Steele Street SPS Relocation / West Port Colborne Gravity Main Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study

Public Information Centre No. 1

Engineering and Operations Centre,
1 Killaly Street West, Port Colborne

November 5, 2025
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

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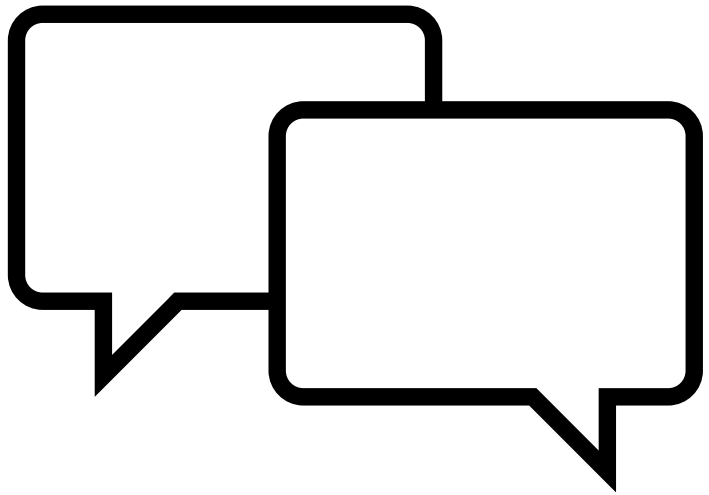
Welcome to Public Information Centre No. 1

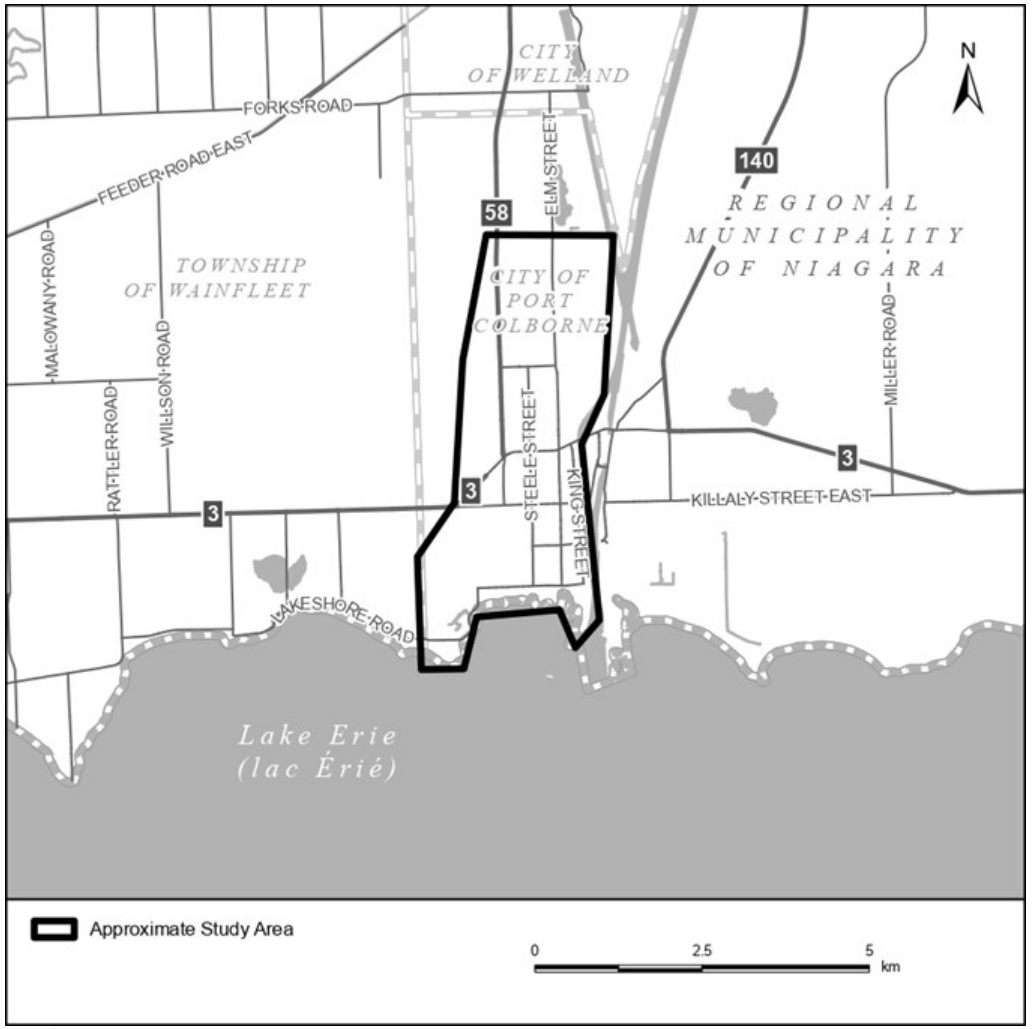
The purpose of this Public Information Centre (PIC) is to:

- ✓ Introduce the study to you.
- ✓ Present the problem and opportunity statement, key issues and opportunities.
- ✓ Receive public input and feedback.



Please provide your comments by November 19, 2025.

Project Summary



The Regional Municipality of Niagara ("Niagara Region") is carrying out a Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) under the *Environmental Assessment Act* to study the possibility of building a new large trunk sewer and sewage pumping station (SPS) in the City of Port Colborne ("the City") to better transport wastewater to the Seaway Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).

The study aims to address aging infrastructure and future growth pressures within the City's wastewater collection system, particularly west of the Welland Canal.

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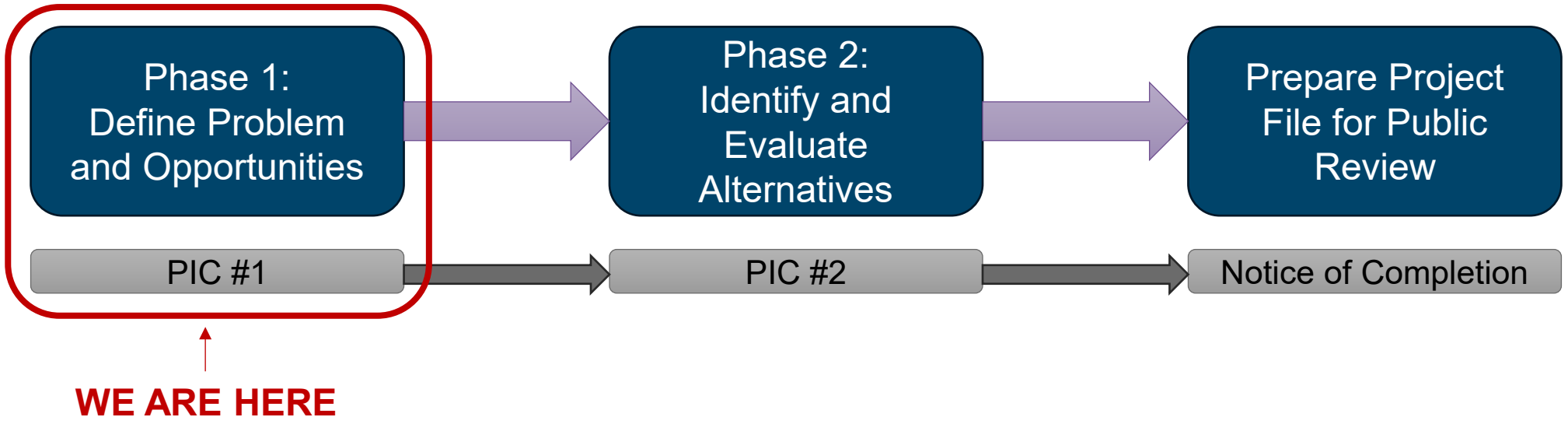
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) Process

- This study is classified as a **Schedule 'B' Municipal Class EA** and is subject to Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class EA process.



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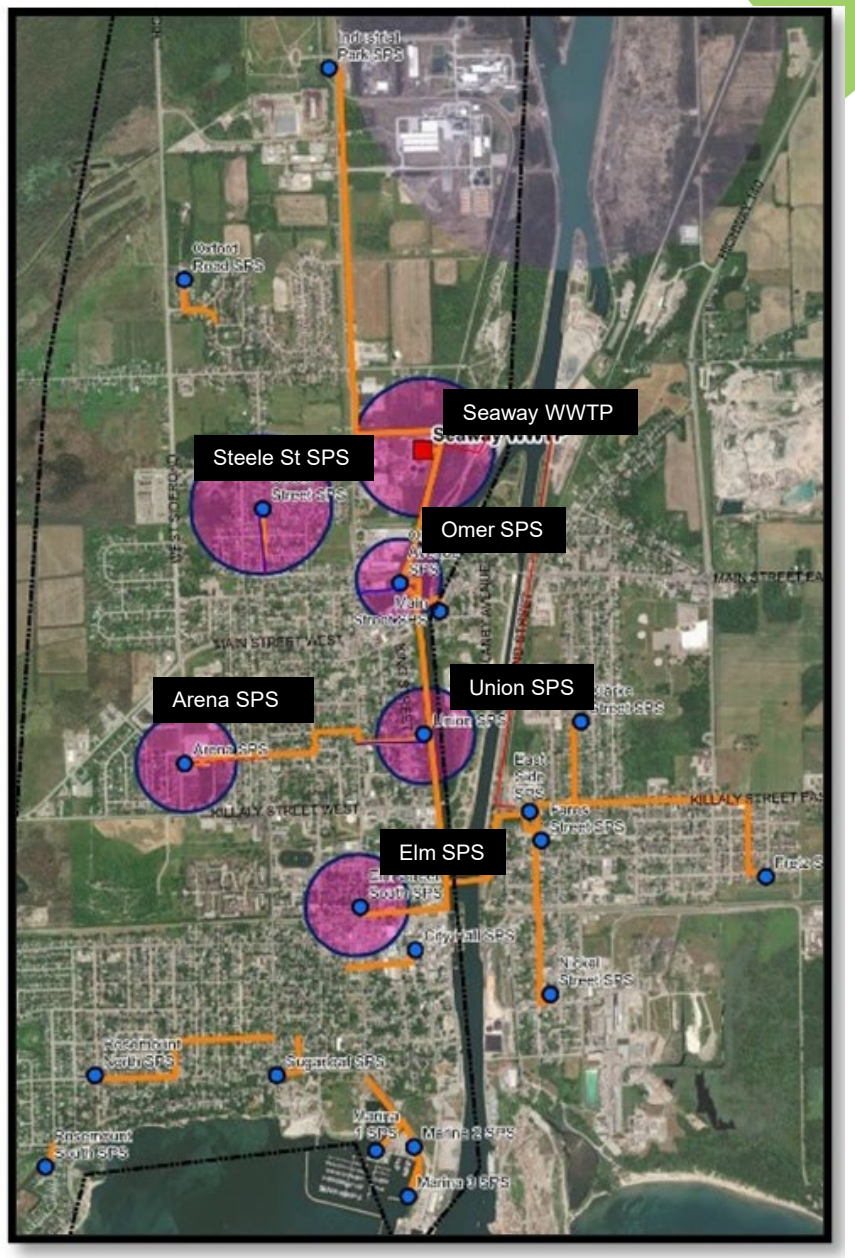
Problem and Opportunity Statement

Growing development pressures are straining the City's existing wastewater infrastructure, prompting the need to explore alternative servicing strategies to future-proof the system for long-term resilience.

This study focuses on **five** key collection areas and associated SPS: Elm, Arena, Union, Omer, and Steele.

If a deep trunk sewer and new SPS is recommended through the EA process, this new system could allow the:

- decommissioning of multiple existing SPSs;
- elimination of the need for several future SPSs, and;
- improvement in pumping at others through the reduction in forcemain lengths and pumping head



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Key Issues and Opportunities

Key Issues

- Many SPSs are nearing or exceeding their rated capacities due to increased development.
- Infrastructure is aging, with several stations requiring rehabilitation or replacement.
- Wet weather events significantly impact system performance due to high inflow and infiltration.
- The Steele Street SPS is notably deficient and is proposed for relocation and upgrade.

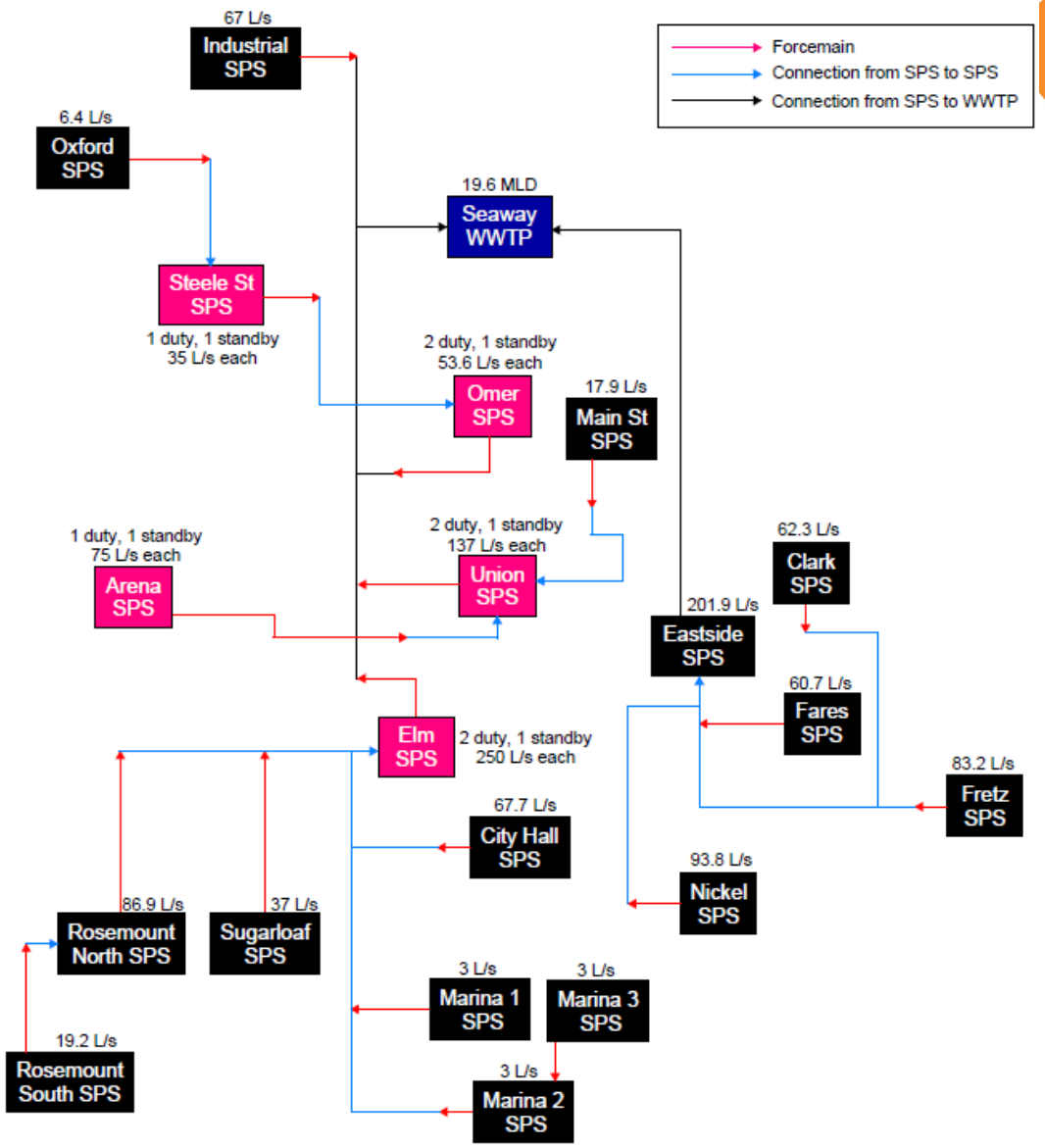
Key Opportunities

- Constructing a new deep trunk gravity sewer and consolidated SPS to improve long-term system efficiency and reliability.
- Reducing the number of active SPSs, which would lower operational and maintenance costs.
- Enhancing system resilience to accommodate future growth and climate-related impacts.
- Improving environmental performance by reducing the risk of overflows and optimizing wet weather flow management.

Existing Conditions – General SPS Information

- The City has 20 SPSs, with five (Industrial, Omer, Elm, Union, and Eastside) pumping directly to the Seaway WWTP.
- The SPSs operate within a hierarchical conveyance network.
- This interconnected system creates dependencies between SPS and concentrates flows at key downstream facilities, making system reliability essential for continuous wastewater service in the study area.

Pictured is a conveyance layout diagram for the SPS leading to the Seaway WWTP.



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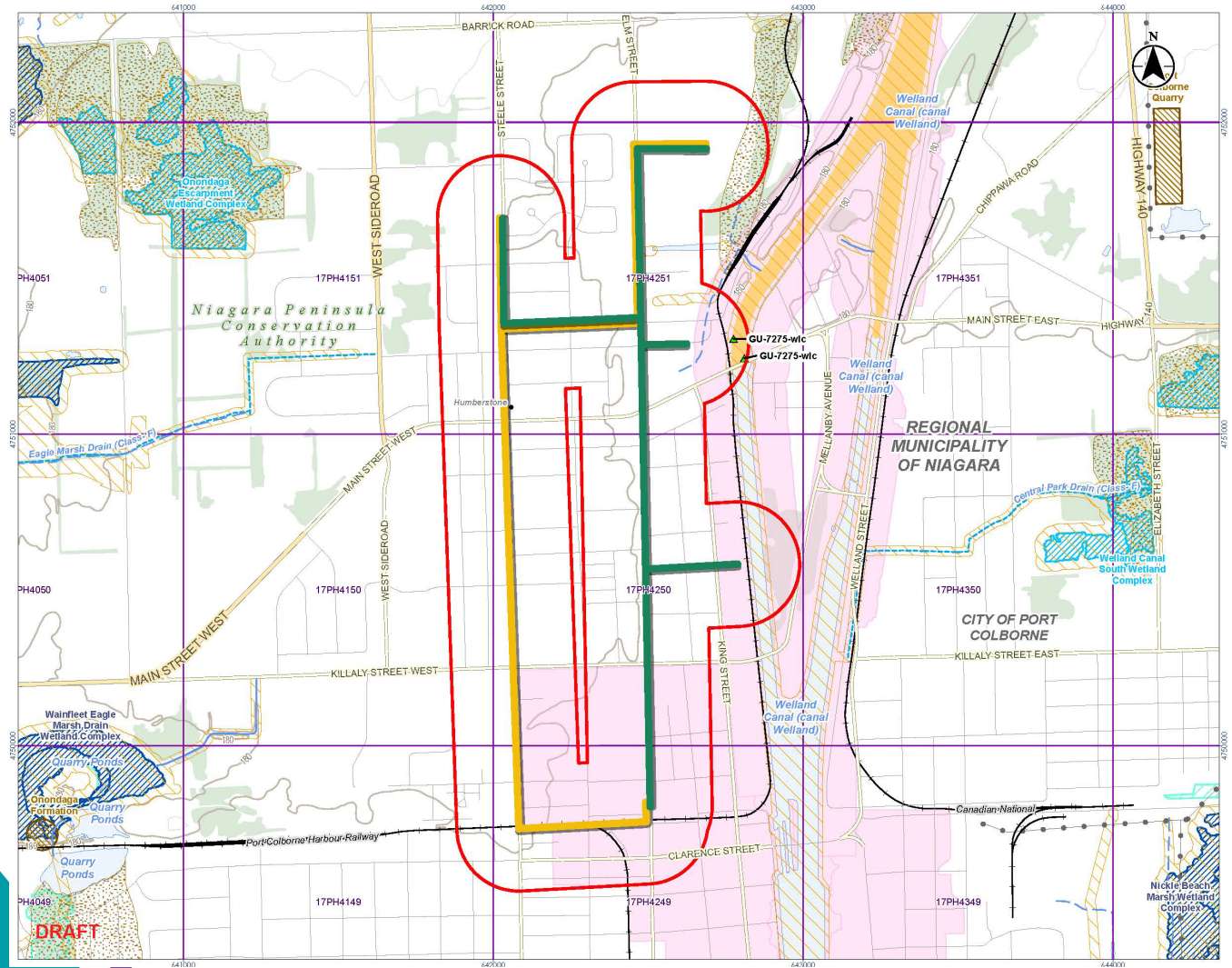
Existing Conditions – Summary of 5 SPS

Pump Station	Station Capacity	Forcemain Size	Wet Well Size
Arena	75 L/s	300mm	4.9m x 3m x 8.6m (126.4m^3)
Elm Street	400 L/s at 29m TDH	500mm	4.3m x 5.5m x 3.5m (82.8m^3)
Omer Avenue	105 L/s	300mm	46.3m^3
Steele Street	35 L/s	200mm	2.36m x 1.67m x 2.35m (9.26m^3)
Union Street	164 L/s at 27m TDH	350mm	27.6m^3

Steele Street SPS represents a significant bottleneck within the collection system, with its limited capacity, undersized conveyance infrastructure, and minimal storage capability making it the most critical facility requiring immediate attention and potential replacement or major upgrades.

Preliminary Alternative Solutions



*Red denotes study area

Based on the information currently available, the Project Team has identified the following preliminary alternatives (including but not limited to):

1. Do nothing.
2. Relocate and construct new Steele Street SPS.
3. Build gravity trunk sewer and connect local gravity mains, eliminating need for SPS(s) within feasible distance of gravity trunk. The potential alignments for the trunk sewer include:
   a. Elm Street - trunk sewer alignment along Elm Street with new SPS at Seaway plant (green line on map).
   b. Steele Street - trunk sewer alignment along Steele Street/Elm Street with new SPS at Seaway plant (yellow line on map).

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Technical Studies to be Completed

Once the recommended alternative solution has been selected, technical studies will be undertaken.

The intent of the field investigations are two part:

a. To gather sufficient baseline information to evaluate the alternative solutions as part of the EA.

b. To gather detailed information to identify potential impacts/mitigation measures and more accurate cost estimates as part of the conceptual design to aid Niagara Region in progressing the detailed design of the preferred alternative.

Technical Studies to be undertaken:

- Archaeological
- Geotechnical/ Hydrogeological
- Environmental Site Assessment (ESA)
- Designated Substance Survey (DSS)
- Natural Environment investigation
- Topographical Survey

Additional studies will be completed if required.

Evaluation Criteria

Below is a list of factors and criteria the Project Team will consider when evaluating alternative solutions.

Socio-Economic Environment

- Potential impacts to business operations, private properties, and local traffic
- Property/ Easement Acquisition
- Noise and Air Quality Impacts

Technical Environment

- Existing and Future Infrastructure needs
- Performance Quality Requirements
- Operational Complexity
- Services/Utilities
- Meets Municipal and Ministry standards, permits, and approvals

Financial

- Lifecycle Operations and Maintenance Cost
- Estimated Capital Cost

Cultural Environment

- Archaeological Resources
- Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes

Natural Environment

- Fish and Fish Habitat
- Vegetation
- Water Resources including surface water (i.e., rivers, creeks, etc.)
- Groundwater recharge areas and wellhead protection areas

Climate Change

- Impacts on climate change
- Resiliency to climate change

Next Steps

Following PIC #1, the Project Team will:


Review and consider all feedback and comments received


Complete relevant technical studies


Develop and evaluate Alternative Solutions


Present the preferred Alternative Solution at PIC #2 (Spring 2026)

How To Get Involved

Fill out a PIC comment form. Comments can be submitted until November 19, 2025.

A copy of the PIC display materials is available on the project website.

Request to be added to the study contact list to receive updates and future public notices about the study.

Visit niagararegion.ca/projects/port-colborne-sewage-pumping-station/default.aspx for more information.

Attend PIC #2 – Spring 2026.

Thank You for Participating!

Thank you for attending PIC #1 for the West Port Colborne Gravity Main Environmental Assessment Study.

Your feedback is very important to this study. Please complete the comment form provided or contact one of the study members by email or phone to share your thoughts by November 19, 2025.

Michael Kocher, P.Eng.
Project Manager / Business Centre Practice Leader
Stantec Consulting Ltd.
Telephone: 519-585-7494
Email: michael.kocher@stantec.com

John Lee, P.Eng., PMP
Senior Project Manager
Water & Wastewater Engineering, Public Works
Niagara Region
Telephone: 905-980-6000 ext. 3136
Email: john.lee@niagararegion.ca

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