

Public Information Centre #3

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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

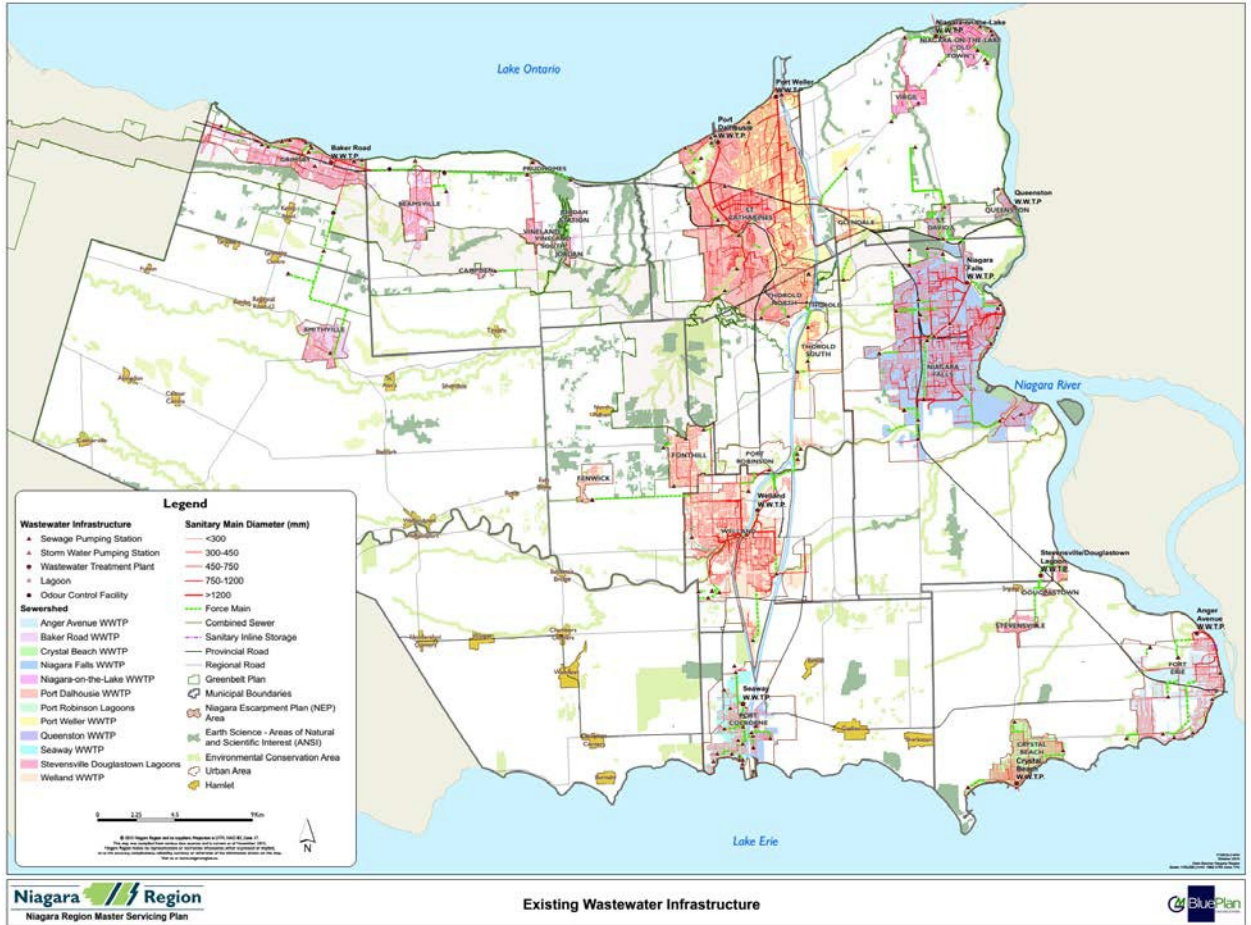
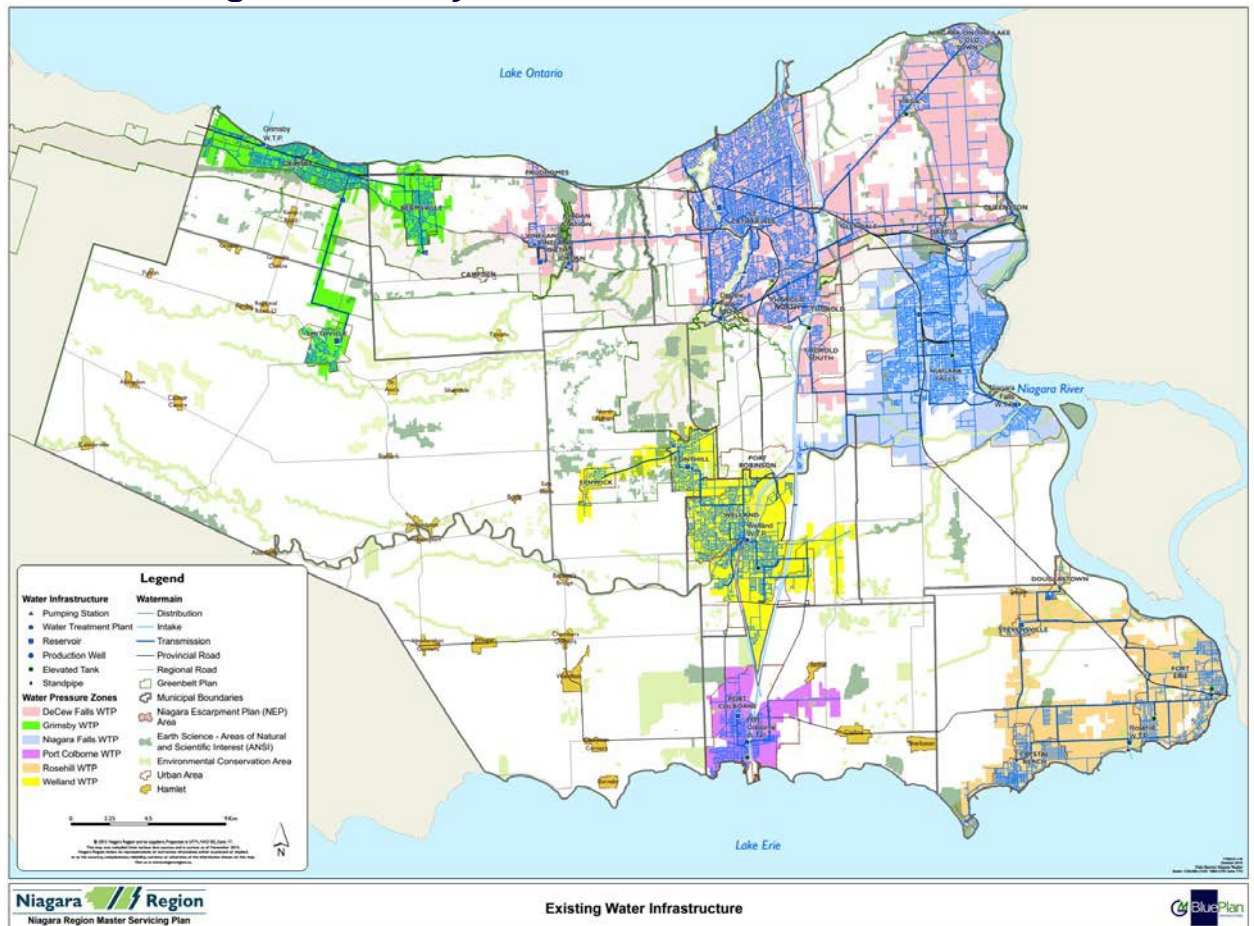


Figure 2. Study Area – Water Infrastructure



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.

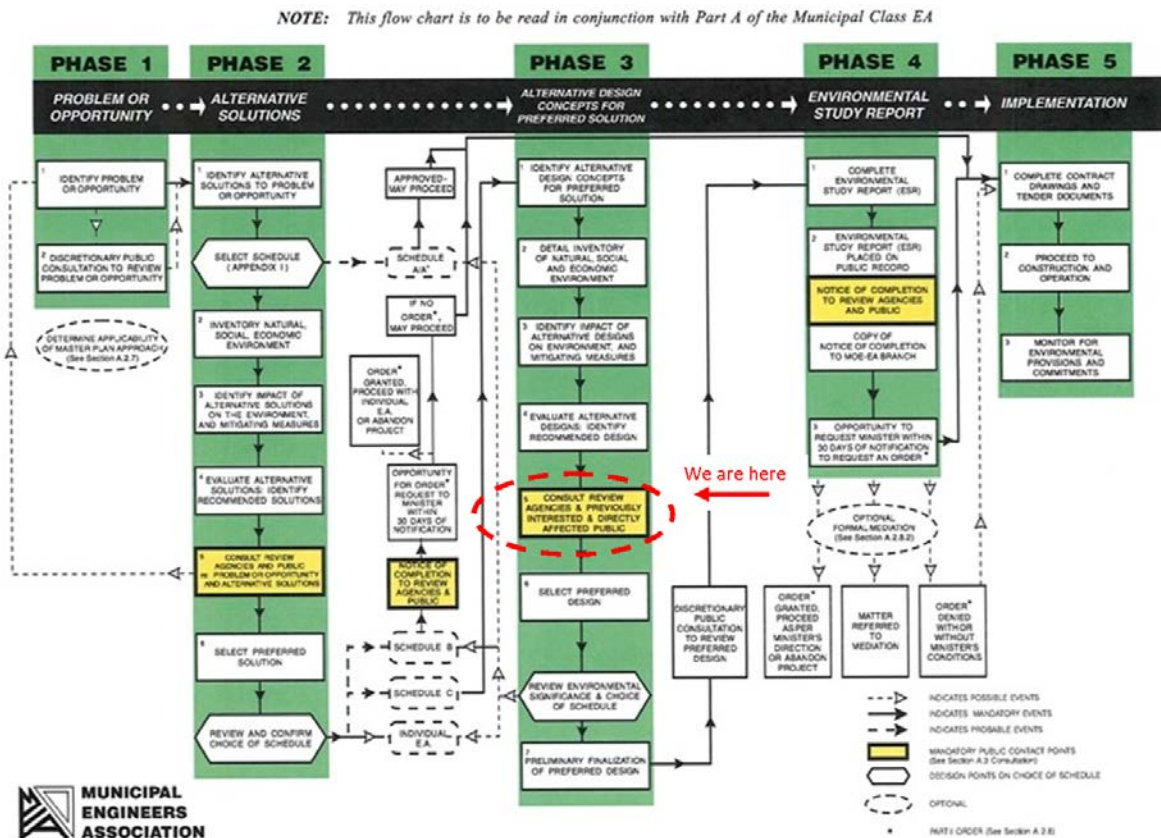


Figure 3. Municipal Class EA Planning and Design Process

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 #3 Summary Report** focuses on PIC #3 and represents one element of the overall public consultation documentation.

The report documents the following:

- Notice of PIC#3
- Information materials presented at PIC #3
- 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.

PIC#2 was held on June 15, 16, and 22, 2016 and provided an overview of the baseline system assessment, growth scenario development, and evaluation matrix development.

PIC#3 was held on November 30, December 6, 7, and 8, 2016 and presented and elicited feedback on servicing alternatives for each water and wastewater treatment plant to accommodate future growth and servicing needs.

The final project report, the Environmental Study Report (ESR), will be prepared in Spring 2017, at which point a Notice of Completion will be issued making the documentation available for public review.

2. Public Information Centre #3

2.1 Purpose

The third Public Information Centre (PIC #3) 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
- 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 #3 by newspaper advertisements, mail, email, Niagara Region's Facebook and Twitter posts, website and Public Service Announcement. The Public Notice for PIC #3 combined is provided in Appendix B.

2.2.1 Newspaper and Online Advertisement

The combined Notice of Commencement and Public Information Centre #3 was published on November 17 and 24, 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 Tribune

PIC #3 was also advertised on the Niagara Region website beginning on November 10, 2016 and posted on the Niagara Region Facebook and Twitter accounts on November

25, December 6, 7&8.

2.2.2 Mail Out

The Notice of PIC #3 was and mailed or emailed to local government, review agencies and other stakeholders. Notices delivered by mail were provided to Canada Post on November 25, 2016.. Notices that were delivered by email for provided on Monday, November 28.

2.2.3 Memo to Council and Public Service Announcement

Niagara Region Council received a memo regarding PIC#3 on November 25, 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 on November 28, 2016.

2.3 Dates, Times, and Locations

PIC #3 was held at four locations within the study area. Table 1 identifies the dates, times, and locations for PIC #3.

Table 1. PIC #3 Dates, Times, and Locations

Municipality	Date	Time	Location
City of Niagara Falls	Wednesday, November 30, 2016	4 – 8 p.m.	Gale Centre 5152 Thorold Stone Rd. Niagara Falls, ON
City of Thorold	Tuesday, December 6, 2016	4 – 8 p.m.	Niagara Region Headquarters 1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way
Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake	Wednesday, December 7, 2016	4 – 8 p.m.	Community Centre 14 Anderson Lane Niagara-on-the-Lake , ON
Town of Lincoln	Thursday, December 8, 2016	4 – 8 p.m.	Fleming Centre 5020 Serena Drive Beamsville, ON

Representatives from the Region of Niagara and its Consultant, GM BluePlan Engineering, were present at the PIC to provide information and answer questions.

2.4 Display Panels

The information presented at PIC #3 included the following printed display panels:

1. Purpose of the Study
2. Study Area
3. Project Timeline
4. Class EA Process
5. Existing Systems Study Process
6. Servicing Information and Alternatives (for each water and wastewater treatment plant)
7. Existing Systems
8. Project Schedule and Next Steps
9. How to Get Involved and Contact Information for the Region's Project Manager

2.5 Attendance

A total of 123 people attended PIC #3. The sign-in sheets are provided in Appendix C.

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. Comments were subsequently received via email and letter correspondence.

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 Item
1	J. Grandoni City of Niagara Falls	Comment Card	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should put a new wastewater treatment Plant south of the Welland River. • This would eliminate need for P stations as land flows this way. • All urban orientated. Fear more prime soil will be lost 	November 30, 2016	N/A
2	R. Taylor City of St. Catharines	Comment Card	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fantastic, Exciting. • Keep up Great Work 	November 30, 2016	N/A
3	M. Dickman Welland (Welland River Keepers)	Written submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of preserving Niagara's Carolean forests and wetlands along with its farmlands • The need for protecting the Welland River and its tributaries. • Environmental and Health concerns of CSOs 	December 6, 2016	N/A
4	J. Bucknall Town of Campden	Comment Card	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecting Decew and Grimsby Pumping Stations. • Send a new line West up Reg. 73 (Fly Rd. to Park Rd. and intersect line from Grimsby to Smithville + a line off to Hixion St. Reservoir 	December 8, 2016	N/A
5	A. Witteveen GM West Niagara Agriculture Society	E-mail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enquiring if a formal presentation will be part of the PIC meetings 	November 30, 2016	Niagara Region responded with details of PIC meeting
6	Leigh Whyte Fort Erie	E-mail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested digital copy of PIC display boards 	December 1, 2016	Region emailed digital copy of the display boards

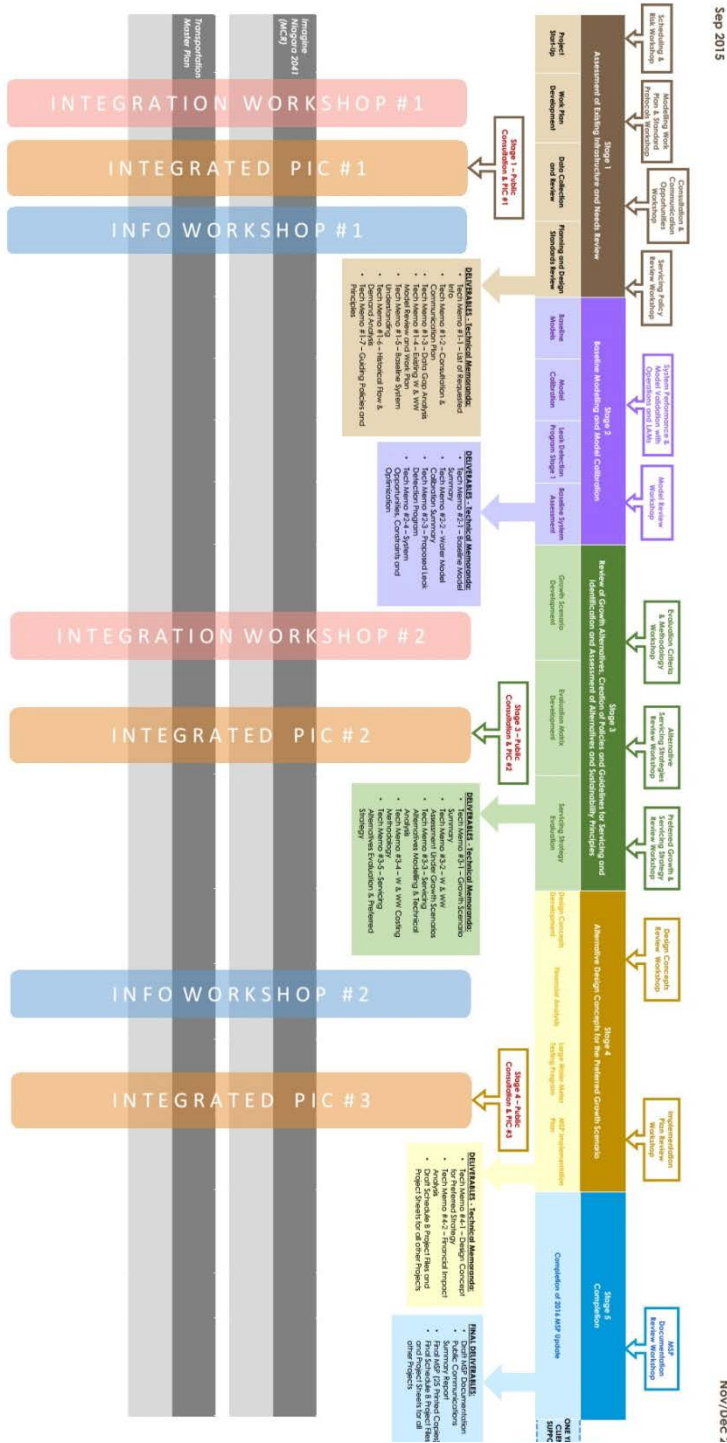
7	Not identified	Post-It Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Conservation Areas not fully mapped on existing infrastructure map 		N/A
8	Not identified	Post-It Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the sewer systems are burdened by having non - separated storm/san. Systems. • Is there any impetus to make separation of these systems mandatory? 	November 30-Dec.8 (exact date unknown)	N/A
9	Not identified	Post-It Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What would be capacity of N.Falls W.W.T.P. and other pumping stations such as Kalar Rd. S.P.S., if all raw sewage overflows were plugged that are related to them. This includes overflows both in P.S. and sanitary sewers. Should be Option 3 • Put a Wastewater Treatment plant in Chippawa south of the Welland River and eliminate all the expensive pumping of Option 1 and 2 • land of Option 3 flows by gravity. 	November 30-Dec.8 (exact date unknown)	N/A

2. Next Steps

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

- Refine preferred alternative design concepts and capital project lists options
- Finalize MSP documentation and Final MSP Report
- Niagara Region Committee and Council Presentations of Final MSP Report
- Notice, Advertisements, and letter for filing of Final MSP Report

Appendix A



Appendix B

NIAGARA 2041



Fostering an Environment for Economic Prosperity

Get Involved in Niagara's Future: Attend Public Information Centre #3

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 four projects that will help us plan where and how that growth will occur, and how it will be accommodated.



HOW WE GROW: MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

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. This PIC will be presenting alternative design concepts.



HOW WE GROW: DEVELOPMENT CHARGES BY-LAW

The new Development Charges Background Study and By-law will align the infrastructure for our expected growth and how we will pay for it. It will connect with and reflect how we plan to grow, flow and go.



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.

Nov. 30, 2016

City of Niagara Falls
 Gale Centre
 5152 Thorold Stone Rd.,
 4-8 p.m.

Dec. 6, 2016

City of Thorold
 Niagara Region Headquarters
 (Atrium)
 1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way
 4-8 p.m.

Dec. 7, 2016

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
 Community Centre
 14 Anderson Lane,
 4-8 p.m.

Dec. 8, 2016

Town of Lincoln
 Fleming Centre
 5020 Serena Dr.,
 4-8 p.m.

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:

HOW WE GROW: MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

Brian Dick | Senior Planner
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DEVELOPMENT CHARGES BY-LAW:
 Adam Smith | Senior Tax and Revenue Analyst
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HOW WE FLOW:

David Shen | Planning Engineer
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HOW WE GO:

Ron Tripp | Commissioner, Public Works
 ron.tripp@niagararegion.ca | 905-980-6000 ext. 3335

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 2000, 2011 and 2015). 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.

If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to access the project documents, contact the Accessibility Advisory Coordinator at 905-980-6000- ext. 3252 or 1-800-263-7215 or accessibility@niagararegion.ca to make the appropriate arrangements.