

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE

Notice of Public Information Centre No. 1

Planning and Preliminary Design Study for Highway 61 from Arthur Street to Loch Lomond Road

THE STUDY

The Ontario **Ministry of Transportation (MTO)** has retained **BT Engineering Inc. (BTE)** to undertake a planning and preliminary design study to determine the appropriate strategy for the future widening of two sections of Highway 61, in the City of Thunder Bay. The Highway 61 Study Area is shown on the map. The Study will consider the needs of the two Local Study Areas, assess alternatives and identify a Preferred Plan for improvements to address the immediate, interim and long term planning horizons. The Study will consider previous Ministry studies undertaken in the 1990's.

THE PROCESS

The Study is following the *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000)* planning process for a Group "B" project, with the opportunity for transparency and public consultation throughout the project.

Public Information Centres

You are invited to attend the first of three (3) Public Information Centres (PICs), with the purpose of introducing the project, explaining the study process, and presenting an assessment of planning solutions for the preliminary design alternatives. There will be an opportunity to discuss any concerns with the MTO Project Team, and to provide written comments. **Please attend at the PIC #1:**

Date: Wednesday, September 5, 2018

Time: 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Location: McGillivray Room, Best Western "North" Hotel
2080 Highway 61, Thunder Bay

The PIC venue is accessible under the requirements under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*. If you have any accessibility requirements to participate in this project, please contact one of the Project Team members listed below in advance of the PIC. Two additional PICs are planned and will present the following information based on these tentative dates:

PIC No. 2 (Spring 2019) will present the evaluation of alternative technical recommendations.

PIC No. 3 (Fall 2019) will present the refined technical recommendations and mitigation plan.

Individuals on the study mailing list will be notified of the date, time, and location of the future PICs. In addition, notification will be published in Thunder Bay Chronicle-Journal and Thunder Bay Source and provided on the project website at: www.MTOHighway61.com

COMMENTS

We are interested in hearing any comments that you may have regarding this study. You are encouraged to make your concerns and input known to the Project Team at your earliest opportunity. Early communication of concerns in the study allows the greatest opportunity to address them. If you wish to obtain additional information or provide comments, or wish to be added to the project mailing list, please contact the Project Team members listed below or visit the project website at www.MTOHighway61.com:

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Any comments received pertaining to the study will be collected under the *Environmental Assessment Act* and all information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

