

Public Information Centre #2

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1. Background and Introduction

The Region of Niagara is an upper-tier municipality comprised of twelve local area municipalities including West Lincoln, Lincoln, Grimsby, St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland, Thorold, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Pelham, Port Colborne, Fort Erie and Wainfleet. The water and wastewater system is operated in conjunction with the local area municipalities under the two-tier governance system. Niagara Region is responsible for operating all water and wastewater treatment plants, sanitary pump stations, trunk sewers, water transmission mains, booster pump stations and water storage facilities.

The Region has identified the need to undertake a 2016 Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan update as there has been several significant changes since the completion of the 2011 study that impact the servicing strategy adopted through that study.

Since the completion of the 2011 Master Plan, the province's "Places to Grow Plan Amendment 2" has been adopted, which outlines the Regional growth targets out to 2041. Further, the Region through the Regional Council Strategic Priorities is using the relationships between residential growth, employment, and transportation to change how, when, and where growth is expected to occur and be supported. The Region is currently undertaking a Municipal Comprehensive Review that will outline the Region's Growth Plans moving forward.

The Region of Niagara has initiated the Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan update Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study, Approach 2 to determine several alternative design concepts to provide water and wastewater servicing for the Region to 2041.

The study area for the Water and Wastewater Servicing Study update is shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2.

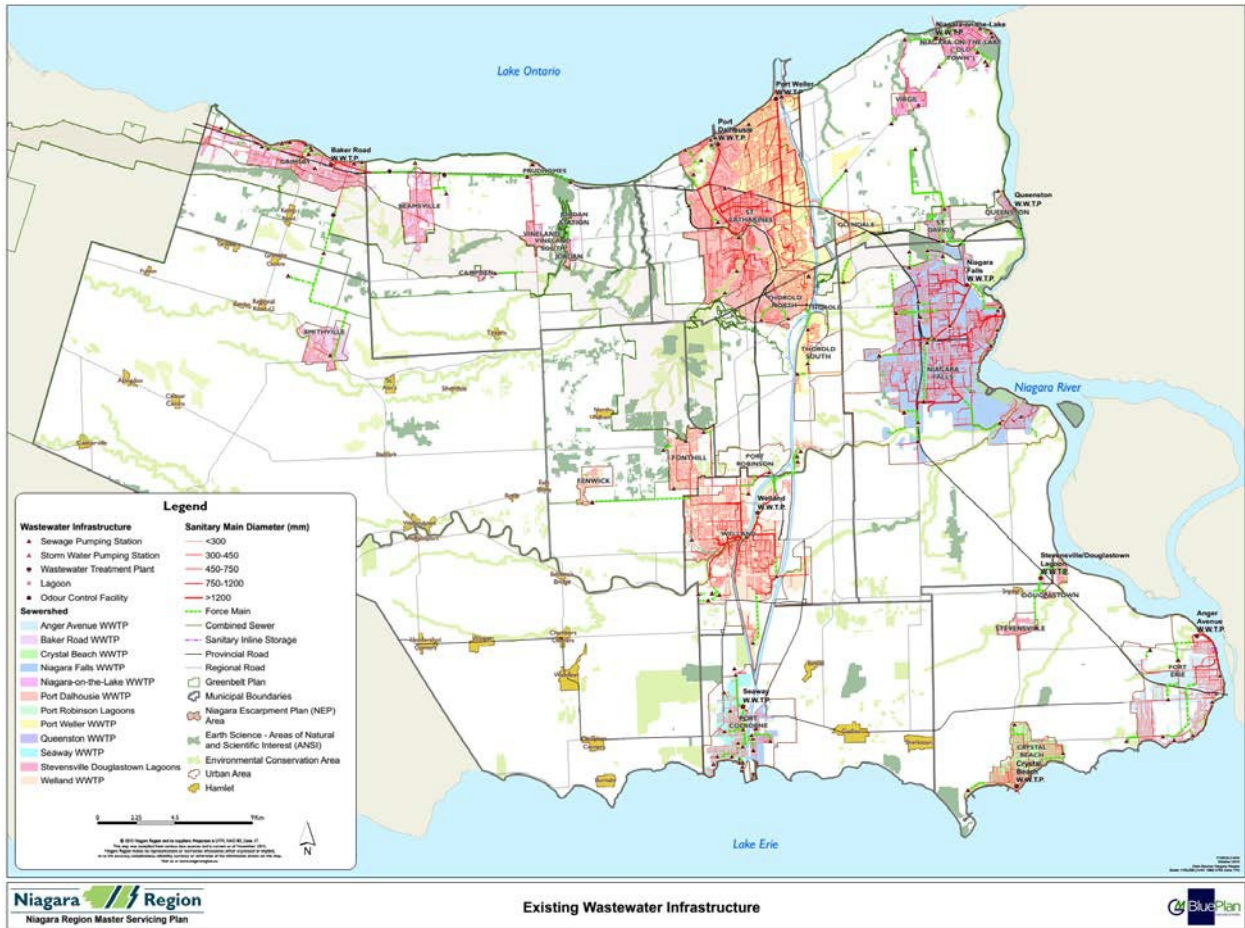


Figure 1. Study Area – Wastewater Infrastructure

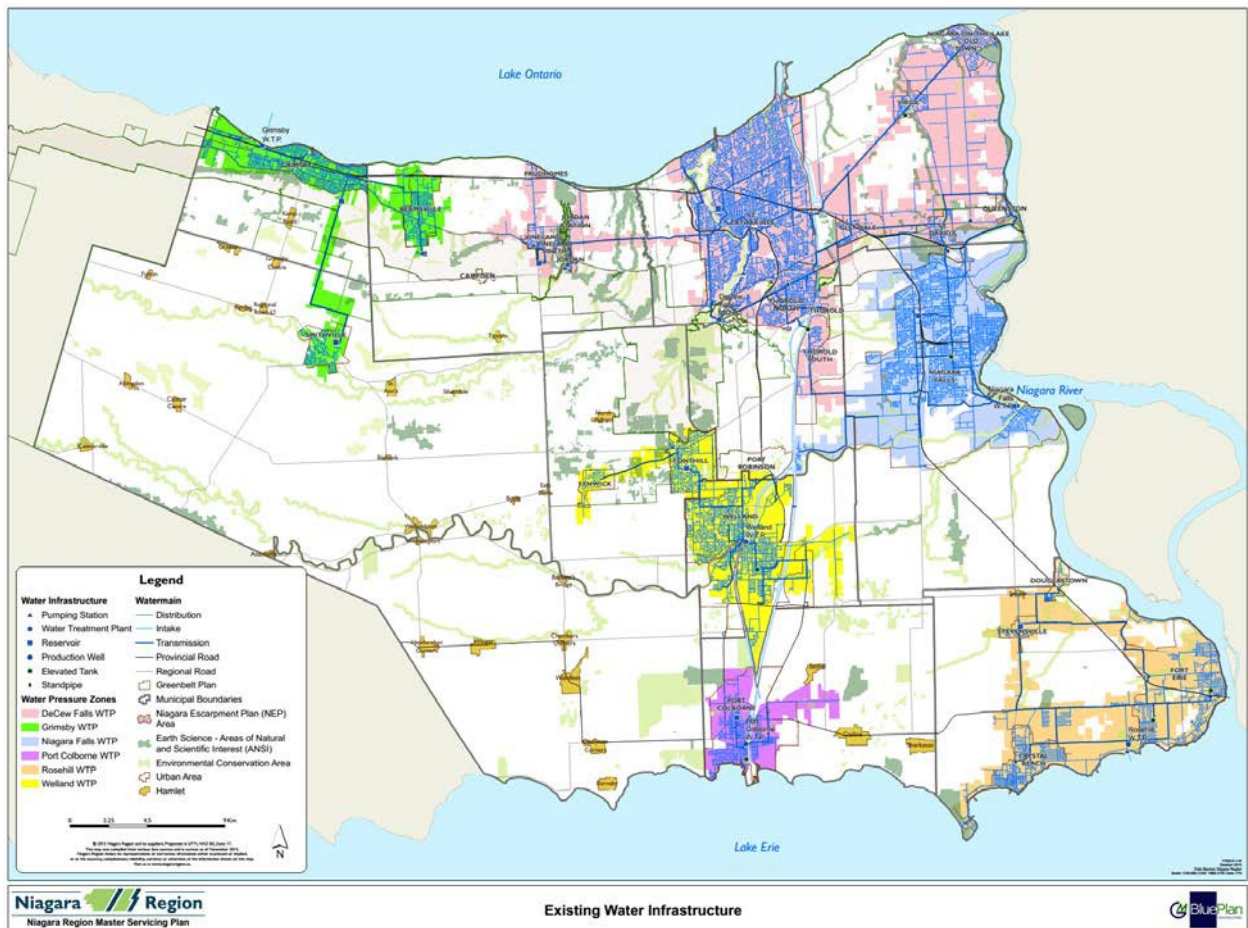


Figure 2. Study Area – Water Infrastructure

The Class EA study is following the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process (October 2000, as amended in 2007 and 2011), Approach #2 for Master Plans as seen in Figure 3. The Class EA process includes public and review agency consultation, evaluation of alternatives, impact assessment of proposed alternatives, and identification of measures to mitigate adverse impacts.

NOTE: This flow chart is to be read in conjunction with Part A of the Municipal Class EA

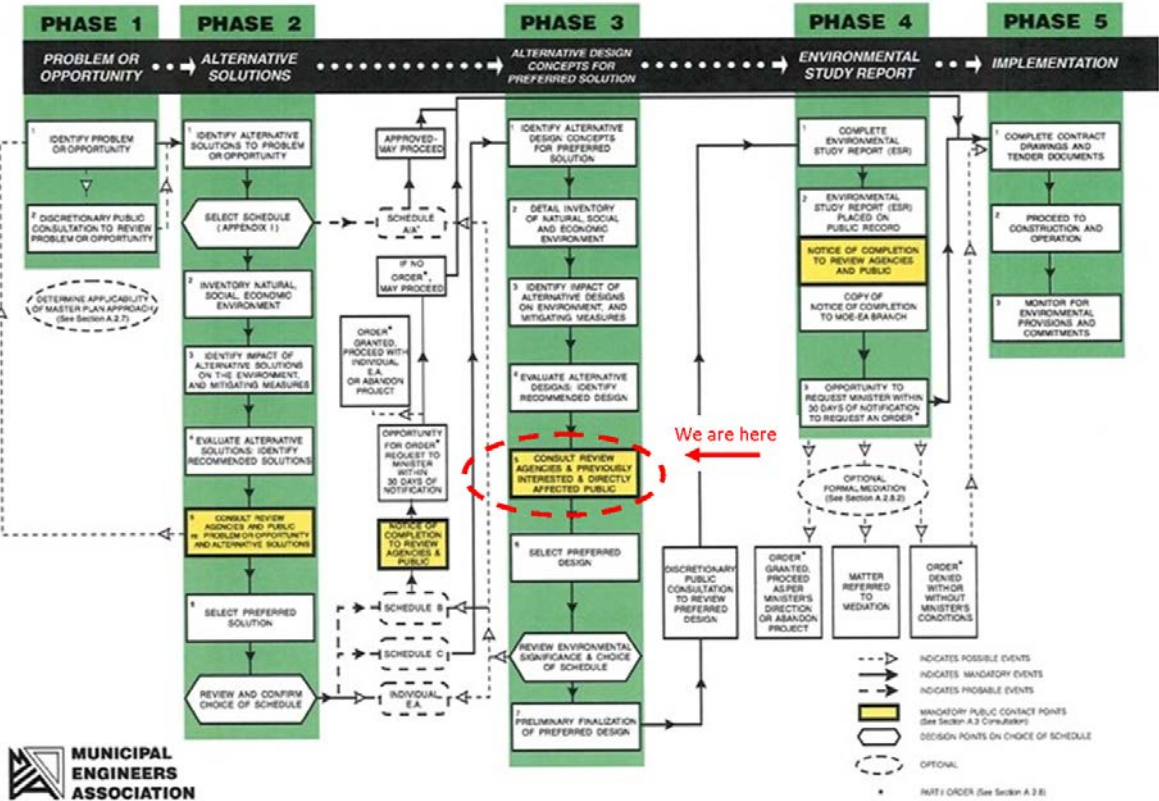


Figure 3. Municipal Class EA Planning and Design Process

A key part of the public consultation component is the Public Information Centre (PIC), which serves as a forum for information exchange between the public/stakeholders and the project team. Three rounds of PICs were conducted during the course of this study.

The **Public Information Centre #2 Summary Environmental Report** focuses on PIC #2 and represents one element of the overall public consultation documentation. The report documents the following:

- Notice of PIC#2
- Information materials presented at PIC #2

- Summary of attendance
- All comments received and responses provided
- Communications tracking sheet to track correspondence in a transparent and traceable manner

1.1. Class EA Context

The Class EA Study follows the approved process as outlined in Section A.2.7, of the Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011 and 2015) document. The Master Plan study is being carried out as an Approach #2 for Master Plans.

Public consultation is a vital component of the Class EA process and ensures transparency through encouraging stakeholder and public involvement. The study work plan provided for three rounds of Public Information Centres (PICs) (see Appendix A).

PIC#1 was held on November 17, 18, and 19, 2015 and introduced the project and presented the overall study process and background to solicit interest and feedback into the process.

2. Public Information Centre #2

2.1 Purpose

The second Public Information Centre (PIC #2) was intended to:

- Review the progress on the study to date
- Describe the Class EA process
- Outline the overall study process
- Identify the Key Principals and Policies
- Provide baseline information such as existing systems, land use, catchment areas and environmental features
- Identify the current state and projected future state of water and wastewater infrastructure to accommodate anticipated growth
- Identify and seek input in to water and wastewater servicing alternatives to meet future needs
- Receive public input and answer any questions

2.2 Notifications

Agency stakeholders and the public were informed of PIC #2 by newspaper advertisements, mail, email, Niagara Region's Facebook and Twitter posts,

website and Public Service Announcement. The Public Notice for PIC #2 combined is provided in Appendix B.

2.2.1 Newspaper and Online Advertisement

The combined Notice of Commencement and Public Information Centre #2 was published on June 2 and 9, 2016 in the following local newspapers:

- Fort Erie Times
- Port Colborne
- Niagara Advance
- News Now (which serves Grimsby, Lincoln, West Lincoln, Winona)
- Thorold News
- Pelham News
- Niagara This Week
- Niagara Falls Review
- St. Catharines Standard
- The Welland Tribune

PIC #2 was also advertised on the Niagara Region website at least 3 weeks prior to the events as well as being posted on the Niagara Region Facebook and Twitter accounts.

2.2.2 Mail Out

The Notice of PIC #2 was and mailed or emailed to local government, review agencies and other stakeholders. Notices delivered by mail were provided to Canada Post prior to the event. Notices that were delivered by email for provided also provided prior to the events.

2.2.3 Memo to Council and Public Service Announcement

Niagara Region Council received a memo regarding PIC#2 on June 3, 2016, Local Area Municipal planners, public works officials and clerks were copied on the memo. A public service announcement was issued by Niagara Region's corporate communications to local area media outlets and it was posted on Niagara Region's website.

2.3 Dates, Times, and Locations

PIC #2 was held at three locations within the study area. Table 1 identifies the dates, times, and locations for PIC #2.

Table 1. PIC #2 Dates, Times, and Locations

Municipality	Date	Time	Location
Town of Fort Erie	June 15, 2016	4 – 8 p.m.	Fort Erie Leisureplex Banquet Hall 3 Municipal Centre Dr.
Township of West Lincoln	June 16, 2016	4 – 8 p.m.	West Lincoln Council Chambers 318 Canborough St.
City of Welland	June 22, 2016	4 – 8 p.m.	Welland Civic Square Front Foyer 60 East Main St.

Representatives from the Region of Niagara were present at the PIC to provide information and answer questions.

2.4 Display Panels

The information presented at PIC #2 included the following printed display panels:

1. Purpose of the Study
2. Water and Wastewater MSP Vision Statement
3. Class EA Process and Project Timeline
4. Servicing Opportunities and Constraints of Existing Systems
5. Water and Wastewater MSP Principles and Policy
6. Anticipated Growth Impacts on Water & Wastewater System Capacity
7. How to Get Involved and Contact Information for the Region’s Project Manager

2.5 Attendance

A total of approximately of 64 people attended PIC #2 at the various locations. It is estimated that approximately 15 attendees chose not to sign in at the PIC meetings.

2.6 Comments and Responses

Attendees were encouraged to provide input on the PIC and/or study in a comment sheet provided or on a post-it note directly on the display board.

A summary of the comments received is provided in Table 2 below. Follow up consultation will be tracked in future updates of the tracking sheet.

Table 2. Summary of Comments Received

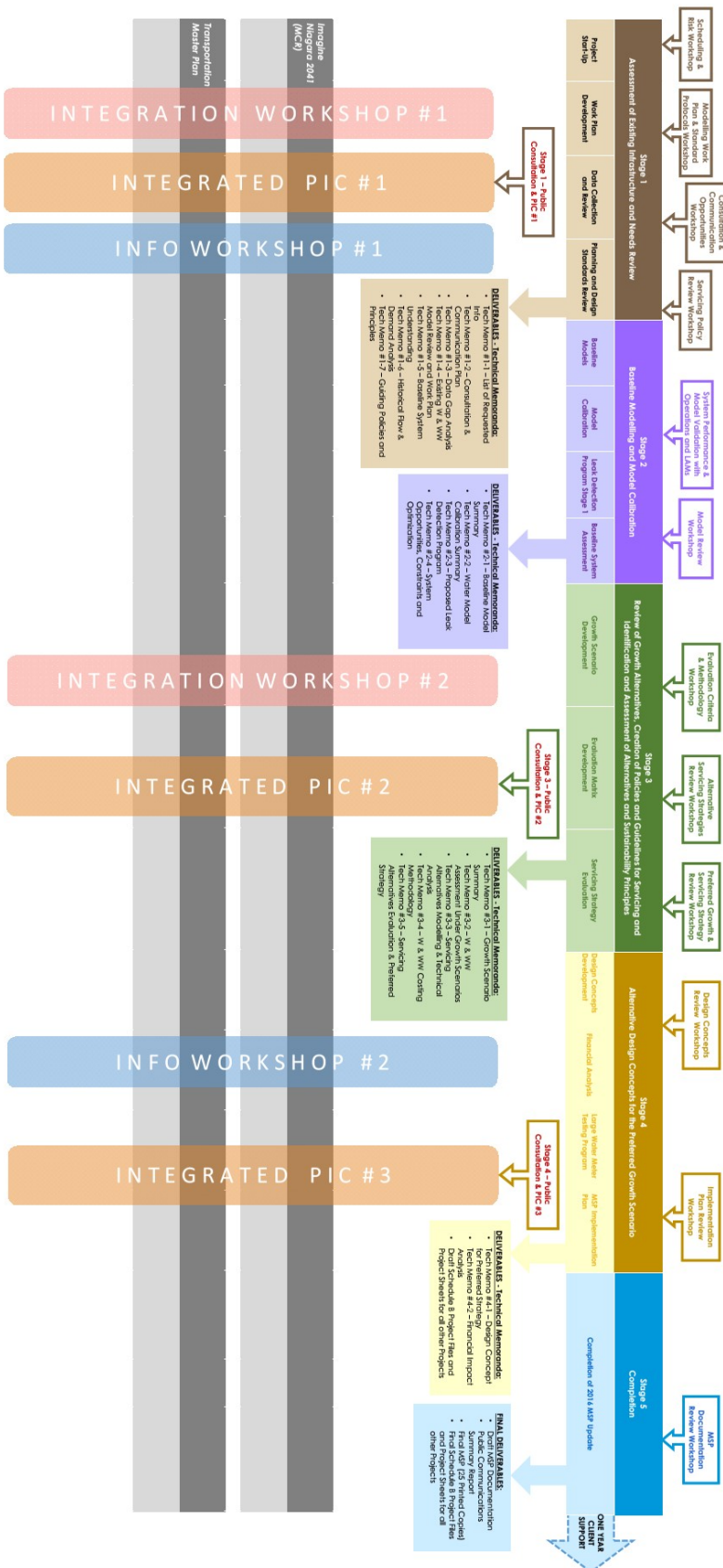
No.	Correspondent	Type	Comment	Date Received	Status/Response/Action
1	Not identified	Post-It Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why doesn't the Region have lagoons in the west? We need it in spring 	June 16, 2016	N/A
2	Not identified	Post-It Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative way of treating biosolids instead of sending it to dry/dewatering facilities 	June 16, 2016	N/A
3	Not identified	Post-It Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where is the irrigation channels in and from Lake Ontario for the farms to irrigate crops 	June 16, 2016	N/A
4	Not identified	Post-It Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make sure Smithville has sanitary capacity to grow 	June 16, 2016	N/A
5	Not identified	Post-It Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade west end St. Catharines facilities to support growth 	June 16, 2016	N/A
6	Not identified	Post-It Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Douglas Town facilities should be modernized before increasing capacity. 	June 15, 2016	N/A

7	Not identified	Post-It Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decentralize lagoon, put on in west 	June 15, 2016	N/A
8	Not identified	Post-It Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please help out Fennwood Forest community because we have lots of pressure issues 	June 15, 2016	N/A
9	Not identified	Post-It Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are wrong servicing boundaries as outlined on water map. Environmental features should be accurately represented. 	June 15, 2016	N/A

3.0 Next Steps

Following the second round of public consultation, the project team will:

- Take growth allocations from Niagara 2041 and apply them to traffic zones across serviced areas to determine preferred servicing alternatives
- Complete water and wastewater modelling servicing analysis with growth scenario
- Develop supporting capital project lists options to accommodate growth
- Collaborate with local municipal partners to review and improve upon proposed servicing scenarios
- Prepare for and present PIC #3 in Fall 2016



Appendix B


**NIAGARA
2041**

Fostering an Environment for Economic Prosperity


Get Involved in Niagara's Future: Attend Public Information Centre #2

In the next 25 years, Niagara is expected to grow, bringing a possible 168,000 new residents and 79,000 new jobs to the region.


Niagara Region is making sure we're prepared for this growth through three projects that will help us plan where and how that growth will occur, and how it will be accommodated.



HOW WE GROW:
 The Municipal Comprehensive Review will look at the land we have available across Niagara, and will ensure we have enough to sustain our expected growth to the year 2041. It will also examine how that land is distributed throughout Niagara.



HOW WE FLOW:
 The Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan will ensure Niagara has the infrastructure to provide critical water and wastewater services to our growing region in a sustainable and financially responsible way.



HOW WE GO:
 The Transportation Master Plan will look at how we currently travel in and around Niagara and how we can improve our transportation systems, including options for walking, cycling and public transit, to better serve Niagara's future needs.

GET INVOLVED:
 Residents are invited to attend a Public Information Centre in their community to learn how each of these projects contribute to Niagara's overall growth plan for the next 25 years, and how you can have your voice heard.

<p>June 15, 2016 Town of Fort Erie Leisureplex Banquet Hall 3 Municipal Centre Dr. 4 - 8 p.m.</p>	<p>June 16, 2016 Township of West Lincoln Council Chambers 318 Canborough St. 4 - 8 p.m.</p>	<p>June 22, 2016 City of Welland Civic Square – Front Foyer 60 East Main St. 4 - 8 p.m.</p>
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There is an opportunity at any time during this process for interested persons to bring comments and concerns to the attention of the project managers, and to review outstanding issues. If you have any questions or comments or wish to be added to the study mailing list, please contact us:

<p>HOW WE GROW Brian Dick Senior Planner Brian.Dick@niagararegion.ca 905-980-6000 ext. 3365</p>	<p>HOW WE FLOW David Shen Planning Engineer David.Shen@niagararegion.ca 905-980-6000 ext. 3777</p>	<p>HOW WE GO Loy Cheah Strategic Projects Lead Loy.Cheah@niagararegion.ca 905-980-6000 ext. 3482</p>
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If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend and participate in meetings or events, please let us know in advance so that arrangements can be made in a timely manner. Special accessibility accommodations and materials in alternate formats can be arranged by contacting the Niagara Region's Accessibility Advisory Coordinator at 905-980-6000 ext. 3252 or accessibility@niagararegion.ca.

If you are unable to attend, or would like more information, please go to the project website <https://www.niagararegion.ca/2041>.

The Transportation and Water and Wastewater studies follow the Master Plan process as outlined in Section A.2.7 of the Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Oct 2000, as amended in 2007 and 2011). The Master Plan will be filed under Approach #2 of the MEA Class EA Approach for Master Planning. The Master Servicing Plan will satisfy the planning requirements for Schedule A, A+ and select Schedule B projects and provide the basis for future investigations of identified Schedule B and C projects.