Appendix C Socio-Economic Environment

City Of Windsor

October 2015 – 13-8295

Sixth Concession Road/North Talbot Road

Class Environmental Assessment

DILLONCONSULTING

MEMO



TO: Jennifer Leitzinger, City of Windsor

FROM: Paula Neto, Dillon Consulting Limited

DATE: January 28, 2014 (revised June 2015)

SUBJECT: Socio-Economic Existing Conditions Review

Sixth Concession/North Talbot Road Class EA

OUR FILE: 13-8295

The City of Windsor retained Dillon Consulting Limited to undertake a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for potential improvements to the Sixth Concession Road/North Talbot Road corridors. The limits of the study area are Sixth Concession Road, from Cabana Road East to North Talbot Road (approximate distance 2.1 km) and North Talbot Road from Howard Avenue to the east City limits (approximate distance 1.9 km).

The purpose of this memo is to summarize the socio-economic background review, including existing land uses, current/proposed future development activity within the study area and conformity to the City of Windsor's Official Plan, municipal transportation policies and the Provincial Policy Statement. An overview of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment completed by Fisher Archeological Consulting (FAC) is also provided.

EXISTING LAND USES

Land uses along North Talbot Road and Sixth Concession Road are primarily residential, consisting of single-family dwelling units. Additional land uses include:

- A restaurant and convenience store are located on southeast corner of the Howard Avenue/ North Talbot Road intersection
- Stoneybrook Park and North Talbot Park are located east of Sixth Concession Road on North Talbot Road
- The Extendicare Southwood Lakes long-term care facility is located on North Talbot Road, east of the study area, near Highway 401
- An ESSO station and convenience store is located north of the rail line on the east side of Sixth Concession Road. An auto body repair shop is located on the west side of the road.
- An auto services shop and a boat centre are located north of Provincial Road on the west side of Sixth Concession Road
- A motel is located on Cabana Road East, just west of the intersection at Sixth Concession Road

An elevated overpass carries traffic on Sixth Concession Road over the Dougall Parkway.

The Walkerville 8 bus route services a portion of Sixth Concession Road from Holburn Street, south to North Talbot Road and travels east on North Talbot Road to Walker Road. There are no extra transit routes for the Talbot Trail Public School (serviced by school buses).

OFFICIAL PLAN & MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

City of Windsor Official Plan

To facilitate future planning, the City of Windsor is divided into a number of planning districts. As shown on *Schedule A, Planning Districts & Policy Areas*, of the Official Plan, the majority of the study area is located within the Roseland Planning District. The northern portion of the study area falls within the Devonshire Planning District. The eastern portion of the study area falls within the North Roseland Secondary Plan area.

As shown on *Schedule B*, *Greenway System*, both corridors are designated as "Proposed Recreationways" and that the southern portion of Sixth Concession Road (from north of Dougall Parkway to North Talbot Road) is an existing "Recreationway". A Recreationway is a planned network of multi-use pedestrian and cycling trails designed to serve recreational areas.

As shown on *Schedule C, Development Constraint Areas*, there are no constraints within the study area. A natural heritage area is located on the north side of Division Road/Cabana Road East, just beyond the northern limits of the project. The Windsor International Airport and associated airport operating area are located to the east and northeast of the intersection of Sixth Concession and Cabana Road.

As shown on *Schedule D*, *Land Use*, lands along North Talbot Road and Sixth Concession Road are primarily designated "Residential". Permitted uses include:

- low, medium and high profile dwelling units
- community services and minor institutional uses
- neighbourhood commercial uses
- open spaces
- emergency services
- home based occupations

The garden centre on the north side of North Talbot Road, east of Northwood Lakes Drive, preexisted the current "Residential" designation and is considered a permitted use.

Lands north of the rail crossing on Sixth Concession Road, including those at the Provincial Road/Sixth Concession Road and Cabana Road East/Sixth Concession Road intersections are designated "Commercial Corridor". These lands are intended for vehicle oriented commercial uses such as retail, wholesale stores and office uses. North of Provincial Road lands along the east side of Sixth Concession Road are designated "Residential".

As shown on *Schedule F*, *Roads and Bikeways*, North Talbot Road and Sixth Concession Road are designated as "Class 1 Collector Road" and are designed to carry moderate volumes of traffic with a minimum right-of-way width of 28 metres. The posted speed limit is 50 km/h on both North Talbot Road and Sixth Concession Road. Direct property access may be permitted with some controls. Both corridors are also designated as "Proposed Bikeway". One section of Sixth Concession south of Holburn Street is an established "Bikeway". The Dougall Parkway is a designated "Expressway" that connects at Sixth Concession Road.

North Roseland Secondary Plan

As shown on *Schedule NR2-1* (**Appendix A**), the North Roseland Planning Area Secondary Plan applies to the area bounded by CN/CP railway tracks on the north/northeast, Sixth Concession Road on the west and Highway 401 on the south/southeast. The area encompasses approximately 108 hectares and is referred to as the North Roseland Planning Area.

According to Schedule NR2-7 (Appendix A), Land Use Designations and Concept Plan, most of the area is designated as "Low Profile Residential". Lands along Ducharme Street are designated "Minor Institutional" and "Community Park" to accommodate Talbot Trail Public School and Captain John Wilson Park. A naturalized stormwater retention pond is located next to the park. Lands designated "Mixed Use" at the Holburn Street/Ducharme Street intersection are reserved for medium/high profile residential development, neighbourhood commercial development, community facilities and/or other institutional uses (e.g. places of worship and day nurseries). These lands remain undeveloped. As per Schedule D, Land Use of the Official Plan, the parcels fronting Walker Road were re-designated from "Business Park" to "Commercial Corridor" by OPA 32 and OPA 23. Most of these lands are vacant, with the exception of the Empire Roofing Corporation, located on the east of Walker Road.

City of Windsor Bicycle Use Master Plan

The Bicycle Use Master Plan (May 2001) aims to expand the City's existing cycling network, promote awareness, improve the cycling-transit link and provide end-of-trip facilities. According to the Recommended Primary Cycling Network (Map 5) (**Appendix A**), bike lanes are recommended along North Talbot Road and Sixth Concession Road. The Master Plan identifies these bike lanes as achievable in the longer term (years 5 through 20).

Official Plan Schedules and maps discussed above are included in **Appendix A**.

Community Based Strategic Rail Study

The Community Based Strategic Rail Study (April 2008) is a strategic planning study to assess opportunities for rail rationalization and modal integration in the City. The study identifies a number of at-grade rail crossings, including one along Sixth Concession Road. Better design and signage is recommended to reduce impacts to local road traffic and improve safety for pedestrians and road users. The removal of redundant rail corridors, including the CASO Subdivision that crosses Sixth Concession, is identified as a key feature of the ultimate scenario.

PROVINCIAL POLICY STATEMENT

The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) issued under the *Planning Act* (March 2005), requires that any municipal decisions be "consistent" with the PPS. The PPS defines "Transportation Systems" as "a system consisting of corridors and rights-of-way for the movement of people and goods." The consistency of the proposed improvements to the Sixth Concession Road/North Talbot Road corridors to PPS policies for transportation systems is summarized as follows:

- The improvements are safe, energy efficient, facilitate(s) the movement of people and goods, and appropriate to address projected needs (Section 1.6.5.1). The study will address impacts on the adjacent arterial/collector road network and existing/future land uses, provisions for pedestrian and bikeway connections, traffic calming measures and drainage issues.
- The project makes efficient use of existing and planned infrastructure (Section 1.6.5.2)
- The project maintains "connectivity within and among transportation systems and modes" (Section 1.6.5.3)
- The planning and design process integrates transportation and land use planning considerations at all stages of the project (Section 1.6.5.5)

Infrastructure, such as transportation system, shall be provided in a coordinated, efficient and cost-effective manner to accommodate projected needs. The PPS also requires that planning for these facilities shall be integrated with planning for growth to meet current and projected needs. When planning infrastructure, the PPS requires that municipalities consider the significant resources protected by Section 2 of the PPS, "Wise Use and Management of Resources". The following summarizes how these resources are being considered in the planning and design process:

- The diversity and connectivity of natural features in an area, and the long-term ecological function and biodiversity of natural heritage systems, should be maintained, restored or, where possible, improved, recognizing linkages between and among natural heritage features and areas, surface water features and ground water features (Section 2.1.2). There are no watercourses or watercourse crossings and no significant terrestrial or aquatic habitats within the study area. Confirmation of Species at Risk, including reptiles/amphibians and plant species, is ongoing.
- All significant built heritage and cultural heritage landscapes shall be conserved (Section 2.6.1). There is no record of built heritage resources within the study area based on information contained in the Windsor Municipal Heritage Register (updated October 7, 2013).
- All significant archaeological resources must be conserved by removal and documentation
 or by preservation on site (Section 2.6.2). A Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment was
 completed and concluded that the study area has low potential for Aboriginal
 archaeological resources but high potential for historic Euro-Canadian material due to the
 historic nature of North Talbot and Sixth Concession roads. A Stage 2 Archaeological
 Assessment is recommended in undisturbed areas.

CURRENT & POTENTIAL FUTURE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

Large portions of the study area are already fully developed as residential. According to the City of Windsor Planning Department (November 2013), development potential within the study area includes:

- 1. A vacant former auto hauler site (14.7 ha) located north of Provincial Road (just outside the Study Area) is designated "Industrial" in the OP. It is possible that this parcel could be amended to another land use designation in the future.
- 2. An additional 350 detached dwellings is estimated for the Walker Gate Estates residential subdivision located between Walker Road and Sixth Concession Road.
- 3. Lots within Walker Gate Estates (Walker Road frontage) are designated for commercial use, although there are no approved site plans to develop either the north (2.3 ha) or south (1.4 ha) portions of these lands.
- 4. Existing plans of subdivision on the north side of North Talbot Road have provided for the future extension of Silverdale Drive and Dynasty Street. There are a number of larger lots that represent the rear portion of the lots fronting onto Howard Avenue; an estimated 150 single detached units could be located within this area.
- 5. In recent years, a 0.8 ha lot on the northeast corner of the North Talbot Road/Sixth Concession Road intersection has been the subject of a development application to allow for residential and commercial uses; five single detached dwellings (fronting on Pioneer Avenue), and a neighbourhood commercial development are proposed
- 6. 1.14 acre of commercial zoned vacant land at the southwest corner of Sixth Concession Road and Provincial Road intersection
- 7. 1325 Division Road a commercial zoned vacant land that is adjacent to the Division-Sixth Concession intersection
- 8. South side of North Talbot Road, east of Southwood Lakes property is privately owned and zoned Holding-RD1.4.

A reference map is included in **Appendix B**. The numbers shown on the map correspond to the numbering sequence used above.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Fisher Archaeological Consulting (FAC) completed a Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment (AA) of the Sixth Concession Road/ North Talbot Road study area. A Stage 1 AA consists of background research and a site inspection to determine the potential for the presence of undocumented cultural heritage resources and whether known cultural heritage resources exist within the study area. The archaeological study area consists solely of the current right-of-way (ROW) for North Talbot Road and Sixth Concession Road within the overall project area.

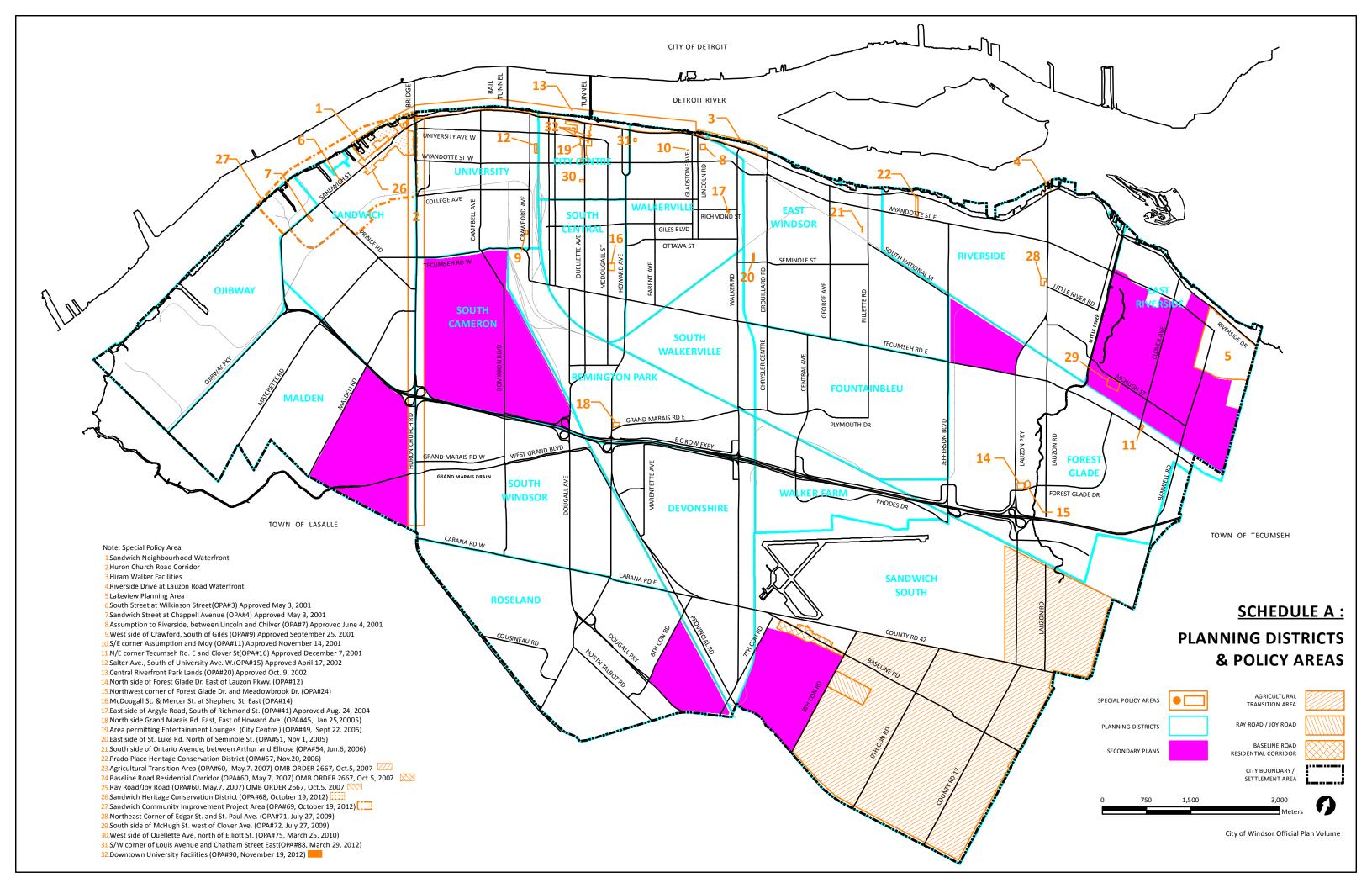
During the Stage 1 AA, FAC determined that the Sixth Concession Road/North Talbot Road ROW has low archaeological potential for Aboriginal sites. However, there is high potential for historic Euro-Canadian sites due to the mid-19th century construction of both roads, unless the ROW has been extensively disturbed in modern times. The field inspection confirmed that, while much of the archaeological study area has been disturbed by infrastructure (ditching, utilities, etc.) and adjacent subdivisions, there are sections of minimal to no apparent disturbance that may retain high archaeological potential.

Based on the findings of the Stage 1 AA, FAC recommended that:

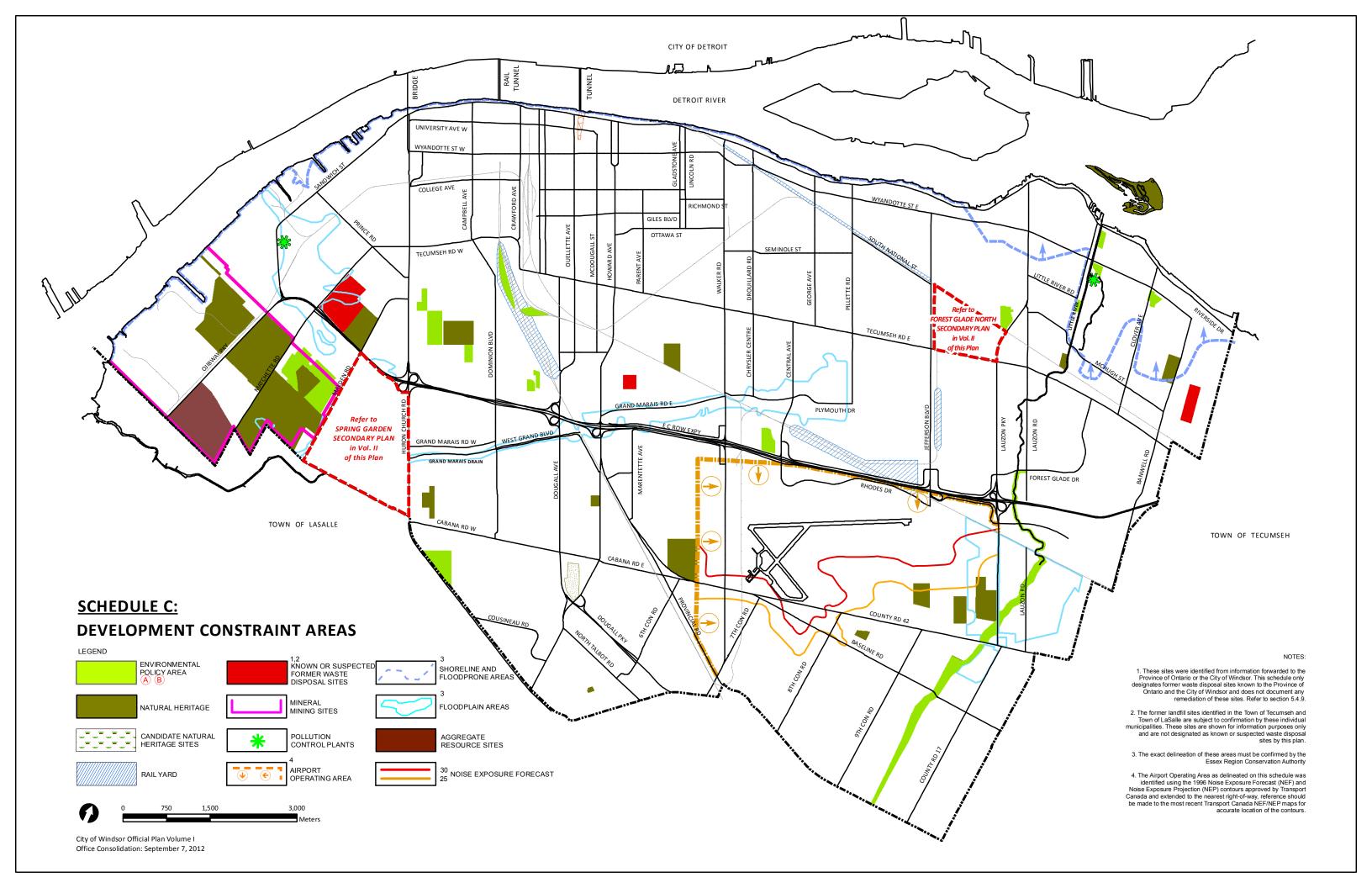
- A Stage 2 AA be conducted on the sections of the archaeological study area that may retain high potential, with the understanding that potential may be reduced during the assessment due to high levels of modern disturbance.
- Locations within the study area deemed to be of low potential require no further archaeological work.

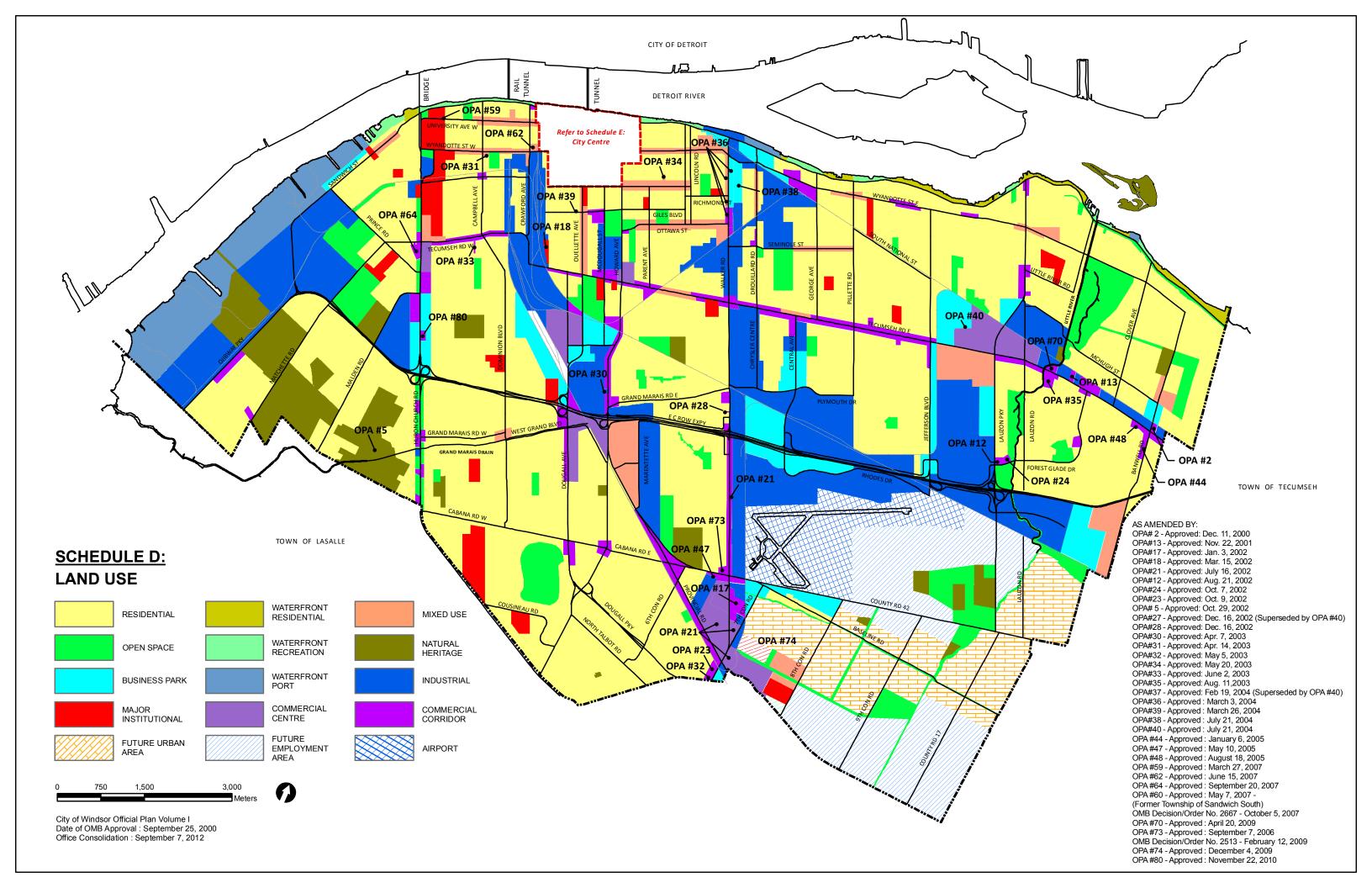
FAC's assessment is documented in a draft report dated January 17, 2014. The final report will be submitted by FAC to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports (MTCS). Archaeological clearance from MTCS will be required prior to construction. Relevant figures from the Stage 1 Assessment are included in **Appendix C**.

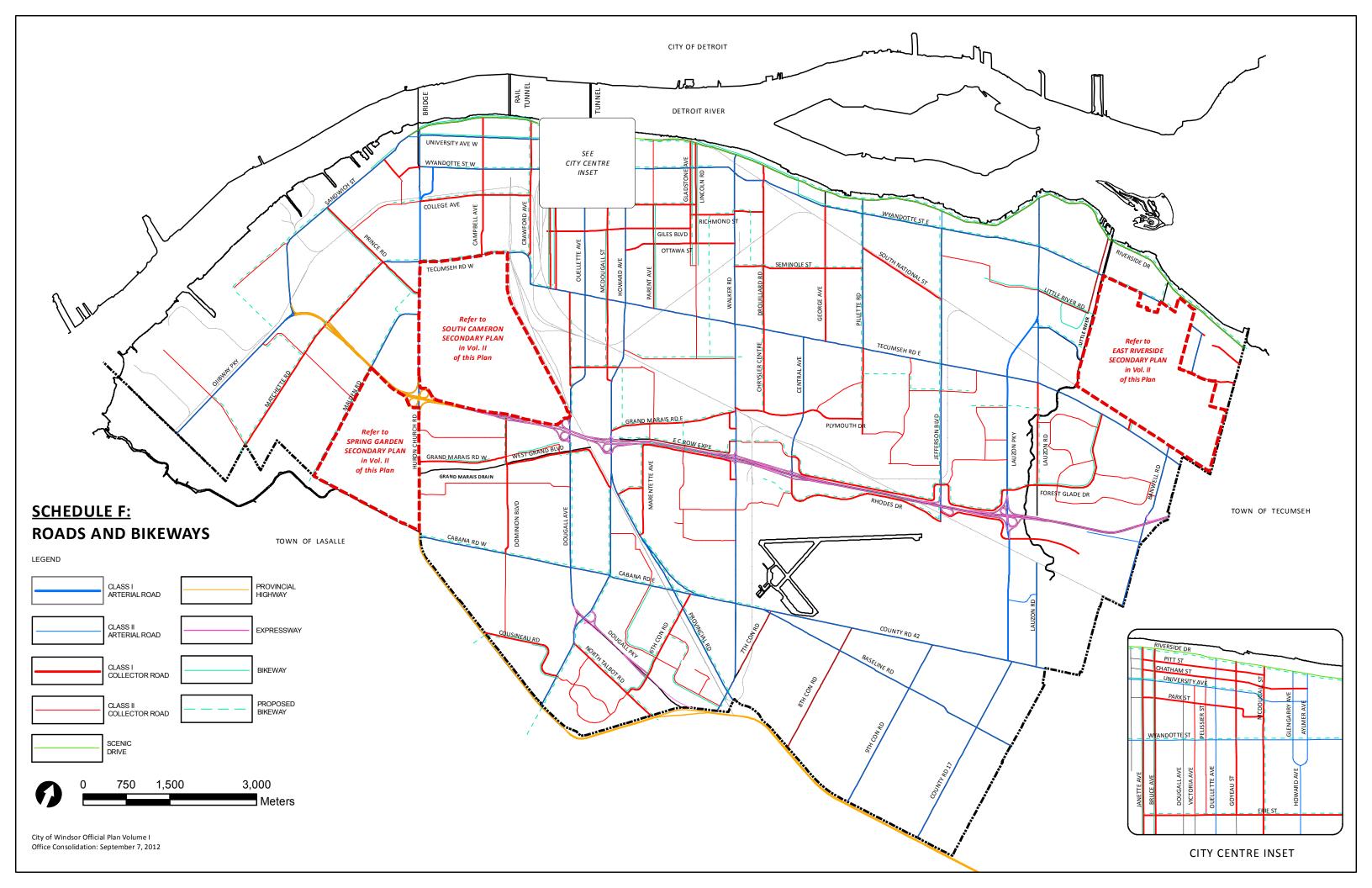


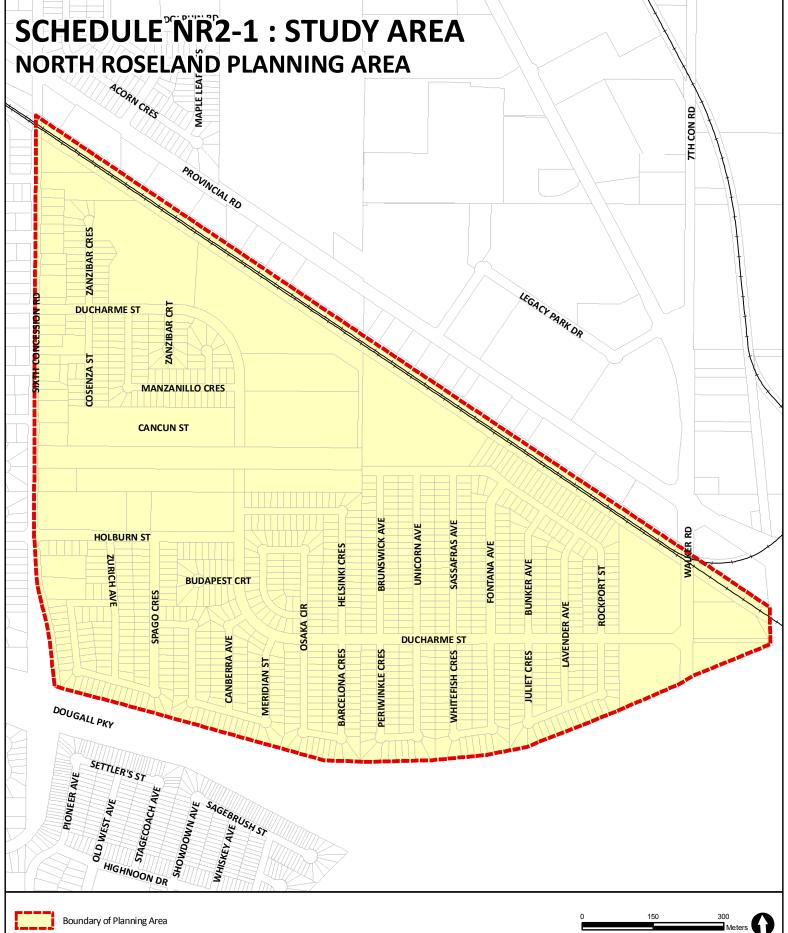


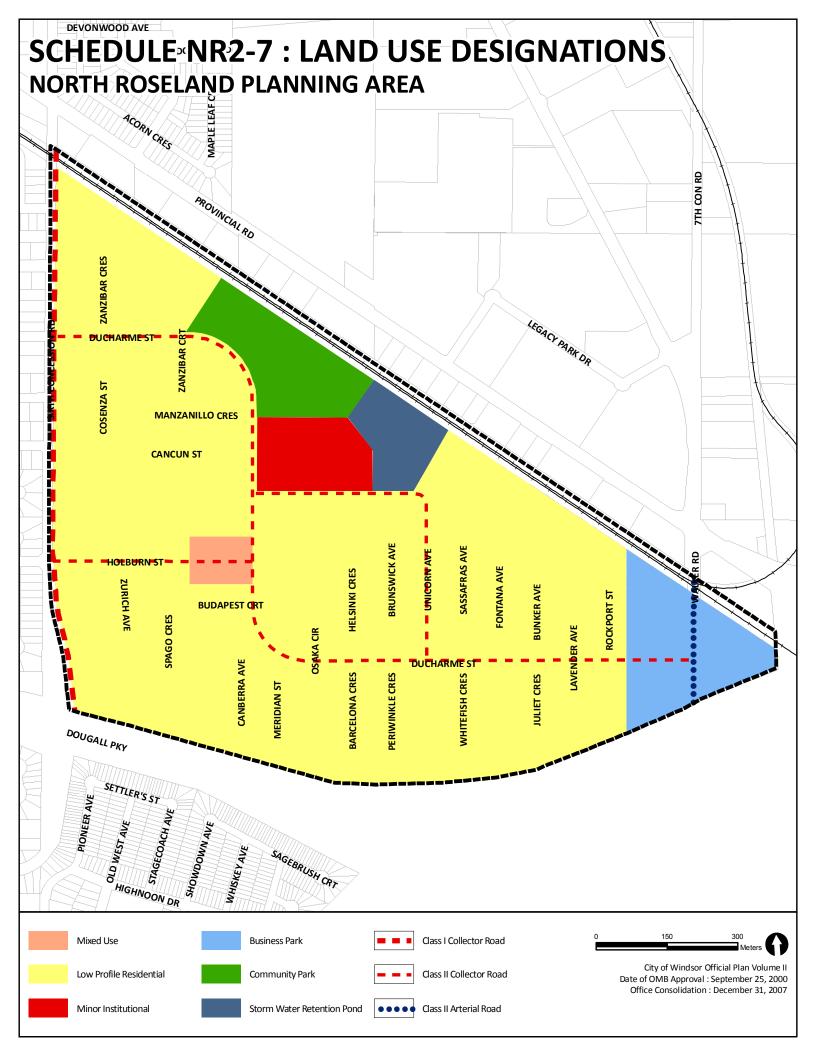


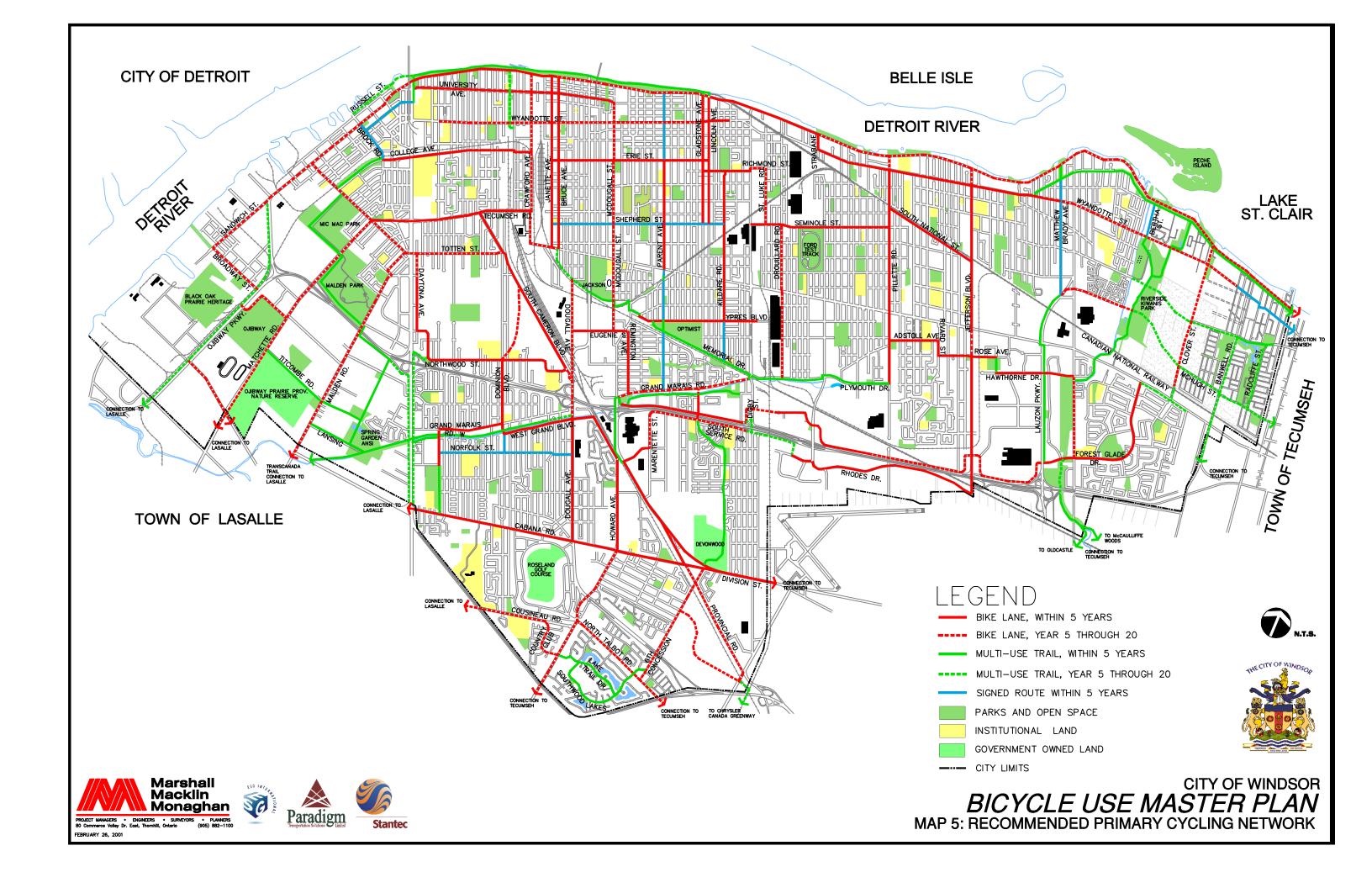


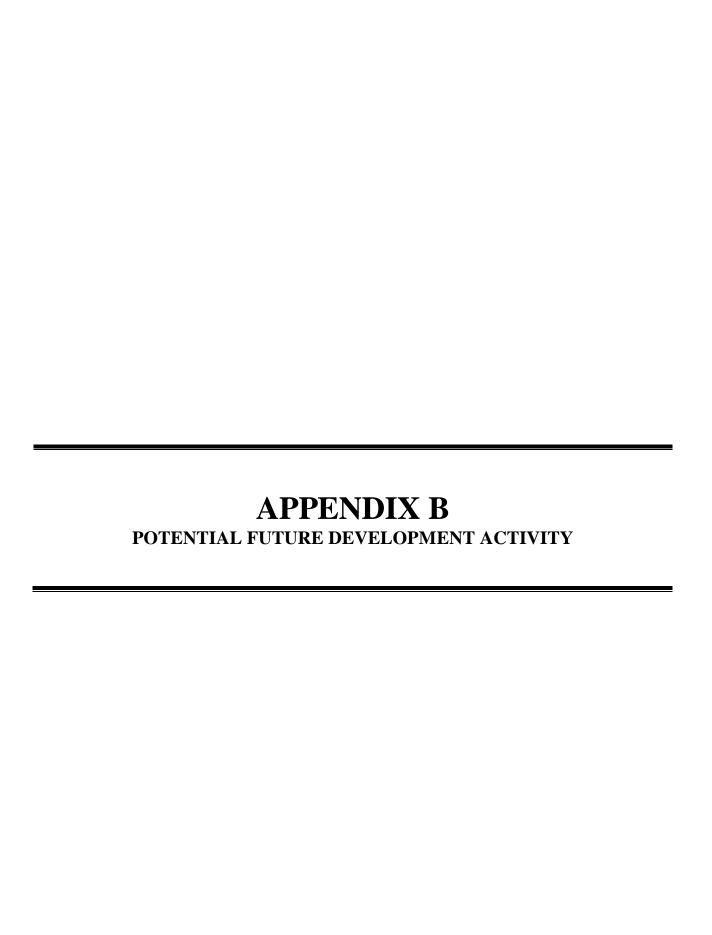




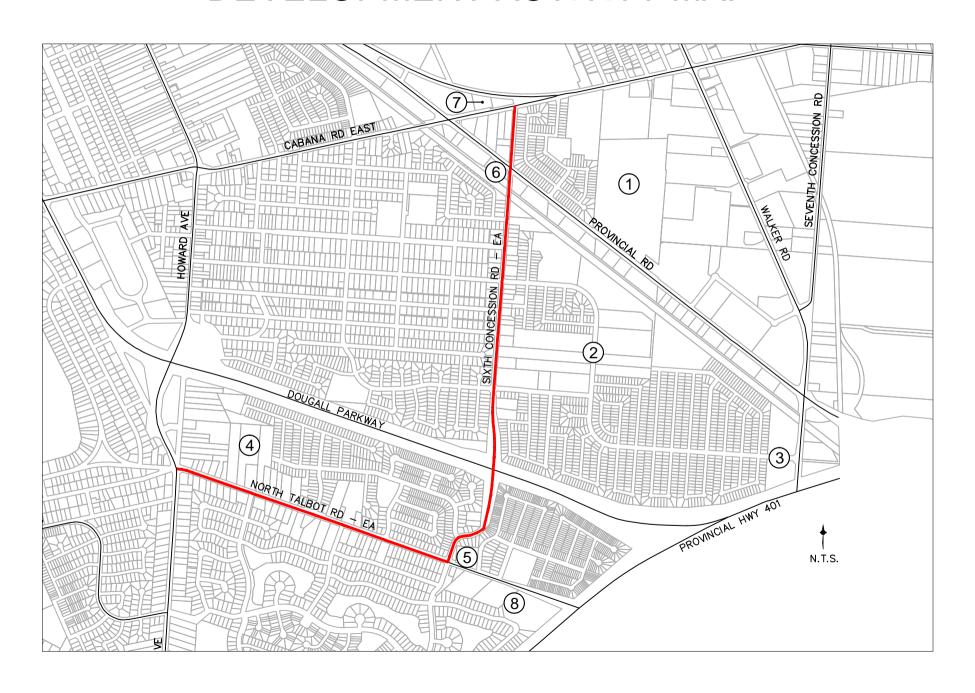


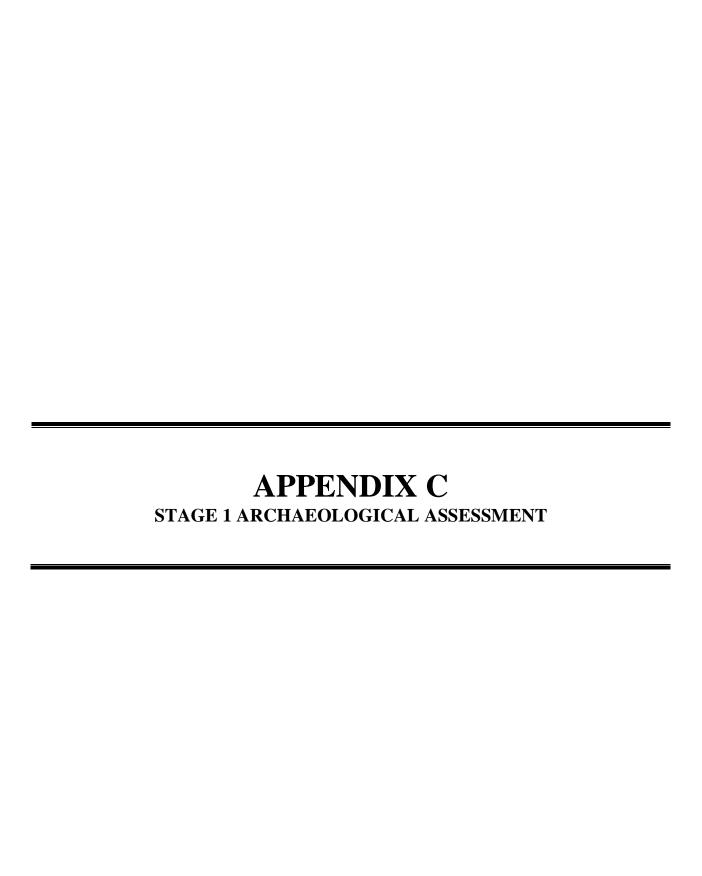


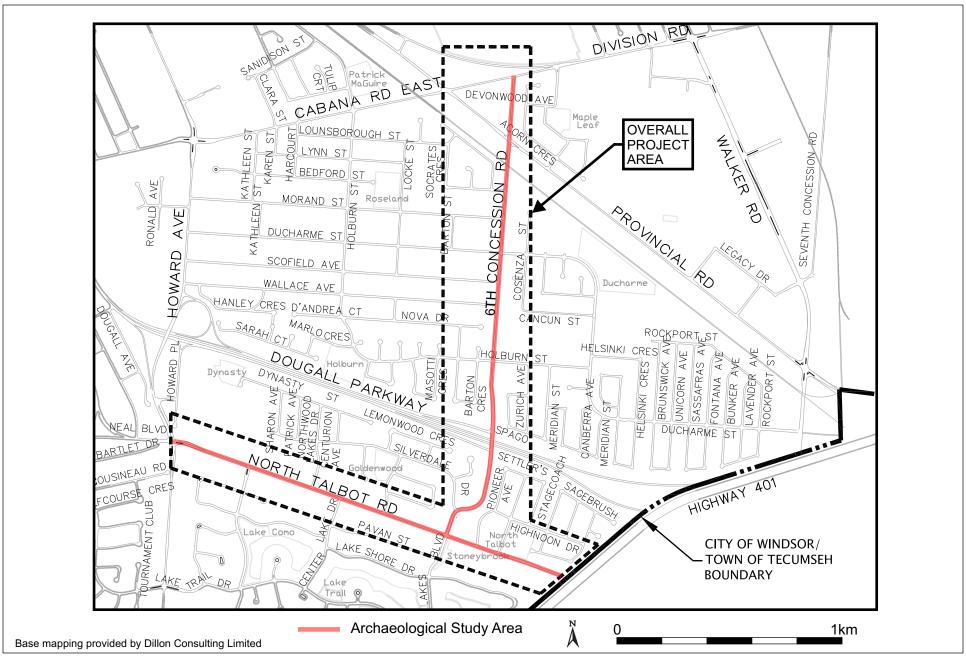




DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY MAP



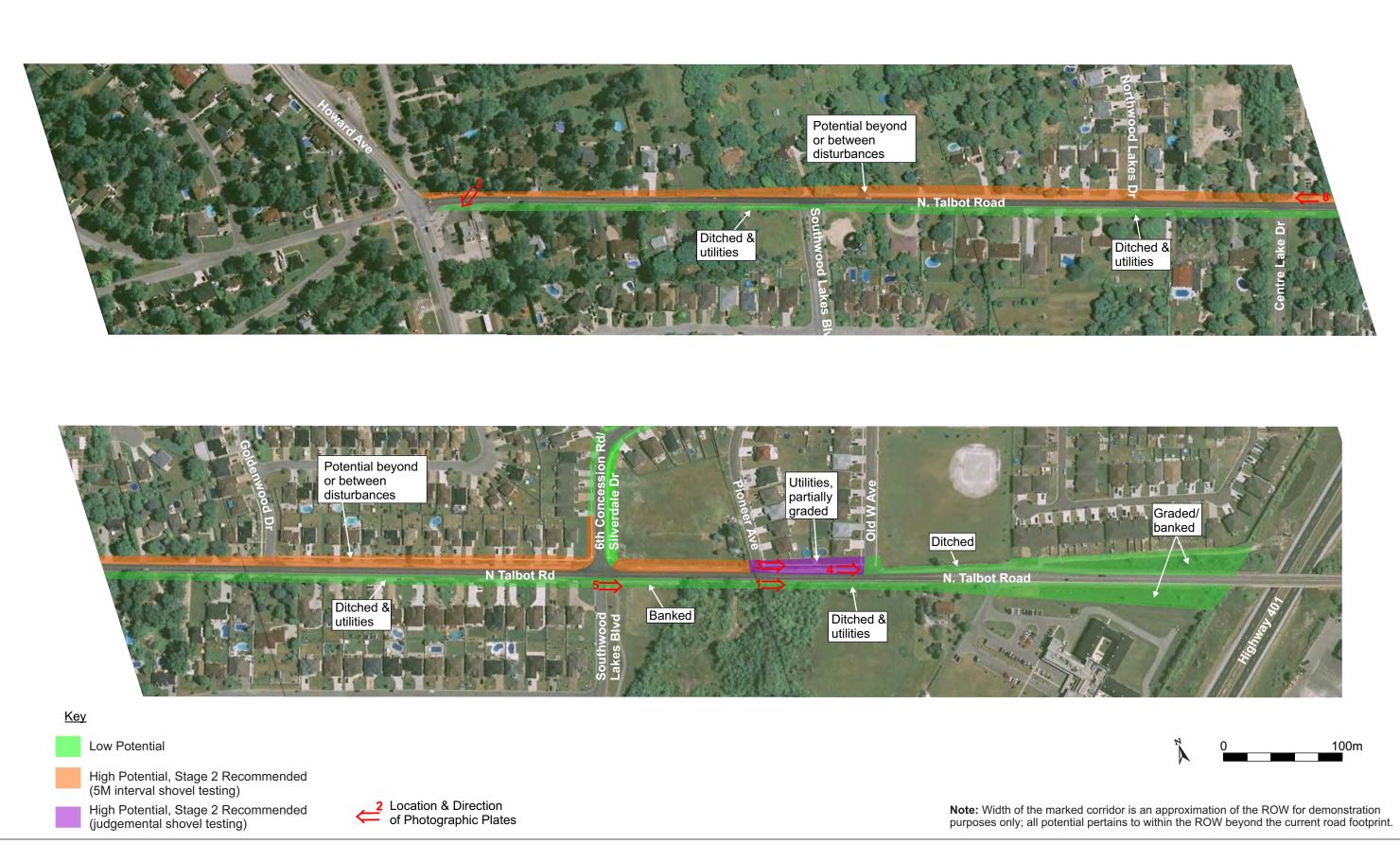




Fisher Archaeological Consulting

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - 6TH CONCESSION/NORTH TALBOT ROAD, CITY OF WINDSOR, ESSEX COUNTY, ONTARIO Dillon Consulting Limited

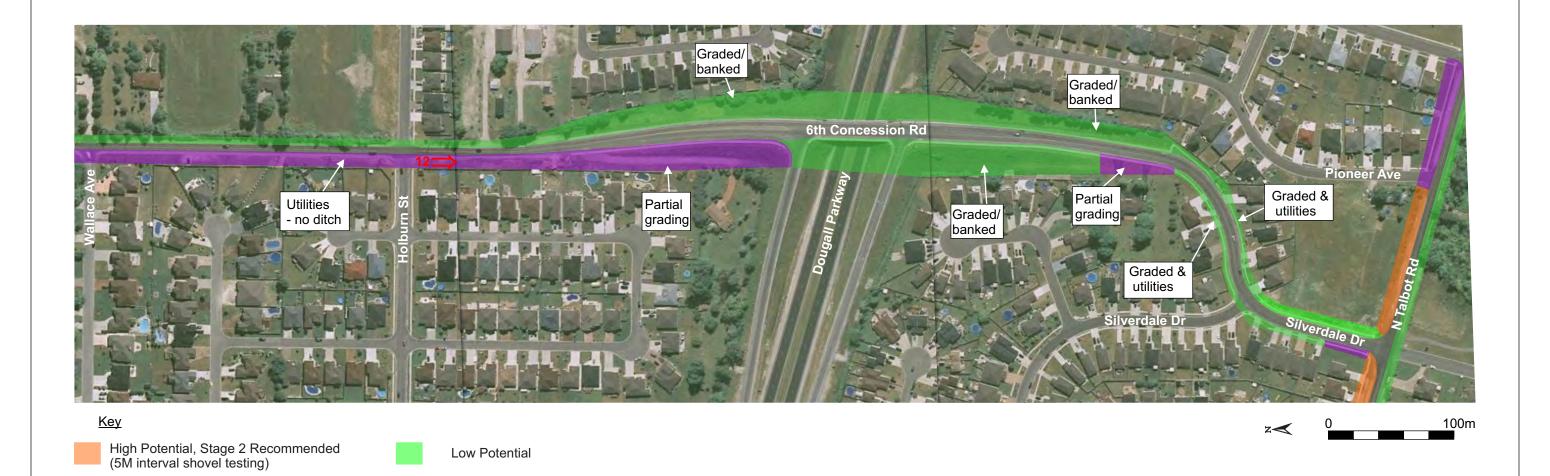
Figure 2: Overall Project Area



Fisher Archaeological Consulting

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - 6TH CONCESSION/NORTH TALBOT ROAD, CITY OF WINDSOR, ESSEX COUNTY, ONTARIO Dillon Consulting Limited





Location & Direction

of Photographic Plates

Fisher Archaeological Consulting

High Potential, Stage 2 Recommended (judgemental shovel testing)

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - 6TH CONCESSION/NORTH TALBOT ROAD, CITY OF WINDSOR, ESSEX COUNTY, ONTARIO Dillon Consulting Limited

Note: Width of the marked corridor is an approximation of the ROW for demonstration purposes only; all potential pertains to within the ROW beyond the current road footprint.