

CITY OF WINDSOR

NEWS ON YOUR COMMUNITY

00601703



Riverside Drive Vista Improvement Project

The Riverside Drive Corridor Class Environmental Assessment

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY REPORT

At its meeting of March 5, 2007, Windsor City Council approved an Administration Report recommendation to Table the Riverside Drive Vista Improvement Environmental Study Report (ESR), and place the ESR on the public record for review for a 30-day period prior to filing the ESR with the Ministry of Environment in accordance with the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act.

The Vista Improvement Project

Riverside Drive along Windsor's riverfront is one of this city's greatest assets. But some sections of the Drive need to be improved to provide a safer and more attractive Scenic Drive and Civic Way for all users. To construct some of these improvements, the City has conducted a Schedule C Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the impacts and benefits of alternative Riverside Drive improvements, and select a preferred Riverside Drive Vista Improvement Program. The study area extends along Riverside Drive from Rosedale Avenue near the Ambassador Bridge east to the City border at the Town of Tecumseh.

Preferred Riverside Drive Improvement Program

Based on extensive assessments of Riverside Drive transportation and streetscape issues that started in February 2005, the Riverside Drive Vista Improvement Program includes:

37 new pedestrian crossing nodes at strategic locations.	Downtown Pedestrian Promenade on the north side of Riverside Drive.	Exclusive on-road bicycle lanes along the entire Riverside Drive.	Improve/extend alternative routes to diverted Riverside traffic.
Reconstructed road surface and sidewalks with new curbs.	Some new sidewalk sections along the north side of Riverside.	New traffic calming features at strategic intersections.	New traffic safety improvements from Lauzon to Riverdale.

NOTE: To increase traffic calming effectiveness on Riverside Drive, a traffic circle has been added inside Riverside Drive intersections at Rossini, Buckingham, St. Louis, Jefferson, St. Rose and Eastlawn to slow vehicle speed and reduce vehicle conflicts. These traffic circles add no impacts on private property or street trees. The remainder of the program remains unchanged from that presented to the public during the September 13 to December 11 Draft Plan public review period.

Opportunities for Public Review and Comment

The 30-day public review period of the ESR extends from **March 14, 2007 to April 12, 2007**. This adds to Council's previous 90-day public review period of the Draft ESR from September 13 to December 11, 2006. The Final ESR document will be posted on the project web site at www.windsorEAs.ca, starting on March 14, 2007. A CD of the report can be purchased at the City Public Works Department at 1266 McDougall Street. A paper copy of the Final ESR report and Technical Appendices are also available for public viewing during regular business hours at:

Windsor Main Public Library	Windsor Library, Riverside Branch	Public Works Dept. 1266 McDougall St.	City Clerks Office City Hall	Stantec Consulting office, 3260 Devon Dr.
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During this final review period, if concerns regarding the project cannot be resolved in discussion with the City, a person or party may request that the Minister of the Environment make an order for the project to comply with Part II of the Environmental Assessment Act (referred to as a Part II Order), which addresses individual environmental assessments. Requests for a Part II Order must be received by the Minister at the address below **no later than April 12, 2007**.

Minister of the Environment
135 St. Clair Avenue West
12th floor
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5

A copy of this request, or any questions or comments submitted during this 30-day Public Review Period **must** be sent to the City contact noted below.

Mr. Fahd Mikhael, P. Eng.
Corporation of the City of Windsor
Public Works - Engineering & Corporate Projects
400 City Hall Square East
Windsor, ON N9A 7K6
(T): (519) 255-6100 x 6890 (F): (519) 255-6540
e-mail: fmikhael@city.windsor.on.ca