

The Road to Change

Halton Region Transportation Master Plan

2031

Summary of PIC Round #1 – March 23 to 31, 2010 July 30, 2010

1. Introduction

As part of the consultation process for the Halton Region Transportation Master Plan (TMP) – The Road to Change (2031), the Region hosted a series of Public Information Centres (PICs) from March 23 to March 31, 2010. The public was notified of the PICs through newspaper advertisements published in the local print media on March 11, 12, 18 and 19. Invitation letters were also sent to stakeholders on the project mailing list the week of March 8, 2010. The notice is included in Appendix A.

This was the first of two rounds of PICs scheduled for the project.

2. Purpose

The PICs are part of a larger consultation process that includes regular meetings with a Municipal Advisory Group and Technical Agency Committee established for the project and a Public Workshop planned for June 5, 2010.

The purpose of the first round of PICs was as follows:

- Introduce the TMP study process
- Present the Problem Statement and Opportunities
- Introduce the TMP Vision and Guiding Principles
- Present the focus areas being considered in the development of the TMP
- Present the draft screenline level evaluation criteria
- Seek interest and applications from the public to attend a Public Workshop (held on June 5, 2010)

The PICs were a combination of drop-in centre to review the display panels as well as a presentation followed by a Question and Answer (Q&A) period.

The Road to Change

Halton Region Transportation Master Plan

2031

The PICs were held as follows:

Municipality	Date	Time	Location
City of Burlington	Tuesday, March 23, 2010	Drop-in: 6:30pm Presentation: 7:00pm	Mainway Recreation Centre 4015 Mainway (Auditorium)
Town of Halton Hills	Thursday, March 25, 2010	Drop-in: 6:30pm Presentation: 7:00pm	Mold-Masters SportsPlex 221 Guelph Street (Hall)
Town of Milton	Tuesday, March 30, 2010	Drop-in: 6:30pm Presentation: 7:00pm	Milton Sports Centre 605 Santa Maria Boulevard (Banquet Room)
Town of Oakville	Wednesday, March 31, 2010	Drop-in: 6:30pm Presentation: 7:00pm	Halton Regional Centre 1151 Bronte Road (Gymnasium)

3. Outcomes

A summary of the attendance and feedback provided at the PICs is provided below.

In addition to providing information and gathering feedback from PIC participants, participants were encouraged to complete an application form to participate in a public workshop, scheduled on June 5, 2010. Approximately 20 applications were received through PIC solicitation. A summary of participation at the PICs is provided below:

Attendance

Number of people attended: approximately 127 in total

- Burlington: 29
- Halton Hills: 43
- Milton: 29
- Oakville: 26

Comments

Approximately 11 submissions were received in total.

4. Main Comments

Below is a brief summary of the comments received during the question and answer session at the PICs. Responses to all questions were provided at the PICs or will be addressed during the course of the study.

The Road to Change

Halton Region Transportation Master Plan

2031

Burlington

- Goods movement via marine services was raised including the use of “Sea3”.
- Assurance that participation of interest groups was being sought early in the process.
- Several participants wanted to know how the TMP would be integrated with other plans, especially those of Metrolinx.
- The need for inter-regional transit was identified.
- There was a general question as to how people could be encouraged to use other modes (non-auto) of transportation.
- It was suggested that the TMP consider the impact of changing demographics (aging population).
- There was a question about the implementation of HOV lanes in the area and how successful this has been.
- A resident noted a desire for direct access/links to Pearson Airport (other than through Union Station).
- There was interest expressed in who will pay to implement the TMP.
- There was interest in improving active transportation networks including increased safety of major road crossings.
- It was suggested the TMP involve actual trucking companies - the movers of goods such as local dispatchers, UPS, local trucking companies, etc – in the process.

Halton Hills

- Many participants questioned the feasibility of cycling in Halton Hills (vs. other parts of Halton) and the need for buses in the area.
- Requests were made to accommodate the needs of the farming community in the plan and recognize differences from north to south.
- There was concern about a lack of planning for Halton Hills in the Metrolinx plan.
- It was requested that the TMP consider best practices from other municipalities, regions and countries in the TMP.
- There were concerns expressed about the certainty of provincial funding for provincial plans and implications for local studies and plans.
- There was concern about current use of side roads to by-pass congestion on regional roads (cut-through traffic).

The Road to Change

Halton Region Transportation Master Plan

2031

Milton

- There was general interest in how behavioral changes can be encouraged (to increase transit use and reduce use of single-occupant vehicles).
- There was general interest in who will pay to implement the TMP.
- Inquiries were made as to whether the TMP would consider inter-regional transit system.
- There was interest in how current needs (to 2021) would be addressed.
- There was interest in intensification numbers for Milton and how this would be considered in the TMP.
- It was requested that priority be given to technical improvements to existing roads to reduce the need for new roads and road widenings.
- It was requested that the TMP give consideration to the needs of the agricultural community including the use of tractors on Britannia Road.

Oakville

- There was interest in the strategies to reduce travel times in GTA (following newspaper article the week of March 23, 2010 related to an 88-minute commute time in the GTA)
- Desire for an active transportation network (cycling) was expressed
- Interest was expressed in an inter-regional transit system
- It was requested that the TMP give consideration to other alternatives such as not building more roads (no new roads policy)
- It was requested that the TMP ensure that changing demographics are considered
- There was interest expressed in how behavioral changes can be encouraged (to increase transit use and reduce use of single-occupant vehicles).

The information centres were well attended and discussions were generally positive towards understanding there is a need to change current travel patterns and behaviour.

The feedback received will be part of many considerations utilized by the study team in the development of a 2031 transportation strategy.

The **Road** to **Change**

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2031

APPENDIX A

PIC Notice



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON

NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT / PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #1 Transportation Master Plan to 2031 - *The Road to Change* PR-2414

Background

Halton Region is initiating a Transportation Master Plan (TMP) – *The Road to Change* to develop a sustainable, integrated transportation plan and associated strategies that consider all modes of travel (automobiles, transit, cycling, walking) to the year 2031.

Problem Statement

The Master Plan will provide the strategies, policies and tools required to meet the Region's transportation needs safely, effectively and cost efficiently.

The Process

This notice signals the commencement of the Transportation Master Plan – a study which will define existing problems/opportunities, consider and evaluate solutions, and identify an optimum transportation system to the year 2031. A key outcome of the study will be a list of transportation projects that the Region can incorporate in its 20-year Roads Capital Program. To comply with the Environmental Assessment Act, the study is being conducted in accordance with the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process (October 2000, as amended in 2007).

A key component of the study will be consultation with interested stakeholders including the public, interest groups and regulatory agencies. The study work plan provides for two rounds of public information sessions at four locations (one in each local municipality) and a Workshop. This notice advises the public of the first round of Public Information Centers.

Public Information Centre Locations

Municipality	Date	Time	Location
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Please let us know, as soon as possible, if you will need an accessibility or accommodation requirement if you plan to attend any of the above Public Information Centres by dialing 311 in Halton Region, 1-866-442-5866 outside of Halton Region, TTY 905-827-9833 or email accesshalton@halton.ca

If you have any questions related to the study or wish to be added to the study mailing list, please contact:

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Additional information related to the study and consultation process may be obtained through the study website:

www.halton.ca/htmp

This Notice first issued on March 11, 2010