Welcome

Northwest Municipal Services Expansion

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

Public Information Centre No. 3

Walter Gretzky Municipal Golf Course

Thursday, October 2nd, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Why are we here?
Public Information Centre (PIC) No. 3

Key Dates

Notice of Commencement – April 13, 2023

PIC No. 1 – January 18, 2024

Oak Park Road Water/Wastewater Notice of Completion – July 4, 2024

PIC No. 2 – October 30, 2024

PIC No. 3 – October 2, 2025

Agency Technical Review – Fall 2025

Notice of Completion – TBD

Stay Engaged!

- ✓ Please sign in and take a comment sheet.
- ✓ Have a look at the project information on display and chat with the Project Team.
- ✓ Provide your feedback regarding the information presented.

Public Information Centre (PIC) Objectives

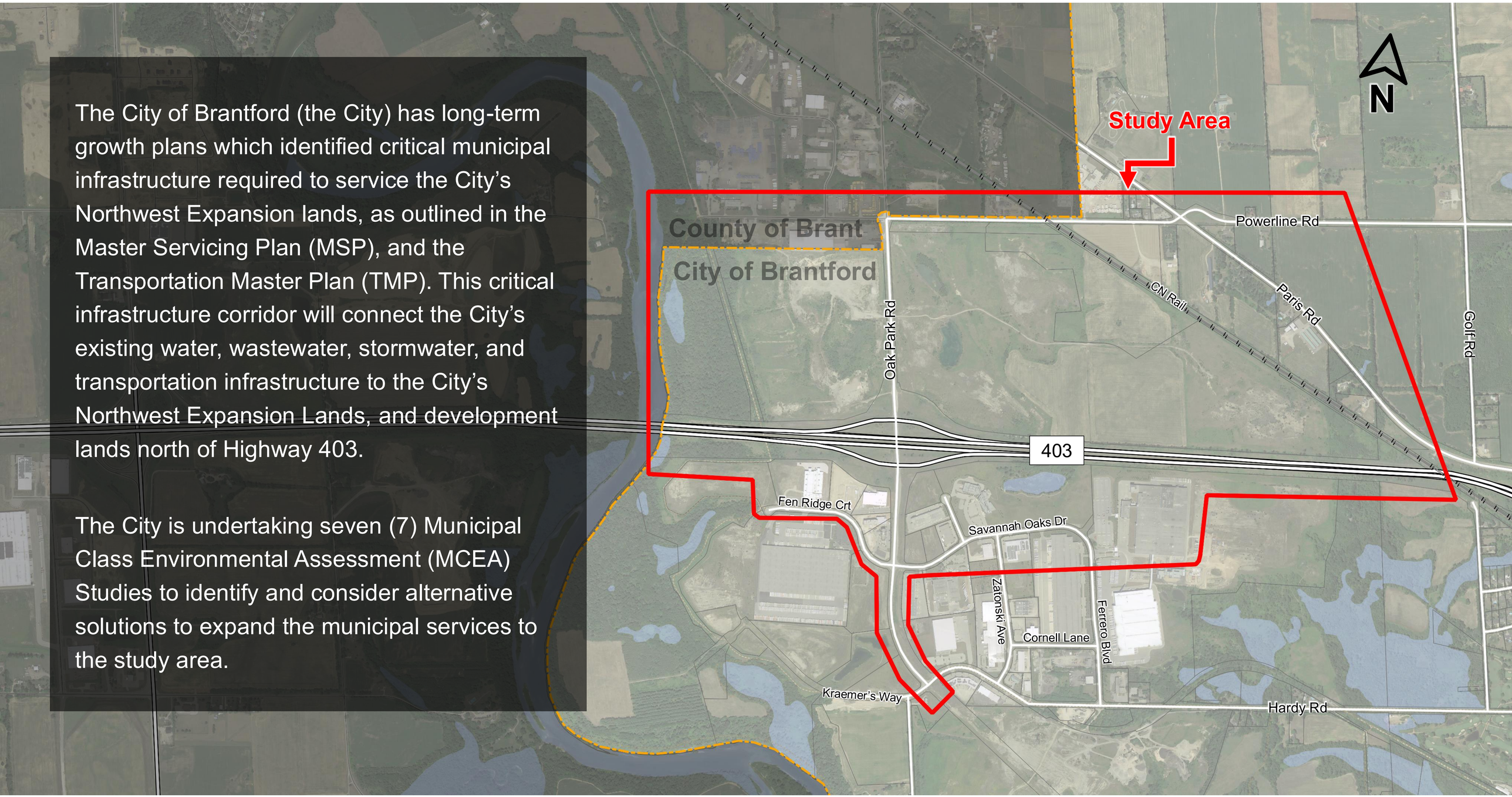
- **Present the study area and objectives.**
- **Present the environmental assessment process.**
- **Present environmental and technical background relevant to the development of servicing alternatives.**
- **Receive feedback on the study process and servicing opportunities and constraints.**

Additional project information can be found on the project website: Brantford.ca/NWServicesExpansion

Northwest Municipal Services Expansion Environmental Assessments

The City of Brantford (the City) has long-term growth plans which identified critical municipal infrastructure required to service the City's Northwest Expansion lands, as outlined in the Master Servicing Plan (MSP), and the Transportation Master Plan (TMP). This critical infrastructure corridor will connect the City's existing water, wastewater, stormwater, and transportation infrastructure to the City's Northwest Expansion Lands, and development lands north of Highway 403.

The City is undertaking seven (7) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) Studies to identify and consider alternative solutions to expand the municipal services to the study area.



How is this study being conducted?
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process

The Northwest Services Expansion Environmental Assessments (EA) project is comprised of the following Schedule B (Phases 1-2) and Schedule C (Phases 1-4) EA projects:

- Schedule B Projects
  - Oak Park Road Trunk Watermain - *Submitted*
  - Powerline Road Trunk Watermain
  - Oak Park Road Trunk Sewer - *Submitted*
  - Powerline Road Trunk Sewer
  - Stormwater Management in Grand River Northwest Catchment – ***Focus of PIC 3***
- Schedule C Projects
  - Oak Park Road Widening
  - Powerline Road Widening

PHASE 1	PHASE 2	PHASE 3	PHASE 4	PHASE 5
Problem or Opportunity	Alternative Solutions	Alternative Design Concepts for Preferred Solution	Environmental Study Report (ESR)	Implementation
Identify Problem or Opportunity	Identify Alternative Solutions to Problem or Opportunity	Identify Alternative Solutions to Problem or Opportunity	Complete Environmental Study Report (ESR)	Complete Contract Drawings and Tender Documents
Discretionary Public Consultation to Review Problem or Opportunity	Inventory Natural, Social, Economic Environment	Detail Inventory Natural, Social, Economic Environment	Notice of Completion to Review Agencies and Public	Proceed to Construction and Operation
	Engagement. RE: Problem or Opportunity and Conceptual Solutions. **PIC 3 – Stormwater Management**	Identify Impact of Alternative Designs on Environment, and Mitigating Measures	Copy of Notice of Completion to Ministry of Environment Environmental Assessment Branch	Monitor for Environmental Provisions and Commitments
	Identify Impact of Alternative Solutions on the Environment, and Mitigating Measures	Evaluate Alternative Designs: Identify Recommended Solutions	Environmental Study Report Placed on Public Record	
	Evaluate Alternative Solutions: Identify Recommended Solutions	Consult Review Agencies and Previously Interested and Directly Affected Public. (PIC 2 – Transportation/Schedule **C)**	Opportunity to Request Minister Within 30 Days of Notification to Request and Order	
	Consult Review Agencies and Previously Interested and Directly Affected Public	Select Preferred Design		
	Select Preferred Solution	Preliminary Finalization of Preferred Design		

PIC No. 3 Objectives

Project Name	Project MCEA Schedule	PIC 3 Objective					
		Opportunity & Constraints	Evaluation Methodology	Alternatives	Preferred Alternative	Design Concepts	Preferred Design Concepts
Oak Park Road Trunk Watermain	B	Project File Completed					
Powerline Road Trunk Watermain	B	Presented During PIC 2					
Oak Park Road Trunk Sewer	B	Project File Completed					
Powerline Road Trunk Sewer	B	Presented During PIC 2					
Stormwater Management in Grand River Northwest Catchment	B	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Oak Park Road Widening	C	Presented During PIC 2					
Powerline Road Widening	C	Presented During PIC 2					

Y- Included in the PIC

Project Problem & Opportunity Statement

> The Northwest Municipal Services Expansion Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) studies will develop an optimized long-term municipal infrastructure strategy that supports existing users and future residential and employment growth opportunities in Brantford's northwest lands and that minimize potential impacts to the environment, existing utilities, and future land uses. There are opportunities to consider water, wastewater and transportation infrastructure improvements in an integrated manner through these MCEA studies.

Northwest Municipal Expansion Services

Water Projects

- Oak Park Road Trunk Watermain
- Powerline Road Trunk Watermain

Stormwater Project

- Stormwater Management in Grand River Northwest Catchment

Wastewater Projects

- Oak Park Road Trunk Sewer
- Powerline Road Trunk Sewer

Transportation Projects

- Oak Park Road Widening
- Powerline Road Widening

Supporting Studies

Natural Heritage

- A desktop study was completed to identify natural heritage features within the study area, including but not limited to Species at Risk and potential for rare vegetation. Further field surveys were completed in 2025 to confirm potential significant features and/or species at risk habitat. The results of the study are used to guide the evaluation process, to identify potential mitigation requirements, and to confirm if additional investigations are required.

Archaeology

- The Stage 1 background study was completed to identify previously registered archaeological sites (with or without further archaeological potential), and to identify locations within the Study Area that exhibit archaeological potential. For any areas that exhibit archaeological potential, if impacted by project implementation, a Stage 2 archeological assessment was completed for areas identified in the Stage 1 Study.

Cultural Heritage

- The desktop study was completed to identify built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes within the study area. The results are used to guide the evaluation process and effort will be made to avoid negative impacts to the identified.

Geotechnical & Hydrogeological

- The desktop geotechnical and hydrogeological studies were completed to identify areas of bedrock, and the general subsurface material. The information provided are used to guide the evaluation process. Further geotechnical and hydrogeological investigation are underway and/or will be undertaken to support the stormwater technical analysis and the preliminary design of different project elements.

Additional Studies

- Several other supporting studies have been completed or are currently ongoing. These include but are not limited to fluvial geomorphology, climate change impact, erosion and sediment control impact, air quality, noise, source water protection, and stormwater management studies, amongst others.

Water / Wastewater Evaluation Criteria

Social / Cultural

- Minimizes impacts to residents and businesses, including feedback from community
- Manages and minimizes construction impacts
- Protects archaeological, built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes
- Protects Indigenous Rights, Protects Indigenous Community interests, and Protects archeological resources

Technical Feasibility

- Meets existing and future servicing needs
- Provides ease of connection to County of Brant
- Aligns with planned system strategy and configuration, including consistency with City Planning and Policies
- Provides reliable servicing
- Minimizes conflict with existing infrastructure and utilities
- Ease of property / land acquisition
- Minimizes and manages construction risk

Environmental Impacts

- Protects environmental and natural heritage features
- Protects significant wildlife, wildlife habitat, Species at Risk, fish and fish habitat
- Minimizes climate change impacts

Financial Feasibility

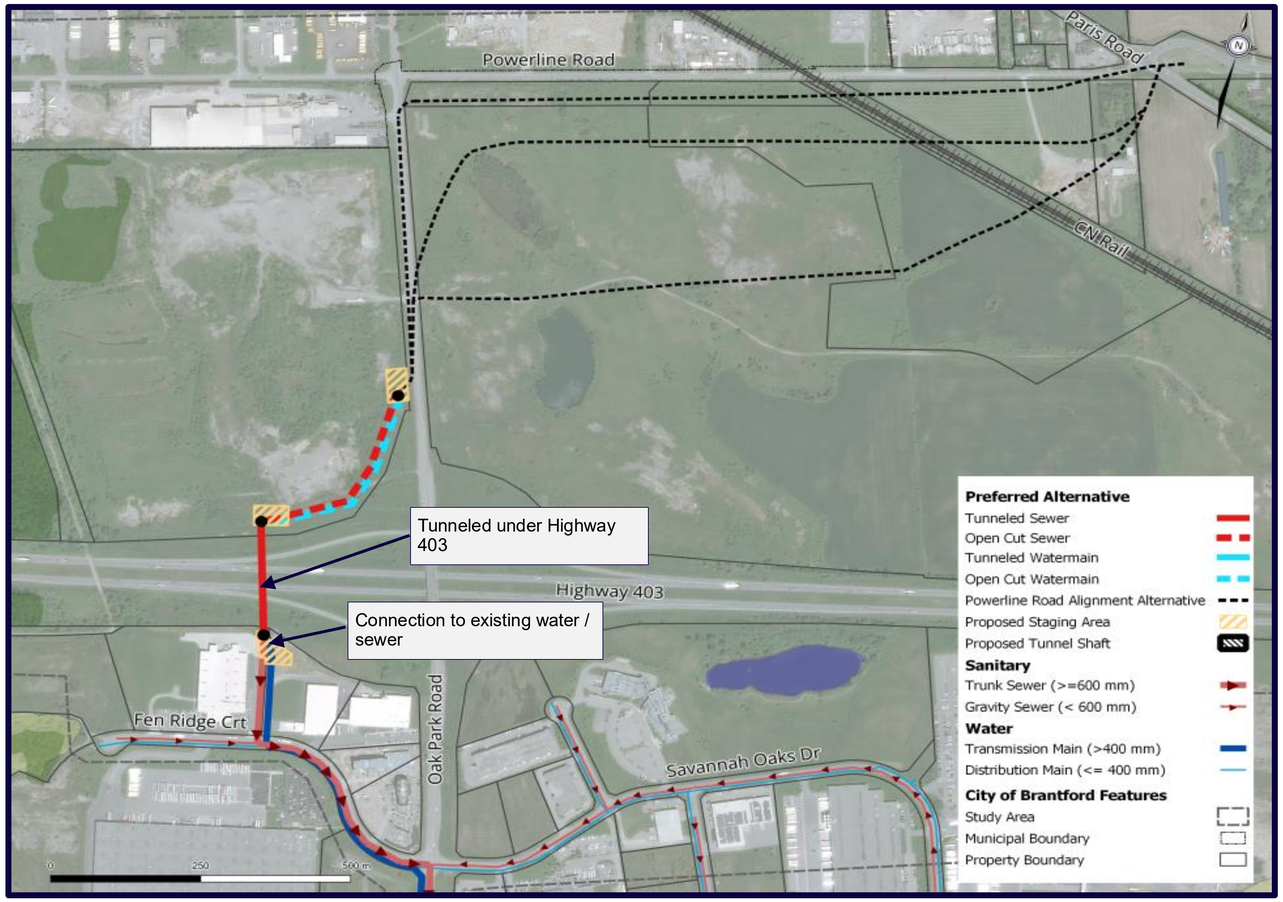
- Low lifecycle cost, including capital and operating & maintenance

Water / Wastewater Preferred Alternative – Oak Park Road Projects

Preferred Alternative

- The preferred alternative alignment and profile for the Oak Park Road Trunk Watermain and Oak Park Road Trunk Sewer are shown below.

Evaluation Category	Alternative 1
Technical Feasibility	• Shortest possible route alignment • Aligns with existing trunk water infrastructure
Environmental Impacts	• Limited environmental impacts as alignment is in an area which has already been disturbed
Social / Cultural Impacts	• Shortest possible route alignment • Minimizes impact to businesses along Savannah Oaks Drive • Avoids areas of cultural significance and archaeological potential
Financial Viability	• Lowest cost due to shortest distance
Evaluation Result	**Carried Forward**

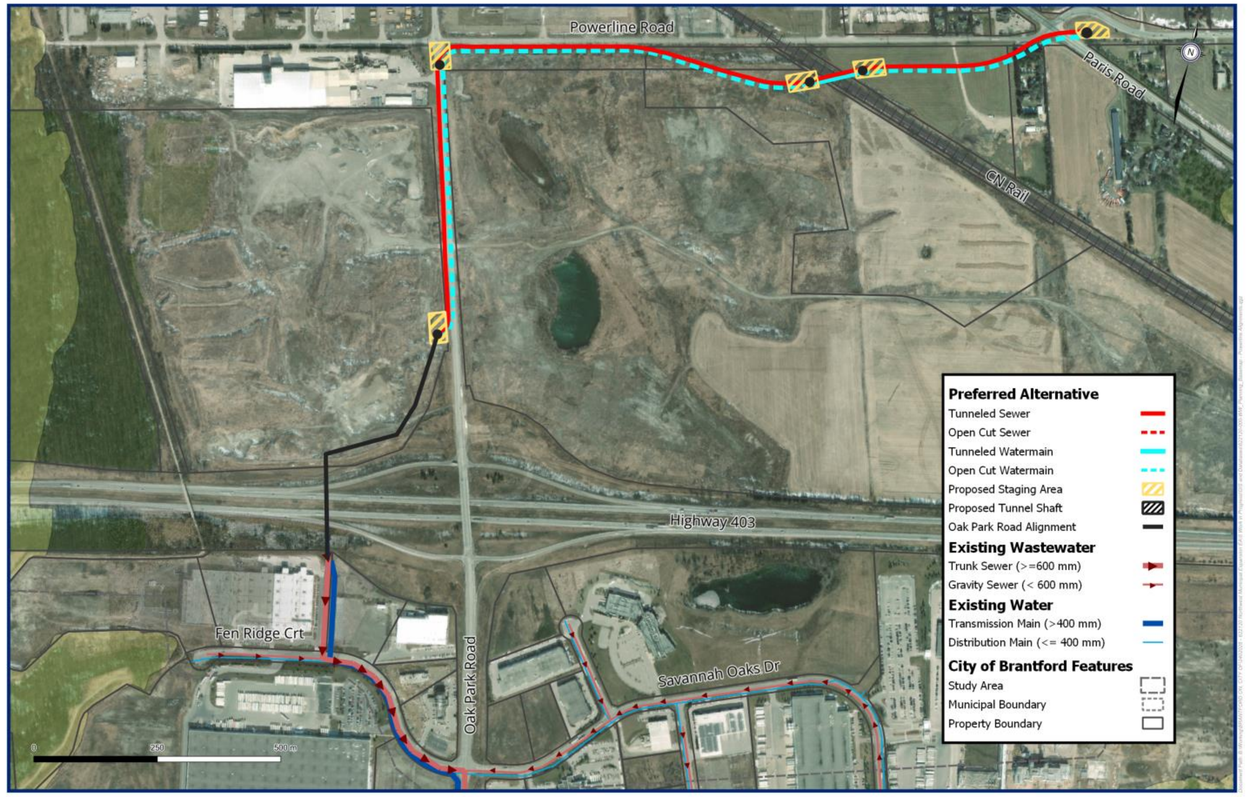


Water / Wastewater Preferred Alternative – Powerline Road Projects

Preferred Alternative

- The preferred alternative alignment and profile for the Powerline Road Trunk Watermain and Powerline Road Trunk Sewer are shown below.

Evaluation Category	Alternative 1
Technical Feasibility	• Proximity to Hydro One infrastructure on Powerline Road • Opportunity for project phasing • Opportunity for connection to County of Brant
Environmental Impacts	• Limited environmental impacts as alignment is in an area which has already been disturbed
Social / Cultural Impacts	• Moderate impact to residents and businesses during construction • Areas of archaeological potential east of CN Rail
Financial Viability	• Estimated cost is within 20% of lowest cost estimate
Evaluation Result	**Carried Forward**



Growth Strategy & Infrastructure Needs

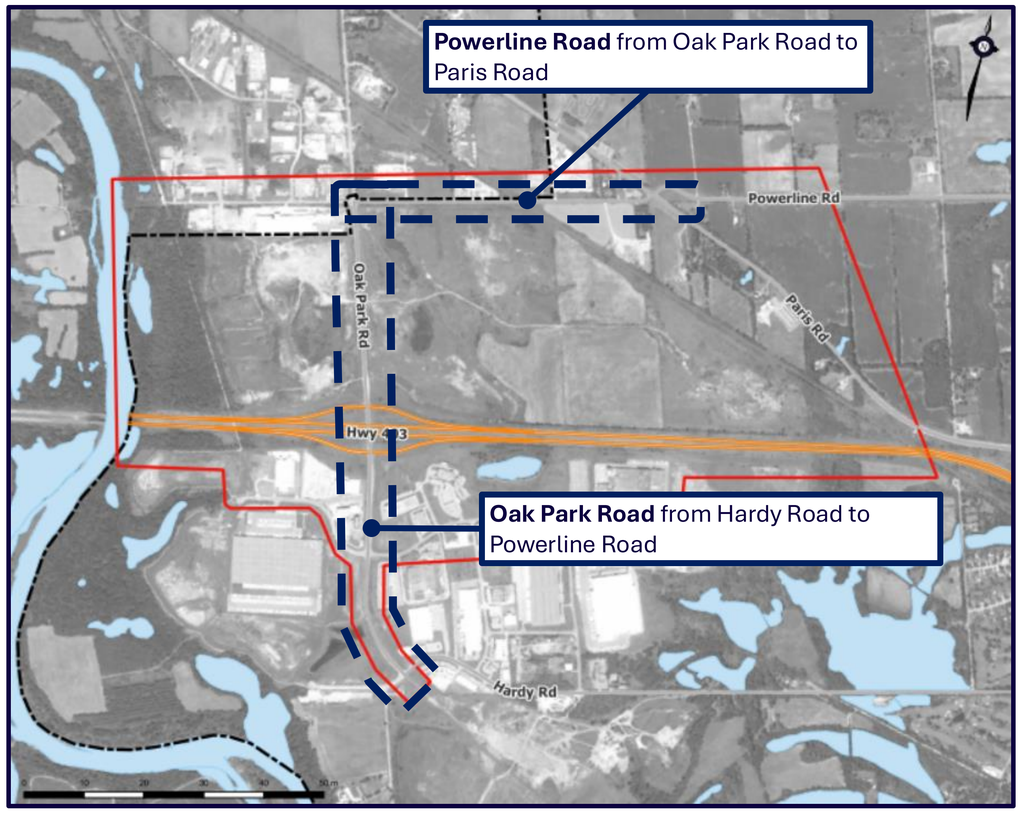
As part of the Northwest Services Expansion Environmental Assessments (EA) project, the City of Brantford (the City) is undertaking two separate Schedule 'C' transportation projects for **Oak Park Road** and **Powerline Road**.

Oak Park Road Corridor Focus

- Key arterial route connecting to Highway 403
- Study area includes 6 major intersections
- Traffic data (2015–2023) shows current performance is acceptable, but future volumes (2051) will exceed capacity

Identified Needs

- Need for additional capacity
- Improve multimodal connectivity (transit, cycling, goods movement)
- Widening Oak Park Road to 4 lanes with active transportation facilities
- Connect to existing interchange (modification to interchange beyond proposed plan in the 2006 PDR subject to consultation with MTO)



Transportation Project Study Areas

Powerline Road Corridor Focus

- East-west arterial movement
- Study area includes 2 major intersections
- 2051 forecast showing congestion without upgrades
- Significant constraints due to utilities and at grade railway crossing

Identified Needs

- Need for additional capacity
- Minimize impact to adjacent utilities
- Improve multimodal connectivity (transit, cycling, goods movement)
- Widen Powerline Road to 4 lanes with active transportation facilities

Transportation Evaluation Criteria

Assessment Criteria for Intersection Design Alternatives

The following criteria were used to assess the design alternatives for the intersections within Oak Park Road and Powerline Road

Socio-Economic Environment

- Property
- Access
- Municipal Policies and Priorities
- Land Use
- Community Effects

Transportation & Technical

- Traffic Operations & Safety
- Active Transportation
- Accessibility
- Utilities
- Maintenance / Operations
- Constructability
- Cost

Natural Environment

- Climate Change
- Natural Heritage
- Surface Water and Stormwater Management

Cultural Environment

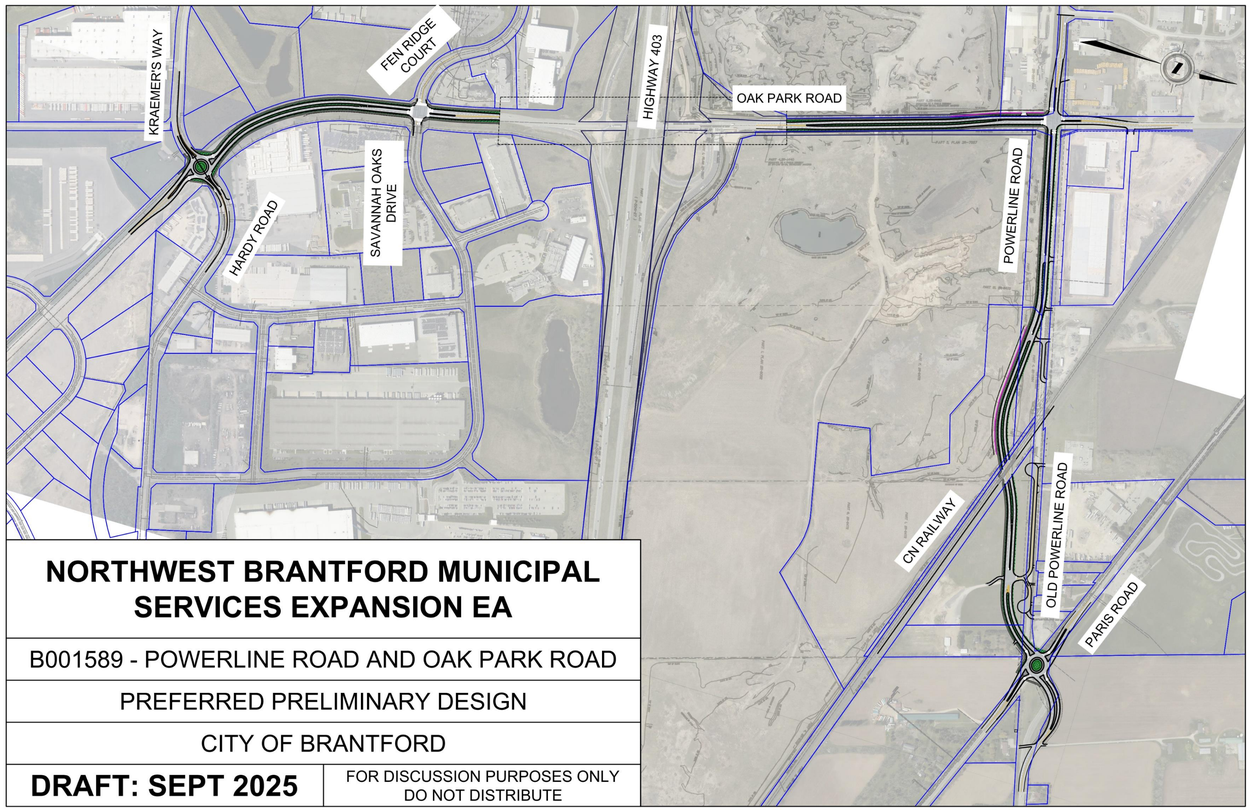
- Archaeological Resources
- Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes

Preferred Solution & Design Alternative

A rage of Alternative Solutions and Alternatives Designs, as well as associated analysis and evaluation were presented at previous PICs; the following were confirmed as the Preferred:

Oak Park Road Preferred Alternative

- 36 m ROW
- Widen Oak Park Road to 4 lanes with 3.5 m multi-use paths, 5 m centre median, and turning lanes
- Tie into existing Highway 403 interchange (interim active transportation connection over Highway 403 via Fen Ridge Court)
- Roundabout at Oak Park Road & Hardy Road / Kraemer's Way
- Signalized Intersection at Oak Park Road & Fen Ridge Court / Savannah Oaks Drive
- Signalized Intersection at Oak Park Road & Powerline Road

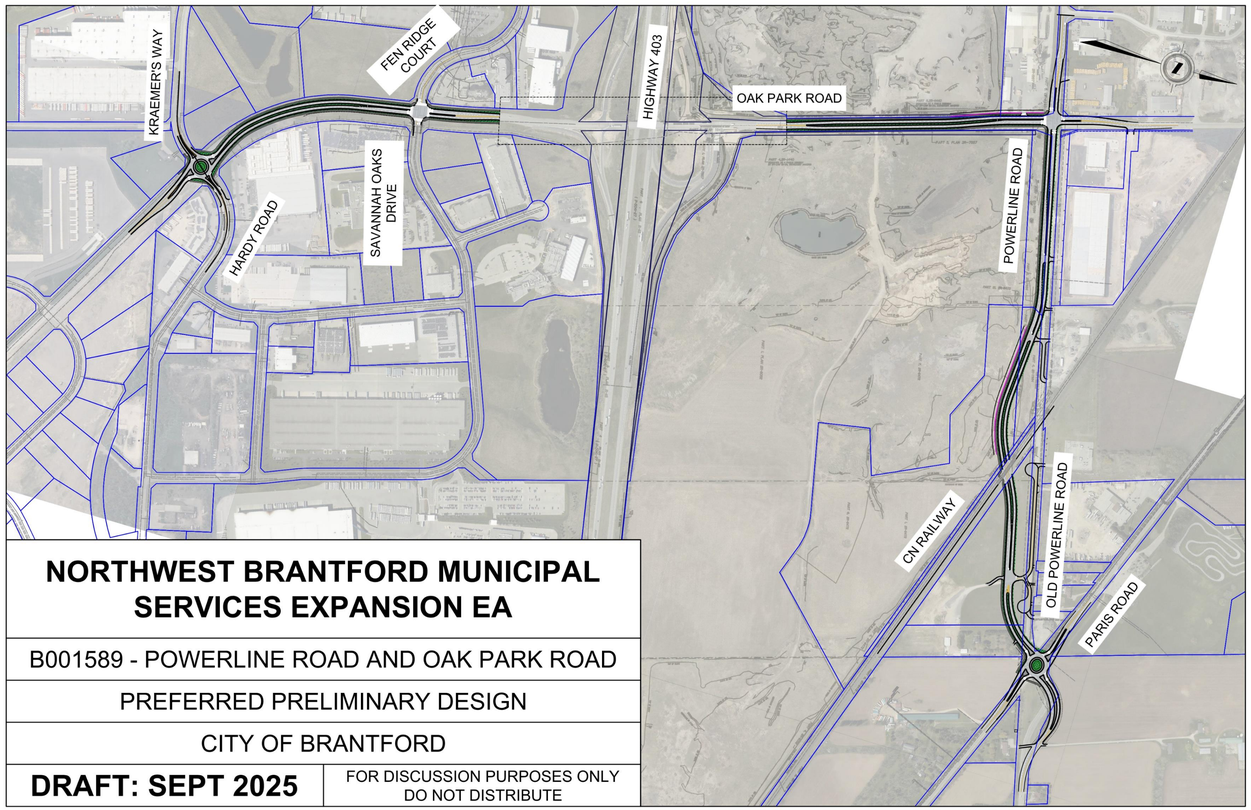


Preferred Solution & Design Alternative

A range of Alternative Solutions and Alternatives Designs, as well as associated analysis and evaluation were presented at previous PICs; the following were confirmed as the Preferred:

Powerline Road Preferred Alternative

- 40 m ROW
- Widen Powerline Road from 2 to 4 lanes with 3.5 m multi-use path (south side only), 5 m median, turning lanes
- Minor shift South to realign CN Rail crossing
- Roundabout at Powerline Road & Paris Road
- Signalized Intersection at Oak Park Road & Powerline Road
- At grade crossing at railway (need for grade separation will be subject to future study)



Stormwater
Problem & Opportunity Statements

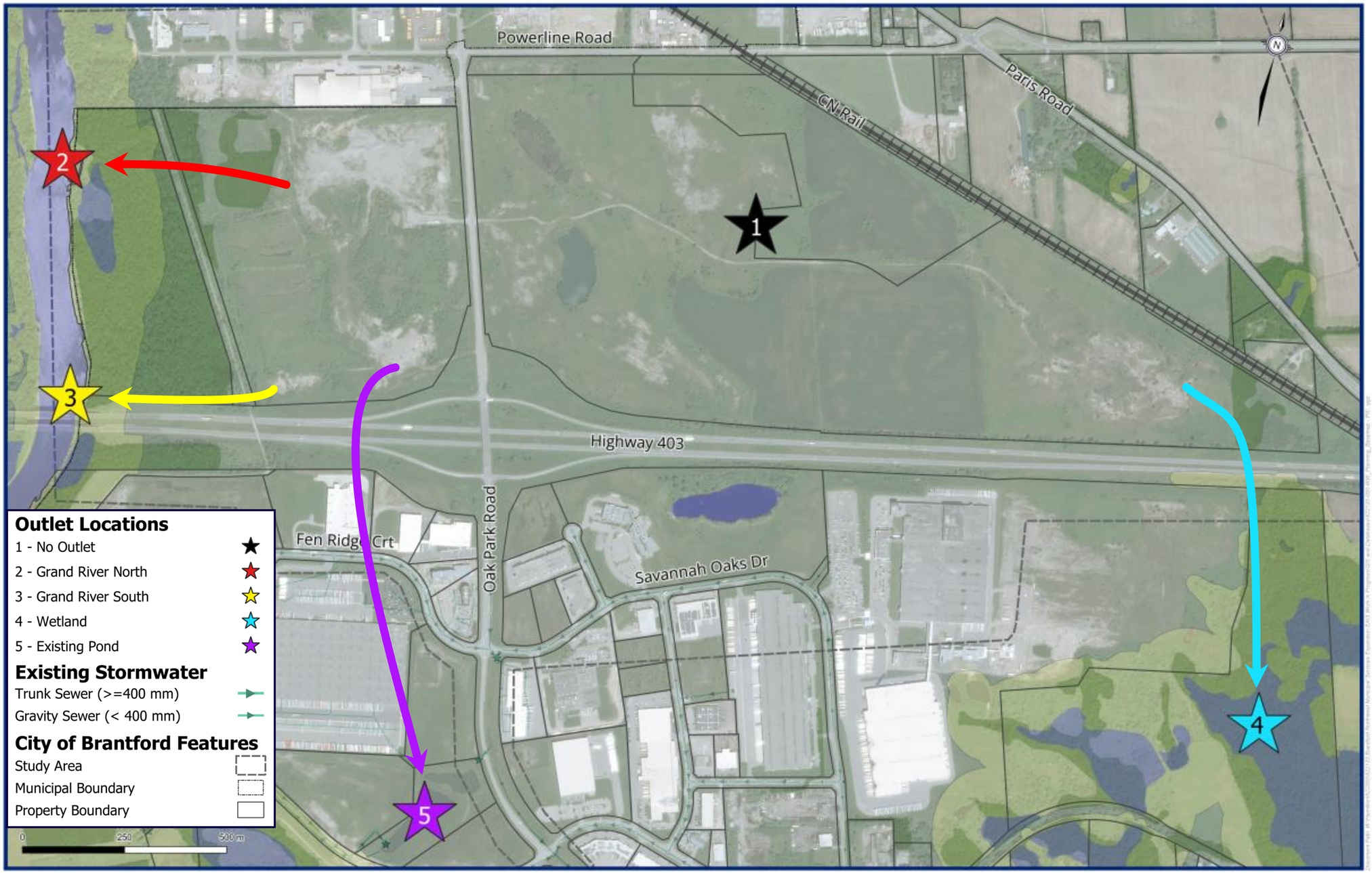
Northwest Municipal Expansion Services

Stormwater Project

- Stormwater Management in Grand River Northwest Catchment

Identify and develop a holistic stormwater management strategy for the lands in the City's Grand River Northwest Catchment with consideration for stormwater flows, water quality, groundwater recharge, source water protection, risk management, and the potential impact of climate change on storm characteristics.

Stormwater Long List of Alternatives



Stormwater Evaluation Criteria

Social / Cultural

- Minimizes impacts to residents and businesses, including feedback from community
- Manages and minimizes construction impacts
- Protects built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes
- Protects Indigenous Rights, Protect Indigenous Community interests, and Protect archeological resources

Technical Feasibility

- Meets existing and future servicing needs
- Aligns with planned system strategy and configuration, including consistency with City Planning and Policies
- Provides adequate flooding protection
- Maintains groundwater recharge
- Minimizes impacts downstream of outlet
- Minimizes conflict with existing infrastructure and utilities
- Optimizes useable land while limiting additional infrastructure and / or grading
- Minimizes and manages construction risk

Environmental Impacts

- Protects environmental and natural heritage features
- Protects significant wildlife, wildlife habitat, Species at Risk, fish and fish habitat
- Minimizes climate change impacts

Financial Feasibility

- Low lifecycle cost, including capital and operating & maintenance

Stormwater Long List of Alternatives

- Future development requires identification of an appropriate management strategy to safely manage stormwater flows while addressing watershed quantity and quality requirements.
- Focus of the stormwater solution is to provide an appropriate outlet for storm flows which can manage flows from the development and upstream County of Brant lands.

1. No outlet – all water infiltrates
2. Outlet to the Grand River on the north side of the study area
3. Outlet to the Grand River on the south side of the study area,
4. Outlet to the wetland southeast of the study area
5. Outlet to an existing stormwater management pond, requiring crossing of Highway 403

Stormwater Screening Criteria & Results

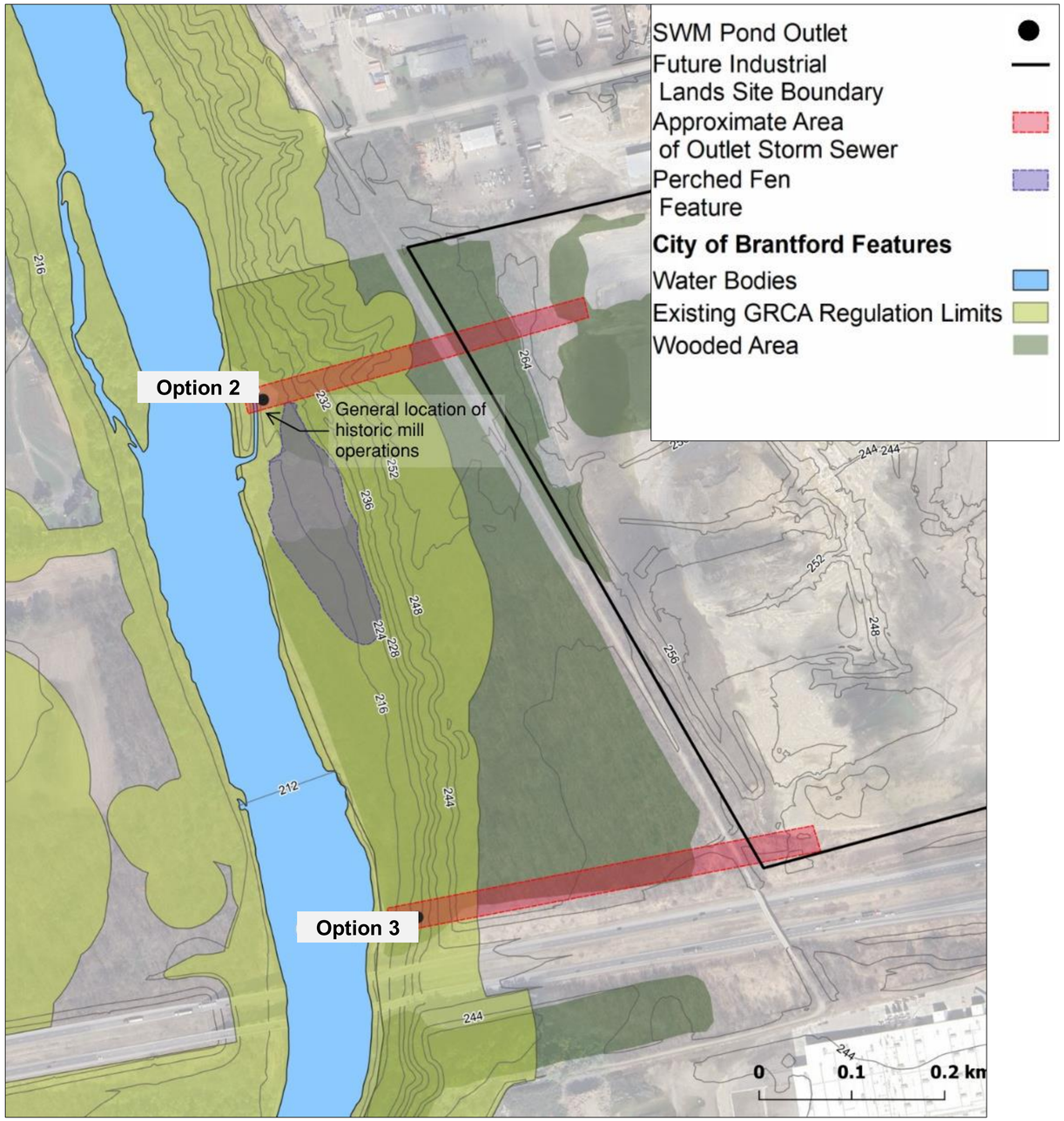
Screening Criteria

- ✓Addresses Flooding Risk
- ✓Outlet Capacity and Management Requirements
- ✓Maintains Existing Hydrology
- ✓Integration with Existing Infrastructure
- ✓Minimizes External Property and Easement Requirements
- ✓Construction Impacts and Complexity
- ✓Minimizes Environmental and Cultural Impacts

Alternative	Screening Result
1 – No Outlet	**Not Carried Forward**: Unlikely to provide adequate protection against flooding risk
2 – Grand River North	**Carried Forward**
3 – Grand River 403	**Carried Forward**
4 – Southeast Wetland	**Not Carried Forward**: Limited outlet capacity, significant regrading required, and significant environmental and cultural impacts
5 – Existing Pond	**Not Carried Forward:** Insufficient capacity at the existing stormwater management pond for 100-year design storm, additional topographical constraints

Stormwater Short List of Alternatives

	Advantages	Disadvantages
Option 2	• Provides adequate flooding protection • No constraints regarding outlet capacity • Furthest outlet from water intake	• Easement / land acquisition needs to accommodate new outlet • Construction within Provincially Significant Woodland • Potential environmental and cultural impacts due to new outlet
Option 3	• Provides adequate flooding protection • No constraints regarding outlet capacity	• Easement required for construction, particularly along Highway 403 • Construction within Provincially Significant Woodland • Potential environmental and cultural impacts due to new outlet



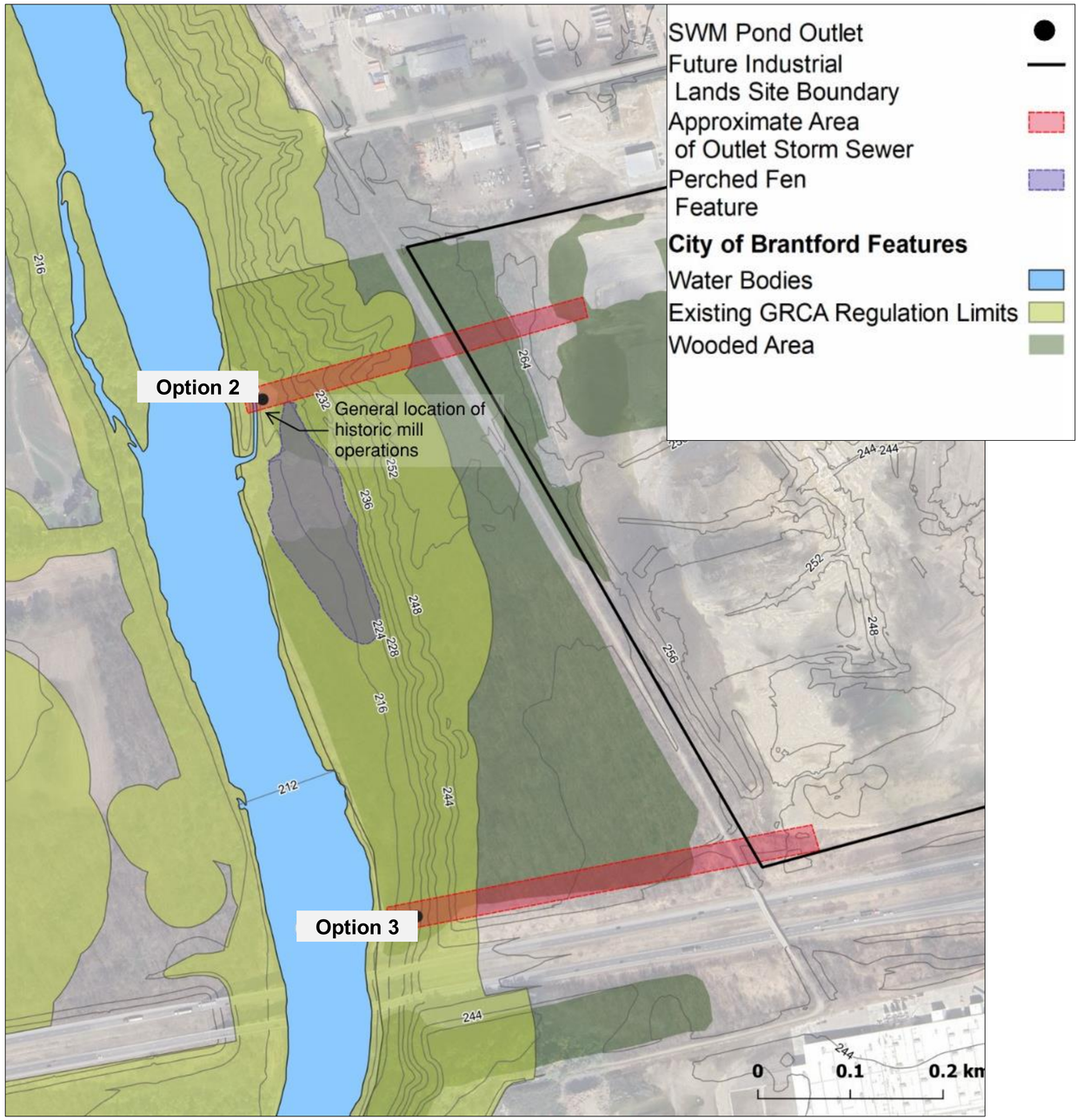
Option 2: Outlet to Grand River on North Side

The north outlet location is located at the northwest corner of the study area. The following features have been observed:

- A historical access route to an area that had previous mill operations
- A perched fen feature that is a significant source of biodiversity, Indigenous importance, and may foster traditional Indigenous plants as identified by Six Nations of the Grand River

While the historical access route can be beneficial for construction of the outlet, natural heritage and environmental concerns for both the historical mill location and the perched fern feature must be considered.

This option has been carried forward for further review.



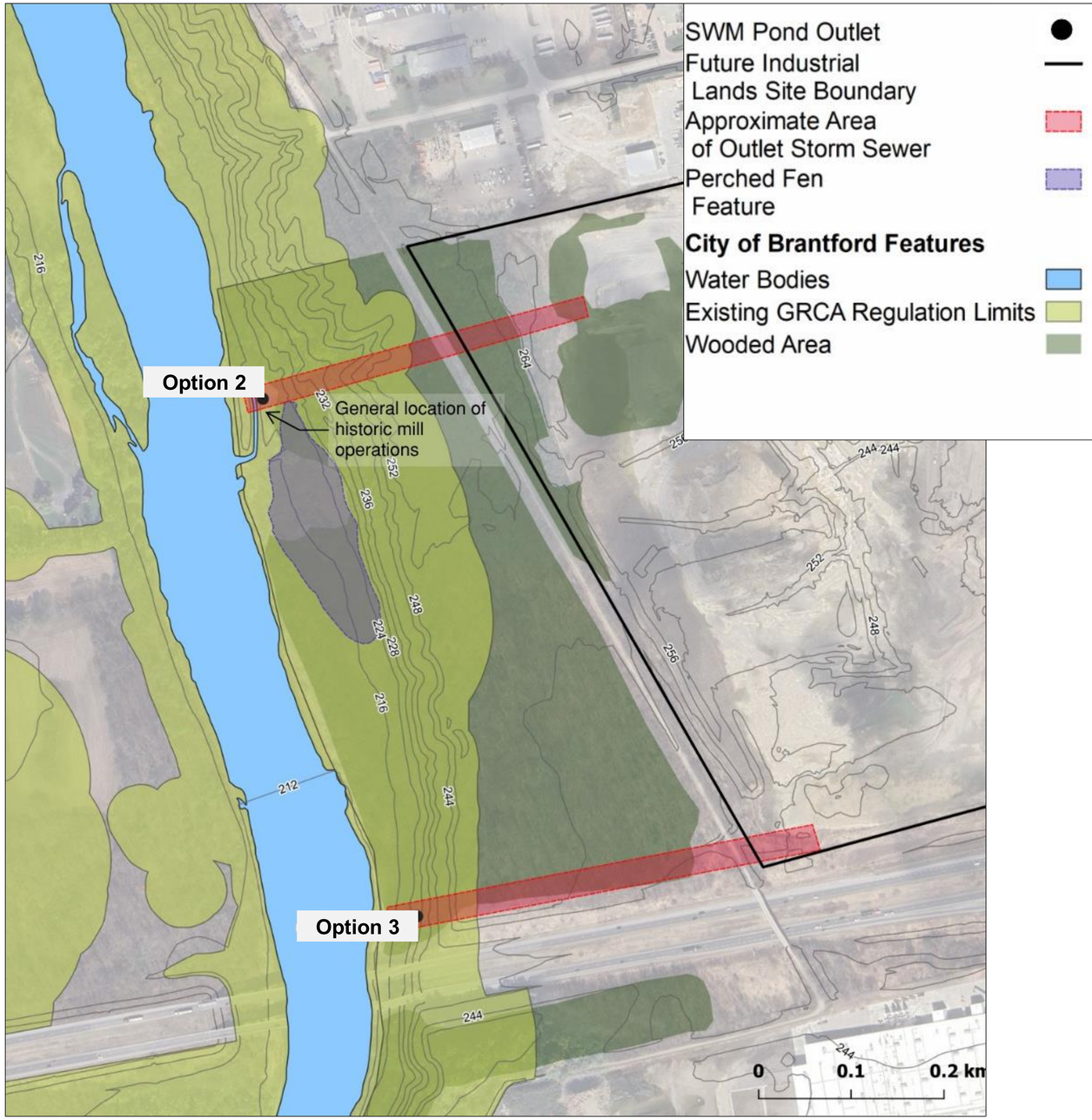
Option 3: Outlet to Grand River on South Side

The south outlet location is based on the existing outlet for the Highway 403 ditch discharge location. For this option, the pond location would be at the southwest corner of the proposed site.

- Proposed pond location for this option may not be preferred by the developer due to its frontage along Highway 403
- Additional coordination with MTO will also be required for this site.
- Outlet area already disturbed by existing Highway 403 outlet

This option has been carried forward for further review.

*It is anticipated that **Option 3** will be the preferred alternative based on environmental and cultural assessments to-date; this will be further confirmed upon finalization of technical reports.*



Next Steps

- Final preferred alternative for outlet location will be provided based on a comprehensive analysis including:
- Consultation with:
  - Indigenous Communities;
  - GRCA;
  - Provincial Agencies;
  - Landowners; and,
  - Other Stakeholders
- Inputs from technical studies including:
  - Natural Heritage Reports
  - Cultural Heritage Reports
  - Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment Reports
  - Fluvial Geomorphology Studies
  - Erosion Risk Assessments
- **From an engineering perspective both Option 2 and Option 3 are feasible alternatives; Option 3 may be the preferred alternative based on natural heritage, environmental, and cultural heritage assessments to-date.**
- Final outlet location will be determined through the completion of the Project File Report

Northwest Municipal Services Expansion Environmental Assessments

Stay Engaged!

- ✓ Please sign in and take a comment sheet.
- ✓ Have a look at the project information on display and chat with the Project Team.
- ✓ Provide your feedback regarding the information presented by **November 15**

Visit the study website at:
Brantford.ca/NW_ServicesExpansion

Do you have any questions, comments, or want to stay up to date?

Please contact us anytime!

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