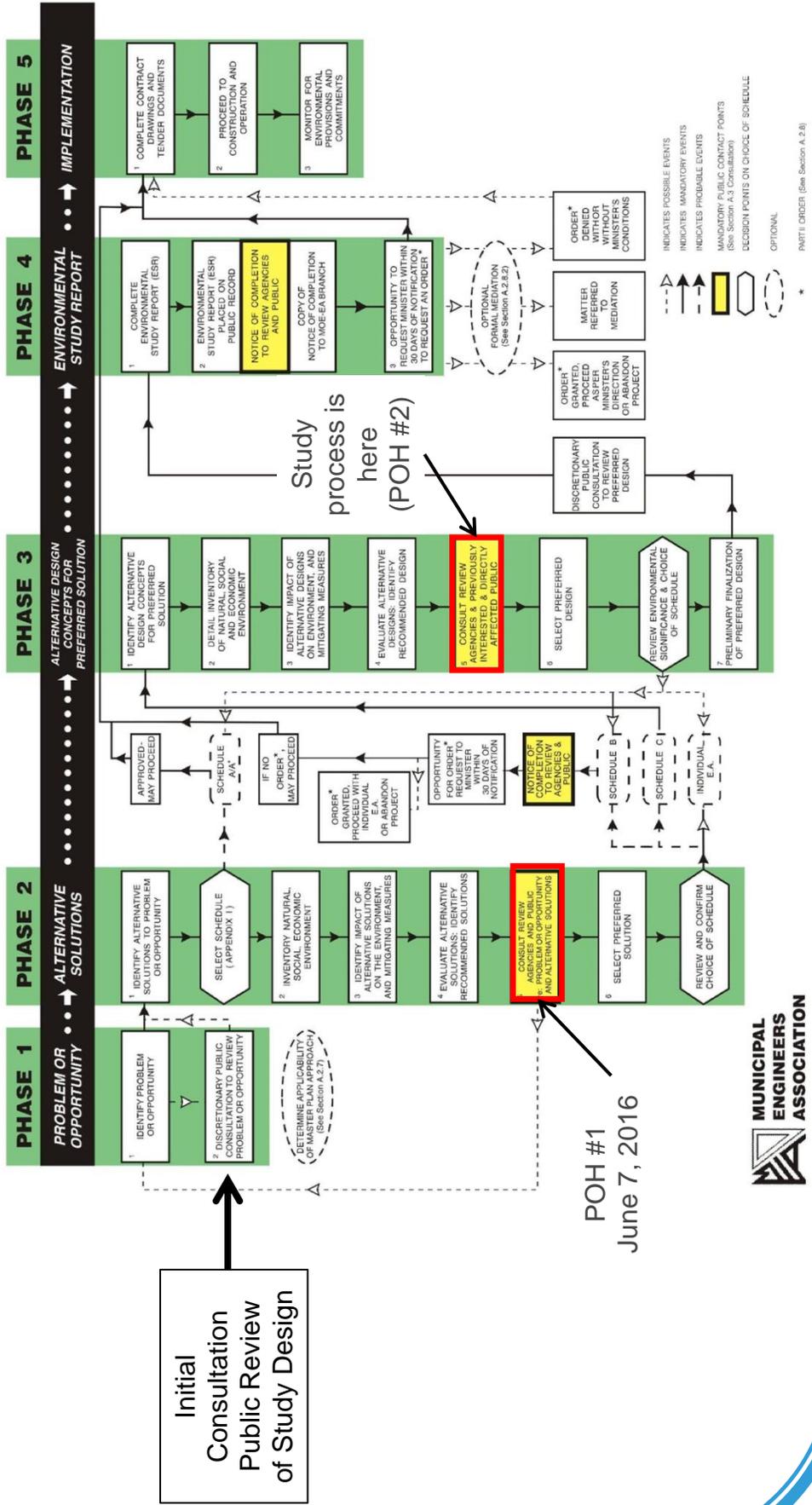
This Study is completing all phases of the Municipal Class EA by establishing the need and justification for the project, considering all alternatives and proactively involving the public in defining a recommended plan for improvements. This Study is being completed as a Municipal Schedule C undertaking, based on the scope of the project and the range of anticipated effects. See the following exhibit for a description of the EA process.



Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Process

This project is being undertaken as a Municipal Schedule C Class EA in accordance with the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. A copy of this document is available at the Resource Table.

The data and reports produced for the study will be documented in an Environmental Study Report (ESR).



Need and Justification for an Interchange

Current and expected increases in traffic in the County of Simcoe and Town of Innisfil necessitate improvements to the road network for a new interchange on Highway 400.

The Simcoe County Transportation Master Plan (TMP) (2014) identified that Innisfil Beach Road will be above capacity by 2031, even with planned roadway improvements.

The Town of Innisfil's Official Plan identified the need for a future interchange on Highway 400. The Innisfil TMP (2013) has also confirmed the need for a new interchange on Highway 400 and recommended it be located at 6th Line (subject of this EA Study) along with improvements to the 6th Line corridor (defined in the 6th Line EA). The TMP identified that an interchange at 6th Line would also address the capacity constraint on Innisfil Beach Road. These background documents are available at the Resource Table.



Alternatives for Evaluation

The alternatives will involve a combination of vertical alignment alternatives, horizontal alignment alternatives and interchange configuration alternatives. An example of how these will combine to create an alternative is illustrated below:



Vertical Alignment Alternatives:

- Alternative 1: Highway 400 Overpass
- Alternative 2: Highway 400 Underpass

Horizontal Alignment Alternatives:

- Alternative A: Existing 6th Line Alignment
- Alternative B: 50 m shift north of 6th Line
- Alternative C: 50 m shift south of 6th Line

Interchange Configuration Alternatives:

- Alternative 1: Diamond
- Alternative 2: Diamond with Roundabout
- Alternative 3: Parclo A2 with 180 m direct taper on 6th Line
- Alternative 4: Parclo A4 with 180 m direct taper on 6th Line
- Alternative 5: Parclo A2 with 110 m direct taper on 6th Line
- Alternative 6: Parclo A4 with 110 m direct taper on 6th Line
- Alternative 7: Parclo A2 with 110 m direct taper on 6th Line beyond structure
- Alternative 8: Parclo A4 with 110 m direct taper on 6th Line beyond structure
- Alternative 9: Parclo B2
- Alternative 10: Parclo B4

Alternatives for Evaluation

Below is a list of all possible combinations of alternatives carried forward for this study:

Horizontal / Vertical Alignment	Alternative Number	Interchange Type	Design Speed on 6th Line	Taper on 6th Line
Alternative A1: Current / 6th Line under Highway 400	Alt A1-1	Diamond		
	Alt A1-2	Diamond with Roundabout		
	Alt A1-3	Parclo A2	100 km/h Design Speed	180 m Direct Taper on 6th Line
	Alt A1-4	Parclo A4		
	Alt A1-5	Parclo A2	80 km/h Design Speed	110 m Direct Taper on 6th Line
	Alt A1-6	Parclo A4		
	Alt A1-7	Parclo A2		110 m Direct Taper on 6th Line Beyond Structure
	Alt A1-8	Parclo A4		
	Alt A1-9	Parclo B2		
	Alt A1-10	Parclo B4		
Alternative A2: Current / 6th Line over Highway 400	Alt A2-1	Diamond		
	Alt A2-2	Diamond with Roundabout		
	Alt A2-3	Parclo A2	100 km/h Design Speed	180 m Direct Taper on 6th Line
	Alt A2-4	Parclo A4		
	Alt A2-5	Parclo A2	80 km/h Design Speed	110 m Direct Taper on 6th Line
	Alt A2-6	Parclo A4		
	Alt A2-7	Parclo A2		110 m Direct Taper on 6th Line Beyond Structure
	Alt A2-8	Parclo A4		
	Alt A2-9	Parclo B2		
	Alt A2-10	Parclo B4		
Alternative B2: Northerly / 6th Line over Highway 400	Alt B2-1	Diamond		
	Alt B2-2	Diamond with Roundabout		
	Alt B2-3	Parclo A2	100 km/h Design Speed	180 m Direct Taper on 6th Line
	Alt B2-4	Parclo A4		
	Alt B2-5	Parclo A2	80 km/h Design Speed	110 m Direct Taper on 6th Line
	Alt B2-6	Parclo A4		
	Alt B2-7	Parclo A2		110 m Direct Taper on 6th Line Beyond Structure
	Alt B2-8	Parclo A4		
	Alt B2-9	Parclo B2		
	Alt B2-10	Parclo B4		

Vertical Alignment Alternatives

The EA assessed both Highway 400 Overpass (existing condition with Highway 400 over 6th Line) and Highway 400 Underpass alternatives. The overpass alternative will require a minor grade raise (slope increase) of Highway 400 to accommodate a larger bridge span and the future longer range widening of 6th Line to a 4-lane arterial. The underpass alternative will maintain the existing Highway 400 profile (no change to existing profile).

Horizontal Alignment Alternatives

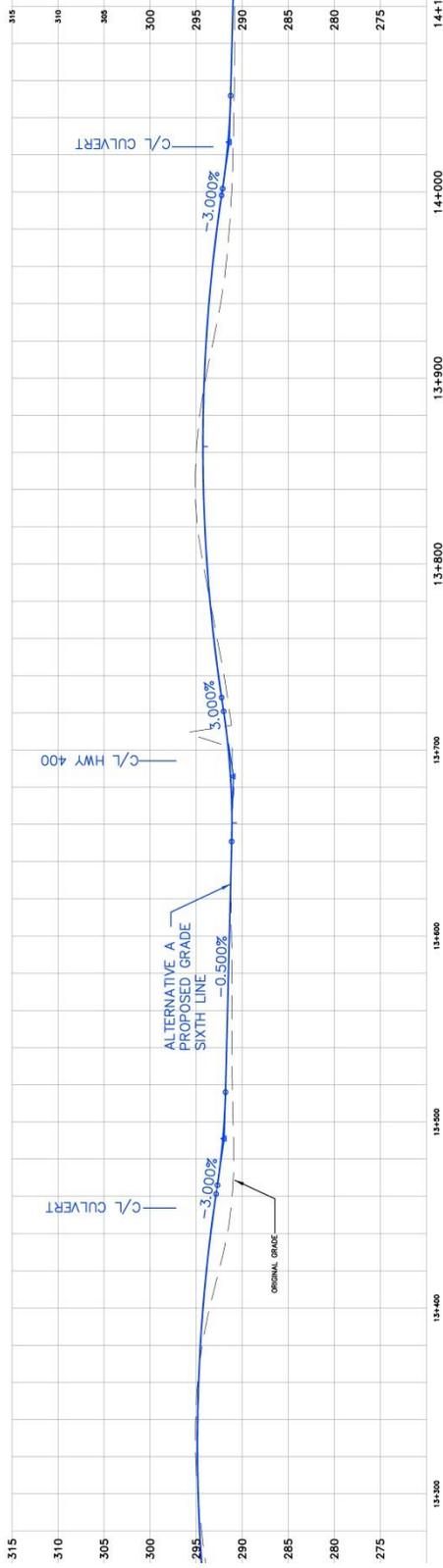
The EA has also reviewed the horizontal alignment of 6th Line. The alternatives are: maintaining the existing alignment; a 50 m roadway shift to the north; and, a 50 m roadway shift to the south. Due to the significant environmental impacts (ravine and woodlot), the 50 m roadway shift to the south was screened out and not carried forward for the evaluation.



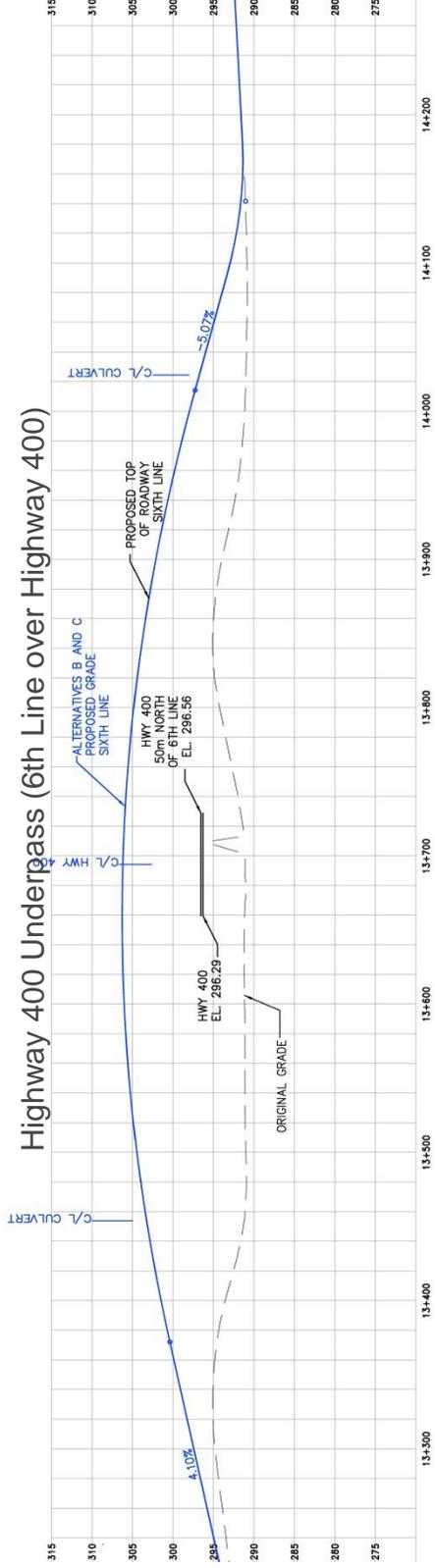
Innisfil

Vertical Alignment Alternatives

Highway 400 Overpass (6th Line under Highway 400)



Highway 400 Underpass (6th Line over Highway 400)





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Horizontal Alignment Alternatives

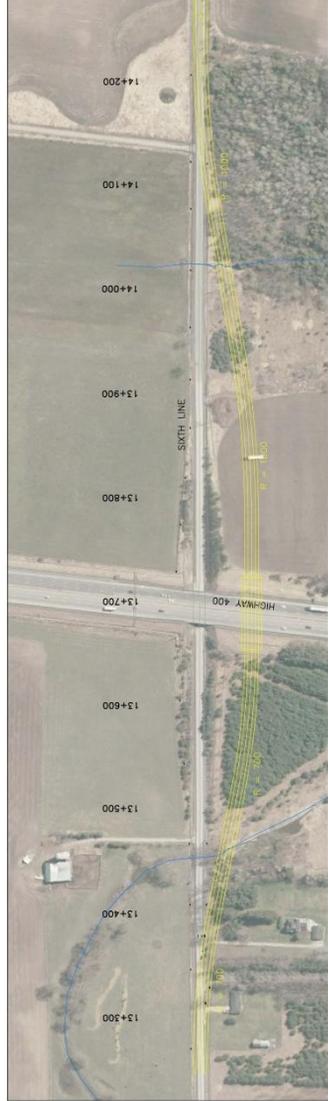
Existing Alignment



North Alignment



South Alignment





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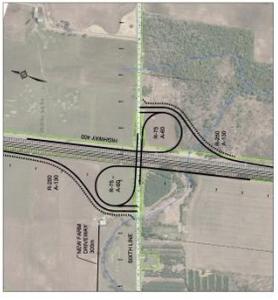
Interchange Configuration Alternatives



ALTERNATIVE 1
DIAMOND



ALTERNATIVE 2
DIAMOND WITH ROUNDABOUT



ALTERNATIVE 3
PARCLO A2
180m DIRECT TAPER ON SIXTH LINE
(100 km/h DESIGN SPEED)



ALTERNATIVE 4
PARCLO A4
180m DIRECT TAPER ON SIXTH LINE
(100 km/h DESIGN SPEED)



ALTERNATIVE 5
PARCLO A2
110m DIRECT TAPER ON SIXTH LINE
(60 km/h DESIGN SPEED)



ALTERNATIVE 6
PARCLO A4
110m DIRECT TAPER ON SIXTH LINE
(60 km/h DESIGN SPEED)



ALTERNATIVE 7
PARCLO A2
110m DIRECT TAPER ON SIXTH LINE BEYOND STRUCTURE
(60 km/h DESIGN SPEED)



ALTERNATIVE 8
PARCLO A4
110m DIRECT TAPER ON SIXTH LINE BEYOND STRUCTURE
(60 km/h DESIGN SPEED)



ALTERNATIVE 9
PARCLO B2



ALTERNATIVE 10
PARCLO B4

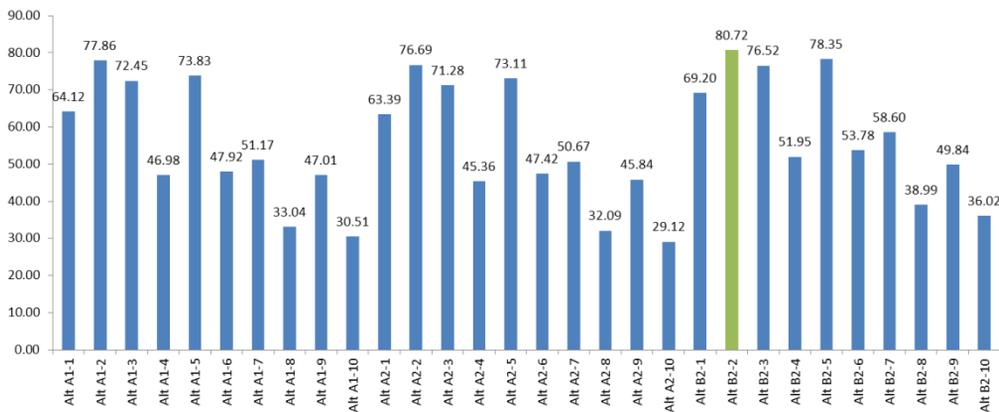
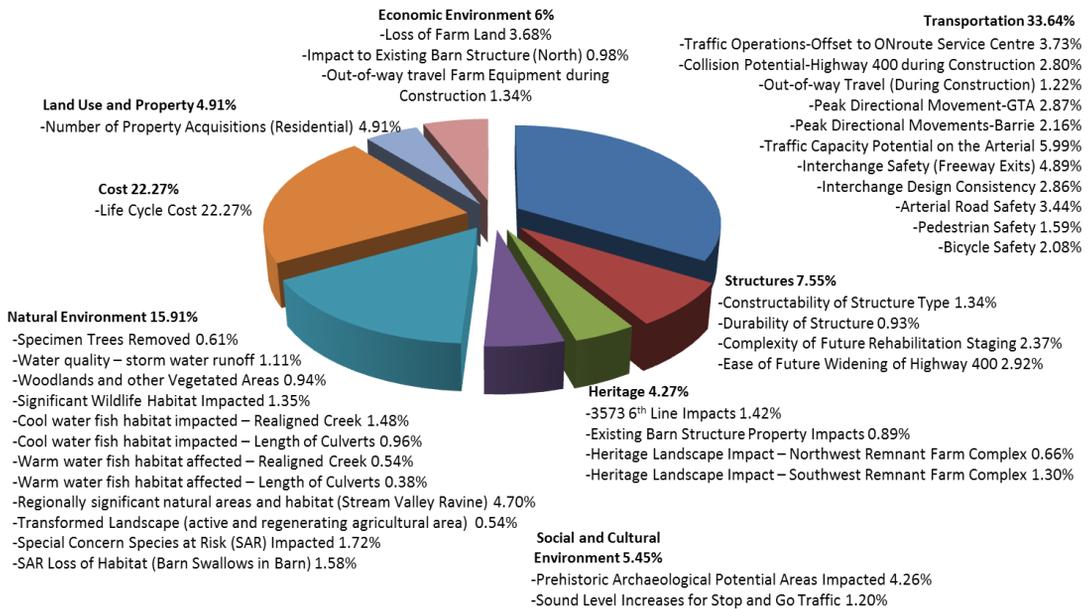
Legend

- Potential Property Acquisition
- Existing R-O-W
- Proposed R-O-W

Evaluation Results

The evaluation approach to compare preliminary design alternatives, described as the Multi Attribute Trade-off System (MATS), is based on the “Weighted Additive Method” which focuses on the differences between the alternatives, addressing the complexity of the base data collected, and providing a traceable decision-making process. In addition, the method allows quick sensitivity tests to be performed because of the matrix configuration of the assessment and the use of numerical scores to measure the impact of the alternatives. The Evaluation Methodology report is available at the resource table.

Evaluation criteria were developed that were used to compare and rank alternatives. The results are illustrated below – Alternative B2-2 (northern alignment over Highway 400 with a diamond roundabout interchange configuration) was rated as the Technically Preferred Alternative.



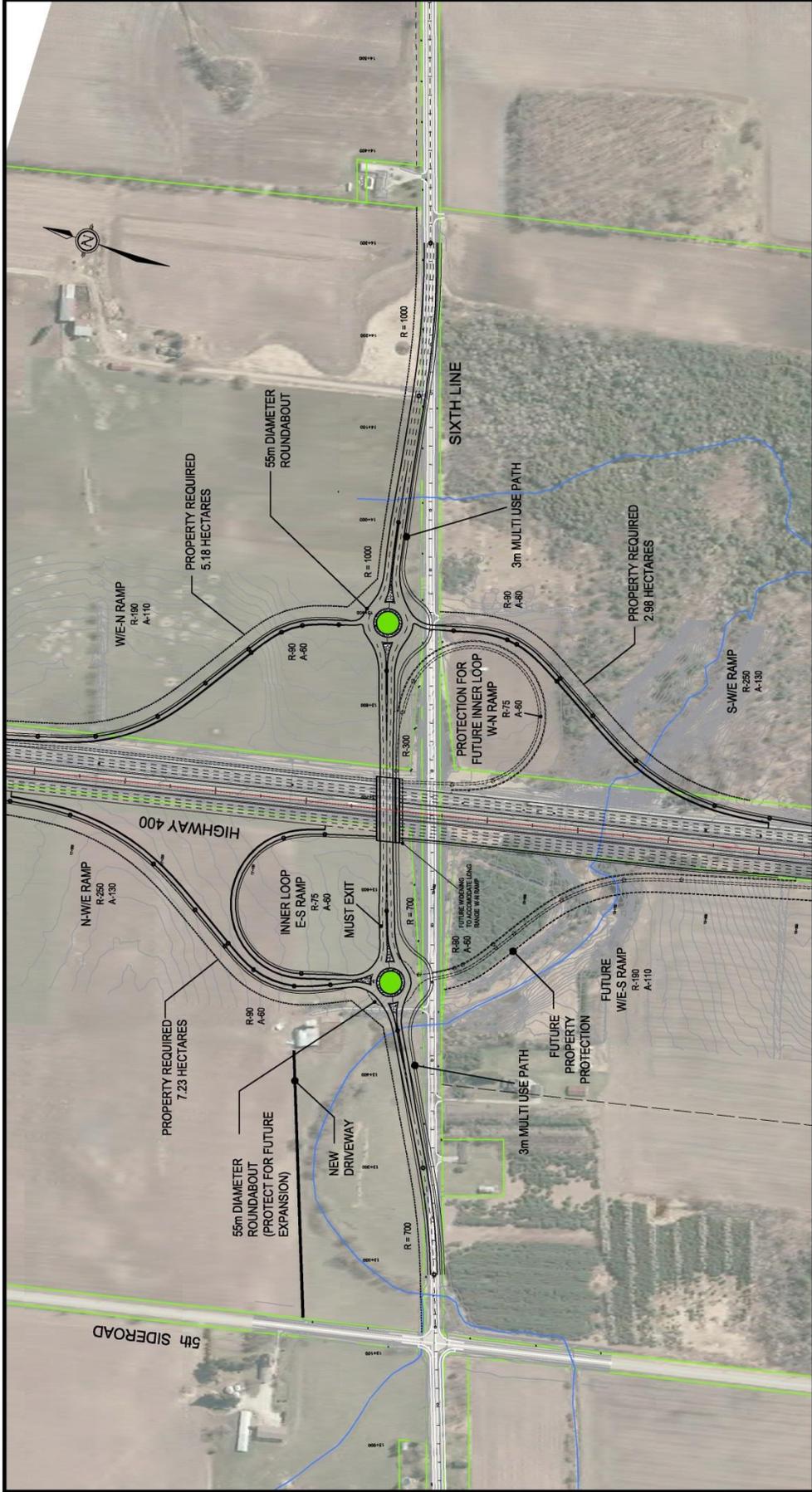
Refinements to Technically Preferred Alternative

Based on the detailed traffic modelling, the Technically Preferred Alternative (TPA) included minor refinements that include:

- Constructing an inner loop in the northwest quadrant to accommodate the peak travel demand;
- Deferring the outer loop ramp in the southwest quadrant to minimize environmental effects but protecting property for long term expansion;
- Protecting for a future inner loop on the east side of the interchange to accommodate future traffic demand or a linkage for a future Barrie Bypass.

The final design is presented as the Recommended Plan.

SIXTH LINE AT HIGHWAY 400 RECOMMENDED PLAN



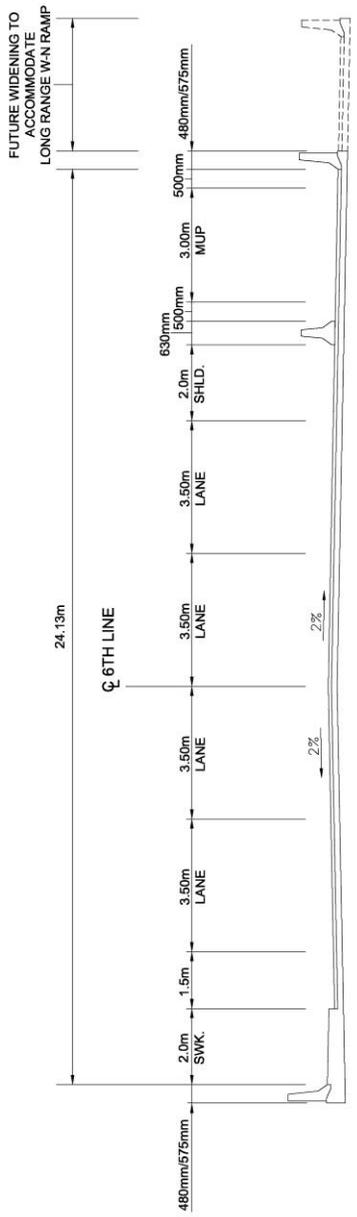
Legend

- Existing Right-of-Way & Property Fabric
- Proposed Right-of-Way



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Typical Cross Section



RECOMMENDED DECK SECTION
SCALE 1:100

- Legend:**
- MUP – Multi—use Path
 - SWK – Sidewalk
 - SHLD - Shoulder

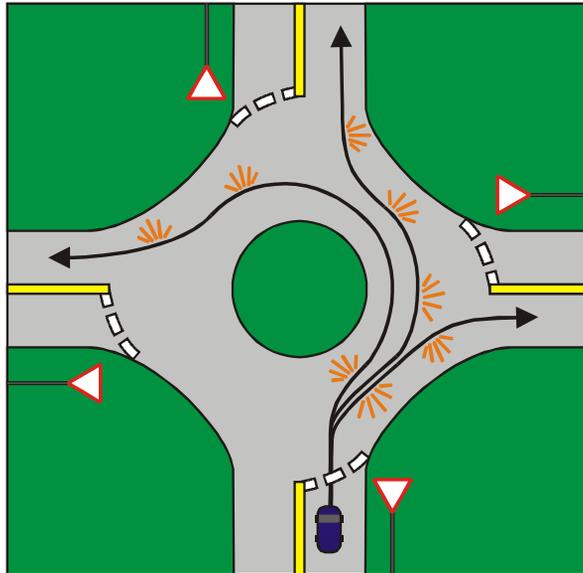
Statement of Flexibility

The Environmental Study Report will document that the design will include the flexibility to include minor modifications that may include:

- Design revisions to the ramp terminal/roundabout designs based on MTO design approvals during the detail design
- Ability to stage the project by building only the grade separation as a first priority project to replace the aging Highway 400/6th Line structure and to accommodate widening of Highway 400 to 10 lanes
- Ability to implement a property protection plan to accommodate an ultimate Parclo A4 interchange design when triggered by future growth

Traffic Video

Position and Signalling within a Single Lane Roundabout



1. Drivers must signal to turn right
2. Drivers must signal to exit the roundabout
3. Drivers must signal to change lanes and should check their rear view mirror and blind spot.
4. When travelling past two or more exits on the roundabout drivers can use a courtesy left hand signal.

Advantages of a Roundabout

Advantages of the roundabout alternative for the intersection include:

- Increased safety with reduced collision severity
- Roundabouts are a traffic calming feature that will slow traffic
- Improves traffic operations with minimal traffic delays
- Establishes a distinctive character
- Roundabout will accommodate pedestrian movements

Roundabout Driving Tips

- ✓ Slow down as you approach the roundabout.
- ✓ View direction signage to plan exit leg of roundabout.
- ✓ Choose the correct entry lane (viewing pavement markings and signage).
- ✓ Watch and yield to pedestrians crossing the roadway when approaching or exiting a roundabout.
- ✓ Traffic in the roundabout has the right-of-way (treat roundabout as a one-way street).
- ✓ Do not stop within roundabout.
- ✓ Give large vehicles extra space to manoeuver.
- ✓ Avoid passing other vehicles in the roundabout.
- ✓ Always signal your exit.



Schedule

Following this meeting we will:

- Review all comments
- Finalize the Recommended Plan
- Prepare the Environmental Study Report
- Place the Study Completion Notice in the newspaper
- 30-day public review period (winter 2017)
- Environmental Clearance

How can you remain involved in the Study?

- Request that your name/e-mail be added to the mailing list
- Provide a completed comment sheet
- Contact the Town or consultant representatives at any time

Any of our representatives that are present can assist you with the above activities.

Thank you for your participation at tonight's meeting. Your input into this study is valued and appreciated. Please provide your completed comment sheet on or before **December 20, 2016**. All information is collected and used in accordance with the *Environmental Assessment Act* and the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Resource Table

Study Design

Aquatic Assessment

Bridge Hydrology and Drainage Report

Cultural Heritage Memo

Municipal Class EA

Town of Innisfil Official Plan

Town of Innisfil Transportation Master Plan

Assessment of Interchange Locations

Traffic Memo

Analysis and Evaluation Report

Land Use Planning Report

Phase I ESA

POH No. 1 Summary Report



Innisfil

MTO Future Approvals

The Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) will have future approvals for the project including:

- Interchange Project Approval
- Detail Design
- Construction Delivery

These approvals may require minor design refinements which will be covered by the ESR Statement of Flexibility.