Open House #1 Framework











Station 4 – Design Concepts

Design Components

Typical Sections

Roundabout Screening

Constrained Locations

Hagerman Cemeteries

Miller Avenue Extension

CN Rail Crossing

407ETR Interchange

VIVA Rapidway

Stouffville GO At-Grade Crossings

Rouge River Crossing

St. Philips and Bethesda Cemeteries



Study Area and Study Objective

Description of Project

York Region is undertaking a transportation Environmental Assessment (EA) study for improvements to Kennedy Road from Steeles Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive in the City of Markham



Building Roads that Build Community

Objectives

Accommodate current and future transportation needs for all modes















Supplement the findings of the 2016 York Region **Transportation Master Plan (YR-TMP)**



Adhere to the Principles of York Region's Design Guidelines



Pedestrians

Cyclists

Transit

Motorists



 Development of a Regional Road Network that addresses future travel demand

 Identifies the need for capacity and network improvements along Kennedy Road to accommodate future travel demands

 Satisfies Phases 1 and 2 of the Class EA Process

 A context-sensitive approach that integrates planned land use and built form

Identifies typical cross-sections for several types of Regional Roads

• Formulates a "complete streets" approach to accommodate all modes



Municipal Class EA Process and Planning Policy Context

Environmental Assessment (EA)

An EA is a planning process for municipal infrastructure, legislated by the **Ontario Environmental Assessment Act.**

This EA is being conducted as a Schedule 'C' project under the Municipal Class EA document (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011, and 2015)

York Region's 2016 Transportation Master Plan (YR-TMP)



Established the **Problem and Opportunity Statement** along with the **Needs and Justification**



Developed and evaluated **Alternative Solutions** based on **TMP Objectives** and feedback from **Public Consultation Events (2014 –** 2015)

Selected a Preferred Solution for the Kennedy Road Corridor that was endorsed and approved by Council

Planning Policy and Context

The following key planning documents set the framework for the Kennedy Road EA:

Provincial





Under the Planning Act



EATISTREETS **Building Roads that Build Community**













The York Region of Tomorrow

Planned Growth

Since 1971, York Region's population has increased nearly seven-fold. To support anticipated growth, York Region has identified the following three solutions.

Increase in population between 2015 and 2041

Development of a Road Network Fit for the Future (2041) – YR-TMP 2016 Map 8



Legend

6 Lane	Networks

- Existing 6 Lane Road New 6 Lane Road 記録目記
 - Proposed 6 Lane Widening
- 4 Lane Networks
- Existing 4 Lane Road New 4 Lane Road Proposed 4 Lane Widening
- Other Improvements

- **Rapid Transit** Rapid Transit Subject to Further Study New Midblock Crossing
- **Proposed Grade Separation (Road** Classification Study to identify grade separations on collector roads) Interchange Improvement
 - MTO Highway Phrasing

Lanes identified for Kennedy Road for Transit/HOV to maximize person-carrying capacity

GREATISTREETS **Building Roads that Build Community**

Supporting the Frequent Transit Network (2041) – YR-TMP 2016 Map 7



Legend

5

e 3	Rapid Transit Corridor
	Rapid Transit Subject to Further Study
_	Frequent Transit Network
-	Highway Bus Service (YRT/Viva, GO)
-	Transitway
<u>e==></u>	GO Train, 15-min Two Way All Day Servic
	GO Train, Rush Hour Service

Minute service between 6 AM and 10 PM during weekdays on Kennedy Road as part of the Frequent Transit Network



r i i i i i i

Increase in employment between 2015 and 2041



Potential Commuter Lots Existing Commuter Lots Potential GO Station **Existing GO Station**



Growing the Cycling Network (2041) – **YR-TMP 2016 Map 9**



Legend Existing Cycling Network Shared Facility

- Dedicated Facility
- Separated Facility

GO Rail Rapid Transit/GO Corridor

Separated





Active Transportation facilities identified for cyclists on **Kennedy Road**



Land Use, Future Development, and Construction Phasing





Land Use

The proposed developments within the study area will substantially increase future traffic demand on Kennedy Road between Steeles Avenue and Major Mackenzie Drive.



Land use within the study area is predominantly residential



Hazard lands are designated as they are unsuitable for development (proximity to the Rouge River)

Construction Phasing

Timing of Improvements for Kennedy Road are documented in the 2018 10-Year Roads and **Transit Capital Construction Program** and subjected to annual review

- **Construction to commence 2023**
- commence 2024





Lands between the Stouffville GO Rail Crossing and Highway 7 are commercial, designated as a key development area and potential Secondary Transit Hub



Raymerville Woodlot and Manhattan Woods are designated as Environmental Protection Areas

Phase 1: 14th Avenue to Highway 407 –

 Phase 2: Steeles Avenue to 14th Avenue, and Highway 407 to Highway 7 – Construction to









What We've Heard So Far

Community Outreach











Road Signs

Top Concerns Regarding...





Pedestrian crossing distances













Pedestrian safety issues at the Stouffville GO Rail Crossings



Separation of active transportation facilities and cyclist safety



Stakeholders Identified

Ratepayers Associations

Residential Property Owners

Commercial **Property Owners**

General Public

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)

CN Rail

Ministry of Natural **Resources and** Forestry

Ministry of Transportation





Frequency of service





Motorist safety at Major Intersections





Kennedy	southbound	8 Kennedy
		northbound southbound to Steeles Avenue Weekendu/holdays Weekendu/holdays
		Silversish Rid. A Silversish Rid. A Silversish Rid. A Silversish Rid. A Dennisis Rid. A Silversish Rid
	anna y Milittanain annaittittittan annaittittittan annaittittittan annaittittittan annaittittittan	Security Security 753 549 648 671 549 643 542 742 743 743 743 744 744 637 637 637 643 644 643 644 643 644 643 644 643 644 6
		743 744 847 847 847 847 847 847 847 847 847 844 744

Fares and travel times



Peak-Hour congestion along Kennedy Road and at Rail Crossings



Kennedy Road Today

Pedestrian Level of Service / Experience







Pedestrian Experience

- **Continuous sidewalks/Multi-Use Paths** are provided on both side of the road
- **Crosswalks are provided on all four legs** of the intersection
- Shorter crossing at intersection
- Greater separation from high speed traffic
- Longer crossings with more conflict points with turning vehicles
- Less separation from high speed traffic
- Narrower sidewalks
- No separation from high speed traffic
- No crosswalks at intersections
- Long crossing distances without refuge

Cyclist Level of Service / Experience







Cyclist Experience

- Continuous cycling facilities are provided on both side of the road
- Greater separation from high speed traffic
- Cyclists are accommodated at intersection
- Less separation from high speed traffic
- Greater conflicts at intersections with turning vehicles
- No designated cycling facility on high volume , high speed roadways
- No accommodation at intersection

GREATISTREETS **Building Roads that Build Community**







Opportunities for Active Transportation



Of trips along Kennedy Road are 1km and



Of trips less than **1km** in length are completed by car or passengers

There is a significant opportunity to encourage these trips to walk or cycle

Of trips along Kennedy Road are **5km** and shorter in length



Of trips less than **5km** in length are completed by car or passengers

There is a significant opportunity to encourage these trips to cycle



Kennedy Road Today

Transit Ridership Demand



Based on existing ridership and the number of major transit generators along Kennedy Road, there is an opportunity to improve transit

GREATISTREETS **Building Roads that Build Community**





() 0 Collisi 0 t **Numb**

Traffic Safety (2011 – 2015)

Top four collision prone intersections in the study area:



The most common impact type was rear-end collision





Kennedy Road at Denison Street had the highest number of collisions involving pedestrians and cyclists



Property **Damage Only**











Kennedy Road – Traffic Operations

Existing Traffic Volume and Capacity Issues

Existing traffic volumes exceed capacity in the southbound direction between north of 14th Avenue and south of Highway 7 in the AM Peak

Existing traffic volume exceed capacity in the northbound direction south of 407ETR and north of Highway 7 in the PM Peak Hour

Future Traffic Volume and Capacity Issues

• Future traffic volumes exceed existing capacity in

 Between **Denison Street** and **Major** Mackenzie Drive, in the southbound

Future traffic volumes exceed existing capacity in the PM Peak Hour generally between:

 Steeles Avenue and Major Mackenzie **Drive**, in the northbound direction

Denison Street and Major Mackenzie Drive, in the southbound direction

Physical and Environmental Features to Consider Steeles Avenue to 407ETR

Miller Avenue Extension

Physical and Environmental Features to Consider Highway 407 to 16th Avenue

Physical and Environmental Features to Consider 16th Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive

GREATISTREETS **Building Roads that Build Community**

PROBLEM

Existing road and intersections cannot accommodate future traffic volumes

Increased local road traffic due to regional roads being at capacity

Lack of continuous pedestrian and cyclist facilities

Existing infrastructure does not support enhanced transit service and results in delays

Anticipated delays at the existing atgrade Stouffville GO Rail crossing(s)

Safety and operational concerns at various locations, include Stouffville GO Line crossings

Problem and Opportunity Statement

OPPORTUNITY

Improve Kennedy Road capacity to accommodate projected traffic demand and maximize person-carrying capacity

Facilitate York Region's Finer Grid Network Strategy including the review of York Region's access management guidelines, and removal of turning and vehicle restrictions where appropriate

Improve pedestrian and cycling facilities to encourage other modes of transportation to reduce congestion and single occupancy vehicle (SOV) use

Improve the efficiency and reliability of transit

Improve the Stouffville GO Rail crossing(s) and reduce delays and congestion with the associated crossing

Improve safety, performance, and operational efficiency for all modes along the study corridor

York Region's 2016 Transportation Master Plan considered the following Alternative Solutions:

Alternatives were evaluated based on their Alignment with TMP Objectives:

GREATISTREETS **Building Roads that Build Community**

Summary of Alternative Solutions Considered

Support Active Transportation

Support Goods Movement

Preferred Solution

<u>Widen to 6 Lanes for HOV/Transit was identified as the preferred alternative due to its alignment with TMP Objectives</u>

Support Transit	Support Road Network	Support Active Transportation	Support Goods Movement
 Support for Frequent Transit	 Volume-to-Capacity (V/C) Ratio	 Provision of separated cycling facilities where ones currently do not exist 	 Improvement on Secondary
Network Provides connections to Milliken	improves but maximum V/C		Strategic Goods Movement
and Unionville GO Stations	Ratio remains above 1.0		Network

YR-TMP 2016 – Preferred Solution

Support Last Mile

New/improved cycling infrastructure and continuous pedestrian facilities adjacent to major transit stations

Preferred Solution (YR-TMP 2016) Alignment with Study Opportunities

Opportunity

Improve Kennedy Road capacity to accommodate projected traffic demand and maximize person-carrying capacity

Facilitate York Region's Finer Grid Network Strategy including the review of York Region's access management guidelines, and removal of turning and vehicle restrictions where appropriate

Improve pedestrian and cycling facilities to encourage other modes of transportation to reduce congestion and single occupancy vehicle (SOV) use

Improve the efficiency and reliability of transit

Improve the Stouffville GO Rail crossing(s) and reduce delays and congestion with the associated crossing

Improve safety, performance, and operational efficiency for all modes along the study corridor

Where possible, the facilitation of York Region's Finer Grid Network will be applied

Provision of separated active transportation facilities

Supports Kennedy Road as a Frequent Transit Network through the provision of Transit/HOV lanes

Alternative design concepts with the preferred solution will be assessed for the Stouffville GO Rail Crossing(s)

The preferred solution accommodates the safety, performance and operational efficiency for all modes

Preferred Solution's Alignment with Study Opportunities

Maximization of person-carrying capacity through the provision of Transit/HOV lanes

Design Concepts for Consideration

York Region outlines typical Cross-Sections for Regional Streets based on road typologies

Elements of a Roadway Cross-Section

Vehicular Elements

Curb Lane

Drive Lane

Active Transportation

Multi-Use Path

Sidewalk

REATISTREETS **Building Roads that Build Community**

Cycle Track

Streetlighting

Kennedy Road between Steeles Avenue and Major Mackenzie Drive identified as a Connector

Connectors are categorized by:

A

Generous landscaped boulevards

Typical 36 m ROW Connector Cross-Section (Multi-Use Path)

Enhanced Active Transportation Elements

Right-of-Way

- **Enhanced Transit Elements**
- Predominantly residential land-uses along
- **Typical 36 m ROW Connector Cross-Section** (Cycle Track and Sidewalk)

Right-of-Way along Kennedy Road

COWAN RO

M

Building Roads that Build Community

- No landscaped boulevard within this section
- Land-use is primarily cemetery uses

Approximate 43m Right-of-Way

- Greater separation among modes of travel
- Wide landscaped boulevards exist within this segment
- Land-use is primarily commercial and residential

> 36m Right-of-Way

- Some separation between modes of travel
- plazas at major intersection

 Narrow landscaped boulevard within this section Land-use is primarily residential with commercial

The following design alternatives were identified for 43m typical cross-sections along the Kennedy **Road study corridor:**

• Slightly reduced landscaping opportunities for Alternative 1 due to width requirements of cycle track and sidewalk component Pedestrian and cyclists have exclusive facilities in Alternative 1, whereas facilities are combined in Alternative 2 • Cycle tracks in Alternative 1 are one-directional, whereas multi-use paths in Alternative 2 are bi-directional Less potential for pedestrian and cyclist conflicts in Alternative 1 due to the separation of pedestrian and cyclist facilities

The following design alternatives were identified for 36m typical cross-sections along the Kennedy Road study corridor:

Design Concepts - Roundabout Screening and Results

What is a Roundabout?

A roundabout is a circular intersection control in which drivers travel around a center island. There are no traffic signals in a roundabout and drivers yield at entry to traffic, and exit at the desired street.

Why Roundabouts?

Research has demonstrated that roundabouts are safer than traditional intersection controls due to:

Lower operating speeds

ROUNDABOUT SCREENING ANALYSIS

Number of lanes required based on intersection volumes

Proximity to nearest intersection, access, or rail crossing

The need for a signalized pedestrian crossing

Due to the number of lanes recommended for the preferred solution (2 general purpose lanes and 1 Transit/HOV in each direction), and the anticipated future quantity of pedestrian demand, roundabouts have not been carried forward as a treatment for intersection improvements

Not recommended if candidate intersection requires more than 2 lanes

Queuing can adversely affect roundabout operations, not recommended if the nearest intersection is less than 215m away

Not recommended if there is a high demand for pedestrians or need for a pedestrian crossing at the selected intersection

One-way travel and the reduction of angle collision

Areas of ROW Constraint and Opportunity Locations along the Study Corridor

Stouffville GO Rail Crossings North of Clayton Drive / North of Austin Drive

The following design alternatives w

Alternative 1 (Interim Solution): At-Grade Crossing with Cycle Track and Sidewalk

Alternative 2: Underpass with Multi-Use Path on Both Sides

Alternative 3: Overpass with Cycle Track and Sidewalk

ting Issues		
	Currently, both Stouffville GO Rail Crossings do not support cycling facilities	
	Safety concerns for pedestrians and less attractive pedestrian environment	
	Delays to vehicles as they are required to stop for trains to cross – safety concerns for motorists due to conflicts with crossing trains	
vere identified for both Stouffville GO Ra		

*Cycle Track and Sidewalk shown as Active Transportation Facility is preliminary and subject to change with option of Multi-Use Path based on the evaluation of the overall corridor

Regional Express Rail – Stouffville GO Corridor

Implications for the Kennedy Road EA

- modes
- Express Rail service

All-day, two-way rail services between Union Station and Unionville Station in the medium to long term

ail Crossings:

 Analysis on future conditions indicate increasing transportation demand for all

Increased train frequency due to Regional

 Opportunities to review a grade separation (overpass or underpass)

25.3m between the 2 cemeteries

26.9m between the West Hagerman cemetery And Thomas **Morely Hous**

REATISTREETS **Building Roads that Build Community**

Existing Issues

- Currently, the Hagerman Cemeteries segment of the road does not support cycling facilities
- Pedestrian safety issues and less attractive pedestrian environment as there is minimal separation between pedestrian facilities and vehicular traffic
- Heritage considerations at this segment due to the proximity of Hagerman Cemeteries and Thomas Morely House

Alternative 1: Multi-Use Path on one side and Sidewalk on the other side (Reduced Lane Width)

(Suggested at narrowest segment to avoid impacts to the existing graves)

Alternative 2: Multi-Use Paths on Both Sides, Shift alignment west of Hagerman East, Shift alignment east at Hagerman West

Alternative 3: Multi-Use Paths on Both Between Hagerman Cemeteries Sides, Shift alignment west of Hagerman East

Alternative 4: Multi-Use Paths on Both Between Hagerman Cemeteries Sides, Shift alignment east of Hagerman West

East Cemetery Thomas Morely House Hagerman East Cemetery Thomas Morely House

The following design alternatives were considered, but WILL NOT be carried forward:

Alternative 5: 6 Lanes, with Centre Active Transportation (Multi-Use Path)

Alternative 6: 6 Lanes, Shared Roadway between Cyclists and Vehicles

Alternative 7: 6 Lanes, No Active Transportation Facilities

Miller Avenue Extension

- EA completed 2013 by City of Markham
- Preferred Alternative: new 4-lane urbanized section connecting to Duffield Drive
- Preferred alternative to be reviewed as part of Kennedy Road EA

CN Rail Crossing

The existing CN structure must be replaced. The alternative designs, with and without a pier are under review.

Alternative 1: Without centre pier – **Cycle Tracks and Sidewalks on Both Sides**

Alternative 2: With centre pier – **Cycle Tracks and Sidewalks on Both Sides**

*Cycle Track and Sidewalk shown as Active Transportation Facility is preliminary and subject to change with option of Multi-Use Path based on the evaluation of the overall corridor

Existing Issues

Currently, the CN Rail Overpass does not support cycling facilities

Pedestrian safety issues and less attractive pedestrian environment

Existing structure may need to be removed and replaced

407ETR Interchange

Existing Issues

Currently, the 407ETR Interchange does not support cycling facilities

The proposed design may require ramp reconfiguration to eliminate pedestrian and cyclist conflicts

Four conflict points exist at the ramp interchanges, affecting pedestrian and cyclist safety

The proposed improvements must align with the Ministry of Transportation's plans for the future 407 Transitway

Point of Vehicular and Pedestrian/Cyclist Conflict

The following design alternatives were identified for the 407ETR Interchange:

Sides

Alternative 2: Active Transportation Facilities in Median – **Multi-Use Path**

Multi-Use Path

YRRTC Environmental Assessment VIVA Rapidway – YMCA Boulevard to Highway 7

York Region's Rapid Transit Network

YR-TMP outlines York Region's Rapid Transit Network – the Highway 7 corridor contains a link through Markham Centre on Kennedy Road.

The Highway 7 Corridor and Vaughan North-South Link Public Transit Improvements Environmental Assessment (YRRTC EA) was completed and approved in 2005.

The YRRTC EA Recommended Option C-D2 as the Preferred **Alternative for this Segment based on the following rationale:**

Future station location offers convenient access to mixed-uses on west side of Kennedy Road and residential neighbourhoods on east side

Transitway offers opportunity for enhancement of Kennedy Road streetscape

Minimal impacts to the natural environment as this alternative bypasses both Rouge River Crossings

Supports urban structure of area and provides good potential for increase in existing business activities along Highway 7 and Kennedy Road

VIVA Rapidway **YMCA Boulevard to Highway 7**

The following design alternatives were ider

Alternative 1: Median VIVA Rapidv Cycle Track and Sidewalk

Alternative 2: Median VIVA Rapidv Transit/HOV curb lanes, Cycle Transi and Sidewalk

Alternative 3: Shift VIVA Rapidway share Transit/HOV curb lanes. **Multi-Use Path**

*Cycle Track and Sidewalk shown as Active Transportation Facility is preliminary and subject to change with option of Multi-Use Path based on the evaluation of the overall corridor

Existing Issues

Currently, this segment does not support cycling facilities

Pedestrian safety issues and less attractive pedestrian environment

ntified	for the VIVA Rapidway mid-block north o
way,	
way, ack	Transit/ HOV
y to	Transit/ Hov

The proposed improvements must align with VIVA's Approved Plans for the Rapidway

of Castan Avenue:

Place a dot beside your preferred image(s)

York Region

Rouge River Crossing

Existing Issues

facilities

Pedestrian safety issues and less attractive pedestrian environment as there is minimal separation between pedestrian facilities and vehicular traffic

Existing structure cannot accommodate the preferred design alternative, widening or replacement of the structure is required

*Cycle Track and Sidewalk shown as Active Transportation Facility is preliminary and subject to change with option of Multi-Use Path based on the evaluation of the overall corridor

Currently, the Rouge River Crossing does not support cycling

GREATISTREETS **Building Roads that Build Community**

Segment:

Alternative 1: 6 Lanes with Multi-Use Path and Sidewalk (Reduced Lane Width)

(Suggested at narrowest segment to avoid impacts to the existing graves)

Use Paths - Shift alignment to the west

The following design alternatives were identified for the St. Philips and Bethesda Cemeteries

Segment:

Use Paths - Shift alignment to the east

Alternative 4: 6 Lanes with Dual Multi-Use Paths - Shift alignment to the west with discontinuous AT

REATISTREETS **Building Roads that Build Community**

The following design alternatives were identified for the St. Philips and Bethesda Cemeteries

The following design alternatives were considered, but WILL NOT be carried forward:

Alternative 5: 4 Lanes with Centre Turn Lane, Multi-Use Path on Both Sides

Alternative 6: 6 Lanes, No Active Transportation Facilities

Preliminary Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria were developed with stakeholder and agency feedback. This will be used to evaluate the impacts and benefits of each developed design concept.

Transportation Service

- Improve Public Transit Service
- **Reduce Traffic Congestion and Delays**
- Create a Cyclist-Friendly Environment
- Improve Safety for all Travel Modes
- Improve Mode Choice

Social Environment

- Properties
- and Recreational Facilities
- Mitigate Traffic on Local Streets
- Minimize Traffic Noise
- Features
- **Improve Visual Aesthetics**
- Improve Community Character

GREATISTREETS **Building Roads that Build Community**

Create a Pedestrian-Friendly Environment

Minimize Impacts on Existing Residential, Institutional and Recreational Dwellings /

Improve Access to Residential Areas, Institutional Preserve Archaeological and Cultural Heritage

Minimize impacts to cemeteries and burial grounds

Infrastructure Design

- Minimize Utility Relocation
- Minimize Disruption due to Construction
- Minimize Constructability Complexity

Economic Environment and Cost Effectiveness

- Minimize Impacts on Business Properties
- Improve Access to Businesses and Key **Employment Areas**
- Maximize Construction Value
- Minimize Property Requirements
- Minimize Operating Costs

Natural Environment

- **Protect Designated Natural Areas**
- **Protect Vegetation**
- Protect Wildlife
- Protect Aquatic Habitat
- Protect Surface Water and Ground Water
- Improve Air Quality
- Minimizes Effects on Climate Change

Accommodate Planned Development and Growth

Thank you for attending the open house

Your input is very valuable to us!

Please fill in the comment form and return it to us today or provide your comments by mail, email, or phone by March 21, 2018.

Get Involved

Apply to be a member of the **Stakeholder Group**

GREATISTREETS **Building Roads that Build Community**

Contact Us

- **Complete the Online Survey**
- Join the Study Mailing List

For more information visit us at:

Please send your thoughts or opinions about the corridor by sending us an email at:

roads.ea@york.ca

Next Steps

Review feedback from the public

Refine and Evaluate Design Concepts

Select and Develop Preferred Designs

Present the Preferred Design at Open House 2 (Spring 2019)

