

City of Brantford Northwest Services Expansion Environmental Assessments: Common Project Questions & Answers

General Questions

- Q** Will the new infrastructure impact wildlife and the environment in the area?
- A** The Project Team has undertaken a Natural Heritage Assessment. Effort is being made to avoid areas of concern. If avoidance is not possible, then the Project Team will factor in compensation and mitigation measures to minimize impact to the environment.
- Q** Will the new infrastructure impact archaeological and cultural heritage features in the area?
- A** The Project Team has undertaken a Cultural Heritage Assessment and Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment. Effort is being made to avoid areas of concern. If avoidance is not possible, then the Project Team will factor in compensation and mitigation measures to minimize impact to archaeological and cultural heritage features.
- Q** How are Rights Holders and stakeholders being consulted?
- A** The project team has sent project notifications to identified project stakeholders and Rights Holders, and the public. The project notifications identified the project study area, scope, expected deliverables, available project contacts and time of public meeting. The Project Team has met with Rights Holders and various project stakeholders. Two Public Information Centers will be held to present the study objectives and recommendations.
- Q** The study area has significant hydro (major transmission lines along Powerline Road) and transportation infrastructure (CN Railway and Highway 403); how have these been incorporated into the analysis?
- A** The Project Team has met with representatives for the major hydro and transportation infrastructure to confirm required technical, safety, and logistical considerations. The representatives provided potential impacts, mitigation requirements, setback requirements, and costs associated with potential mitigative measures. These requirements are being incorporated into the development and evaluation of alternatives. The City will continue to coordinate with representatives for the major hydro and transportation infrastructure prior to finalizing the study recommendations and through the implementation/construction of the study recommendations.
- Q** How can I find more information on this study?
- A** You may visit our website (Brantford.ca/NWServicesExpansion), or reach out to the project team directly.

Water / Wastewater Projects

- Q Will the water and wastewater projects be constructed at the same time?
- A The intention is that water and wastewater projects (including those along Oak Park Road and Powerline Road) will be constructed concurrently to minimize the construction impacts and disruption to the public and businesses in the area. Effort is also being made to align the water and wastewater projects with the road projects.
- Q What considerations are being made for future growth in the Brantford Northwest?
- A The infrastructure needs and sizing were identified in the City's Master Servicing Plan Update. A review of sizing using the City's latest best planning estimates was undertaken to confirm infrastructure sizing needs. Further, additional growth concept scenarios were reviewed to evaluate the need for any potential strategic oversizing.
- Q Is consideration being made for ease of maintenance?
- A The Project Team has considered factors such as length, depth, and access throughout the evaluation.

Stormwater Project

- Q Why is a new outlet required?
- A Currently the majority of the Study Area is undeveloped with no existing outlet to a watercourse, and therefore existing stormwater runoff collects in local depression and infiltrates into the ground. Development of the site is anticipated to increase local stormwater runoff while also reducing the total area available to infiltrate the stormwater runoff. The new outlet is required to protect the area against flooding risk under major rainfall and snow melt events.
- Q Will there be stormwater quantity management, or will all water be directed to the outlet?
- A Stormwater quantity will be required prior to discharging to the outlet or being infiltrated into the ground. The study will review and confirm the required level of stormwater quantity control based on the recommended outlet location and capacity of the receiving water course.
- Q What impacts will this have on groundwater / local watercourses?
- A Currently the majority of the Study Area is undeveloped with no existing outlet to a watercourse, and therefore existing stormwater runoff collects in local depression and infiltrates into the ground. A hydrogeological study, including a 12-month groundwater monitoring program is being undertaken to better understand the local groundwater conditions and confirm if the existing Study

Area is contributing to (via groundwater flows) local watercourses. The final stormwater strategy will need to maintain current groundwater contributions to local water watercourse.

- Q The embankment leading to the Grand River is large and unstable – how would an outlet be constructed?
- A The study is reviewing viable options to construct a new outlet to the Grand River if needed. Tunneling may be required to construct the outlet.

Transportation Projects

- Q Is it possible to widen Powerline Road considering the significant hydro infrastructure?
- A It is possible; however, it will likely require the relocation of hydro infrastructure; which is technically challenging and expensive. The challenges and costs of relocating hydro infrastructure is being incorporated into the development, review, and evaluation of design concepts. The Project Team is also considering opportunities for potential realignment of Powerline Road to avoid disturbance of the hydro infrastructure.
- Q How does the study impact the CN Rail?
- A There is an existing at-grade crossing of the CN Rail on Powerline Road in proximity to hydro substations and overhead transmission lines. The Project Team is considering opportunities to realign Powerline Road to approach the CN Rail and cross at a 90-degree angle. In addition, there are currently no plans for a grade separation at this location; however, the study may consider protection for a future grade separation in the 2051 planning horizon.
- Q Are roundabouts being considered?
- A Potential for roundabouts is being considered on Powerline Road at the Paris Road and Oak Park Road intersections.
- Q How much wider will Powerline Road and Oak Park Road be?
- A Roads will be widened from one lane to two lanes, with additional space for active transportation.

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