

The purpose of this update is to highlight project progress since Public Information Centre (PIC) #2.

### Concerns and Issues Raised at PIC #2

1. General support for highway improvements to accommodate future traffic volumes and improve road safety
2. Objections to twinning south of the existing highway in the Clearwater Bay area
3. Concern about natural environment impacts associated with four-laning the highway, including impacts to the *Clearwater Bay Restricted Area Order* and Lake of the Woods water quality
4. Concern from property owners north and south of the highway regarding potential property impacts, including proximity impacts (noise and visual impacts)
5. Interest in additional public consultation opportunities to provide input before the preferred route is determined

### Public Consultation Changes

To ensure that there are sufficient opportunities for the public to provide input throughout the project, the following revisions have been made to the overall consultation schedule:

- PIC #3 will present route alternatives for public review (*scheduled for October 2, 2010*) – **route selection has been deferred**
- PIC #4 (**NEW**) will present route selection based on evaluation of short list route alternatives and public input received (*tentatively scheduled for early 2011*)
- PIC #5 will present preliminary design of selected route (*tentatively scheduled for mid summer 2011*)

### Study Progress

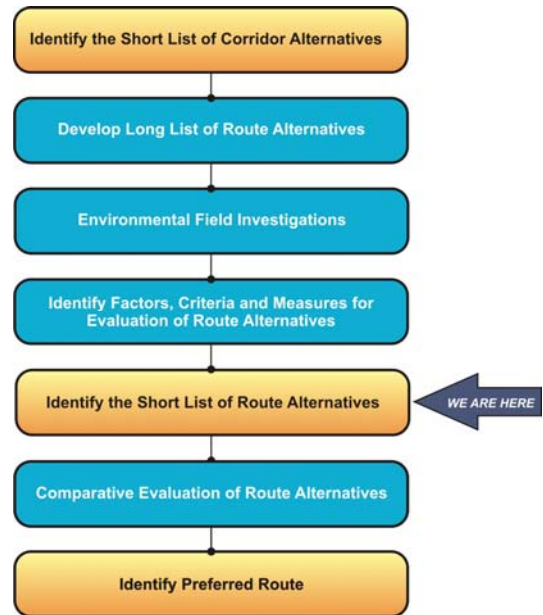
To date the following activities have been completed:

- Written responses provided to the public
- Reconsideration of northern corridor alternatives
- Changes to public consultation approach
- Field investigations and follow-up with agencies
- Development of route alternatives
- Elimination of least desirable alternatives

### Route Selection Process

Since PIC #2, a long-list of route alternatives were developed and assessed against a range of environmental factors. The long list of route alternatives, screening of routes and the resulting short list of route alternatives will be presented at PIC #3. Some key guidelines of four laning through Section 3 include:

- Safe and more efficient highway
- Mitigate environmental impacts
- Full intersections at major roads
- Right-in / right-out intersections at minor accesses
- Access to private properties retained
- Staging potential to defer some construction
- Consideration of future interchange accesses
- Grade separated recreational trail crossings



### Next Steps

After PIC #3, the following activities will be carried out:

- Review the comments received and respond to any questions
- Undertake further data collection and field investigations
- Assess and evaluate short list of route alternatives
- Identify a preferred route
- Hold Public Information Centre #4
- Identify long-term improvements and property requirements