

**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION (MTO)  
HIGHWAY 60 IMPROVEMENTS (G.W.P. 5006-05-00)  
CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND PRELIMINARY DESIGN STUDY**

**PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #1 – May 13, 2010  
INFORMATION PACKAGE**

**INTRODUCTION**

This study involves the proposed improvements to Highway 60 within the Town of Huntsville and the Township of Lake of Bays, within the District Municipality of Muskoka in the following two sections:

- Section #1 Highway 60 / Highway 11 interchange to Muskoka Road 3 (including the interchange).
- Section #2 Muskoka Road 23 to Highway 35.

This study is being undertaken to identify operational and capacity needs, evaluate alternatives, and recommend a plan to address the future needs of Highway 60 within the study limits.

This Public Information Centre (PIC #1) is the first of two rounds of information centres being held for this study. The purpose of PIC #1 is to provide an opportunity for interested parties to review and comment on the study background, need and justification, preliminary development of alternatives, and the proposed evaluation criteria. PIC #2 is expected to be held later this year to provide an opportunity to review the analysis / evaluation of the alternatives and preferred plan.

**STUDY PROCESS**

This project is being undertaken as a Group 'B' project under the *Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000)*, with the opportunity for public input throughout the study. Upon completion of the study, a Transportation Environmental

Study Report (TESR) will be prepared and filed for a 30-day public review period. Newspaper notices will be published at that time to explain the review process and identify the locations where the TESR is available for viewing.

**WHY ARE IMPROVEMENTS TO HIGHWAY 60 NEEDED?**

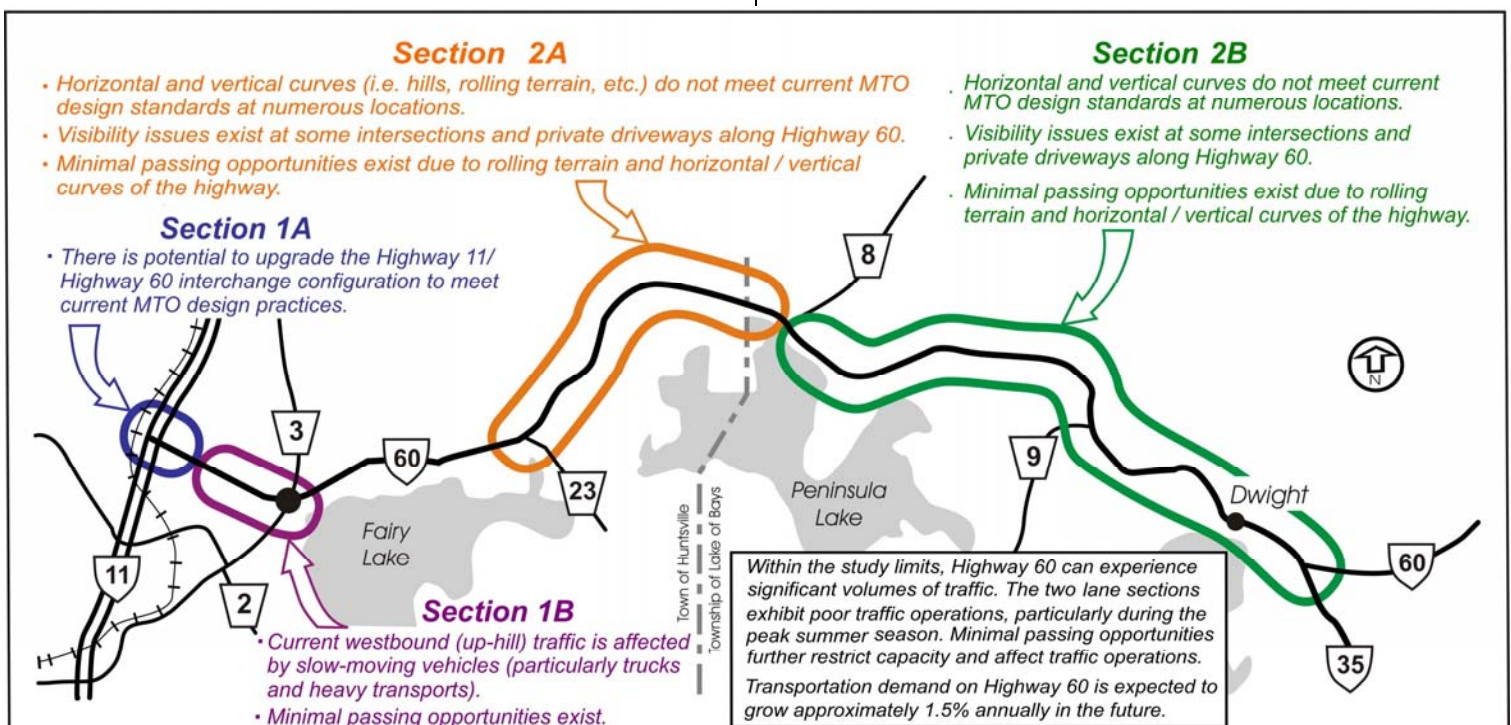
Highway 60 is a key transportation corridor in the Muskoka area and provides a corridor for many tourist and recreational uses / activities. To proactively plan for future transportation needs, this Class Environmental Assessment is examining geometric and future capacity needs to the Year 2031.

For evaluation purposes, Sections #1 and #2 within the study limits have been broken down further into four sections, based on their different characteristics. The four sections are shown on the key plan below and are as follows:

- **Section 1A: Highway 60 / Highway 11 Interchange**
- **Section 1B: Highway 60 - Highway 11 to Muskoka Rd 3**
- **Section 2A: Highway 60 - Muskoka Rd 23 to Muskoka Rd 8**
- **Section 2B: Highway 60 - Muskoka Rd 8 to Highway 35**

The key plan below identifies the geometric and future capacity needs and the improvements required to address these needs for Sections 1A, 1B, 2A and 2B.

Future traffic growth, combined with the need to upgrade the horizontal and vertical curves (i.e. hills, rolling terrain, etc.), justifies the need for improvements to Highway 60 within the study limits.



## **PRELIMINARY DESIGN ALTERNATIVES**

Preliminary design alternatives for each of these sections are located around the room and have been developed for your review and comment. Copies of these plans are also available on the project website at [www.Highway60.ca](http://www.Highway60.ca).

The following is a brief summary of the proposed improvement alternatives being considered and evaluated for each section:

### **Section 1A: Highway 60 / Highway 11 Interchange**

Alternative 1A-1: Do Nothing

Alternative 1A-2: Reconstructed Trumpet "B" Configuration

Alternative 1A-3: Trumpet "A" Configuration

Alternative 1A-4: Directional Ramp Configuration

Alternative 1A-5: Diamond Configuration

### **Section 1B: Highway 60 - Highway 11 to Muskoka Rd 3**

Alternative 1B-1: Do Nothing

Alternative 1B-2: Widen Highway 60 to 4 lanes (Undivided)

Alternative 1B-3: Widen Highway 60 to 4 lanes (Undivided);  
Relocate Centre Street intersection to the east

Alternative 1B-4: Widen Highway 60 to 4 lanes (Undivided);  
Close Centre Street intersection

### **Section 2A: Highway 60 - Muskoka Rd 23 to Muskoka Rd 8**

Alternative 2A-1: Do Nothing

Alternative 2A-2: Provide Passing Lanes;  
Improve Horizontal and Vertical Alignments

Alternative 2A-3: Widen Highway 60 to 4 lanes (Undivided);  
Improve Horizontal and Vertical Alignments

### **Section 2B: Highway 60 - Muskoka Rd 8 to Highway 35**

Alternative 2B-1: Do Nothing

Alternative 2B-2: Provide Passing Lanes;  
Improve Horizontal and Vertical Alignments

Alternative 2B-3: Widen Highway 60 to 4 lanes (Undivided);  
Improve Horizontal and Vertical Alignments

### **Section 2B: Dwight Options**

Dwight Option #1: Maintain 2 lanes

Dwight Option #2: Provide Centre Turning Lane through Dwight

Dwight Option #3: Widen Highway 60 to 4 lanes (Undivided)

Dwight Option #4: New alignment north of Dwight

Please provide us with your comments regarding the proposed improvement alternatives on the attached Comment Sheet by Friday, May 28, 2010. The analysis and evaluation of the alternatives will be presented at the second Public Information Centre scheduled for later in the study.

## **NEXT STEPS**

- Review the comments received and respond to any questions.
- Undertake the analysis/evaluation of the alternatives, and select the preferred alternative for each section.
- Undertake additional consultation with external agencies and municipalities regarding specific design issues and proposed environmental mitigation.
- Hold a second Public Information Centre later in 2010 to present the preferred plan.

## **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

Please use the attached comment sheet to provide us with your comments about the study. Comments can be left in the comment box provided or forwarded to the Project Team by Friday, May 28, 2010. For further information about this study, please visit [www.Highway60.ca](http://www.Highway60.ca) or contact:

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