

Trussler Road Improvements

Public engagement

November 12–December 12, 2024



Region of Waterloo

Land acknowledgement

The Region of Waterloo serves an area within the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe, Chonnonton, and Haudenosaunee peoples. This territory is within the lands protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum. We acknowledge the enduring presence, knowledge, and philosophies of Indigenous Peoples.

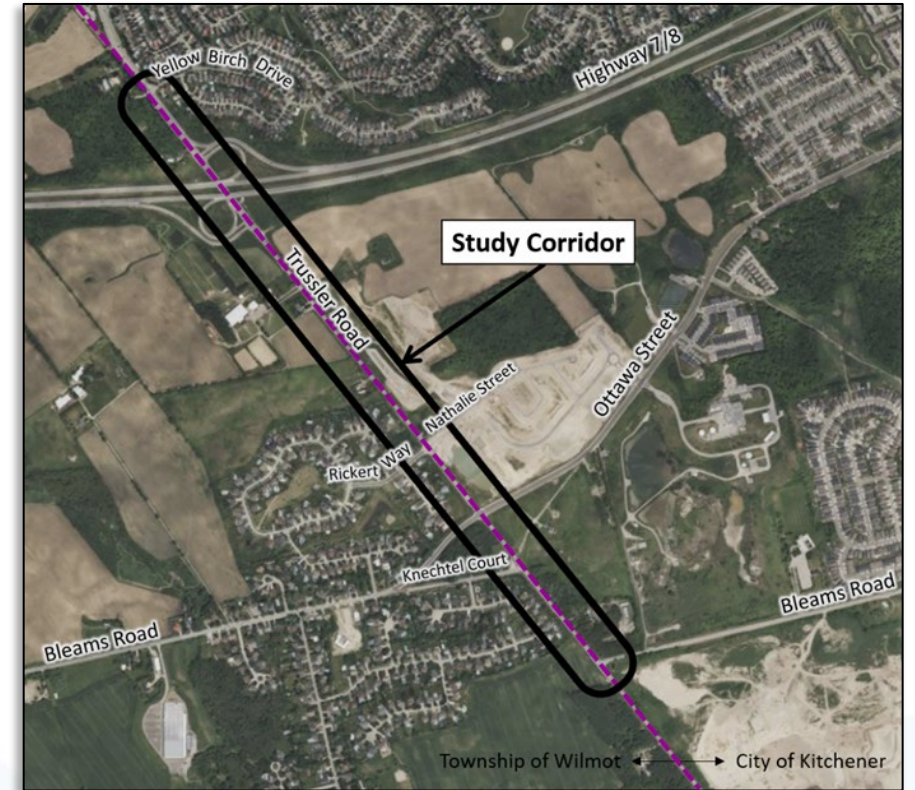
We acknowledge the continuing accomplishments and contributions Indigenous Peoples make in shaping Waterloo Region.

Agenda

1. Project overview
2. Environmental assessment, policies and studies
3. Design alternatives
4. Engagement opportunities

Project overview

- Improvements to Trussler Road from Yellow Birch Drive to Bleams Road in Kitchener and Wilmot
- Schedule "C" Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study
- Improvements being considered include:
 - Roadway and underground infrastructure
 - Active transportation facilities
 - Traffic operations
- This project aligns with the Region's 2023-2027 "Growing with Care" Strategic Plan



Homes
for all



Equitable services
and opportunities



Climate aligned
growth

Policies and plans supporting this project

- The Regional Transportation Master Plan — need to widen Trussler Road to four lanes between Bleams Road and Highway 7/8.
- The Region's 2024 Transportation Capital Program — identified as a neighbourhood and community connector and necessary features as:
 - Vehicle lanes
 - Cycling facilities
 - Sidewalks
 - Boulevards
- The Region's 80by50 goal — reduce Green House Gas emissions by 80% by 2050.

Background on the surrounding land

- The surrounding land on Trussler Road includes:
 - Low rise and mixed-used commercial and residential
 - Natural heritage conservation
 - Major infrastructure and utilities
- Much of the area surrounding this road has plans for development.
- The town of Mannheim is along Trussler Road and is being considered as a "rural settlement area boundary".
- For detailed maps on the land use in this area visit www.engagewr.ca/trussler-road (in the documents section).

Current problems and opportunities

- Increased traffic
 - See the Level of Service Analysis for more details on forecasted 2037 volumes.
- Current road condition cannot accommodate expected growth
- No walking or cycling facilities

Environmental assessment findings: Ecological features

- The key ecological features in this area include:
 - Two watercourses at the Highway 7/8 interchanges
 - Three municipal drains
 - One unevaluated wetland
 - Three woodlands identified as core environmental features



Environmental assessment findings: Archeology and heritage

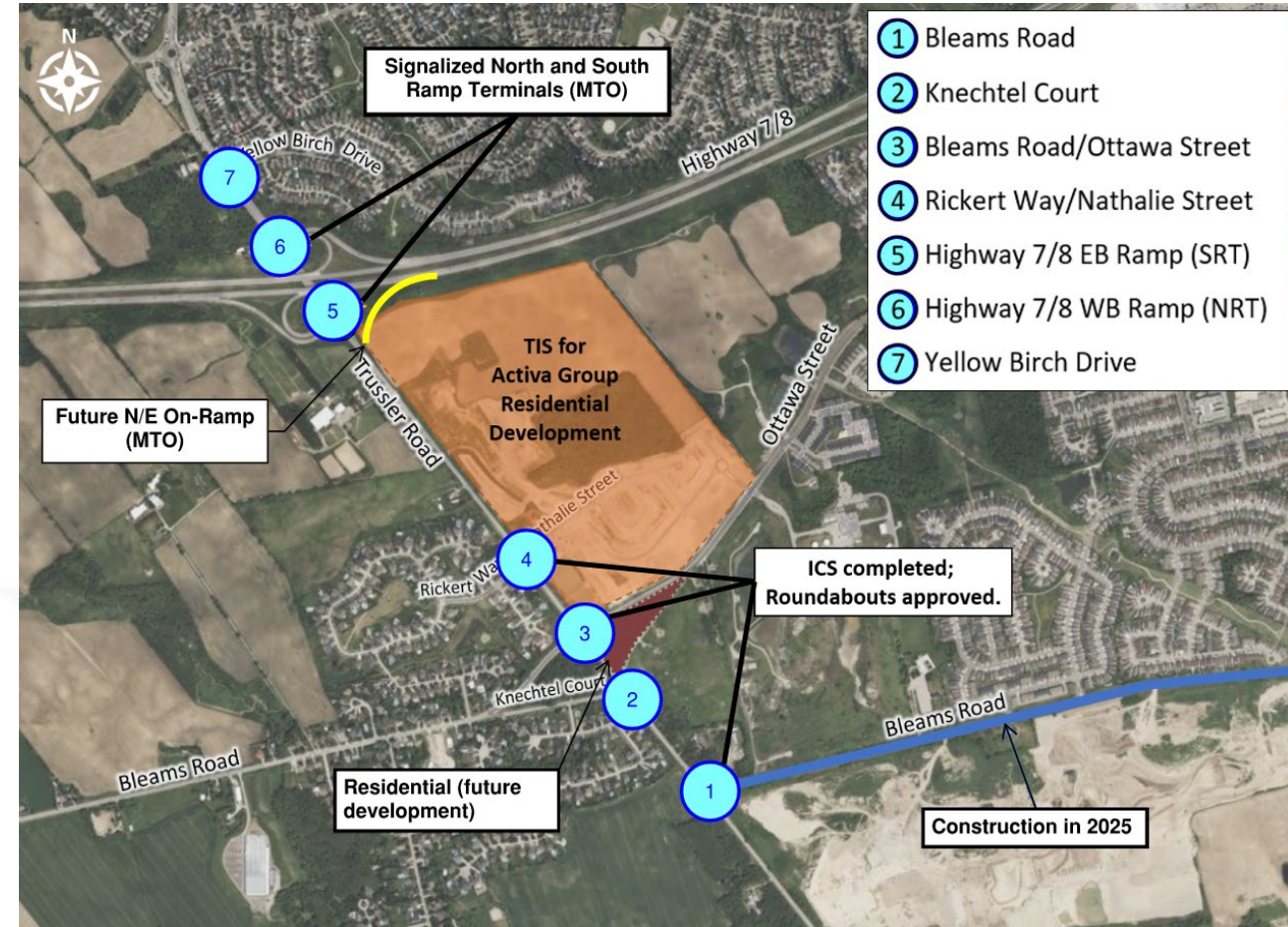
- Five previously registered archaeological sites
- A cemetery associated with St. James Lutheran church
- Four cultural heritage resources
 - Early settlement, nineteenth century rural roadway and boundary

For details on the archeological and cultural heritage findings in this area visit www.engagewr.ca/trussler-road (in the documents section)



Development and adjacent projects

- Activa Group Residential Development (supported by the 2018 Transportation Impact Study)
- Roundabout at Trussler and Nathalie (to be finished with the development)
- Roundabout at Trussler and Bleams (to be constructed in 2025)
- Roundabout at Trussler and Ottawa (to be constructed in 2025)
- Bleams Road construction (continuing into 2025)



Public Transit

- Future Grand River Transit considerations include permanent, extended service along Ottawa Street (iXpress Route 205) to Trussler Road.

Transportation summary

- Constraints at the stop-controlled approaches at Rickert Way, and both Highway 7/8 ramps.
- By 2037 the average **annual daily??** traffic along Trussler Road is projected to be around 35,000 and as high as 48,700 north of Highway 7/8.
- High traffic volumes and corridor design encourages off-road cycling facilities.
- Roundabouts at Bleams Road and Ottawa Street, and Rickert Way and Nathalie Street will require three-lane entry in the southbound direction, and three-lane entries in the northbound and southbound direction.
- Traffic signals are warranted at the Highway 7/8 ramp terminals under existing conditions. Signals are not warranted at Knechtel Court under existing or future conditions.

Alternative #1: Do nothing



- Maintain the existing road
- Urban four-lane section from Yellow Birch Dr to Highway 7/8
 - Four lanes
 - On-road bike lanes
 - Curb and gutter
- Rural two-lane section from Highway 7/8 to Bleams Rd
 - Two lanes
 - Gravel or paved shoulders
 - Ditches for storm water runoff
 - Right of way spans 25-30m wide

Alternative #2: Four lanes with directional bike lanes and sidewalks



- Widen to four-lanes
- Provide separated bike lane and sidewalk in the boulevard (off-road)
- Bike lane and sidewalk on east side
- Bike lane and sidewalk on west side only between Bleams Road and Knechtel Court

Alternative #3: Four lanes with multi-use trails



- Widen to four lanes
- Provide a shared multi-use path for bikes and pedestrians.
- Multi-use path on east side
- Multi-use path on west side only between Bleams Road and Knechtel Court

Evaluation methodology

Impacts and criteria to be categorized under:

- **Natural Environment**
- **Social Environment**
- **Technical Environment**
- **Economic Environment**

Score	Impact Ranking Scale
↑	Significant Beneficial Impact / Ideal Conditions
↗	Mild Beneficial Impacts
→	Neutral - No relative impacts or benefits for this criterion
↘	Mild Negative Impact (Acceptable After Mitigation)
↓	Significant Negative Impact

Engagement and next steps



Complete the questionnaire by December 12, 2024



Review information provided on the project page.



Subscribe to the project page at engagewr.ca/trussler-road to receive project updates and information about future opportunities to participate.



The project team will use findings from the technical work completed and community feedback received **to evaluate the alternatives and develop a technically preferred alternative for future public input.**

Contact

Web project page

engagewr.ca/trussler-road

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