



Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station Upgrades

Project File

FINAL

May 2020

Regional Municipality of Niagara



Executive Summary

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) initiated a Schedule B Class Environmental Assessment (EA) to plan upgrades for the Mewburn Road Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) to provide long-term pumping reliability and performance to the existing drainage area. The existing station, located at 2617 Mewburn Road in the City of Niagara Falls (City), was built in 1988 and has undergone several repairs and upgrades since that time. A recent inspection found that the SPS is again in need of major repair or replacement to provide continued reliable service. Neither the Niagara Region nor the City owns the land currently occupied by the SPS location; therefore, alternative locations for a new SPS were considered.

The Class EA defines current and future servicing criteria, identifies and evaluates potential locations for a new pumping station to serve the existing Mewburn Road SPS drainage area, and identifies the preferred location and design concept. The pumping stations' existing rated capacity is projected to be adequate for 25 years or more.

The Study Area was defined as a 1-kilometre buffer around the existing Mewburn Road SPS, based on the ability to tie the existing gravity sanitary sewers into the forcemain discharge location. The natural, social, cultural, technical, and economic environments within the Study Area have been summarized and documented in this report. In general, the Study Area includes residential units, a City park (Fireman's Park), a closed landfill (Mountain Road landfill), roads, and vacant lands.

The existing Mewburn Road SPS requires substantial upgrades because of its age, which provides the opportunity to relocate the SPS, because the current site is not owned by the City or Niagara Region and is considered to be unavailable for future use based on feedback from the current landowner. A long list of alternative sites was developed and short-listed based on their proximity to the existing SPS, their elevation compared with the existing SPS, and availability of the land. Three alternative locations were short-listed for evaluation: one on Mountain Road near the existing forcemain discharge and two north of the existing SPS on Mewburn Road.

The detailed evaluation of the three locations followed the standard EA approach by developing a comprehensive set of evaluation criteria. Evaluation criteria were grouped into four main objective categories: Technical, Natural, Social and Cultural, and Economic. Based on the evaluation, it was determined that building a new SPS at a location located at the closed landfill entrance at the corner of Mewburn Road was the preferred alternative. This location is on Mewburn Road at the closed Mountain Road Landfill entrance, approximately 320 metres north of the existing SPS, on Niagara Region-owned land. The elevation is lower than the existing SPS, which will allow for gravity flow to the new location and will require a wet well of a similar or lesser depth. To connect the new SPS to the sanitary sewer system, a new forcemain will be installed along Mewburn Road. This forcemain will connect to the existing forcemain at Mountain Road. The current site is disturbed with roads and existing infrastructure, including leachate collection and pumping stations. The proposed new SPS infrastructure will follow or be near existing services (that is, the leachate forcemain). Additional infrastructure includes a submersible pumping station with buried sewer and forcemain.

A separate conceptual design report has been prepared to detail the proposed Mewburn Road SPS and the connections to, and discharge from, the new SPS to the existing inlet sewer and discharges. The gravity influent sewer will be extended approximately 350 metres north to the new SPS, which will discharge approximately an additional 250 metres to the existing forcemain. The existing forcemain may be reused (to be confirmed after condition assessment), or a new forcemain will be constructed along Mountain Drive to the discharge maintenance hole at Woodfield Avenue. The current conceptual cost estimate (preconceptual design report) is \$3,328,000 with contingency and HST. Next steps in terms of the new SPS's detail design and implementation are provided in the report, as well as expected applicable permitting for the design project.

Effective public consultation programs build and maintain community trust and credibility to improve decision making and identify community issues far enough in advance that they can be effectively

addressed before final decisions are made. Public consultation through this Project included providing Notice of Commencement, developing mailing lists, and issuing notices, including engagement with Indigenous communities, Public Information Centre (PIC), Agency consultation and Notice of Completion. The PIC was held on November 28, 2019, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Gale Centre Arena located in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

City	City of Niagara Falls
COSEWIC	Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
EA	Environmental Assessment
<i>EA Act</i>	<i>Environmental Assessment Act (Ontario)</i>
END	endangered
EXP	extirpated
HNHB LHIN	Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network
IPZ	Intake Protection Zone(s)
MEA	Municipal Engineers Association
MECP	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
MNRF	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
NHIC	Natural Heritage Information Centre
Niagara Region	Regional Municipality of Niagara
NOTL	Niagara on the Lake
NPCA	Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority
NPSPA	Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Area
PIC	Public Information Centre
Project	Schedule B Municipal Class EA for the Mewburn Road SPS
QEW	Queen Elizabeth Way
SARA	Species at Risk Act
SARO	Species at Risk in Ontario
SC	special concern
Sch	Schedule
SPS	sewage pumping station
S-Rank	subnational rank
Study Area	1-kilometre buffer around the existing Mewburn Road SPS
SWH	significant wildlife habitat
TDH	total dynamic head
THR	threatened
WWMSP	Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan
WWTP	wastewater treatment plant

1. Introduction

The Regional Municipality of Niagara (Niagara Region) initiated a Schedule B Class Environmental Assessment (EA) to plan upgrades for the Mewburn Road Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) to provide long-term pumping reliability and performance to the existing drainage area. The existing station, located at 2617 Mewburn Road in the City of Niagara Falls (City) (Figure 1-1), was built in 1988 and has undergone several repairs and upgrades since that time. A recent inspection found that the SPS is again in need of major repair or replacement to provide continued reliable service. Neither the Niagara Region nor the City owns the land currently occupied by the SPS location; therefore, alternative locations for a new SPS were considered.

The Class EA defines current and future servicing criteria, identifies and evaluates potential locations for a new pumping station to serve the existing Mewburn Road SPS drainage area, and identifies the preferred location and design concept. The pumping stations' existing rated capacity is projected to be adequate for 25 years or more.

The study follows the guidance outlined in the Municipal Class EA document (as amended in 2007, 2011, and 2015).

1.1 Project Background

The Mewburn Road SPS is located at 2617 Mewburn Road, adjacent to Mountain Road and the Mewburn Road traffic circle near the Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW) in the City. The station was built in 1988 and contains one wet well, two submersible pumps, a standby generator in an enclosure, and a control panel. Each pump is rated at 23 litres per second based on the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA); however, the actual station capacity is 20.8 litres per second based on field testing.

The SPS discharges into a 200-millimetre-diameter forcemain, 685 metres long, which discharges into a gravity sewer at Mountain Road and Woodfield Avenue. The SPS services a catchment area of 15 hectares with a serviced equivalent population of 688 individuals (Niagara Region 2017). The catchment area is a subcatchment of the Niagara Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).

The 2016 Niagara Region Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan (WWMSP) identified that the peak wet weather flow to the station will increase to 10.1 litres per second by 2041, and therefore, the actual and rated capacity are adequate (Niagara Region 2017) for the planning period.

Table 1-1 outlines the design flows to the Mewburn Road SPS identified in the 2016 WWMSP

Table 1-1. Design Flows to the Mewburn SPS

Parameter	Flow
Existing Average Dry Weather Flow	0.6 litres per second
Existing Peak Wet Weather Flow	5.5 litres per second
Projected 2041 Peak Dry Weather Flow	4.8 litres per second
Projected 2041 Peak Wet Weather Flow	10.1 litres per second

Because of the station's age and condition, major upgrades are required to maintain reliable service. As the existing SPS is located on land not owned by Niagara Region, Niagara Region's goal is to identify an alternate location for a new pumping station, ideally on Niagara Region-owned land.

The SPS technical details are summarized in Table 1-2.

Table 1-2. Mewburn Road SPS Technical Details

Item	Details
Wet Well	3.0-metre diameter 8.65 metres to bottom from ground level 15 cubic metres operating volume (Low Shutoff to Alarm Levels)
Pumps	Flygt Model 3127 pumps Model: 3127-160-0221 7.5 kilowatts (10 horsepower) 600 volts, 3 phase, 60 hertz
Pumps (capacities)	23 litres per second at 16.7 metres TDH – (certificate of approval) 24.3 litres per second at 16.5 metres TDH (drawings) 21.5 and 20.9 litres per second – (drawdown) 24 litres per second (pump curve)
Forcemain	200 millimetres (Series 80 PE) approximately 685 metres (Master Plan), discharges into sewer at Mountain Road and Woodfield Avenue
Inlet Sewer	250-millimetre diameter

Note:

TDH = total dynamic head

1.2 Study Purpose/Problem or Opportunity Statement

The existing Mewburn Road SPS was constructed in 1988, and because of its age, it requires extensive upgrading, repairs or replacement, including to the pumps, electrical components and panel, standby generator, and controls to provide reliable service into the future. In addition, the existing Mewburn Road SPS is located on private land; however, the landowner is not interested in selling and would prefer the existing SPS be moved should repairs or replacement take place (that is, the landowner does not want the continued or long-term operation of the SPS on his land).

This Schedule B Municipal Class EA (Project) was completed to identify a preferred alternative to upgrading or replacing the existing SPS at a new location. The Niagara Region is also looking at opportunities to relocate the existing Mewburn Road SPS to Niagara Region-owned land.

The Project defines current and future criteria and identifies a preferred pumping solution to meet long-term performance objectives.

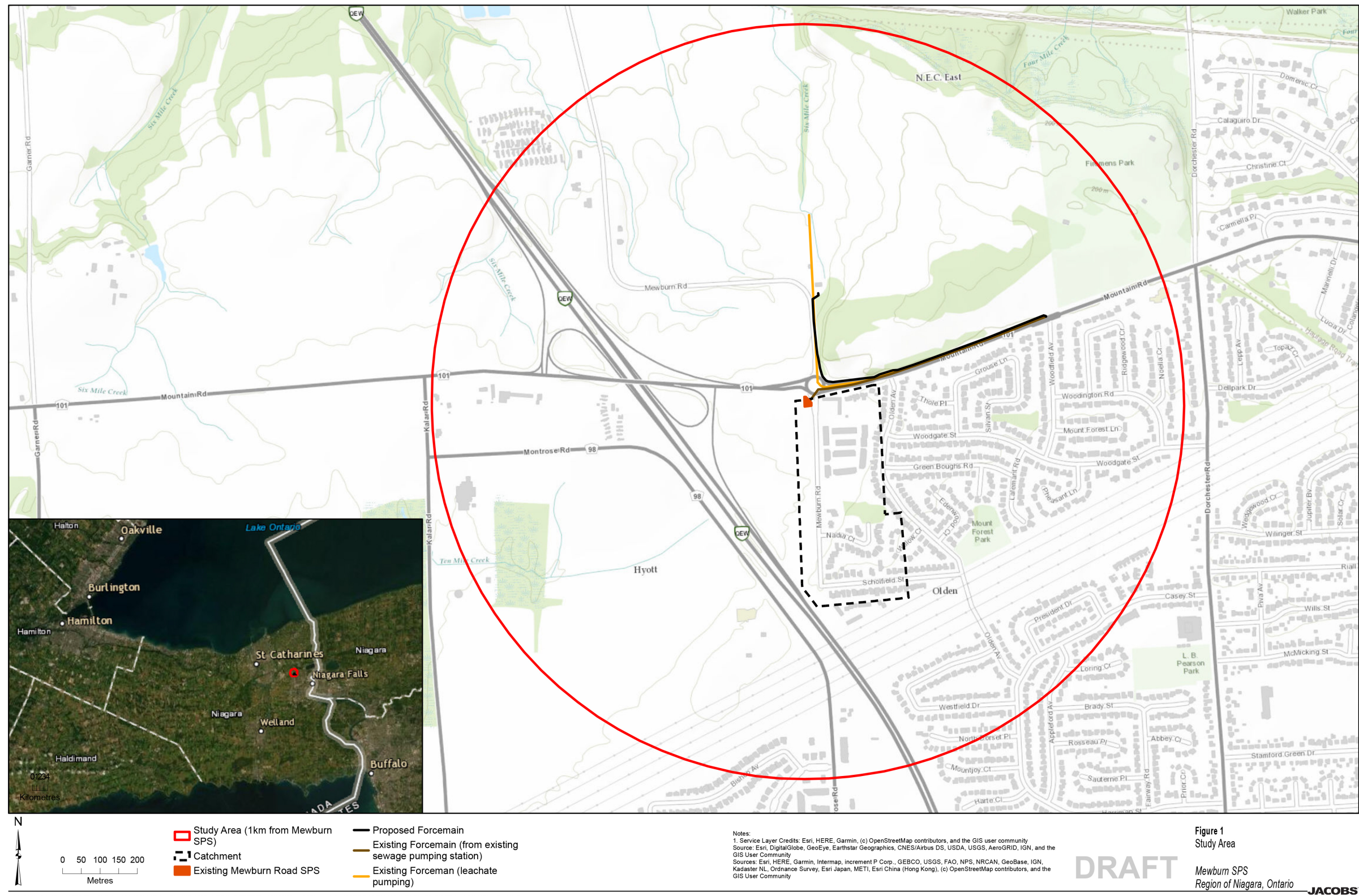


Figure 1-1. Study Area
Aerial image © 2019 Google. Annotation © Jacobs 2020

1.2.1 Project Team

CH2M HILL Canada Limited (now Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. [Jacobs]) was retained by the Niagara Region to complete the Class EA. The Jacobs project team includes consultants, engineers, and environmental planners.

1.3 Environmental Assessment Process

1.3.1 Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process

1.3.1.1 EA Act

Ontario's *Environmental Assessment Act* (*EA Act*) was passed in 1975 and first applied to municipalities in 1981. The *EA Act* requires that the environmental effects that could result from projects or activities be studied, documented, and examined. The objective is to consider the possible effects early in the planning process, when concerns may be most easily resolved, and to select a preferred alternative with the fewest identified impacts.

The *EA Act* defines "environment" very broadly as follows:

- Air, land, or water
- Plant and animal life, including human life
- Social, economic, and cultural conditions that influence the life of humans or a community
- A building, structure machine, or other device or thing made by humans
- A solid, liquid, gas, odour, heat, sound, vibration, or radiation resulting directly or indirectly from human activities
- A part or combination of the foregoing, and the interrelationships between two or more of them, in or around Ontario

In applying *EA Act* requirements to projects, two types of EA planning and approval processes are identified:

- 1) Individual EAs (Part 2 of the *EA Act*): Projects have terms of reference and individual EAs, which are carried out and submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) for review and approval.
- 2) Class EAs: Projects are approved subject to compliance with an approved Class EA process; as long as the appropriate Class EA approval process is followed, a proponent will comply with the requirements of the *EA Act*.

1.3.1.2 Class Environmental Assessment Process

The Class EA process is a decision-making framework that effectively meets *EA Act* requirements. The Municipal Engineer Association's (MEA) Municipal Class EA document (MEA 2015) outlines five phases to be followed to satisfy Class EA requirements for wastewater projects:

- 1) Identify the problem or opportunity
- 2) Identify alternative solutions and establish a preferred solution
- 3) Examine alternative methods of implementing the preferred solution that will minimize negative effects and maximize positive effects
- 4) Prepare a Project File
- 5) Implement the preferred solution

The Municipal Class EA classifies projects in terms of the following schedules, based on the proposed development's anticipated environmental impact:

- Schedule A projects are minor operational and upgrade activities and may go ahead without further assessment once Phase 1 of the Class EA process is complete (that is, the problem is reviewed, and a solution is confirmed).
- Schedule A+ projects are pre-approved but still require public notification prior to project implementation. Projects categorized as Schedule A+ include activities such as municipal infrastructure plans previously approved by a municipal council (Phase 1).
- **Schedule B projects must proceed through the first two phases of the process. Proponents must identify and assess alternative solutions to the problem, inventory impacts, and select a preferred solution. They must also contact relevant agencies and affected members of the public. Provided that no significant impacts are found and no requests are received to elevate the project to Schedule C or undertake the project as an Individual EA (Part II Order), the project may proceed to the next phase.**
- Schedule C projects require more detailed study, public consultation, and documentation, as they may have more significant impacts. Projects categorized as Schedule C must proceed through the five phases of an assessment. An environmental study report must be completed and available for a 30-day public review period prior to proceeding to implementation.

Formal planning of Schedule B projects ends at the conclusion of Phase 2 of the MEA Class EA process. Documentation of the planning process followed through Phase 1 and Phase 2 will be finalized, and a Notice of Completion is issued, allowing at least 30 calendar days for the public to review the Project File and provide comments. The level of detail contained in this report corresponds to the nature and magnitude of the anticipated environmental and socioeconomic impacts associated with the Project, which is considered to be straightforward, with relatively little public interest and noncontroversial.

The study is being carried out as a Schedule B project and will follow the Municipal Class EA process for Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the MEA EA process. A Project File is required and will be filed for review by review agencies and the public. The Notice of Filing will be submitted to the MECP – Environmental Assessment and Approvals branch. The purpose of the Project File is to document the planning and decision-making process that was followed through Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class EA process to identify the preferred solution. The Project File includes identifying potential environmental effects and the associated mitigation measures needed to avoid or minimize potential adverse effects as well as an overview of the municipality's monitoring plans to track Project-specific environmental commitments.

Questions or comments regarding the Project File can be submitted to the following project managers:

Albert Succi

Project Manager
Niagara Region
3501 Schmon Parkway, P.O. Box 1042
Thorold, Ontario, L2V 4Y6
+1.905.980.6000 ext. 3308
Toll-Free: +1.800.263.7215
albert.succi@niagararegion.ca

Mike Newbigging, P.Eng.

Project Manager
Jacobs Engineering Group
72 Victoria Street South, Suite 300
Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 4Y9
+1.519.514.1642
mike.newbigging@jacobs.com

If there are major issues that cannot be resolved upon final Project File completion, individuals may request the MECP to require the regions to comply with Part 2 of the *EA Act*. Upon receiving a Part II Order Request, the Minister reviews the request and study information and makes one of the following decisions: deny the request, refer the matter to mediation, or require completion of an Individual EA. The Minister considers many factors in decision making, including the planning process adequacy, the potential for significant adverse environmental effects after mitigation measures are considered, the requester's participation in the planning process, and the nature of the request (MEA 2015).

A Part II Order can be requested through the completion of a *Part II Order Request Form* submitted to the MECP or delegate (MECP 2020a). A copy of the form should also be sent to the Director of Environmental Assessment and Permissions Branch and the proponent. In the request form, the focus must be on the Project's potential environmental effects or on the Class EA. Issues unrelated to the Project should not be raised, and decisions outside of the Class EA process are not relevant to the request.

1.3.2 Current Environmental Assessment Objectives and Tasks

The study was conducted as a Schedule B Class EA. This public file was prepared to document the Class EA process and includes the following:

- Background information on the Project (Section 1.1)
- Problem or opportunity statement and need for a solution (Section 1.2)
- Study Area features inventory (Section 2.0)
- Alternative solutions identification
- Comparative evaluation of alternative solutions to identify a preferred solution (Section 3.0)
- Public consultation program documentation, including how concerns raised have been addressed, if applicable (Section 4.0)

1.3.3 Niagara Region Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan

The Niagara Region updated its WWMSPP in 2016 in order to balance growth needs with the protection and preservation of natural, environmental, and heritage resources.

The goal of the Niagara Region's WWMSPP 2016 is as follows:

"To ensure Niagara has the infrastructure to provide critical water and wastewater services to the growing Region in a sustainable and financially responsible way"

The WWMSPP 2016 notes that readily available and accessible public infrastructure is an essential component to the viability and growth of the existing community. The integration of infrastructure planning, land-use planning, and infrastructure investment will allow for efficient, safe, and economically achievable solutions to provide the required water and wastewater infrastructure. As such, the SPS will be designed, built, and operated in a manner that can be sustained by the water resources upon which the service relies while complying with regulatory requirements and protecting public health and the natural environment. The SPS has been planned in order to meet the community's current and projected needs in accordance with the WWMSPP 2016.

2. Description of the Environment

2.1 Study Area

The Study Area was determined based on the catchment area for the existing pumping station and forcemain discharge location. The Mewburn Road SPS service area is mainly residential, and its existing catchment area is south of the existing SPS site. The existing forcemain runs along Mountain Road to the east, discharging at Mountain Road and Woodfield Avenue.

The Study Area is defined as a 1-kilometre buffer around the existing Mewburn Road SPS, based on the ability to tie the existing gravity sanitary sewers into the forcemain discharge location (Figure 1-1).

The following sections provide baseline information for the natural, social, cultural, technical, and economic environments within the Study Area.

2.2 Natural Environment

2.2.1 Physical Environment

The Project is located within the Lake Erie-Lake Ontario Ecoregion 7E and underlain by Silurian and Devonian limestone bedrock, south of the Precambrian Shield (MNRF 2020a). Topography in the Study Area is generally level, consisting of flat terrain overlain by deep undulating deposits of ground moraine. The Niagara Escarpment presents a more rugged and mountainous terrain north of the Study Area.

Soils within the Study Area include Gray Brown Luvisols (60 percent) and Gleysols (37 percent) and are generally fertile and conducive for crop growth (MNRF 2020a). Most substrates in the Study Area are composed of calcareous mineral material, though minor components of the landscape may be composed of organic material.

2.2.2 Vegetation and Wetlands

Ecoregion 7E is largely composed of agriculture (78 percent) and developed land (7 percent). The remaining lands are predominantly covered by deciduous woodlands and wetlands (MNRF 2020a). Vegetation in Ecoregion 7E is diverse, but typical species include sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), and eastern white pine (*Pinus strobus*).

The existing Mewburn Road SPS is located on previously disturbed land within a cultural meadow featuring regenerating grasses and shrubs. The existing SPS is bordered by Mewburn Road and Mountain Road and is adjacent to cropland in the north and residential lands to the east. The potential sites are within residential, woodland, and agricultural lands.

2.2.3 Water Quality and Quantity

The Project is located within the Niagara Region watershed, which can be divided into three main drainage sections: the Lake Ontario, Niagara River, and Lake Erie drainage areas. The Study Area location overlaps with both the Lake Ontario and Niagara River drainage areas and will conduct groundwater to either of these areas depending on the source and flow of water (NPCA 2013).

The Study Area is located within the Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Area (NPSPA), and the area jurisdiction is managed by the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA). The Study Area does not contain Intake Protection Zones (IPZs). The closest IPZ (Niagara Falls IPZ-1) is located approximately 16 kilometres southeast of the Study Area (NPCA 2014). Within the NPSPA, municipal drinking water is derived exclusively from surface water sources.

The drinking water supply in the City is sourced from the Welland River and treated at the Niagara Falls Water Treatment Plant (located approximately 15 kilometres southeast of the Study Area). A summary of water quality testing indicates that results are within the established parameters outlined in Ontario's Drinking Water Systems Regulation (Ontario Regulation 170/03) for the reporting period of January 1 to December 31, 2018 (City 2020a).

2.2.4 Aquatic Environment

The Project is located within Fish Management Zone 16, which covers inland lakes and rivers throughout Southwestern Ontario. Fisheries management planning and reporting is ongoing (MNRF 2020b).

Project components will not be sited within a wetland or watercourse; however, several of the alternative locations are proximal to unnamed tributaries of larger lakes and rivers. Ecoregion 7E features aquatic species such as longnose gar (*Lepisosteus osseus*), channel catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*), smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*), yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*), walleye (*Sander vitreus vitreus*), northern hog sucker (*Hypentelium nigricans*), banded killifish (*Fundulus diaphanus*), and spottail shiner (*Notropis hudsonius*).

2.2.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat

The Study Area encounters a variety of potential wildlife habitat, including forest and treed areas, regenerating grasses, agriculture, previously disturbed vegetation, and existing infrastructure.

Wildlife typical to Ecoregion 7E includes white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), northern raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), green heron (*Butorides virescens*), Virginia rail (*Rallus limicola*), Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), eastern kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*), willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*), brown thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*), yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*), common yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*), northern cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), savannah sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*), wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), eastern red-backed salamander (*Plethodon cinereus*), American toad (*Anaxyrus americanus*), eastern gartersnake (*Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis*), and midland painted turtle (*Chrysemys picta marginata*).

The Study Area is located in the migratory bird nesting zone C1, and the 90 percent active nesting period occurs from May 7 to July 19 (Government of Canada 2018).

2.2.6 Species at Risk

Endangered and threatened species are provided formal protection under the *Endangered Species Act*, now administered by the MECP. Aquatic species (fish and mussels) are also afforded additional protection federally, as administered by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, under the *Species at Risk Act*, 2002 (SARA). Up-to-date species at risk lists are provided by the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario, the Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) List, and the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) SARA List. Special Concern species are not afforded formal protection under SARA; however, habitat for these species are typically afforded protection under significant wildlife habitat (SWH) criteria.

An area search was conducted for species at risk with the potential to occur in the Study Area. The 32 species listed in Table 2-1 are based on observations at or near the Study Area listed on the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's (MNRF) Natural Heritage Information Centre (MNRF 2020c) database, Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Ontario (Second Atlas 2001–2005; Square 17PH57) (Cadman et al. 2015), and iNaturalist for herptiles with a search area matching that of OBBA Square 17PH57, as the Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas removed its online data as of December 2019 (iNaturalist 2020). Table 2-1, 2-2, and 2-3 summarize the 32 species of birds, herptiles, and vegetation identified in the Niagara Region and their species status.

Table 2-1. Species at Risk with the Potential to Occur in the Study Area – Birds

Species	Preferred Habitat ^a	NHIC Ontario (S-Rank)	SARA Sch.1	COSEWIC	SARO	Likelihood of Occurrence
Acadian flycatcher (<i>Empidonax virescens</i>) ^b	Mature, deciduous woodlands, riparian woodlands and swamp woodlands. Nesting typically occurs within lower branches of a Beech or Maple tree.	S2S3B	END	END	END	Low – No suitable habitat within Study Area
bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>) ^b	Nest near major lakes or rivers where they forage for fish as their main source of food.	S2N,S4B	--	--	SC	Low – No suitable habitat within Study Area
bank swallow (<i>Riparia riparia</i>) ^b	Steep banks, lakeshore bluffs and open areas. Nesting occurs within steep features such as cliffs and stockpiles, within fine-medium sand.	S4B	THR	THR	THR	Low – No suitable habitat within Study Area
barn owl (<i>Tyto alba</i>) ^b	In areas with Great Lakes moderated climates. Roosts in barns or abandoned buildings, hunts in orchards and grasslands.	S1	THR	END	END	Moderate – Known to occur within Study Area (MECP 2020b)
barn swallow (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>) ^b	Open, rural and urban areas, where bridges, culverts, and buildings are located proximal to waterbodies. Nesting occurs on erected structures.	S4B	THR	THR	THR	Moderate – Suitable habitat within Study Area
black tern (<i>Chlidonias niger</i>) ^b	Forage over freshwater wetlands and lakes and nest in areas with fresh waters where marsh vegetation is present.	S3B	--	--	SC	Low – No suitable habitat within Study Area
bobolink (<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>) ^b	Tall, grassy meadows, ditches and hayfields and croplands. Nesting occurs on the ground, typically within hayfields.	S4B	THR	THR	THR	Moderate – Suitable habitat within Study Area
Canada warbler (<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>) ^b	Wet, low-lying areas of a mixed forest with a dense understory. Nesting occurs on mossy hummock or upturned roots or stumps.	S4B	THR	THR	SC	Low – Little suitable habitat within Study Area
cerulean warbler (<i>Setophaga cerulea</i>) ^b	Mature, deciduous forests, preferring white oak, bitternut hickory, and sugar maple to nest.	S3B	END	END	THR	Low – No suitable habitat within Study Area
chimney swift (<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>) ^b	Forages over cities and towns. Roosts and nests within chimneys, sometimes within tree cavities.	S4B,S4N	THR	THR	THR	Moderate – Suitable habitat within Study Area
common nighthawk (<i>Chordeiles minor</i>) ^b	Forest openings, rock outcrops, and fields with sparse cover or bare patches. Nesting occurs on bare ground.	S4B	THR	SC	SC	Moderate – Suitable habitat within Study Area
eastern meadowlark (<i>Sturnella magna</i>) ^{b,c}	Grassy meadows and pastures. Nesting occurs on a scrape or depression on the ground.	S4B	THR	THR	THR	Moderate – Suitable habitat within Study Area
eastern whip-poor-will (<i>Antrostomus vociferus</i>) ^b	Dry, deciduous or mixed forests with little underbrush near open areas. Nesting occurs on ground.	S4B	THR	THR	THR	Moderate – Suitable habitat within Study Area
eastern wood-pewee (<i>Contopus virens</i>) ^b	Mid-canopy forager within deciduous or mixed forests. Prefers forested areas with limited groundcover vegetation. Nesting occurs on the branches of a deciduous tree.	S4B	SC	SC	SC	Moderate – Suitable habitat within Study Area
golden-winged warbler (<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>) ^b	Moist, shrubby fields; forest edges; and successional, new growth. Nesting occurs on the ground.	S4B	THR	THR	SC	Moderate – Suitable habitat within Study Area

Species	Preferred Habitat ^a	NHIC Ontario (S-Rank)	SARA Sch.1	COSEWIC	SARO	Likelihood of Occurrence
least bittern (<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>) ^b	Freshwater marshes with dense emergent vegetation, including <i>Typha</i> sp. Nesting occurs on top of bent marsh vegetation.	S4B	THR	THR	THR	Low – No suitable habitat within Study Area
Louisiana waterthrush (<i>Parkesia motacilla</i>) ^b	Mature, deciduous, and mixed forests along streams as well as swamps and bottomland forests. Nesting typically occurs in crevices along streambanks.	S3B	THR	THR	THR	Low – No suitable habitat within Study Area
northern bobwhite (<i>Colinus virginianus</i>) ^{b, c}	Agricultural fields, grasslands, and young pine-hardwood forests. Nesting occurs on the ground or in low vegetation.	S1	END	END	END	Moderate – Known to occur within the Study Area (MECP 2020b)
regrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) ^b	Lakeshores, river valleys, river mouths, urban areas, and open fields. Nesting occurs on rocky cliffs or cutbanks.	S3B	SC	--	SC	Low – Marginal foraging habitat within Study Area
red-headed woodpecker (<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>) ^b	Open, deciduous woodlands preferred. Oak stands, urban parks and river edges. Nesting occurs within cavities of a dead tree.	S4B	THR	END	SC	Moderate – Suitable habitat within the Study Area
red-shouldered hawk (<i>Buteo lineatus</i>) ^b	Deciduous or mixed-woods forests with shade-tolerant trees close to wetlands.	S4B	SC	--	--	Moderate – Suitable habitat within the Study Area
short-eared owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>) ^b	Large, open areas with low vegetation such as prairie and meadows. Nesting occurs on ground among low vegetation.	S2N, S4B	SC	SC	SC	Low – No suitable habitat within Study Area
wood thrush (<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>) ^b	Large, mature deciduous and mixed forests. Nesting occurs within understory on seedlings or saplings, prefers Maple and Beech species.	S4B	THR	THR	SC	Low – No suitable habitat within Study Area
yellow-breasted chat (<i>Icteria virens</i>) ^b	Dense, shrubby habitat such as forest edges, riparian habitats, and agricultural fields. Nesting occurs in low, dense vegetation.	S1B	--	END	END	Moderate – Suitable habitat within the Study Area

^a MECP 2020b and Government of Canada 2011

^b Recorded in the Second Atlas (2005, Square 17PH57)

^c Recorded in MNRF 2020c

Notes:

END = Endangered

EXP = Extirpated

NHIC = Natural Heritage Information Centre

SC = special concern

Sch = Schedule

S-Rank = Subnational Rank

S1 = Critically Imperilled (often 5 or fewer occurrences)

S2 = Imperilled (often 20 or fewer occurrences)

S3 = Vulnerable (restricted range with relatively few populations – often 80 or fewer)

S3B = Vulnerable breeding population (restricted range with relatively few populations – often 80 or fewer)

S4 = Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors

S2N = Provincial species of Special Concern, imperilled nonbreeding status rank

S4B = Provincial species of Special Concern, apparently secure breeding status rank

SX = Extirpated

THR =Threatened

Table 2-2. Species at Risk with the Potential to Occur in the Study Area – Herptiles

Species	Preferred Habitat ^a	NHIC Ontario (S-Rank)	SARA Sch.1	COSEWIC	SARO	Likelihood of Occurrence
Allegheny Mountain dusky salamander (<i>Desmognathus ochrophaeus</i>) ^b	Forested, small streams, springs, or seeps. Nest in underground cavities close to seeps or in moist soil beneath logs, stones, moss, or leaf litter.	S1	END	END	END	Low – Little suitable habitat within Study Area
eastern milksnake (<i>Lampropeltis Triangulum</i>) ^b	Found in diverse habitats such as rocky outcrops, fields, and forest edges, including human-modified habitats.	S4	SC	SC	--	Moderate – Suitable habitat within Study Area
midland painted turtle (<i>Chrysemys picta marginata</i>) ^b	Slow-moving, well-vegetated wetlands and waterbodies. Nest in open habitats and sloped areas with sand-loamy or gravel substrates nearby wetlands. Overwinter in shallow water with deep sediment.	S4	--	SC	--	Low – Marginal nesting and foraging habitat within Study Area
northern dusky salamander (<i>Desmognathus fuscus</i>) ^b	Near or in small groundwater-fed streams, seeps, and springs. Typically, under rocks, logs, or leaf litter.	S1	END	END	END	Low – Little suitable habitat within Study Area
snapping turtle (<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>) ^b	Prefers shallow water with mud substrate and leaf litter. Overwintering nesting occurs within sand and gravel areas of streams but will use constructed structures, such as roads with gravel shoulders.	S4	SC	SC	SC	Low – Marginal nesting and foraging habitat within Study Area
timber rattlesnake (<i>Crotalus horridus</i>) ^c	Upland forested areas with rocky outcrops.	SX	EXP	EXP	EXP	Low – Study Area within historical range, but known to be extirpated (MECP 2020b)

^a MECP 2020b and Government of Canada 2011^b Recorded in INaturalist 2020^c Recorded in MNRF 2020c**Table 2-3. Species at Risk with the Potential to Occur in the Study Area – Vegetation**

Species	Preferred Habitat ^a	NHIC Ontario (S-Rank)	SARA Sch.1	COSEWIC	SARO	Likelihood of Occurrence
bird's-foot violet (<i>Viola pedata</i>) ^b	Near large bodies of water that moderate climate. Dry, open woods on sandy and well-drained soils under oaks, pitch pine or white pine.	S1	END	END	END	Low – no suitable habitat within Study Area
deerberry (<i>Vaccinium stamineum</i>) ^b	Black oak savannah with occurrences of drought or fire.	S1	THR	THR	THR	Low – no suitable habitat within Study Area

^a MECP 2020b and Government of Canada 2011^b Recorded in MNRF 2020c

Significant Wildlife Habitat

SWH is designated by criteria outlined within the *Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide* (MNRF 2000) and divides habitat into four main categories:

1) Seasonal Concentration Areas:

At certain times of the year, some species of wildlife are highly concentrated within relatively small areas. In spring and autumn, migratory species of birds and butterflies concentrate in critical stopover areas where they can rest and feed. Other examples of such habitat include winter deer yards, bird breeding colonies, and hibernation sites for bats or snakes (MNRF 2000).

2) Rare Vegetation Communities or Specialized Habitat for Wildlife:

Rare vegetation communities include areas that contain a provincially rare vegetation community and areas that contain a vegetation community that is rare within the planning area. Specialized habitats include areas that support wildlife species that have highly specific habitat requirements, areas with exceptionally high species diversity or community diversity, and areas that provide habitat that greatly enhances a species' survival (MNRF 2000).

3) Habitat for Species of Conservation Concern (Not including Endangered or Threatened Species):

Rare species status is defined by species at risk legislation and global or provincial ranks provided by the NHIC.

4) Animal Movement Corridors:

Animal movement corridors are elongated, naturally vegetated parts of the landscape used by animals to move from one habitat to another. They exist at different scales and frequently link or border natural areas. Animal movement corridors encompass a wide variety of landscape features, including riparian zones and shorelines, wetland buffers, stream and river valleys, woodlands, and anthropogenic features such as hydro and pipeline corridors, abandoned road and rail allowances, and fencerows and windbreaks (MNRF 2000).

There is potential provincially SWH within the Study Area, including the following:

- Avian and herptile species at risk habitat along the northern and western portion of the Study Area, surrounding potential sites 2-8
- Potential stopover areas for landbirds (warblers, sparrows, finches, robins, blackbirds) and shorebirds (gulls, sandpipers, ducks, herons)
- Potential waterfowl stopover and staging habitat
- Potential raptor winter feeding and roosting areas

2.2.7 Natural Hazards

Natural hazards that may occur in the Study Area include geophysical (for example, landslide) hydrological (for example, flooding), climatological (for example, wildfires, extreme temperatures, drought) and meteorological (for example, high winds, heavy or persistent precipitation, extreme temperatures). Natural hazards are currently regulated and managed by the NPCA, which is responsible for protecting the public against imminent dangers related to these hazards (North-South Environmental Inc. 2019).

2.2.7.1 Geophysical

The Study Area is located within an area considered to be vulnerable to landslides, located on glaciolacustrine clays and fine silt; however, there are no recorded fatalities due to landslides in the Study Area (Natural Resources Canada 2009a). There are no documented earthquakes occurring in the Study Area (Natural Resources Canada 2019).

2.2.7.2 Hydrological

The Study Area is not located within a regulated flood extent (NPCA 2020). NPCA has issued several flood watch scenarios because of heavy or persistent precipitation. Flash flooding is often caused by rain storms or breaking dams.

2.2.7.3 Climatological

The Study Area is located in an area with a moderate-to-high fire danger rating (Natural Resources Canada 2009b). However, fires are not considered a substantial natural force in this Ecoregion, because of extensive wildfire suppression and urban land-use changes following land settlement (Crins et al. 2009).

Data were obtained from the Environment and Climate Change Canada weather station at the Niagara Falls NPCSH located approximately 5.78 kilometres southeast of the existing SPS (ECCC 2019): The average daily temperature is 9.2 degrees Celsius, with the warmest month being July, averaging 27.4 degrees Celsius, and the coldest month being January, averaging -7.8 degrees Celsius. Niagara Falls experienced its warmest day of 37 degrees Celsius on July 8, 1988, and its coolest day of -26 degrees Celsius on January 19, 1994.

2.2.7.4 Meteorological

Climate in Ecoregion 7E is one of the mildest in Canada with cool winters and lengthier summers that are hot and humid. The mean length of the growing season is 217 to 243 days and the mean annual temperature range (6.3 to 9.4 degrees Celsius), the highest of every Ecoregion (MNRF 2020a).

The average total annual rainfall is 794 millimetres. The average monthly rainfall from May to October is 83.8 millimetres. On August 30, 2005, Niagara Falls recorded its highest daily rainfall of 85 millimetres, which is above the monthly average of 79.2 millimetres for August (ECCC 2019).

The average total annual snowfall is 153.5 centimetres. The average monthly snowfall from November to April is 25.42 centimetres. On March 21, 1998, Niagara Falls recorded its highest daily snowfall of 41 centimetres, which is above the monthly average of 25 centimetres for the month of March (ECCC 2019).

2.2.7.5 Changing Climate Trends

Changing climate trends involving long-term precipitation level or temperature changes may occur throughout the SPS's operational phase. Climate change is acknowledged as the variability of local climate that is identified or documented over an extended period of time. Therefore, the effects of changing climate trends (for example, extreme weather, changes in precipitation levels or temperature) should be considered through a project's operational phase. Changing climate trends may damage above- or below-ground infrastructure in the long term.

2.2.8 Air Quality

The air quality within the Study Area is primarily influenced by traffic from the City and the nearby QEW highway. The air quality for the Niagara Region is measured by the St. Catharines Ambient Air Monitoring Site, where three pollutants are measured to indicate overall outdoor air mixture: ground-level ozone, fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), and nitrogen dioxide (MECP 2020c). The measured pollutants at this site fall well below the pollutant concentration thresholds established by Ontario's Ambient Air Quality Criteria, indicating that the Air Quality Health Index for the Niagara Region is a low health risk.

2.2.9 Acoustic Environment

The acoustic environment within the Study Area is influenced mainly by human activity from residents and vehicle traffic during the day and night. The Study Area is adjacent to both Mewburn and Mountain Road,

while also being in close proximity to a major highway. The sound levels of the Study Area are characteristic of a Class 1 area, with an acoustical environment typical of a major population centre, as the background sound level is dominated by human activity and road traffic (urban hum) (MECP 2020d).

2.3 Socioeconomic Environment

2.3.1 Land-Use Planning

There is a mixture of land uses within the Study Area, consisting of land that is residential, commercial (resort), and agricultural as well as the Niagara Escarpment Rural Area (Figure 2-1). The Study Area also contains transportation infrastructure, including two main roads and the QEW highway. The Niagara Region encompasses 12 municipalities, including the City where the existing Mewburn Road SPS is located. The Niagara Escarpment Rural Area is designed to help maintain rural, scenic landscape characteristics, where agricultural and forestry are generally encouraged (MNRF 2017).

2.3.2 Land and Resource Use

Land use in the Study Area is a mixture of agricultural, forested, and residential, with transportation infrastructure connecting main roads within the Study Area to the QEW highway. Fireman's Park is located less than 1 kilometre east of the Study Area and is a 135-acre natural park with a diverse range of recreational uses, including hiking, fishing, off-leash dog areas, and amphitheatre events. Other smaller recreational green spaces in close proximity to the Study Area include Mount Forest Park, Lester B. Pearson Park, and Walker Park.

Urban development in the Niagara Region continues to characterize the land use of the Study Area's surrounding municipalities (Niagara Region 2014). While the major communities have historically been separated by portions of semi-rural land, urban growth is consistently bringing their community borders closer together.

Niagara Region has significant mineral resources available, with supplies of sand, gravel, stone, and shale existing throughout large deposits (Niagara Region 2014). These mineral resources provide significant support to Niagara Region's economy in supplying raw materials for a variety of building, road, and construction projects. Other mineral resources within the Niagara Region include peat and natural gas, both of which are harvested from the southern portion of the Niagara Region.

There are no Surface Water IPZs (IPZ-1 or IPZ-2) located within the Study Area (NPCA 2020).

2.3.3 Social Demographics

In 2016, Niagara Region's population was 447,888 individuals compared with 431,346 in 2011. In 2016, approximately 63.7 percent of the population was between 15 and 64 years old, and the median age was 45.7 years old. Of the total population, 12,250 individuals reported identifying as Indigenous, including First Nations and Métis responses (Statistics Canada 2017).

The Study Area is accessed via the QEW, Mountain Road, and Mewburn Road. A replacement bridge crossing on Mewburn Road was recently constructed less than 1 kilometre north of the Study Area (City 2020b). This project was completed in November 2019 and established a major connection between the City and the Town of Niagara on the Lake (NOTL).

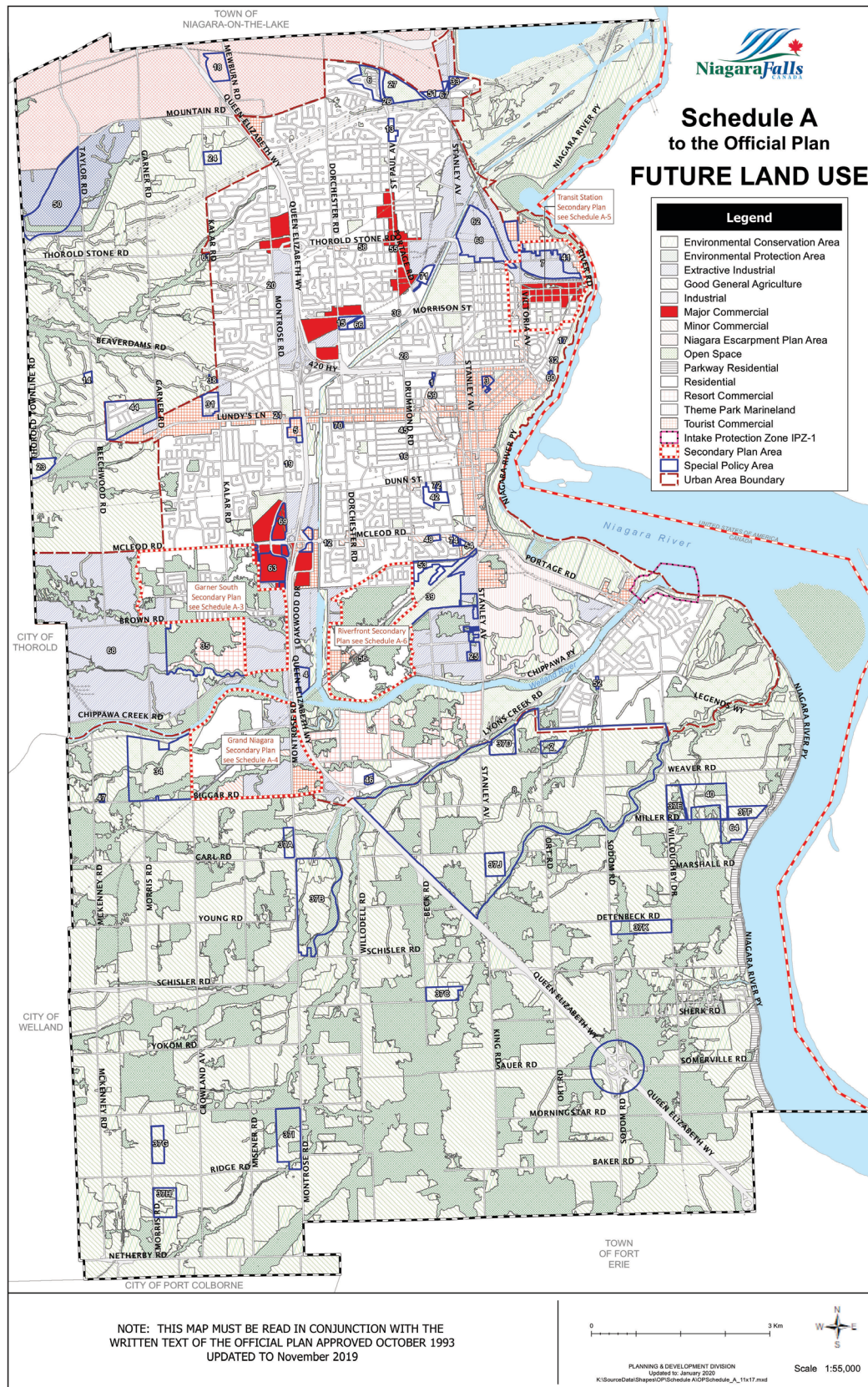


Figure 2-1. Niagara Falls Future Land Use
Source: Regional Municipality of Niagara 2020

2.3.4 Infrastructure and Services

The Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (HNHB LHIN) works with the Niagara Region healthcare providers, communities, and the public to plan and prioritize health services while overseeing the integration of local health services. The HNHB LHIN is responsible for 188 health service providers that administer more than 230 programs and services, many of which are provided to Niagara Region's citizens (HNHB LHIN 2020). The Greater Niagara General Hospital is approximately 8 kilometres south of the Study Area and provides emergency services, as well as acute and long-term healthcare to residents of the City and NOTL. Mental health services and support are available through a variety of youth and adult programs administered by the Region and funded by the HNHB LHIN.

The Niagara Regional Police Services operates a district office approximately 8 kilometres south of the Study Area. These police services operate throughout Niagara Region, including the City and NOTL. The Niagara Falls Fire Department is a municipally funded service operating seven stations, with the closest station being approximately 3 kilometres south of the Study Area. The Niagara Region Emergency Management Plan was prepared to respond to a number of risks Niagara Region may face in the future. It establishes a framework to facilitate community needs and provide protection to citizens during potential disasters and emergencies (Niagara Region 2020).

Niagara Region is responsible for waste collection services, and there are four sanitary landfills operated within Niagara Region to meet the surrounding communities' disposal needs. The closest functioning waste disposal site is operated by Walker Industries and is located in Thorold, approximately 6 kilometres west of the Study Area.

2.3.5 Employment and Economy

The industrial economic base within Niagara Region has historically been a large component of stable employment (Niagara Region 2014). The City provides a diverse mix of employment through tourism and through finished product, chemical, and abrasive manufacturing. The other surrounding municipalities within Niagara Region provide a majority of their manufacturing employment within the steel, automotive, and paper product industries. Urban communities are actively seeking growth by soliciting new industrial and commercial ventures.

The agriculture industry also represents an important source of economic stability in Niagara Region by producing fruit and vegetable crops, poultry, livestock, and greenhouse products (Niagara Region 2014). Tourism is another major component of the economic base in Niagara Region, as the City attracts millions of visitors each year for a variety of tourist attractions, most notably Niagara Falls.

In 2016, approximately 10.6 percent of residents in Niagara Region aged 15 and over had a university certificate, diploma, or degree at bachelor level; 20 percent had a college or other non-university certificate or diploma; 42 percent had a post-secondary certificate, diploma, or degree (for example, an apprenticeship or trades certificate); 26 percent had a secondary school diploma or equivalent; and 5.2 percent had no certificate, diploma, or degree (Statistics Canada 2017). The median after-tax income in 2015 was \$29,021, with an average family size of 2.9.

In 2016, Niagara Region had a total labour force of 371,555, with 226,595 actively in the labour force (209,890 employed and 16,705 unemployed), consisting of 115,825 males and 110,765 females. In 2016, the labour participation rate was 61 percent, with an employment and unemployment rate of 56.5 percent and 7.4 percent, respectively (Statistics Canada 2017). The predominant employment industries include the retail trade, healthcare and social assistance, accommodation and food services, and manufacturing.

2.3.6 Cultural Resources

Niagara Region has established the Niagara Culture Plan, which presents a planning framework for protecting cultural resources and integrating sustainable development within Niagara Region's cultural and creative sector (Niagara Region 2010). The Niagara Culture Plan defines culture as a multi-dimensional idea that can be characterized through five elements: people, places, history, expression,

and recreation. A cultural mapping system was developed to systematically identify cultural assets and integrate culture into policies and plans across municipal departments. Through this mapping, Niagara Region was able to establish approximately 2,000 cultural assets that could further be categorized into creative cultural industries, community cultural organizations, festivals and events, spaces and facilities, cultural heritage, and natural heritage. These clusters of cultural assets have further influenced the planning strategies for economic development and tourism support within Niagara Region.

2.4 Technical

The Mewburn SPS currently services a 15-hectare catchment area. It contains a 3-metre-diameter wet well with an operating volume of 15 cubic metres and two submersible pumps, each rated at 23 litres per second. The station's ECA rated capacity is 23 litres per second at 16.7 metres TDH, with one duty pump and one standby pump. However, recently performed field drawdown tests indicate that the actual pump capacities are 21.5 litres per second and 20.9 litres per second, respectively. The precast inlet chamber to the SPS receives sewage from a sanitary sewer on Mewburn Road, and the pumps discharge to a forcemain that runs along Mountain Road into a sanitary sewer located at the intersection of Mountain Road and Woodfield Avenue. The SPS has a single inflow and forcemain, and there is no emergency overflow from the SPS; hence, flows entering the SPS are pumped through the forcemain to its discharge at Woodfield Avenue.

The existing peak wet weather flow was indicated to be 5.5 litres per second in the 2016 Niagara Region WWMSP, with the peak wet weather flow in 2041 projected to be 10.1 litres per second. While the existing station has sufficient capacity to handle flows throughout the planning period, it is aging and requires major upgrades to maintain reliable service.

3. Alternative Solutions

Alternative solutions to provide future reliable pumping service were identified, which can be considered alone or in combination.

3.1 Identification of Alternative Solutions

An important step in the Class EA process is the identification of alternatives that will address the identified problem. According to the MEA's Municipal Class EA document (2015), an Alternative Solutions are defined as follows:

"Feasible alternative ways of solving an identified problem (deficiency), from which a preferred solution is selected"

The existing Mewburn Road SPS requires substantial upgrades because of its age, which provides the opportunity to relocate the SPS, since the current site is not owned by the City or Niagara Region and is considered to be unavailable for future use based on feedback from the current landowner. The following alternative solutions were identified as a feasible way of solving the identified problem while providing the opportunity to move the location of the existing SPS. A baseline condition against which alternative solutions are evaluated must be considered in the Class EA process, referred to as the "Do Nothing" alternative.

3.2 Initial Screening of Potential SPS Locations

A number of potential sites for an upgraded SPS were reviewed based on the following criteria:

- 1) Within 1 kilometre of the existing Mewburn Road SPS (to facilitate connection to existing sanitary sewers) but outside of the QEW "exclusion zone," defined as the area west of the QEW, since the gravity sewer and forcemain connections will need to cross the existing highway infrastructure.
- 2) Elevation of new location (ability to connect to existing sanitary sewers without excessive deep wet well). Current site elevation is approximately 190 metres (above sea level), which likely limits new site to no higher than 2 to 5 metres in elevation above the current ground level of the existing SPS to allow for gravity flow to the new site with a reasonable depth of the wet well.
- 3) Availability of land, Niagara Region-owned or municipal-owned or available lands would be preferred to new land acquisition. Locations that avoid established residential areas (generally east and south of the existing Mewburn Road SPS) and recreational or parks areas (north of Mountain Road and east of Dorchester Road). The area immediately southwest of the existing site is zoned for commercial (resort) development and is assumed to be unavailable.

The identification of alternative solutions is based on the need to upgrade the existing Mewburn SPS and the opportunity to relocate the SPS onto Niagara Region-owned land.

Based on these screening criteria, a long list of potential SPS locations was identified within the Study Area (Figure 3-1).

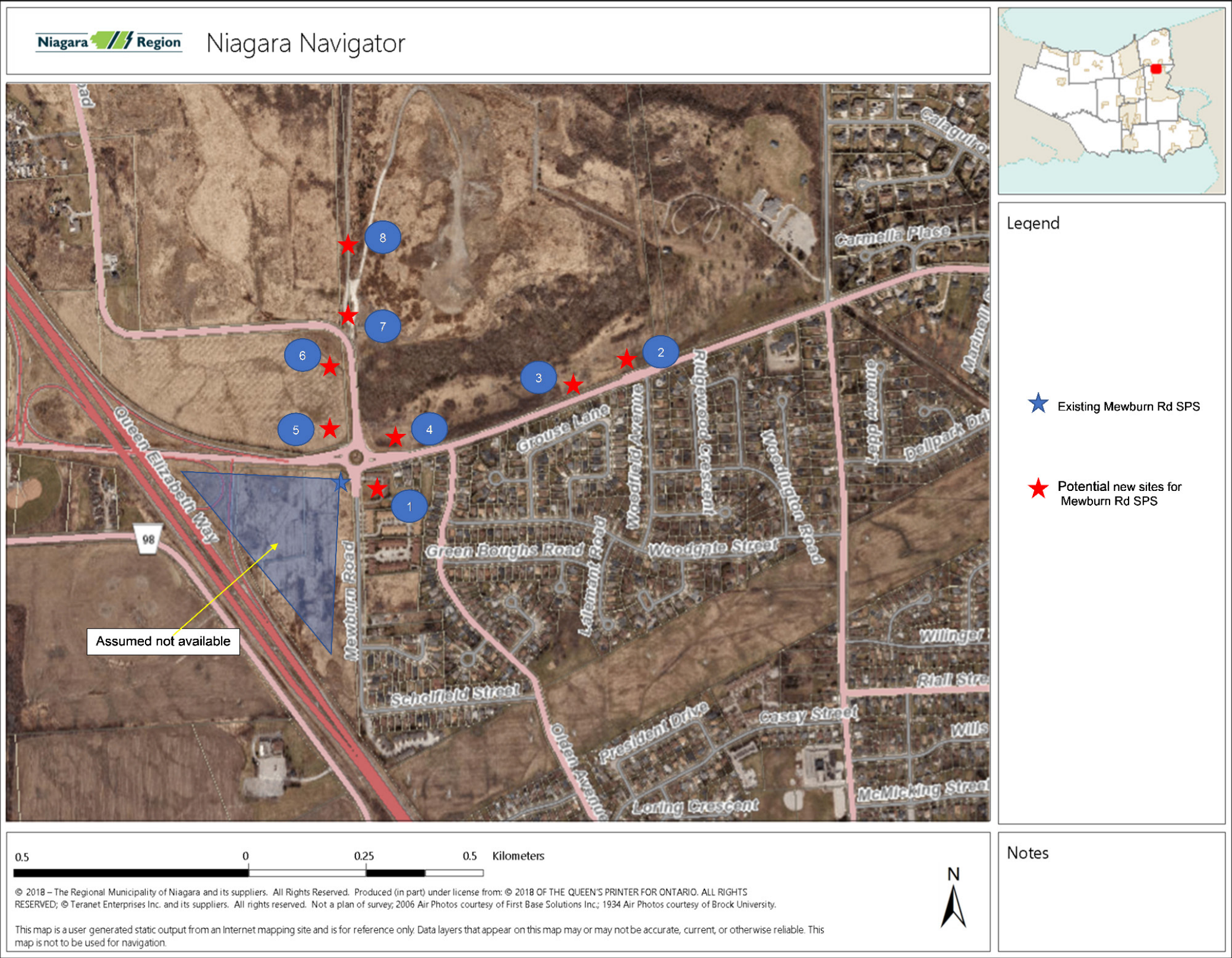


Figure 3-1. Study Area and Alternative Locations

The alternative locations include a number within reasonable proximity of the existing SPS. Some locations along Mountain Road (to the east towards Dorchester Road) are at a higher elevation. The long list of locations includes privately owned and Niagara Region-owned property.

Table 3-1 summarizes each long-listed location with preliminary screening notes based on the initial screening criteria.

Table 3-1. Alternative Locations and Preliminary Screening Notes

Location	Distance to Existing SPS	Land Ownership	Elevation	Screening	Recommended for Short List (yes/no)
N/A (Do Nothing)	N/A	Private	N/A	The existing SPS continues to operate in the same location without addressing upgrades or landowner concerns. This option does not address the current issues identified (that is, major upgrades required) and will not result in a relocated SPS.	No
1. Mewburn Road	100 metres	Private	Similar elevation to the existing SPS	This option addresses the problem statement, although the site is not located on Niagara Region or municipal-owned lands, and was recently solid and existing structure demolished.	No
2. Mountain Road East (edge of closed landfill property)	700 metres	Niagara Region	Higher elevation than the existing SPS	This option addresses the problem statement, although it is considered to be too far away from the existing SPS and at a higher elevation to support the opportunity to relocate the SPS.	No
3. Mountain Road Central (edge of closed landfill property between Woodfield and Olden)	500 metres	Niagara Region	Higher elevation than the existing SPS	This option addresses the problem statement and is considered an acceptable location for a new SPS.	Yes
4. Mountain Road at Olden (edge of landfill property on Mountain Road near a traffic circle)	200 metres	Niagara Region	Higher elevation than the existing SPS	This option addresses the problem statement; however, traffic concerns (busy intersection/traffic circle) exist and it is located at a higher elevation, so this is not considered an acceptable location for a new SPS.	No
5. Mountain Road near QEW (private land on the corner of Mewburn Road and Mountain Road on Highway QEW side)	400 metres	Private	Similar elevation to the existing SPS	This option addresses the problem statement; however, there are traffic concerns near Mountain Road and traffic circle.	No
6. Mewburn Road near QEW	275 metres	Private	Lower elevation than the existing SPS	This option addresses the problem statement and is considered an acceptable location for a new SPS.	Yes
7. Mountain Road closed landfill entrance (at the corner of Mewburn)	320 metres	Niagara Region	Lower elevation than the existing SPS	This option addresses the problem statement and is considered an acceptable location for a new SPS.	Yes
8. Mountain Road closed landfill interior (remote from Mewburn)	400 metres	Niagara Region	Lower elevation than the existing SPS	This option addresses the problem statement; however, it is not considered to benefit or provide more opportunity than Site 7.	No

3.2.1 Summary

Location 1 is adjacent to the existing SPS, but it is private land that was recently sold, and it is assumed for redevelopment, as the previous structures have already been removed. Location 2 was farthest from the existing SPS without substantial added benefits and is greater than 5 metres higher in elevation. Locations 4 and 5 are located on Mountain Road near the Mewburn Road traffic circle. These locations are deemed not suitable because of the busy traffic and reduced accessibility for the new SPS's maintenance. Location 5 is also at a greater elevation. Location 8 is located farther north of Location 7 and the existing SPS and on the same Niagara Region-owned property with no additional advantages; therefore, these locations were not included in the alternative solutions short list. Location 3 is located on the path from the existing SPS to the discharge point and, although at a higher elevation than the existing SPS, it is on Region-owned land and located away from the busy traffic circle. Both Locations 6 and 7 are located at lower elevations than the existing SPS but are farther from the path of the existing SPS and discharge point, and in a more remote location. Location 6 is on private land; however, this land is undeveloped with no current planning identified and is closer to the existing SPS.

Based on the screening considerations (that is, proximity to site, elevation, and land ownership), three sites (Location 3, Location 6 and Location 7; Figure 3-2) were short-listed for further, detailed evaluation.



Figure 3-2. Short-Listed Locations

Aerial image © 2019 Google. Annotation © Jacobs 2020

3.2.2 Detailed Evaluation of Alternative Solutions

The detailed evaluation of the three locations follows the standard EA approach through the development of a comprehensive set of evaluation criteria. Evaluation criteria are grouped into four main objective categories:

- Technical Environment
- Natural Environment
- Social/Cultural Environment
- Economic Environment

The purpose of this evaluation is to rank the alternatives and identify a preferred alternative that best satisfies the EA objectives.

Proposed criteria have been developed under each of the four main objective categories, and a proposed performance scale has been developed that will provide an assigned level of strength for each alternative under each criterion. The scale assigns a “10” for the highest level of performance, a “5” for a median level of performance, and a “0” for no recognized level of performance. This style of performance scale highlights the differences and similarities between alternatives. Table 3-2 includes a description of each criterion and performance scale measure.

Table 3-2. Criterion Description and Performance Scale Measure

Objective Category	Criterion	Description	Performance Scale Measure		
			10	5	0
Technical	Public Health and Safety	The potential risk/liability or benefit to community health and safety.	Very reliable and effective, and will result in very little potential risk to community health and safety compared with other strategies.	Moderately reliable and effective; potential risks to community health and safety are moderate compared with other strategies.	Not very reliable and effective (without substantial mitigation); potential risks to community health and safety are high compared with other strategies.
	Operations Health and Safety	The potential risk/liability or benefit to occupational health and safety.	Very reliable and effective, and will result in very little potential risk to operator health and safety compared with other strategies.	Moderately reliable and effective, potential risks to operator health and safety are moderate compared with other strategies.	Not very reliable and effective (without substantial mitigation); potential risks to operator health and safety are high compared with other strategies.
	Integration into Current System	The ease with which a location allows for the new SPS to be connected to the existed sanitary system and discharged through the forcemain.	Very easy to connect to the existing sanitary system.	Somewhat easy to connect to the existing sanitary system.	Presents many difficulties for connection to the existing sanitary system.
	Flexibility	The flexibility of each location for expanding SPS capacity and connecting to expected future development.	Capacity can easily be expanded in the future onsite and can be easily connected to future expected developments.	Somewhat flexible to meet long-term expanded capacity and future connection needs.	Not very flexible; difficult to meet expanded capacity and future connection needs in the long term.
	Sustainability	The ability for the alternative to balance economic, environmental, and social considerations.	Best balance between economic, environmental, and social considerations compared with other alternatives.	Moderate balance between economic, environmental, and social considerations compared to other alternatives.	Poor balance between economic, environmental, and social considerations compared to other alternatives.
	Energy Efficiency	Relative energy usage of the SPS at each location, dependent on pumping requirements and odour control.	Low energy usage relative to the other locations.	Moderate energy usage relative to the other locations.	High energy usage relative to the other locations.
	Ability to Handle Landfill Leachate	Ability to combine with Mountain Leachate pumping station as a single pumping station.	Location allows for easy combination with Mountain Leachate pumping station.	Somewhat easy to combine with the Mountain Leachate pumping station.	Difficult to combine with the Mountain Leachate pumping station.
Social & Cultural	Odour Impact	The potential impact of odour emissions on the surrounding public/users from the SPS at each location.	Little to no potential to produce odour that will affect the surrounding public/users.	Moderate potential to produce odour that will affect the surrounding public/users.	High potential to produce odour; substantial mitigation needed to control.
	Public Acceptability	The acceptability of the overall strategy by the public/users.	Deemed most acceptable to public/user because it has least negative impacts.	Deemed somewhat acceptable.	Not deemed acceptable to the public/users.
	Noise Impact	The potential effect the alternative may have on noise production either during construction or operation.	Little or no potential to produce impactful noise.	Moderate potential to produce impactful noise.	High potential to produce impactful noise; mitigation required.
	Impact on Surrounding Land Uses	The potential effect the alternative may have on the character of the area.	Potential to enhance the visual character of the area.	Maintains the visual character of the area; some changes in aesthetics occur.	Detriment to the visual character of the area; substantial changes to aesthetics.
	Ease of Land Acquisition	The difficulty of satisfying the regulatory/legal requirements associated with land acquisition for each location.	Relatively easy to satisfy land acquisition requirements.	Moderately easy to satisfy land acquisition requirements.	Difficult to satisfy land acquisition requirements.
Environmental	Terrestrial Systems	The potential effect that constructing the SPS on each site may have on terrestrial habitats or systems, including possible impacts on wildlife (including mammals, reptiles, birds) and terrestrial features/functions.	Minimal potential to negatively affect terrestrial systems and habitats.	Moderate potential for negative impacts on terrestrial systems and habitats. Measures are available to mitigate impacts.	High potential for negative impacts on terrestrial systems and habitats.
	Water Quality and Aquatic Systems	The potential of constructing the SPS on each site to adversely affect surrounding aquatic systems, stormwater, and water quality.	Minimal potential to adversely affect surrounding aquatic systems, stormwater, and water quality.	Moderate potential to adversely affect surrounding aquatic systems, stormwater, and water quality.	High potential to adversely affect surrounding aquatic systems, stormwater, and water quality.
	Groundwater	The potential effect that constructing the SPS at each location may have on groundwater resources.	No or minimal impact on groundwater resources.	Moderate impact on groundwater resources	High impacts on groundwater resources; substantial mitigation needed to control.
Economic	Capital Cost	Estimated costs for capital works (including upfront capital investments).	Low capital costs compared with other alternatives.	Moderate capital costs compared with other alternatives.	High capital costs compared with other alternatives.
	Land Acquisition Costs	Estimated costs of any required land acquisition for alternative locations.	Low land acquisition costs compared with other alternatives.	Moderate land acquisition costs compared with other alternatives.	High land acquisition costs compared with other alternatives.
	Operation and Maintenance Cost	Estimated operating costs for staff resources, energy needs, and ongoing routine operation and maintenance activities.	Low operating costs compared with other alternatives.	Moderate operating costs compared with other alternatives.	High operating costs compared with other alternatives.
	Lifecycle Costs	Total annual capital and operating/maintenance costs amortized over 50 years: Estimated costs for capital works (including upfront capital investments) Estimated operating costs for staff resources, energy needs, and ongoing routine operation and maintenance activities	Low lifecycle costs compared with other alternatives.	Moderate lifecycle costs compared with other alternatives.	High lifecycle costs compared with other alternatives.

A sensitivity analysis was performed to evaluate the effects of different weighting factors (that is, not every category is weighted equally) on the alternatives ranking. Each consideration received a 1-5 weighting relative to its importance to this study (1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest), developed in consultation with Region staff. A high score indicates good performance, and a low score indicates poor performance.

Table 3-3 summarizes the weighting criteria and scoring established for this study.

Table 3-3. Summary of Weighting Criteria and Score

Objective Category	Consideration(s)	Weight	Score	Weighted Score
Technical	• Operational health and safety	2	7	14
	• Constructability	4	5	20
	• Integration into the current system	4	10	40
	• Flexibility	4	7	28
	• Energy efficiency	3	5	15
Social/Cultural	• Odour control	4	5	20
	• Public health and safety	2	7	14
	• Public acceptability	2	7	14
	• Noise impact	2	7	14
	• Impact on surrounding land uses	2	5	10
	• Ease of land acquisition	3	2	6
Economic	• Capital cost	5	7	35
	• Cost of land acquisition	3	8	24
	• Operations and maintenance costs	5	5	25
	• Lifecycle costs	5	6	30
Natural Environment	• Terrestrial systems	2	5	10
	• Water quality and aquatic systems	1	3	3
	• Groundwater	2	5	10

Based on the weighting criteria and scoring established for the Project, the objective categories were assigned the following percentages to be used in the evaluation scoring:

- Technical: 31 percent
- Social/Cultural: 27 percent
- Economic: 33 percent
- Natural Environment: 9 percent

3.3 Short-Listed Evaluation Scoring

Per the MEA guidance (MEA 2015), the systematic evaluation of alternatives is based on consultation with review agencies and the public to confirm that relevant Project-specific or technical information gained during the planning process will assist the proponent in arriving at the best decision. To date, consultation and engagement efforts have not indicated issues or concerns with a weighted criteria rating relative to their importance to this Project (Appendix A).

Location 3, Location 6, and Location 7 (Table 3-4) have been evaluated based on environmental, social and cultural, technical, and economic considerations.

Table 3-4. Short-Listed Evaluation Scoring

Category	Location 3	Location 6	Location 7
Technical	25	75	50
Social	50	50	100
Environmental	50	50	75
Economic	100	50	50

Figure 3-3 provides the category, description, and associated scoring of each short-listed alternative to determine the preferred location for the new SPS. Scoring is illustrated by the least favourable (that is, quarter circle) to most favourable (that is, full circle) for each location.

Short-Listed Evaluation Scoring

Legend:  Least Favourable  Somewhat Favourable  Favourable  Most Favourable

Category	Location 3		Location 6		Preferred Location Location 7	
	Description	Score	Description	Score	Description	Score
Technical	- Access and lay down area difficult or limited - Higher elevation		- Access and less busy road - Lower elevation		- Access and less busy road - Lower elevation	
Social	- Close to existing residences - Busy road		- Remote to existing residences - Private land		- Remote to existing residences - Regional property	
Environmental	- Some vegetation could be impacted - Developed area		- Undeveloped area - Open field with potential wetlands north of location		Undeveloped but already impacted site	
Economic	- Deep wet well, shortest forcemain - Lowest capital cost		- Longer forcemain - Land acquisition required		- Longest forcemain - Higher capital cost	

Figure 3-3. Short-Listed Evaluation Scoring

3.4 Description of Preferred Solution

From the scores presented in Section 3.3, it was determined that building a new SPS at Location 7 (closed landfill entrance at the corner of Mewburn Road) is the preferred solution, addressing the required upgrades and including the opportunity to relocate the SPS to a more preferred location.

Location 7 is on Mewburn Road at the closed Mountain Road Landfill entrance, approximately 320 metres north of the existing SPS, on Niagara Region-owned land. The elevation is lower than the existing SPS, allowing for gravity flow to the new location, and requiring a wet well of a similar or lesser depth. To connect the new SPS to the sanitary sewer system, a new forcemain will be installed along Mewburn Road. This forcemain will connect to the existing forcemain at Mountain Road. The current site is disturbed with roads and existing infrastructure, including leachate collection and pumping stations. The proposed new SPS infrastructure will follow or be in the vicinity of existing services (that is, the leachate forcemain). Additional infrastructure includes a submersible pumping station with buried sewer and forcemain.

Figure 3-4 shows the preferred location and connection to existing services.

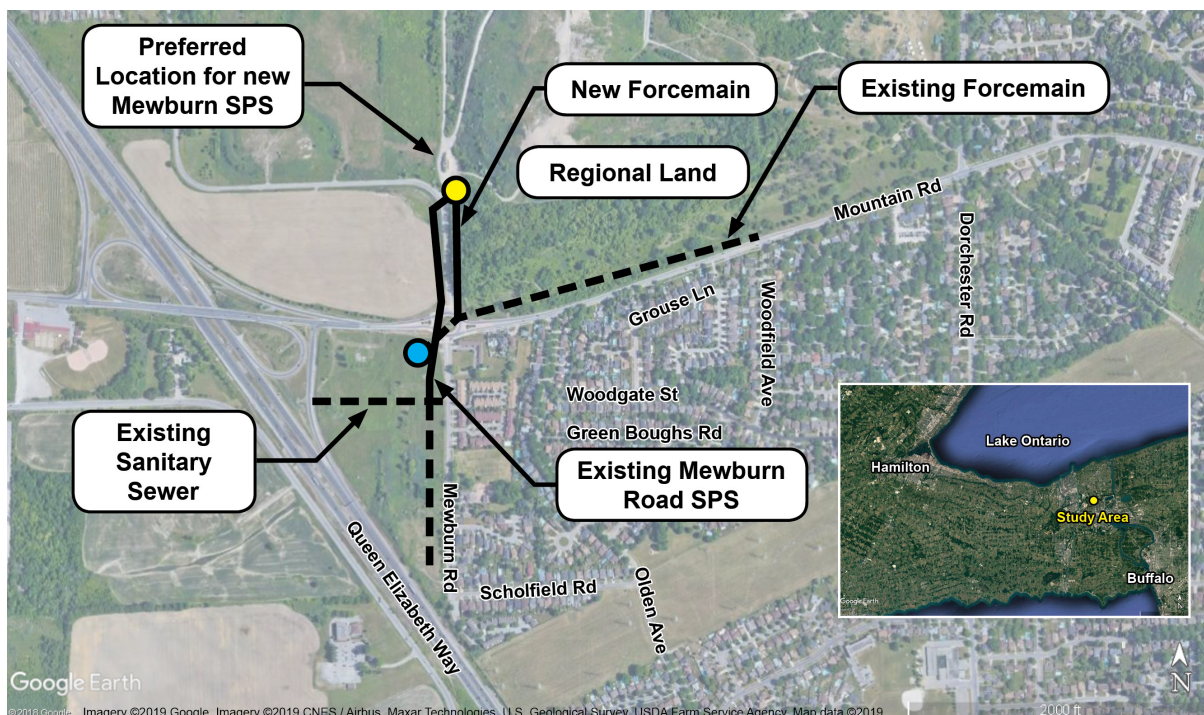


Figure 3-4. Preferred Location

Aerial image © 2019 Google. Annotation © Jacobs 2020

Since there are no expected capacity-related issues at the existing SPS through the duration of Niagara Region's planning period (2041), it is expected that the new SPS will be constructed with similar design characteristics. These will be further defined during the Project's conceptual design phase. The existing capacity is more than sufficient for the projected flows in the Study Area (Niagara Region 2017).

3.4.1 Geotechnical, Hydrogeological and Archaeological Resources

The preferred location is a developed industrial area that has been previously disturbed hosting a landfill and is adjacent to an existing maintenance building and the entrance to the closed landfill site. The Region had previously conducted a geotechnical investigation and geo-environmental screening program within the Study Area, which indicated that the subsurface stratigraphy typically consisted of sand, silt, till

mantling, and limestone bedrock. A monitoring well close to the preferred location has low metal and volatile organic concentrations, and gas monitoring indicates trace to no methane (that is, monitored since on the edge of the landfill).

Under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, there is potential for the City to designate surrounding properties to be of cultural heritage value or interest. At this time, based on past studies and available information, there were no listed properties of cultural heritage value. Further, with the previous works and area disturbances, the potential for archaeological or cultural resources in the Study Area is low.

3.4.2 Current Land Use and Vegetation

The preferred location (that is, Location 7) encounters scrub and brush vegetation, some trees, and a gravel road surrounded by woodlands and a cultural meadow featuring grasses and shrubs. Location 7 is remote to the existing residences, with the closest residential receptor located approximately 400 metres south. There will be limited noise and odour impact on residences because of the remote location. Detailed design will also include noise- and odour-reducing measures.

Vegetation at Location 7 is previously disturbed. Construction of the new SPS may create some sensory disturbance but will be limited to the duration of construction. Figure 3-5 provides photos near the preferred location for the new SPS.



Figure 3-5. Existing Exterior Conditions

There are no inland lakes and rivers running through Location 7, and the closest body of water is located approximately 600 metres north of the selected site. Location 7 is located on a Highly Vulnerable Aquifer with a rating vulnerability score of 6; however, it is not located on an area of Groundwater Recharge Vulnerability (NPCA 2009). Projects located within a vulnerable area may pose a risk to drinking water and may be subject to policies in a source protection plan. Under the *Clean Water Act*, vulnerable areas have been identified for existing and planned municipal residential drinking water systems located in a source protection area. Location 7 is located in the NPSPA. Niagara's Source Protection Plan policies address potential threats to the municipal drinking water sources through defined IPZs (NPCA 2014). Location 7 is not located within an IPZ. The Mountain Road Landfill has been closed since 2000, and there is an existing leachate pumping system currently in place.

Location 7 is located within the Escarpment Rural Area of the Niagara Escarpment Plan. Escarpment rural areas help maintain the area's rural, scenic landscape characteristics. The Niagara Escarpment Plan (MNR 2017) generally encourages agricultural and forestry use in this area, viewing it as a buffer area to the more environmentally sensitive areas of the Niagara Escarpment. Wastewater infrastructure is limited within the Escarpment Rural Area unless such servicing is required to address existing, failed services. Areas of existing development within an approved service area boundary may be connected to existing system (Government of Ontario 2017). The existing Mewburn Road SPS is an existing service

and needs to be relocated, and the preferred location is at the edge of the Rural Area in a previously disturbed area with existing infrastructure. The proposed development does not include the creation of a new lot, residential or institutional development, and will not interfere with the existing use of the site (that is, closed landfill site). There are no steep slopes, ravines, water resources, mineral aggregate resources, agricultural land uses or scenic resources associated with the preferred location.

A review of the development criteria outlined in the Niagara Escarpment Plan and consultation with the Niagara Escarpment Commission determined that the preferred solution design should follow and meet the key infrastructure development criteria outlined in Section 2.12 of the Niagara Escarpment Plan (MNRF 2017). With the implementation of the following siting and design considerations that are applicable to the preferred solution, it is anticipated that the overall objective of Part 2.12 of the Niagara Escarpment Plan (MNRF 2017) will be achieved.

- No blasting is required during construction.
- Minimal grading and removal of previously disturbed grasses and shrubs will be required.
- Green infrastructure is to be considered during the conceptual detailed design phase.
- Low impact development techniques will be implemented during construction.
- Recreation uses surrounding the selected location will not be affected. The preferred location is 700 metres north of the Bruce Trail and does not encounter known side trails in the area. It is anticipated that the preferred location will avoid impacts on parks, open space, and the Bruce Trail. The separate entrance before the landfill gate will avoid future public access to trails through new SPS, although trails will remain accessible from current locations.

Visual impacts from the preferred solution will be considered during the conceptual detailed design phase and will be mitigated through siting, structural design, colouration, and landscape planting or vegetation screening (see Section 3.8).

3.5 Conceptual Design of Recommended Solution

A separate conceptual design report has been prepared to detail the proposed Mewburn Road SPS and the connections to, and discharge from, the new SPS to the existing inlet sewer and discharges. The gravity influent sewer will be extended approximately 350 metres north to the new SPS, and the new SPS will discharge approximately an additional 250 metres to the existing forcemain. The existing forcemain may be reused (to be confirmed after condition assessment), or a new forcemain will be constructed along Mountain Drive to the discharge maintenance hole at Woodfield Avenue. The current conceptual cost estimate (preconceptual design report) is \$3,328,000 with contingency and HST.

3.6 Implementation Plan

The new Mewburn SPS is located on currently owned and used Regional property. Construction of the new SPS should not impact neighbours (remote) or traffic. Connecting the new SPS to the existing gravity sewer and discharge location will require some impacts to traffic near the existing traffic circle (at Mountain and Mewburn). The existing Mewburn Road SPS will remain in operation until the new SPS is constricted and tested, and the gravity sewer extension and forcemain connections are in place and ready for final connections. Once the new SPS is operational, the existing Mewburn Road SPS will be decommissioned and removed and the area rehabilitated to open field.

Since the upgrade is not required for capacity, its completion date could be delayed, but assuming a winter 2020 start, the detailed design is expected to require 6 months, and construction (new SPS and sewer extension and forcemain) is expected to require 12 months (includes 2 months for tendering and 10 months for construction). Therefore, the new Mewburn SPS would be operational in June 2022. The existing Mewburn Road SPS can then be decommissioned and removed and the site rehabilitated to open field over a 12- to 14-month period, being complete by August 2023.

Construction for the new SPS and sewers and forcemains is anticipated to start in June 2021. For a 1-month period in the summer of 2021, directional drilling to facilitate the gravity sewer extension under the existing traffic circle would require lane reductions on Mewburn Road south of the circle and north.

Directional drilling is proposed to avoid disruption to the traffic circle (busy intersection) and rehabilitation work for the newer intersection (the traffic circle). Gravity sewer and forcemain installation along Mewburn Road north of the traffic circle will have a minor impact on traffic, because it will be off the road surface. If the forcemain is reused along Mountain Drive, there will be no impact on traffic or surrounding residences. If the forcemain is replaced, there will be some traffic disruptions and additional construction along this section during the summer and fall of 2021. Generally, construction will be concentrated at the traffic circle and north on Mewburn Road (north of the traffic circle) to the new SPS location (approximately 300 metres north of the traffic circle).

Construction work is anticipated to include, but is not limited to, the following mitigation measures:

- Construction activities will include proper dewatering (for example, pump, well point) of the construction footprint, as required, to reduce impacts to water quality. Dewatering activities will be suspended if signs of erosion, flooding, or sediment loading occur.
- There are no residents located within the immediate vicinity of Location 7. Construction activities may create nuisance noise for land users or area residents; however, construction activities will adhere to City of Niagara Falls Noise Control Bylaw No. 2004-105 and will be scheduled to occur during normal working hours. No specific permissible sound levels are set in the bylaw; however, the bylaw has general prohibitions that “the operation of any construction equipment in connection with construction” cannot occur between 7:00 p.m. one day to 7:00 a.m. the next day, 9:00 a.m. on Saturdays, Sundays and statutory holidays City of Niagara Falls 2004).
- Property access issues will be negligible considering construction activities will be conducted on Niagara Region-owned land. Construction activities may create a temporary increase in traffic along Mountain Road or Mewburn Road because of worker and supply transport. Construction methods to reduce traffic during forcemain installation (for example, a horizontal directional drill) will be evaluated. Traffic management measures may include using multi-passenger vehicles to and from the construction footprint and posting signs stating speed limits along the gravel road.
- Equipment and vehicle travel along gravel roads may create dust if construction activities are conducted under dry conditions. The construction workforce will adhere to local speed limits, and dust suppression measures (for example, watering down the road) will be implemented, as warranted.
- Construction activities may create sensory disturbance (noise, vibrations) for wildlife present within the surrounding woodlands and cultural meadow. In the event construction activities are scheduled to occur within the migratory bird nesting window (May 7 to July 19), an area search conducted by a qualified biologist at least 7 days prior to construction is recommended.
- Previously disturbed vegetation and gravelled areas may contain weeds. Construction activities will be conducted in a manner that does not introduce or spread weeds to adjacent lands (for example, confirming equipment is clean and confining construction equipment to the approved footprint).

3.7 Future Work and Follow-up Commitment

Future work and follow-up commitments will be finalized during the Project’s conceptual design phase and are anticipated to include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Development projects require an archaeological assessment under the EA Act. With the identification of Location 7 as the preferred solution, a Stage 1 background study and property inspection will be conducted by a consultant archaeologist.
- Detailed design will include engineering principles that reduce environmental stressors and consider changing climate trends for public safety and efficiency during the Project’s operational phase, such as the following:
 - Consider energy conservation and efficiency to reduce the Project’s greenhouse gas emissions and contribution to climate change

- Design Project components according to applicable codes and standards, and to withstand extreme weather events (for example, floods, high winds, heavy or persistent precipitation, extreme temperatures)
- Consider using green infrastructure (for example, permeable surfaces), where feasible
- Detailed design will follow the development criteria outlined in the Niagara Escarpment Plan (MNRF 2017) that will include the following:
 - Maximize energy efficiency and conservation
 - Mitigate effects to vegetation, reduce, or eliminate tree removal
 - Maximize opportunities to use renewable energy systems and alternative energy systems
 - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions during construction and ongoing operations
 - Minimize negative impacts on the environment through site infrastructure
 - Minimize visual impacts from the preferred solution by siting, structural design, colouration or landscape planting or vegetation screening
 - Use an approved native seed mix to revegetate disturbed portions of the construction footprint

3.8 Applicable Permits

Permits that may be applicable to the Project are anticipated to include the following:

- Archaeological clearance from the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries
- Permit to Take Water from the MECP or registration with the Environmental Activity Sector Registry
- ECA for activities involving air emissions, noise or sewage works from MECP
- Municipal Noise Bylaw exemption, as needed
- Niagara Escarpment Commission Development Permit (90 percent design phase)

4. Public Consultation

Effective public consultation programs build and maintain community trust and credibility to improve decision making and identify community issues far enough in advance that they can be effectively addressed before final decisions are made.

Niagara Region is committed to undertaking public consultation that provides a variety of opportunities for learning and sharing. As such, Niagara Region has committed to a program that meets the requirements of Schedule B Class EAs. Through the public consultation program, the proponent will conduct a consultation process that meets the following requirements:

- Is meaningful to those involved
- Facilitates open and transparent dialogue resulting in defensible and traceable decision making
- Provides opportunities for early public and stakeholder involvement
- Helps promote public learning regarding wastewater treatment and the environment

The objective of the public consultation component is to provide information in support of the Niagara Mewburn SPS Upgrade Class EA and to provide the public and agencies (stakeholders) the opportunity to be involved in the Project in a meaningful way. The Consultation Plan has the following objectives:

- Inform stakeholders
- Continue to be good neighbours to those surrounding the SPS
- Consider stakeholder input in the selection and development of the preferred design concepts
- Consider stakeholder input in the development of environmental mitigation strategies
- Earn support for the Project

There is one optional and one mandatory point of contact for a Schedule B project. The optional point of contact with the public and review agencies occurred towards the end of Phase 1 in the form of a Notice of Commencement for the Project. The mandatory point of contact involved an invitation to a Public Information Centre (PIC) for the public to review Project information and provide comments and input. To complete the Schedule B process, a Notice of Completion will be submitted to review agencies and the public for at least 30 calendar days.

4.1 Project Mailing List

The Project-specific mailing list (Appendix A) was initiated based on the guidelines provided in Appendix 3-1 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment manual (MEA 2015) and produced using the Environmental Assessment Government Review Team Master Distribution List (MECP 2018). PIC attendees were encouraged to join the Project-specific mailing list.

4.2 Notice of Commencement

The Project-specific Notice of Commencement was distributed in July 2019, notifying stakeholders of Project initiation and the upcoming PIC (Appendix A). The Notice of Commencement is intended to accomplish the following:

- Provide a clear purpose for the study
- Notify the public that the Project is being initiated and that there will be opportunities for involvement
- Invite the public to join the mailing list
- Provide contact information, including website address and Project team member contact information

4.3 Engagement with Indigenous Communities

The consultation process for consulting Indigenous communities adhered to the guidelines set forth by the Ministry of Indigenous Affairs and involved notifying communities through their elected leadership and providing information on the proposed Project, PIC, and other Project documentation as requested

(MIA 2020). Potentially affected or interested Indigenous communities and organizations were identified based on past Project experience, existing relationships with Niagara Region, and consultation with MECP, and include the following:

- Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians
- Chiefs of Ontario
- Haudenosaunee
- Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council
- Métis Nation of Ontario
- Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation
- Niagara Region Métis Council
- Ontario Native Affairs Secretariat
- Six Nations of The Grand River Territory

Indigenous communities were sent the same Notice of Commencement, invitation to the PIC and Notice of Commencement (Appendix A).

Ongoing consultation and engagement with Indigenous communities has continued through the Project life. To date, the Project Team has not been made aware of outstanding issues or concerns specific to the proposed study, identified alternatives, or the EA process.

4.4 Public Information Centre – November 2019

There was one Project-specific PIC, providing the public and potentially affected Indigenous communities the opportunity to meet with the Project team. The PIC notice was distributed in November 2019 and advertised in the local *Niagara Falls Review* and *Niagara This Week* (Zone 2) newspapers and posted on the Niagara Region website from November 13 to 28, 2019. PIC attendees were encouraged to provide advice, feedback, and Study Area history, and raise Project-specific issues or concerns during the Class EA process. The PIC was presented at a drop-in venue with information relevant to each stage displayed for viewing to focus the attention of the attendees on the major issues requiring input from the public. Key Project staff from Niagara Region and Jacobs were present to discuss the material, answer questions, and gather information from the public.

The PIC was held on November 28, 2019, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Gale Centre Arena located in Niagara Falls, Ontario. A total of six attendees signed in, and one submitted a completed Comment Sheet (Appendix A).

4.5 Agency Consultation

Early contact with the MECP is an integral step to Project success. The Project team contacted the MECP on May 30, 2019, to provide a Project Information Form and a Notice of Commencement of a Schedule B study in accordance with the MEA Class EA to determine whether repair, replacement, or relocation of this pumping station should be undertaken by Niagara Region. The MECP responded with an acknowledgement of Aboriginal communities that Niagara Region would be required to include in consultation.

Additionally, Jacobs contacted Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) on April 15, 2020, to confirm whether there were issues or concerns with the location of the preferred alternatives. NEC stated that infrastructure is a permitted use within the Area of Development Control where the preferred solution is proposed and indicated that a Development Permit will be required at the 90 percent design phase. Jacobs submitted the draft Project File to NEC on April 20, 2020, and received feedback on May 4, 2020. NEC feedback has been incorporated into the preferred solution description of the preferred solution (Section 3.5.2).

Agency consultation records are included in Appendix A of this Project File.

4.6 Notice of Completion

The Project-specific Notice of Completion was distributed on May 30, 2020, notifying stakeholders of Project completion (Appendix A). Because of ongoing public health concerns and associated office closures, the Notice of Completion was e-mailed to stakeholders who provided an email address to reduce the amount of paper to be mailed. Follow-up phone calls were placed. The Notice of Completion serves as the final point of public contact, and is intended to do the following:

- Notify the public that the study has been completed
- Invite the public to review the Project File posted to the Region's website
- Outline the Part II Order request process

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Appendix A

Public Consultation Record

Stakeholder Register

Project Name: Mewburn Road SPS Upgrade Class EA

Project Manager: Albert Succì

Project Number: 20000692

Project Sponsor: Lisa Vespi

Stakeholder Register												
Stakeholder ID	Stakeholder Name	Organization	Category (e.g. Utilities, Provincial, Ministry)	Internal / External	Title / Role	Address Line 1	Address Line 2	City / Province	Postal Code	Contact Email	Notice of Commencement	Notice of PIC
1	Mr. Ed Lucchetta	Niagara Home Builders Association	Association	External	President	34 Scott Street		St. Catharines	L2R1C9	info@niagarahomebuilders.ca	Mailed	Mailed
2	Mr. W. George Bench	Niagara Regional Police - Executive Services	Region	External	Superintendent	68 Church Street, Executive Services		St. Catharines	L2R 3C6	george.bench@niagararegion.ca	Mailed	Mailed
3	Ms. Sue Mabee	District School Board of Niagara	Education	External	Supervisor of Planning	191 Carlton Street		St. Catharines	L2R 7P4	sue.mabee@dsbn.org	Mailed	Mailed
4	Mr. John Crocco	Niagara Catholic District School Board	Education	External	Director	427 Rice Road		Welland	L3C 7C1	john.crocco@ncdsb.com	Mailed	Mailed
5	M. Jason Rodrigue	Conseil Scolaire Viamonde	School Boards	External	Surintendante des affaires	Secteur des affaires	1 Promenade Vanier	Welland, ON	L3B 1A1	rodriguej@cs.viamonde.ca	Mailed	Mailed
6	Mme. Mikale-Andree Joly	Conseil Scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud	Education	External	Directrice du Service des relations corporative	110, avenue Drewry		Toronto	M2M 1C8	mjoly@csdcscs.edu.on.ca	Mailed	Mailed
7												
8	Dr. Dan Patterson	Niagara College	Education	External	President	135 Taylor Road, S.S #4, Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus		Niagara-on-the-Lake	LOS 1J0	president@niagaracollege.ca	Mailed	Mailed
9	Ms. Caroline Bourque-Wiley	Niagara Health System- Communications	Health	External	Manager	1200 Fourth Avenue, NHS Corporate Office		St. Catharines	L2S 0A9	bourque-wiley@niagarahealth.on.ca	Mailed	Mailed
10	Mr. Dale Nicholson	Department of Fisheries and Oceans- Ecosystems Management	Federal	External	Regional Director	867 Lakeshore Road		Burlington	L2R 4A6	dale.nicholson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca	Mailed	Mailed
11	Ms. Kitty Ma	Health Canada	Federal	External	Regional Environmental Health Assessment Coordinator	180 Queen Street West		Toronto	M5V 3X3	kitty.ma@hc-sc.gc.ca	Mailed	Mailed
12	Ms. Colleen Fitzgerald-Hubbe	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs	Provincial	External	Director	Environmental Management Branch	1 Stone Road W, 3rd Floor S	Guelph, ON	N1G 4Y2	colleen.fitzgerald-hubbe@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
13	Ms. Kim Groombridge	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks- Niagara District Office	Ministry	External	Acting Manager	301 St. Paul Street, 9th floor, Suite 15		St. Catharines	L2R 3W8	kim.groombridge@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
14	Ms. Barbara Slattery	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks- Environmental Assessment	Ministry	External	EAP Planning Coordinator	119 King Street Westm 12th Floor		Hamilton	L8P 4Y7	barbara.slattery@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
15	Ms. Shannon Doyle	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada	Federal	External	Regional Manager	655 Bay St, Suite 700, 8th Floor		Toronto	M5G 2K4	shannon.doyle@canada.ca	Mailed	Mailed
16	Ms. Jennifer Block	Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade	Ministry	External	Assistant Deputy Minister	900 Bay Street, 5th floor		Toronto	M7A 1C2	jennifer.block@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
17	Ms. Dawn Palin Rokosh	Ministry of Infrastructure	Provincial	External	Director	Infrastructure Policy Division	900 Bay St., 8th Floor	Toronto, ON	M7A 2E1	dawn.palin.rokosh@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
18	Ms. Jennifer Hay	Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport	Ministry	External	Regional Advisor	301 St. Paul Street, 9th Floor		St. Catharines	L2R 7R4	jennifer.hay@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
19	Mr. Alex Earthy	Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing- Housing and Municipal Affairs	Ministry	External	Senior Advisor	777 Bay Street, 17th Floor		Toronto	M5G2E5	alex.earthy@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
20	Ms. Tammy Verhaeghe	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry- Guelph District	Ministry	External	District Manager	1 Stone Road W, Ontario Government Building		Guelph	N1G 4Y2	tammy.verhaeghe@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
21	Mr. Jonathan Boone	Ministry of Transportation	Ministry	External	Head- Construction and Engineering (Acting)	301 St. Paul Street, 2nd Floor		St. Catharines	L2R 7R4	jonathan.boone@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
22	Mr. Teepu Khawja	Ministry of Transportation	Provincial	External	Regional Director - Central Region	Central Region Office	159 Sir William Hearst Ave, Building D, 2nd Floor	Toronto, ON	M3M 1J8	teepu.khawja@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
23	Mr. Jason Ryan	Go Transit- Environmental Programs	Transportation	External	Manager	20 Bay Street		Toronto, ON	M5J 2W3	jason.ryan@go-transit.ca	Mailed	Mailed
24	Mr. David Ayotte	Niagara Escarpment Commission	Provincial	External	Director	232 Guelph Street, 3rd Floor		Georgetown	L7G 4B1	david.ayotte@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
25	Ms. Mary Silverthorn	Ontario Provincial Police	Provincial	External	Provincial Commander	777 Memorial Avenue	3rd floor	Orillia, ON	L3V 7V3	opp.communityrelations@opp.ca	Mailed	Mailed
26	Mr. Derrick Beach	Canadian Section, International Niagara Board of Control	Federal	External	Secretary	867 Lakeshore Road		Burlington, ON	L7S 1A1	derrick.beach@canada.ca	Mailed	Mailed
27	Mr. David Deluce	Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority	Conservation Authority	External	Manager, Plan Review & Regulations	250 Thorold Road West	3rd Floor	Welland, ON	L3C 3W2	ddeluce@npca.ca	Mailed	Mailed
28	Ms. Natalie Green	Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority- Niagara River RAP	Provincial	External	Project Manager, Niagara River Remedial Action Plan	250 Thorold Road West, 3rd Floor		Welland	L3C 3W2		Mailed	Mailed
29	Mr. Joshua Diamond	Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority	Conservation Authority	External	Water Quality Specialist	250 Thorold Road West	3rd Floor	Welland, ON	L3C 3W2	jdiamond@npca.ca	Mailed	Mailed
30	Ms. Josie Tomei	Canada Pacific Railway	Rail/Transit	External	Specialist Real Estate Sales and Acquisitions	1290 Central Parkway West	Suite 800	Mississauga, ON	L5C 4R3	josie_tomei@cpr.ca	Mailed	Mailed
31	Mr Michael Vallins	CN Rail	Rail/Transit	External	Manager, Public Works	1 Administration Avenue		Concord, ON	L4K 1B9	michael.vallins@cn.ca	Mailed	Mailed
32	Mr. Gordon Gretchen	TransCanada Pipelines	Rail/Transit	External	Community Relations Liaison	Canada Pipeline Operations	Eastern Region, 1020 Rymal Road	Hamilton, ON	L8W 3N7	gretchen_gordon@transcanada.com	Mailed	Mailed
33	Mr. Bill McKenzie	Bell Canada	Utilities	External	Niagara Implementation Manager	Access Network Provisioning	63 King Street, 2nd Floor, P.O. Box 190	St. Catharines, ON	L2R 3H6	william.mckenzie@bell.ca	Mailed	Mailed
34	Mr. Barry Hogan	Canadian Niagara Power Inc.	Utilities	External	Director of Operations	1130 Bertie Street	P.O. Box 1218	Fort Erie, ON	L2A 5S1	barry.hogan@cnpower.com	Mailed	Mailed
35	Ms. Ann Newman	Enbridge Pipelines Inc.	Utilities	External	Supervisor Right-of-Way Services	1086 Modeland Road	Building 1050, First Floor	Samia, ON	N7S 6L2	ann.newman@enbridge.com	Mailed	Mailed
36	Mr. Wilson Shanon	Niagara Peninsula Energy Inc.	Utilities	External	Engineering Supervisor	7447 Pin Oak Drive		Niagara Falls, ON	L2E 6S9	info@npel.ca	Mailed	Mailed
37		Hydro One Networks - Zone 2 Scheduling	Utilities	External			850 North Tower, 15th Floor	Toronto, ON	M5G 2P5		Mailed	Mailed
38	Mr. Erik Nickel	City of Niagara Falls- Municipal Works	City	External	Director	483 Bay Street		Niagara Falls	L3E 6X5	enickel@niagarafalls.ca	Mailed	Mailed
39	Mr. Alex Herlovich	City of Niagara Falls- Planning, Development & Building Services	City	External	Director	4310 Queen Street		Niagara Falls	L3E 6X5	herlovich@niagarafalls.ca	Mailed	Mailed
40	Mr. Bob Chambers	City of Niagara Falls- Transit Operations	City	External	Manager	8208 Heartland Forest Road, WEGO Facility		Niagara Falls	L2H 0L7	bchambers@niagarafalls.ca	Mailed	Mailed
41	Mr. Karl Dren	City of Niagara Falls- Services	City	External	Director	4320 Bridge Street		Niagara Falls	L2E 2R7	kdren@niagarafalls.ca	Mailed	Mailed
42	Ms. Catherine Habermehl	Niagara Region- Public Works	Region	Internal	Commissioner (Acting)					catherine.habermehl@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
43	Mr. Anthony Cimino	Niagara Region- Water and Wastewater Services	Region	Internal	Associate Director					tony.cimino@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
44	Mr. Craig Courteau	Niagara Region- Water and Wastewater Services	Region	Internal	Associate Director					craig.courteau@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
45	Mr. Joe Tonellato	Niagara Region- Water and Wastewater Engineering	Region	Internal	Director					joseph.tonellato@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
46	Ms. Carolyn Ryall	Niagara Region- Transportation Services	Region	Internal	Director					carolyn.ryall@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
47												
48	Ms. Siobhan Kearns	Niagara Region- Environmental Health	Region	Internal	Director					siobhan.kearns@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
49	Ms. Catherine Habermehl	Niagara Region- Waste Management Services	Region	Internal	Director					catherine.habermehl@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
50	Mr. Emil Pryor	Niagara Region- Waste Disposal Operations and Engineering	Region	Internal	Associate Director					emil.pryor@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
51	Ms. Allison Tydesley	Niagara Region- Wate Collection and Diversion	Region	Internal	Associate Director					allison.tydesley@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
60	Mr. Geoff Stonerfish	Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians	Aboriginal	External	Office Manager	387 Princess Avenue		London	N6B 2A7	geoff.stonerfish@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
52	RoseAnne Archibald	Chiefs of Ontario	Aboriginal	External	Ontario Regional Chief	468 Queen St E		Toronto	M5A 1T7		Mailed	Mailed
53	Mr. Allan MacNaughton	Haudenosaunee	Aboriginal	External	Chief	16 Sunrise Court, Suite 407, P.O. Box 714		Ohsweken	N0A 1M0	allen.macnaughton@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
55	Hohahes Leroy Hill	Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council	Aboriginal	External	Secretary	2634 6th Line Road, RR #2		Ohsweken	N0A 1M0	locko@sivnations.ca	Mailed	Mailed

Stakeholder Register

Project Name:	Mewburn Road SPS Upgrade Class EA
Project Manager:	Albert Succì

Project Number:	20000692
Project Sponsor:	Lisa Vespi

Stakeholder Register												
Stakeholder ID	Stakeholder Name	Organization	Category (e.g. Utilities, Provincial, Ministry)	Internal / External	Title / Role	Address Line 1	Address Line 2	City / Province	Postal Code	Contact Email	Notice of Commencement	Notice of PIC
53	Dr. Mark Knell	Metis Nation of Ontario - Environmental Assessments and Regulatory Issues	Aboriginal	External	Manager	311-75 Sherborne Street		Toronto	M5A 2P9	mark.knell@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
57	Ms. Fawn Sault	Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation	Aboriginal	External	Consultation Manager	4065 Highway 6		Hagersville, ON	N0A 1H0	fawn.sault@newcreditfirstnation.com	Mailed	Mailed
54	Mr. Derek Pont	Niagara Region Metis Council	Aboriginal	External	President	46 King Street, Suite 201-203		Welland	L3B 3H9	pontd@hotmai.com	Mailed	Mailed
58	Mr. Matt Garrow	Ontario Native Affairs Secretariat	Aboriginal	External	Director - Strategic Policy and Planning	160 Bloor St E, 4th Floor		Toronto	M5G 2K1	matt.garrow@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
59	Chief G. Ava Hill	Six Nations of The Grand River Territory	Aboriginal	External	Chief Ava Hill	2498 Chiefswood Road, P.O. Box 5000		Ohsweken	N0A 1M0	avahill@sixnations.ca	Mailed	Mailed
56	Mr. Lonny Bomberry	Six Nations of The Grand River Territory - Land and Resources	Aboriginal	External	Director Lonny Bomberry	1695 Chiefswood Road, P.O. Box 5000		Ohsweken	N0A 1M0	lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca	Mailed	Mailed
61	Mr. Sylvain Campbell	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks			Provincial Officer - Niagara District Office	Garden City Tower, 301 St. Paul St		St. Catharines	L2R 7R4	sylvain.campbell@ontario.ca	Mailed	Mailed
62	Ms. Monique Mousseau	Transport Canada, Environment and Engineering			Regional Manager	4900 Yonge Street Suite 300		Toronto	M2N 6A5	monique.mousseau@tc.gc.ca	Mailed	Mailed
63	Mr. Anjala Puvananathan	Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency	Federal		Regional Director	55 York St, 6th floor		Toronto	M5J 1R7	anjala.puvananathan@ceaa-acee.gc.ca	Mailed	Mailed
64	Mr. Shahab Shafiq	Niagara Region- Water and Wastewater Services	Region	Internal	Associate Director, Wastewater Operations					shahab.shafiq@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
65	Mr. Jason Oatley	Niagara Region- Water and Wastewater Services	Region	Internal	Manager, Quality & Compliance, Wastewater Operations					jason.oatley@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
66	Mr. Robert Daw	Niagara Region- Water and Wastewater Services	Region	Internal	Manager, Wastewater Operations					robert.daw@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
67	Mr. Doug Johnson	Niagara Region- Water and Wastewater Services	Region	Internal	Manager, Wastewater Operations					Doug.johnson@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
68	Mr. Kevin Smith	Niagara Emergency Medical Services	EMS and Health	External	Manager of Operations	509 Glendale Ave. East		Niagara-on-the-lake	L0S1J0		Mailed	Mailed
69	Mr. Denys Prevost	Niagara Region	EMS and Health	External	Fire Co-ordinator	2201 St. Davids Road	Po. Box 1042	Thorold	L2V4T7		Mailed	Mailed
70	Mr. Chuck McShane	Niagara Home Builders Association	Interest and Stakeholder Groups	External	Executive Officer	34 Scott Street		St. Catharines, ON	L2R1C9	chuck@nhba.ca	Mailed	Mailed
71	Clerk Ann-Marie Norio	Niagara Region	Regional Clerk	Internal	Regional Clerk					ann-marie.norio@niagararegion.ca	Internal	Internal
72	Clerk Bill Matson	City of Niagara Falls	Municipal Clerk	Internal (Local Municipalities)	Clerk, Niagara Falls					bmatson@niagarafalls.ca	Internal	Internal
73	Mr. Jim Boutilier	City of Niagara Falls	EMS and Health	External	Fire Chief	5809 Morrison Street		Niagara Falls	L2E 7H1	lisa.vespi@niagararegion.ca	Mailed	Mailed
74	Ms. Lisa Vespi	Niagara Region	Internal	Internal	Senior Project manager					lschachowskio@niagarafalls.ca	Internal	Internal
75	Mr. Kent Schachowskoy	City of Niagara Falls		Internal							Internal	Internal
76	Mr. Dino DiCenzo	Landowner		External		1251589 Ontario Limited C/O 5685 Falls Ave		Niagara Falls, On	L2E 6W7		Mailed	Mailed
77	Ms. Heather Rodgers	Landowner	Public	External		3-2720 Mewburn Road		Niagara Falls, ON	L2J 4J5	hrodgers3@coastco.ca	Mailed	Mailed
78	Kenneth and Anne Cruse	Landowner	Public	External		2-2684 Mewburn Road		Niagara Falls, ON	L2J 0A9	annecruse7@gmail.com	Mailed	Mailed

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT

Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station
in the City of Niagara Falls

Niagara Region (the Region) has initiated a Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the Mewburn Road Sewage Pumping Station (SPS), located at 2617 Mewburn Rd. in the City of Niagara Falls (the City). The station was built in 1988, and has had several repairs since that time.

Recent inspections of the pumping station show it is aging and in need of major repair or replacement to ensure it can continue to properly service the City. The current location of the pumping station is not owned by the Region; therefore, alternative locations for an upgraded pumping station are to be considered.



This study will define the current and future needs and potential locations for an upgraded Mewburn Road Pumping station. This study will complete a Schedule “B” Municipal Class EA and prepare the design for the upgrade of the Mewburn Road Pumping Station for the new pumping station which will meet the needs outlined in the Region’s Water and Wastewater Master Plan. The current capacity of the pumping station is expected to be adequate for 25 years or more, so the design will be focused on upgrades to the station. The study will follow the guidance outlined in the Municipal Class EA document (as amended in 2007, 2011, and 2015).

Public and agency consultation is a key component of the Class EA process, and we value your input during the planning process. The Region will be hosting a Public Information Centre (PIC) later this year to obtain input on the preliminary results of the study. Notification of the PIC will be advertised on Niagara Region’s website (niagararegion.ca) and in the local newspapers. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list to receive notices and information, or, if you wish to provide comments at any time during the Class EA process, you can do so by contacting:

Albert Succi

Project Manager
Niagara Region
3501 Schmon Pkwy., P.O. Box 1042
Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6
905-980-6000 ext. 3308
Toll-Free: 1-800-263-7215
albert.succi@niagararegion.ca

Mike Newbigging, P. Eng.

Project Manager
Jacobs Engineering Group
72 Victoria St. S, Suite 300
Kitchener, ON N2G 4Y9
519-514-1642
mike.newbigging@jacobs.com

Please note that comments will be maintained for reference throughout the project and will become part of the public record. Under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Environmental Assessment Act*, any personal information such as name, address, and telephone number included in a submission will become part of the public record unless the comments specifically request that such personal details not be included in the public record.

From: [Henderson, Emma/KWO](#)
To: [Henderson, Emma/KWO](#)
Subject: RE: IO EA Notice - Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station
Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 11:16:50 AM

From: Wu, Vanessa (IO) <Vanessa.Wu@infrastructureontario.ca>
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2019 11:41 AM
To: albert.succi@niagararegion.ca; Newbigging, Mike/KWO <Mike.Newbigging@jacobs.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] IO EA Notice - Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station

Good morning,

Thank you for sending us the Notice of Commencement for the Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station project in the City of Niagara Falls.

Our records indicate that there are no Ministry of Infrastructure property within your project's study area. Since we are not a directly affected or interested stakeholder, we would appreciate the removal of the following contact from your stakeholder list for this project:

Lisa Myslicki
1 Dundas Street West, Suite 2000
Toronto, ON M5G 2L5
lisa.myslicki@infrastructureontario.ca

Yours Sincerely,

Vanessa Wu
Environmental Management Co-op
Infrastructure Ontario
1 Dundas Street West, Suite 2000
Toronto, ON M5G 2L5
E-mail: vanessa.wu@infrastructureontario.ca
Phone: 647-264-4712

This email, including any attachments, is intended for the personal and confidential use of the recipient(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient of the email, you are hereby notified that any dissemination or copying of this email and/or any attachment files is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please immediately notify the sender and arrange for the return of any and all copies and the permanent deletion of this message including any attachments, without reading it or making a copy. Thank you.

Schwartz, Katie/SDO

From: Newbigging, Mike/KWO
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 1:26 PM
To: Philpott, Jared/KWO
Subject: FW: Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station

Hi Jared,

Please file with EA stuff – thanks Mike

From: Mott, Nancy (MNRF) <Nancy.Mott@ontario.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 4:24 PM
To: albert.succi@niagararegion.ca
Cc: Newbigging, Mike/KWO <Mike.Newbigging@jacobs.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station

Hello:

Thank you for providing the Notice of Study Commencement for this project. The NEC would like to be kept on the mailing list for this project. Although the subject lands are just outside our Development Control/NEP Area, we would like the opportunity to review the studies, particularly if alternative locations are being considered or new services could extend into the area of our jurisdiction.

Best regards,

Nancy

Nancy Mott, MCIP, RPP
Senior Strategic Advisor



Niagara Escarpment Commission
An agency of the Government of Ontario

232 Guelph Street | Georgetown, ON | L7G 4B1
Tel: 905-877-8363 | **Cell:** 289-839-0106
Website: www.escarpment.org

Please let me know if you require communication supports or alternate formats.

Glover, Shannon/SAC

From: Henderson, Emma/KWO
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 11:25 AM
To: Henderson, Emma/KWO
Subject: RE: MCFN Response to the Notice of Study Commencement Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station in the City of Niagara Falls

From: Fawn Sault <Fawn.Sault@mncfn.ca>
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2019 11:11 AM
To: Succi, Albert <Albert.Succi@niagararegion.ca>
Subject: MCFN Response to the Notice of Study Commencement Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station in the City of Niagara Falls

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Niagara Region email system. Use caution when clicking links or opening attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Albert,

Thank you for the notification sent to The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) regarding *the Notice of Study Commencement Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station in the City of Niagara Falls*. We have reviewed the document you have provided and determined that, at this time, MCFN has a **low level** of concern about the project. ***Please see the attached letter for more information.***

Respectfully, we ask that you immediately notify MCFN if there are any changes to the project as they may impact MCFN's interests. Additionally, MCFN requests a copy of all associated environmental and/or archaeological reports. These can be electronic copies, if you prefer. Furthermore, MCFN employs Field Liaison Representatives who **must** be on location whenever any fieldwork for environmental and/or archaeological assessments is undertaken. If additional work is scheduled, please notify us as soon as possible so that we may work together to discuss and arrange for MCFN's participation.

Sincerely,

Fawn D. Sault
Consultation Manager
Department of Consultation and Accommodation
Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
4065 Hwy 6 North
Hagersville, On.
N0A 1H0
Office - 905-768-4260
Cell – 289-527-6580
<http://www.mncfn.ca>
[Facebook: Mississauga of the Credit First Nation](#)

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**Department of
Consultation & Accommodation**

May 27, 2020

Albert Succi
Project Manager
Niagara Region
3501 Schmon Pkwy. P.O. Box 1042
Thorold, ON. L2V 4Y6
Albert.succi@niagararegion.ca

Dear Albert,

We are the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation (MNCFN), the descendants of the Mississaugas of the River Credit. Our traditional territory extends from the Rouge River Valley in the east, across to the headwaters of the Thames River, down to Long Point on Lake Erie, and back along the shores of Lake Erie, the Niagara River, and Lake Ontario to the Rouge River Valley. It encompasses present-day London, Hamilton, and Toronto, as well as our communal lands. Our traditional territory has defined and sustained us as a First Nation for countless generations, and must continue to do so for all our generations to come.

Thank you for your notification on *the Notice of Study Commencement Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station in the City of Niagara Falls* dated July 12, 2019. The Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation (MNCFN) has various treaty rights across its traditional territory, including the area contemplated by your project. For further information, please see our website, <http://www.newcreditfirstnation.com/>. MNCFN continues to exercise treaty rights which include, but are not limited to, rights to harvest, fish, trap and gather species of plants, animals and insects for any purpose including food, social, ceremonial, trade and exchange purposes. The MNCFN also has the right to use the water and resources from the rivers, creeks and lands across the MNCFN traditional territory.



Department of Consultation and Accommodation
Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation
4065 Hwy 6 North, Hagersville, Ontario N0A 1H0



Phone: (905) 768-4260



www.mncfn.ca

At this time, MNCFN *does not* have a high level of concern regarding the proposed project and therefore, by way of this letter, approves the continuation of this project. However, MNCFN requests that you continue to notify us about the status of the project. **In addition, we respectfully ask you to immediately notify us if there are any changes to the project as they may impact MNCFN's interests and that you please provide us with a copy of all associated environmental and archaeology reports.** This includes, but is not limited to changes related to the scope of work and expected archaeological and environmental impacts.

Additionally, MNCFN employs Field Liaison Representatives ("FLRs") to act as official representatives of the community and who are answerable to MNCFN Chief and Council through the Department of Consultation and Accommodation. The FLRs' mandate is to ensure that MNCFN's perspectives and priorities are considered in the field and to enable MNCFN to provide timely, relevant, and meaningful comment on the Project. Therefore, **it is MNCFN policy that FLRs are on location whenever any fieldwork for environmental and/or archaeological assessments are undertaken.** It is expected that the proponent will cover the costs of this FLR participation in the fieldwork. Please also provide the contact information of the person, or consultant, in charge of organizing this work so they may facilitate the participation of the MNCFN FLRs.

Nothing in this letter shall be construed as to affect the Aboriginal or Treaty rights and hence shall not limit any consultation and accommodation owed to MNCFN by the Crown or any proponent, as recognized by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

MNCFN reserves the right in relation to any development project or decision, to decide whether it supports a project and to: comment to regulators, participate in regulatory processes and hearings, seek intervener funding or status, or to challenge and seek remedies through the courts.

MNCFN expects all proponents to act according to the following best practices:

- Engage early in the planning process, before decisions are made
- Provide information in meaningful and understandable formats.
- Convey willingness to transparently describe the project and consider any MNCFN concerns.
- Recognize the significance of cultural activities and traditional practices of the MNCFN
- Demonstrate a respect for MNCFN knowledge and uses of land and resources.
- Understand the importance of youth and elders in First Nation communities.
- Act with honour, openness, transparency and respect.
- Be prepared to listen and allow time for meaningful discussion.





Sincerely,

Fawn D. Sault

Consultation Manager

MNCFN Department of Consultation and Accommodation

cc – Mark LaForme; Director, Department of Consultation and Accommodation



Department of Consultation and Accommodation

Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation
4065 Hwy 6 North, Hagersville, Ontario N0A 1H0



Phone: (905) 768-4260



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Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation
4065 Hwy 6 North, Hagersville, Ontario N0A 1H0



Phone: (905) 768-4260



www.mncfn.ca

Glover, Shannon/SAC

From: Henderson, Emma/KWO
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 11:29 AM
To: Henderson, Emma/KWO
Subject: RE: Mewburn Road Pumping Station

From: Slattery, Barbara (MECP) <barbara.slattery@ontario.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 3:11 PM
To: albert.succi@niagara.region.ca; Newbigging, Mike/KWO <Mike.Newbigging@jacobs.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mewburn Road Pumping Station

With best regards,

Barb Slattery, EA/Planning Coordinator
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
West Central Region
(905) 521-7864

Ministry of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks
Drinking Water and Environmental
Compliance Division
West Central Region

119 King Street West, 12th Floor
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4Y7
Tel.: 905 521-7640
Fax: 905 521-7820

Ministère de l'Environnement de la
Protection de la nature et des Parcs
Division de la conformité en matière
d'eau potable et d'environnement
Direction régionale du Centre-Ouest

119 rue King Ouest, 12^e étage
Hamilton (Ontario) L8P 4Y7
Tél.: 905 521-7640
Téléc.: 905 521-7820



June 4, 2019

Mr. Albert Succi
Region of Niagara

Mr. Mike Newbigging
Jacobs Engineering Group

Dear Messrs. Succi and Newbigging:

**Re: MEA Class EA – Schedule “B”
Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station
City of Niagara Falls
Response to Notice of Study Commencement**

Niagara Region This letter is in response to the Notice of Commencement for the above noted project. The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) acknowledges that Niagara Region has indicated that it has commenced a Schedule “B” study in accordance with the MEA Class EA to determine whether repair or replacement of this pumping station, or relocation to another spot should be undertaken by the Region.

The Crown has a legal duty to consult Aboriginal communities when it has knowledge, real or constructive, of the existence or potential existence of an Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that may adversely impact that right. Before authorizing this project, the Crown must ensure that its duty to consult has been fulfilled, where such a duty is triggered. Although the duty to consult with Aboriginal Peoples is a duty of the Crown, the Crown may delegate procedural aspects of this duty to project proponents while retaining oversight of the consultation process.

Your proposed project may have the potential to affect Aboriginal or treaty rights protected under Section 35 of Canada's *Constitution Act* 1982. Where the Crown's duty to consult is triggered in relation to your proposed project, **the MECP is delegating the procedural aspects of rights-based consultation to you through this letter.** The Crown intends to rely on the delegated consultation process in discharging its duty to consult and maintains the right to participate in the consultation process as it sees fit.

Based on information you have provided to date and the Crown's preliminary assessment you are required to consult with the following communities who have been identified as potentially affected by your proposed project:

COMMUNITY	CONTACT
Six Nations of the Grand River Territory 1695 Chiefswood Road P.O. Box 5000 Ohswéken, ON N0A 1M0	Chief Ava Hill Tel: (519)445-2201 or avahill@sixnations.ca Email: arleenma@sixnations.ca and Lonny Bomberly, Lands and Resources Director at lonnybomberly@sixnations.ca
Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council 2634 6 th Line Road R.R. #2 Ohswéken, ON N0A 1M0	Hohahes Leroy Hill, Secretary jocko@sixnations.ca
Mississaugas of the New Credit 2789 Mississauga Road RR #6 Hagersville, ON N0A 1H0	Fawn Sault Consultation Manager Email: Fawn.Sault@newcreditfirstnation.com

Steps that you may need to take in relation to Aboriginal consultation for your proposed project are outlined in the "Code of Practice for Consultation in Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process" which can be found at the following link:

<https://www.ontario.ca/document/consultation-ontarios-environmental-assessment-process>

Additional information related to Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act is available online at: www.ontario.ca/environmentalassessments

You must contact the Director of Environmental Approvals and Permissions Branch under the following circumstances subsequent to initial discussions with the communities identified by MECP:

- Aboriginal or treaty rights impacts are identified to you by the communities
- You have reason to believe that your proposed project may adversely affect an Aboriginal or treaty right
- Consultation has reached an impasse
- A Part II Order request or elevation request is expected

The Director of the Environmental Assessment and Permissions Branch can be notified either by email with the subject line “Potential Duty to Consult” by mail, email or fax at the addresses provided below:

Email:	enviropemissions@ontario.ca Subject: Potential Duty to Consult
Fax:	416-314-8452
Address:	Environmental Approvals and Permissions Branch 135 St. Clair Avenue West, 1 st Floor Toronto, ON, M4V 1P5

The MECP will then assess the extent of any Crown duty to consult for the circumstances and will consider whether additional steps should be taken, including what role you will be asked to play in them.

As of July 1st 2018, a standardized form is to be used by anyone who believes that the environmental assessment process was incomplete, incorrect in that it failed to follow the required process. The required form can be found on the Forms Repository website (<http://www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/>) by searching “Part II Order” or “012-2206E (the form ID number). Once completed, the form is then to be sent to both the Minister and Director of the Environmental Assessment and Permissions Branch. Their addresses are:

Minister
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Minister.mecp@ontario.ca

Director, Environmental Assessment and Permissions Branch
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Ave. West, 1st Floor

Toronto, ON M4V 1P5
enviropemissions@ontario.ca

As of May 1, 2018, proponents are requested to send all Notices and completed project information form to the region where the project is located. If your project is located in more than one ministry region, you need to submit your notices to all appropriate regions. This is in addition to the existing notification requirements in each class environmental assessments and streamlined environmental assessment process.

To submit your Notice you need to do the following:

1. download and complete the [project information form](#)
2. the subject line of your email must include the project location, type of streamlined environmental assessment and project name
3. attach a copy of your project notice in PDF format and your completed project information form in Excel format to the email
4. send your email to the appropriate ministry regional office:
 - o Central Region – eanotification.cregion@ontario.ca
 - o Eastern Region – eanotification.eregion@ontario.ca
 - o Northern Region – eanotification.nregion@ontario.ca
 - o South West Region – eanotification.swregion@ontario.ca
 - o West Central Region – eanotification.wcregion@ontario.ca

Due to the subsequent approvals that this ministry will be responsible for in order for this project to proceed through to implementation, we would like to have a participatory role during the course of the preparation of this EA, to assist where we can and provide input that may facilitate any later approval applications. We would also like the opportunity to review a draft ESR.

Should you have any questions or require clarification, please contact me either at (905) 521-7864 or at Barbara.slattery@ontario.ca

With best regards,



EA/Planning Coordinator

Encl.

cc (via email only) Sylvain Campbell - NDO

A PROPONENT'S INTRODUCTION TO THE DELEGATION OF PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF CONSULTATION WITH ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are specific to this document and may not apply in other contexts:

Aboriginal communities – the First Nation or Métis communities identified by the Crown for the purpose of consultation.

Consultation – the Crown's legal obligation to consult when the Crown has knowledge of an established or asserted Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that might adversely impact that right. This is the type of consultation required pursuant to s. 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. Note that this definition does not include consultation with Aboriginal communities for other reasons, such as regulatory requirements.

Crown – the Ontario Crown, acting through a particular ministry or ministries.

Procedural aspects of consultation – those portions of consultation related to the process of consultation, such as notifying an Aboriginal community about a project, providing information about the potential impacts of a project, responding to concerns raised by an Aboriginal community and proposing changes to the project to avoid negative impacts.

Proponent – the person or entity that wants to undertake a project and requires an Ontario Crown decision or approval for the project.

I. PURPOSE

The Crown has a legal duty to consult Aboriginal communities when it has knowledge of an existing or asserted Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that may adversely impact that right. In outlining a framework for the duty to consult, the Supreme Court of Canada has stated that the Crown may delegate procedural aspects of consultation to third parties. This document provides general information about the Ontario Crown's approach to delegation of the procedural aspects of consultation to proponents.

This document is not intended to instruct a proponent about an individual project, and it does not constitute legal advice.

II. WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO CONSULT WITH ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES?

The objective of the modern law of Aboriginal and treaty rights is the *reconciliation* of Aboriginal peoples and non-Aboriginal peoples and their respective rights, claims and interests. Consultation is an important component of the reconciliation process.

The Crown has a legal duty to consult Aboriginal communities when it has knowledge of an existing or asserted Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that might adversely impact that right. For example, the Crown's duty to consult is triggered when it considers issuing a permit, authorization or approval for a project which has the potential to adversely impact an Aboriginal right, such as the right to hunt, fish, or trap in a particular area.

The scope of consultation required in particular circumstances ranges across a spectrum depending on both the nature of the asserted or established right and the seriousness of the potential adverse impacts on that right.

Depending on the particular circumstances, the Crown may also need to take steps to accommodate the potentially impacted Aboriginal or treaty right. For example, the Crown may be required to avoid or minimize the potential adverse impacts of the project.

III. THE CROWN'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE DELEGATED CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Crown has the responsibility for ensuring that the duty to consult, and accommodate where appropriate, is met. However, the Crown may delegate the procedural aspects of consultation to a proponent.

There are different ways in which the Crown may delegate the procedural aspects of consultation to a proponent, including through a letter, a memorandum of understanding, legislation, regulation, policy and codes of practice.

If the Crown decides to delegate procedural aspects of consultation, the Crown will generally:

- Ensure that the delegation of procedural aspects of consultation and the responsibilities of the proponent are clearly communicated to the proponent;
- Identify which Aboriginal communities must be consulted;
- Provide contact information for the Aboriginal communities;
- Revise, as necessary, the list of Aboriginal communities to be consulted as new information becomes available and is assessed by the Crown;
- Assess the scope of consultation owed to the Aboriginal communities;

- Maintain appropriate oversight of the actions taken by the proponent in fulfilling the procedural aspects of consultation;
- Assess the adequacy of consultation that is undertaken and any accommodation that may be required;
- Provide a contact within any responsible ministry in case issues arise that require direction from the Crown; and
- Participate in the consultation process as necessary and as determined by the Crown.

IV. THE PROPONENT'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE DELEGATED CONSULTATION PROCESS

Where aspects of the consultation process have been delegated to a proponent, the Crown, in meeting its duty to consult, will rely on the proponent's consultation activities and documentation of those activities. The consultation process informs the Crown's decision of whether or not to approve a proposed project or activity.

A proponent's role and responsibilities will vary depending on a variety of factors including the extent of consultation required in the circumstance and the procedural aspects of consultation the Crown has delegated to it. Proponents are often in a better position than the Crown to discuss a project and its potential impacts with Aboriginal communities and to determine ways to avoid or minimize the adverse impacts of a project.

A proponent can raise issues or questions with the Crown at any time during the consultation process. If issues or concerns arise during the consultation that cannot be addressed by the proponent, the proponent should contact the Crown.

a) What might a proponent be required to do in carrying out the procedural aspects of consultation?

Where the Crown delegates procedural aspects of consultation, it is often the proponent's responsibility to provide notice of the proposed project to the identified Aboriginal communities. The notice should indicate that the Crown has delegated the procedural aspects of consultation to the proponent and should include the following information:

- a description of the proposed project or activity;
- mapping;
- proposed timelines;
- details regarding anticipated environmental and other impacts;
- details regarding opportunities to comment; and
- any changes to the proposed project that have been made for seasonal conditions or other factors, where relevant.

Proponents should provide enough information and time to allow Aboriginal communities to provide meaningful feedback regarding the potential impacts of the project. Depending on the nature of consultation required for a project, a proponent also may be required to:

- provide the Crown with copies of any consultation plans prepared and an opportunity to review and comment;
- ensure that any necessary follow-up discussions with Aboriginal communities take place in a timely manner, including to confirm receipt of information, share and update information and to address questions or concerns that may arise;
- as appropriate, discuss with Aboriginal communities potential mitigation measures and/or changes to the project in response to concerns raised by Aboriginal communities;
- use language that is accessible and not overly technical, and translate material into Aboriginal languages where requested or appropriate;
- bear the reasonable costs associated with the consultation process such as, but not limited to, meeting hall rental, meal costs, document translation(s), or to address technical & capacity issues;
- provide the Crown with all the details about potential impacts on established or asserted Aboriginal or treaty rights, how these concerns have been considered and addressed by the proponent and the Aboriginal communities and any steps taken to mitigate the potential impacts;
- provide the Crown with complete and accurate documentation from these meetings and communications; and
- notify the Crown immediately if an Aboriginal community not identified by the Crown approaches the proponent seeking consultation opportunities.

b) What documentation and reporting does the Crown need from the proponent?

Proponents should keep records of all communications with the Aboriginal communities involved in the consultation process and any information provided to these Aboriginal communities.

As the Crown is required to assess the adequacy of consultation, it needs documentation to satisfy itself that the proponent has fulfilled the procedural aspects of consultation delegated to it. The documentation required would typically include:

- the date of meetings, the agendas, any materials distributed, those in attendance and copies of any minutes prepared;
- the description of the proposed project that was shared at the meeting;
- any and all concerns or other feedback provided by the communities;
- any information that was shared by a community in relation to its asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights and any potential adverse impacts of the proposed activity, approval or disposition on such rights;

- any proposed project changes or mitigation measures that were discussed, and feedback from Aboriginal communities about the proposed changes and measures;
- any commitments made by the proponent in response to any concerns raised, and feedback from Aboriginal communities on those commitments;
- copies of correspondence to or from Aboriginal communities, and any materials distributed electronically or by mail;
- information regarding any financial assistance provided by the proponent to enable participation by Aboriginal communities in the consultation;
- periodic consultation progress reports or copies of meeting notes if requested by the Crown;
- a summary of how the delegated aspects of consultation were carried out and the results; and
- a summary of issues raised by the Aboriginal communities, how the issues were addressed and any outstanding issues.

In certain circumstances, the Crown may share and discuss the proponent's consultation record with an Aboriginal community to ensure that it is an accurate reflection of the consultation process.

c) Will the Crown require a proponent to provide information about its commercial arrangements with Aboriginal communities?

The Crown may require a proponent to share information about aspects of commercial arrangements between the proponent and Aboriginal communities where the arrangements:

- include elements that are directed at mitigating or otherwise addressing impacts of the project;
- include securing an Aboriginal community's support for the project; or
- may potentially affect the obligations of the Crown to the Aboriginal communities.

The proponent should make every reasonable effort to exempt the Crown from confidentiality provisions in commercial arrangements with Aboriginal communities to the extent necessary to allow this information to be shared with the Crown.

The Crown cannot guarantee that information shared with the Crown will remain confidential. Confidential commercial information should not be provided to the Crown as part of the consultation record if it is not relevant to the duty to consult or otherwise required to be submitted to the Crown as part of the regulatory process.

V. WHAT ARE THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES' IN THE CONSULTATION PROCESS?

Like the Crown, Aboriginal communities are expected to engage in consultation in good faith. This includes:

- responding to the consultation notice;
- engaging in the proposed consultation process;
- providing relevant information;
- clearly articulating the potential impacts of the proposed project on Aboriginal or treaty rights; and
- discussing ways to mitigate any adverse impacts.

Some Aboriginal communities have developed tools, such as consultation protocols, policies or processes that provide guidance on how they would prefer to be consulted. Although not legally binding, proponents are encouraged to respect these community processes where it is reasonable to do so. Please note that there is no obligation for a proponent to pay a fee to an Aboriginal community in order to enter into a consultation process.

To ensure that the Crown is aware of existing community consultation protocols, proponents should contact the relevant Crown ministry when presented with a consultation protocol by an Aboriginal community or anyone purporting to be a representative of an Aboriginal community.

VI. WHAT IF MORE THAN ONE PROVINCIAL CROWN MINISTRY IS INVOLVED IN APPROVING A PROPONENT'S PROJECT?

Depending on the project and the required permits or approvals, one or more ministries may delegate procedural aspects of the Crown's duty to consult to the proponent. The proponent may contact individual ministries for guidance related to the delegation of procedural aspects of consultation for ministry-specific permits/approvals required for the project in question. Proponents are encouraged to seek input from all involved Crown ministries sooner rather than later.

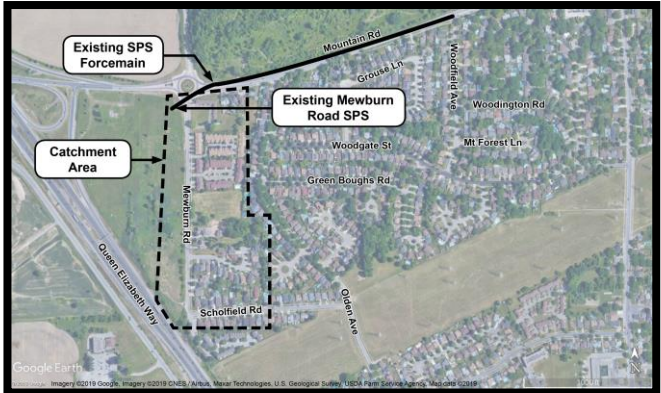
THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE (PIC)

Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station
in the City of Niagara Falls

Niagara Region (the Region) has initiated a Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the Mewburn Road Sewage Pumping Station (SPS), located at 2617 Mewburn Rd. in the City of Niagara Falls (the City). The station was built in 1988, and has had several repairs since that time.

Recent inspections of the existing pumping station show it is aging and in need of major repair or replacement to ensure it can continue to properly service the City. The current location of the pumping station is not owned by the Region; therefore, alternative locations for an upgraded pumping station are to be considered.



This study will define the current and future needs and potential locations for an upgraded Mewburn Road SPS. This study will complete a Schedule B Municipal Class EA and prepare the design for the upgrade of the Mewburn Road SPS for the proposed pumping station which will meet the needs outlined in the Region's Water and Wastewater Master Plan. The current capacity of the pumping station is expected to be adequate for 25 years or more, so the design will be focused on upgrades to the station for regular service. The study will follow the guidance outlined in the Municipal Class EA document (as amended in 2007, 2011, and 2015).

Public and agency consultation is a key component of the Class EA process, and we value your input during the planning process. In order to provide further information on the Class EA process, background information on the study, alternative solutions and a preferred solution for this project, a **Public Consultation Centre** is being held, as follows:

Date: November 28, 2019
Time: 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Location: Memorial Room (Room 1103)
Gale Centre Arena
5152 Thorold Stone Road
Niagara Falls, ON
L2E 0A2

If you wish to be placed on the mailing list to receive notices and information, or, if you wish to provide comments at any time during the Class EA process, you can do so by contacting:

Albert Succi
Project Manager
Niagara Region
3501 Schmon Pkwy., P.O. Box 1042
Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6
905-980-6000 ext. 3308
Toll-Free: 1-800-263-7215
albert.succi@niagararegion.ca

Mike Newbigging, P. Eng.
Project Manager
Jacobs Engineering Group
72 Victoria St. S, Suite 300
Kitchener, ON N2G 4Y9
519-514-1642
mike.newbigging@jacobs.com

Please note that comments will be maintained for reference throughout the project and will become part of the public record. Under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Environmental Assessment Act*, any personal information such as name, address, and telephone number included in a submission will become part of the public record unless the comments specifically request that such personal details not be included in the public record. For more information, please contact the Project Officer or the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change's Freedom of Information and Privacy Coordinator at 416-327-1434.

Mewburn Road Pumping Station Upgrade



*Public Information Centre
November 28, 2019*

Welcome

Mewburn Road Sewage Pumping Station Class Environmental Assessment

Public Information Centre
November 28, 2019
5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

- ✓ Your feedback is important to us. Please sign the attendance sheet and fill out the Comment Sheet provided.
- ✓ Niagara Region staff and consultants from Jacobs are available to answer your questions.

Mewburn Road Sewage Pumping Station

Study Purpose

Niagara Region has undertaken a Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) to review alternatives to upgrade the Mewburn Road Sewage Pumping Station (SPS), which was built in 1988.

Problem Statement

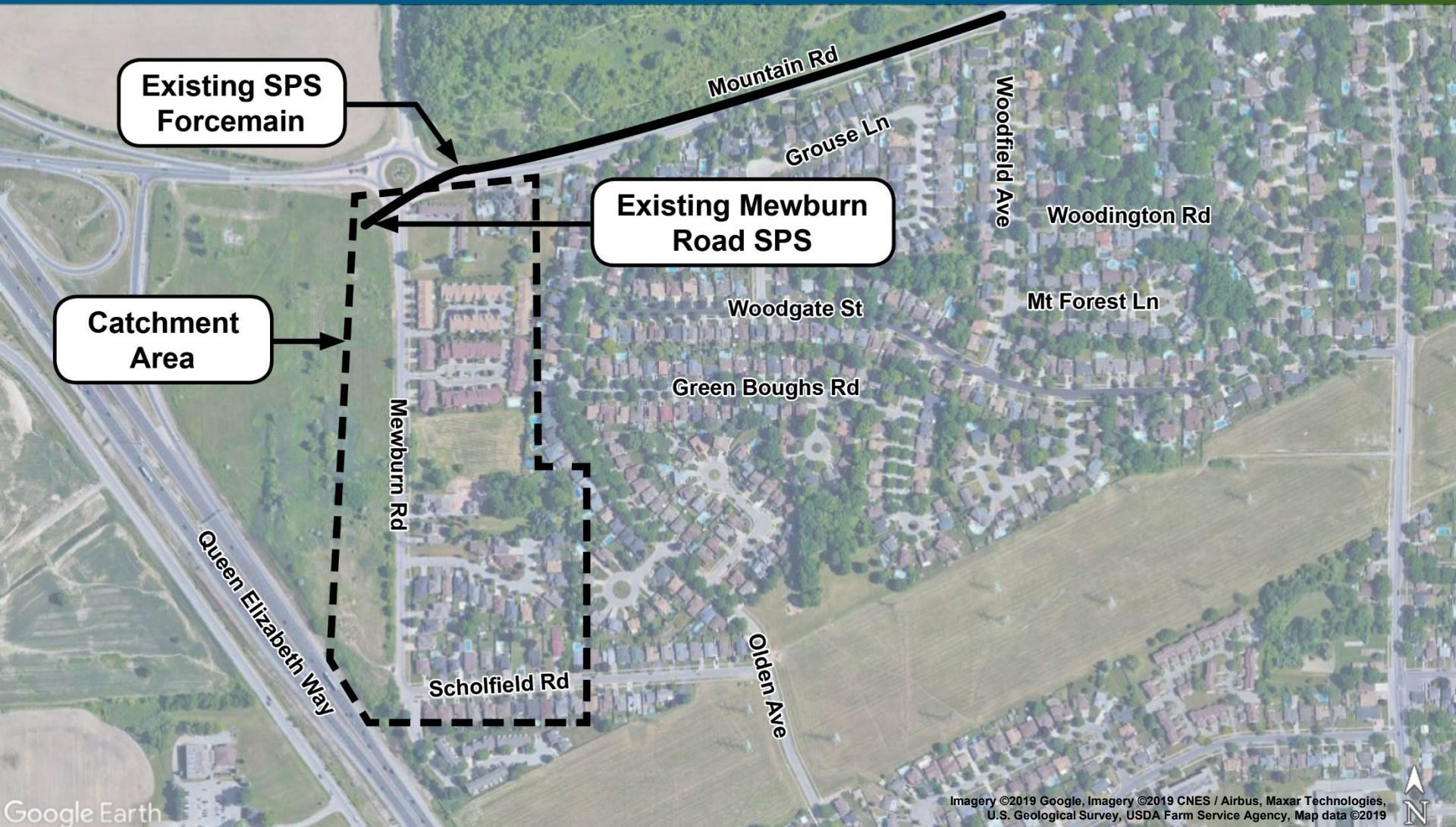
Recent inspections show that the Mewburn Road SPS is aging and in need of major repair or replacement to ensure it can continue to properly service the City. In addition the current location is not owned by the Region, therefore alternative locations or properties for the upgraded SPS needed to be considered.

Project Objectives

The Project will define the current and future needs and preferred locations for an upgraded Mewburn Road SPS. This study will complete a Schedule B Municipal Class EA and prepare the design for the upgrade of the Mewburn Road SPS for the new pumping station which will meet the needs outlined in the Region's Water and Wastewater Master Plan. The current capacity of the pumping station is expected to be adequate for 25 years or more, so the design will be focused on upgrades to the station.

- The study will follow the guidance outlined in the Municipal Class EA document (as amended in 2007, 2011, and 2015).

Project Location



Background

Mewburn Road SPS:

- Located near Mountain Road and Mewburn Road, south of the roundabout intersection.
- Built in 1988, the existing SPS includes one wet well, two submersible pumps rated at 20.8 L/s as well as a control panel and standby generator.
- Due to the age and condition, major upgrades are required.
- There is also an opportunity to relocate the SPS for land ownership purposes.

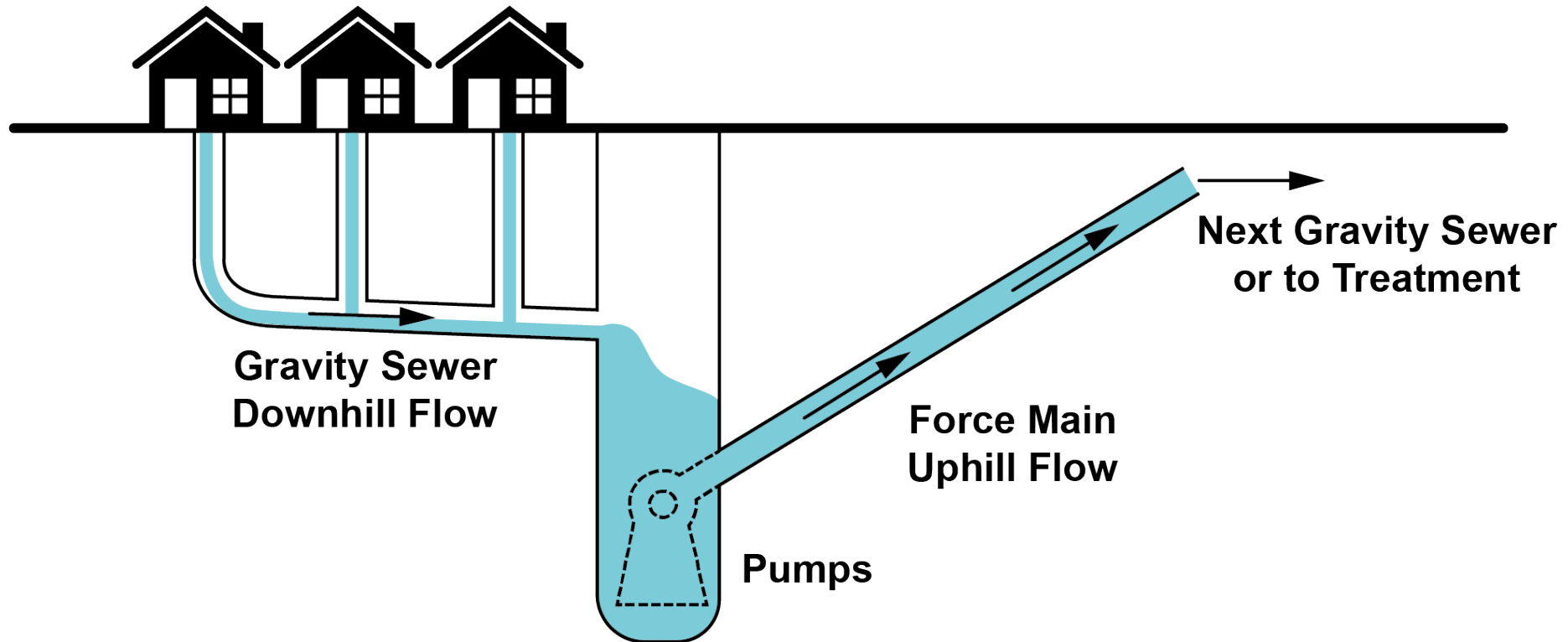
Upgrades Needed

- Catchment area of approximately 15 ha
- Submersible pumping station (2+ pumps)
- Valve chamber for valves and flow meter
- Control panel and shelter
- Standby power



Example Shelter for Electrical Panel

Typical Components and Operation of Sewage Pumping Station



Class Environmental Assessment Process

The Schedule B study will follow the Municipal Class EA process to meet, at a minimum, Phases 1 and 2 of the process:



Phase 1

- Identify the problem or opportunity; Notice of Commencement



Phase 2 – We are Here

- Identify and Assess Alternative solutions
- Consult with Public, Agencies, Indigenous communities, and other stakeholders
- Select a preferred solution based on evaluation criteria and identify proposed timing for implementation
- Public Consultation ← **We are here**



Project File Report

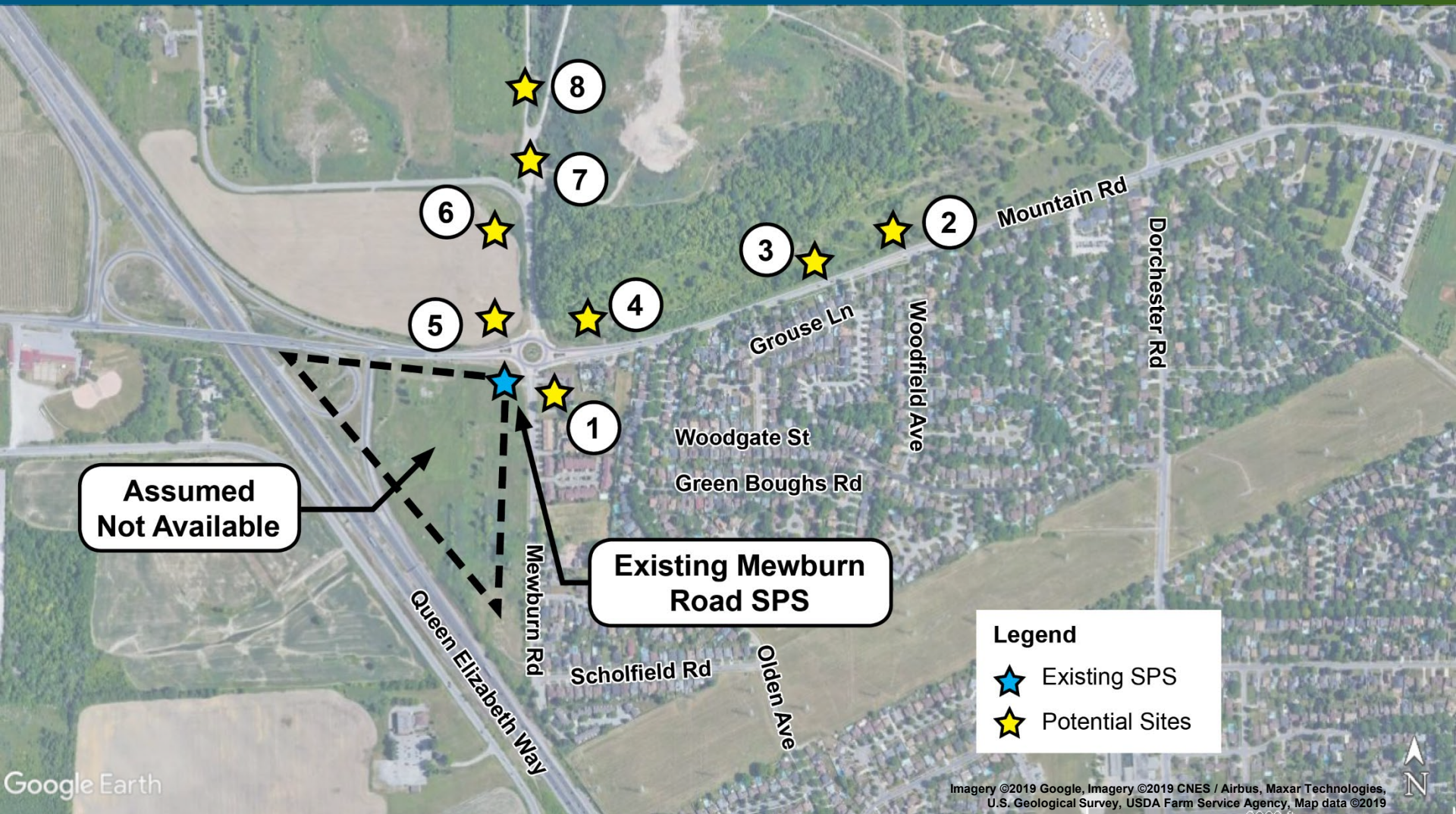
- Prepare Project File Report documenting Phases 1-2 for public review



Implementation

- Conceptual design of preferred solution
- Implement the preferred solution

Long List of Alternative Locations



Long-List Review Criteria

- The following screening criteria were considered for the long list of alternative locations for the SPS.
- Locations with favourable characteristics relating to these criteria were then shortlisted for further evaluation.

Criteria	Description
Distance from existing SPS	Ease of connection to existing sanitary sewers, generally preferred to be within a 500 m radius of existing SPS
Site Elevation	Ease of connection to existing sanitary sewer inverts, wet well depth. Lower elevation allows for easier connection and shallower wet well.
Land Availability	Ease of land acquisition, private land maybe difficult to obtain, Regionally-owned preferred

Long-List Evaluation Results

The following table outlines the evaluation for all locations:

Site	Main Factor	Distance from Existing SPS	Site Elevation	Land Availability	Shortlisted
1	Private Land	100 m	Similar to existing	Private land	N
2	Distance	700 m	Higher than existing	Regional land	N
3	Acceptable	500 m	Higher than existing	Regional land	Y
4	Busy Location	200 m	Higher than existing	Regional land	N
5	Busy Location	400 m	Similar to existing	Private land	N
6	Acceptable	275 m	Lower than existing	Private land	Y
7	Acceptable	320 m	Lower than existing	Regional land	Y
8	No Benefit over Site 7	400 m	Lower than existing	Regional land	N

Short-Listed Evaluation

The Alternative Solutions were evaluated using the Class EA categories respecting the following categories and criteria:

- Each category received a weighting relative to its importance to this project. A high score indicates good performance and a low score indicates poor performance relating to the criteria

Technical (31% of Score):

- Operations Health and Safety
- Constructability
- Integration into the Current System
- Flexibility
- Energy Efficiency

Social/Cultural (27% of Score):

- Odour Control
- Public Health and Safety
- Public Acceptability
- Noise Impact
- Impact on Surrounding Land Uses
- Ease of Land Acquisition

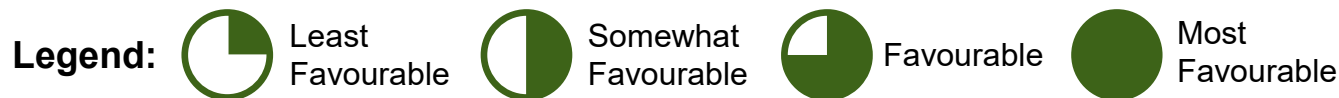
Economic (33% of Score):

- Capital Cost
- Cost of Land Acquisition
- Operations and Maintenance Costs
- Life Cycle Costs

Environmental (9% of Score):

- Terrestrial Systems
- Water Quality and Aquatic Systems
- Groundwater

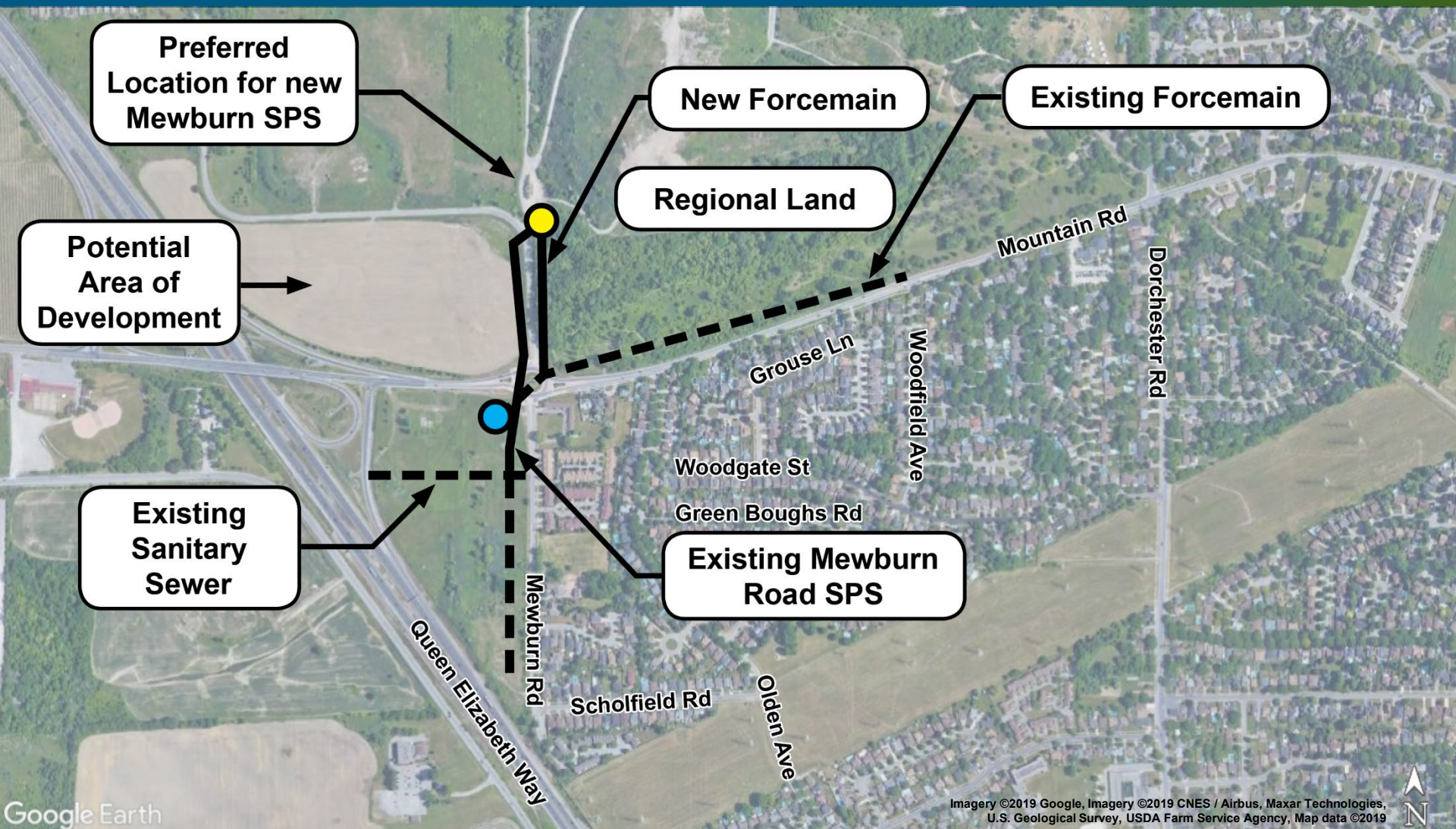
Short-Listed Evaluation Scoring



Preferred Location

Category	Location 3		Location 6		Location 7	
	Description	Score	Description	Score	Description	Score
Technical	- Access and lay down area difficult or limited - Higher elevation		- Access and less busy road - Lower elevation		- Access and less busy road - Lower elevation	
Social	- Close to existing residences - Busy road		- Remote to existing residences - Private land		- Remote to existing residences - Regional property	
Environmental	- Some vegetation could be impacted - Developed area		- Undeveloped area - Open field with potential wetlands north of location		Undeveloped but already impacted site	
Economic	- Deep wet well, shortest forcemain - Lowest capital cost		- Longer forcemain - Land acquisition required		- Longest forcemain - Higher capital cost	

Preferred Location for New Mewburn Road SPS and Connections



Thank You

Thank you for your interest in the Mewburn Road SPS EA

Next Steps:

- Complete the Class EA
- Implement Mewburn Road SPS Upgrade (Design and Construction)

Public and agency consultation is a key component of the Class EA process, and we value your input. Please fill out the Comment Sheet provided.

If you have any questions or concerns about this study, please feel free to contact any member of the Project team, including:

Albert Succi

Project Manager
Niagara Region
3501 Schmon Pkwy., P.O. Box 1042
Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6
905-980-6000 ext. 3308
Toll-Free: 1-800-263-7215
albert.succi@niagararegion.ca

Mike Newbigging, P. Eng.

Project Manager
Jacobs Engineering Group
72 Victoria St. S, Suite 300
Kitchener, ON N2G 4Y9
519-514-1642
mike.newbigging@jacobs.com

Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station Attendance Register

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Mewburn Road Sanitary Pumping Station
in the City of Niagara Falls

Public Information Centre – November 28, 2019

Comment Sheet

Please take a few minutes to complete this comment sheet. Your contribution will assist the study team with the collection of background information and the development of alternative solutions.

- 1) The Regional Municipality of Niagara has undertaken a Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) to review alternatives to upgrade the existing Mewburn Road Sewage Pumping Station (SPS). Do you have any comments, questions, or concerns with the defined purpose of this study?

☒ No ☐ Yes, if so, please comment:

Location # 7 - near dump
Sounds good. Developments will be
located on the old dump

- 2) This project will be following the process outlined for Class Environmental Assessment studies. This process was presented in the Public Information Centre. Do you have any questions, comments or concerns about the Environmental Assessment process?

☒ No ☐ Yes, if so, please comment:

- 3) The Study determined that Site 7 – north of existing on Mewburn Road (i.e., a location approximately 320 m from the existing SPS; on Regionally-owned and previously-disturbed land; requires longest forccmain with higher capital costs) is the most appropriate site. Do you have any questions, comments or concerns about the identified location?

☒ No ☐ Yes, if so, please comment:

Best to be away from Roundabout.

- 4) Are there any additional alternative solutions or locations that you feel the Project team should consider?

☒ No ☐ Yes, if so, please comment:

would not like agricultural land
used for a pumping station

5) Do you have any additional comments or information that you feel would be helpful to the project team?

☐ No ☐ Yes, if so, please comment:

Glad to hear Road improvements
as well.
Need to look at Storm Water
+ drainage issues on Newburn.

Your completed Comment Sheet will be included in the Class EA report, which will be made public at the completion of this study. Please place a ✓ in the box below if you wish to have your comments included anonymously. ☐

Name:	Heather Rodgers		
Address:	3-2720 Newburn Rd		Apt. No.
	Street		
	Niagara Falls ON		L2V 4Y5
	City	Province	Postal Code
Email:	heather.rodgers4@gmail.com		
I would like to be placed on a mailing list to receive future notifications regarding this project.			
Please indicate: ☒ Yes ☐ No			

You may leave this completed Comment Sheet in the envelope provided at the registration table or you may mail in (paper or e-mail) by December 12, 2019 to:

Albert Succi
Niagara Region, Project Manager
3501 Schmon Pkwy., P.O. Box 1042
Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6
905-980-6000 ext. 3308
Toll-Free: 1-800-263-7215
albert.succi@niagararegion.ca

Mike Newbigging
Jacobs Engineering Group, Project
Manager
72 Victoria St. S, Suite 300
Kitchener, ON N2G 4Y9
519-514-1642
mike.newbigging@jacobs.com

NOTE: comments will be maintained for reference throughout the project and will become part of the public record. Under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Environmental Assessment Act*, any personal information included in a submission will become part of the public record unless specifically requested otherwise.