

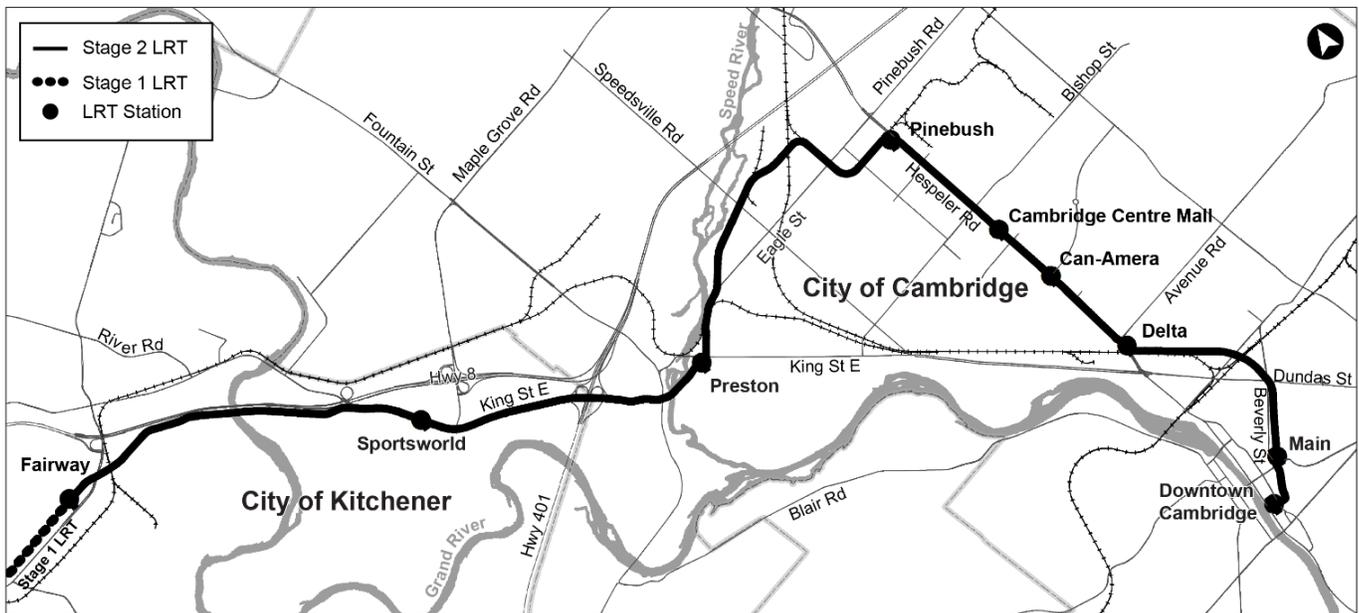


Notice of Completion of Environmental Project Report Stage 2 ION: LRT from Kitchener to Cambridge Transit Project Assessment Process

The Project

The Region of Waterloo has completed an Environmental Project Report (EPR) under *Ontario Regulation (O. Reg.) 231/08* for the Stage 2 ION: LRT from Kitchener to Cambridge project.

The Region of Waterloo is proposing to extend the ION LRT system an additional 18 km from Fairway station in Kitchener to Downtown Cambridge with eight new stations, creating a continuous LRT service across the Region’s three urban centres. Regional Council endorsed the Preferred Route (see map below) in June 2019 and the preliminary design in April 2020.



Background

In June 2011, Region of Waterloo Council approved the implementation of a Light Rail Transit (LRT) system, linking the Cities of Waterloo, Kitchener and Cambridge. This project was approved as part of a strategic framework to manage long-term growth within the Region, as set out in the Regional Official Plan and the Regional Transportation Master Plan (updated 2018).

Stage 1 ION opened in June 2019, a 19 km route from Conestoga Station in Waterloo to Fairway Station in Kitchener.

The Process

The environmental impact of the transit project was assessed and an Environmental Project Report (EPR) was prepared under Ontario Regulation (O. Reg.) 231/08, Transit Projects and Metrolinx Undertakings.

Starting on **April 6, 2021**, the EPR for the Stage 2 ION LRT project will be available for a 30-day public review (along with supporting environmental and technical studies, and public meeting materials) until **May 6, 2021** at regionofwaterloo.ca/Stage2ION and Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at (by appointment only, please call ahead to confirm the facility is open to the public):

Regional Clerks Office
150 Frederick St, 2nd Flr
Kitchener, ON
519-575-4400

Cambridge City Hall, 1st Flr
50 Dickson Street
Cambridge, ON
519-623-1340

Kitchener City Hall
200 King St W
Kitchener, ON
519-590-6466 or
steve.allen@kitchener.ca

Your participation is an important part of this process and we welcome your input. Comments about the project may be submitted online at engagewr.ca/Stage2ION or by contacting:

Matthew O'Neil, Manager (Acting), Rapid Transit Coordination
Region of Waterloo
20 Weber St E, 4th Floor
Kitchener, ON N2H 1C3
Phone: 519-575-4400 | TTY: 519-575-4608
Email: Stage2ION@regionofwaterloo.ca

There are circumstances where the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has the authority to require further consideration of the transit project, or impose conditions on it. These include if the Minister is of the opinion that the transit project may negatively impact:

- a matter of provincial importance that relates to the natural environment or has cultural heritage value or interest; or,
- a constitutionally protected Aboriginal or treaty right.

Before exercising their authority, the Minister is required to consider all written objections received within 30 days after the Notice of Completion of the EPR is first published. If you have discussed your objections with the Region of Waterloo, you can submit them in writing to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks no later than **May 6, 2021**, to the address provided below. All submissions must clearly indicate that an objection is being submitted and describe any negative impacts to matters of provincial importance or Aboriginal treaty rights.

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Environmental Assessment Branch

Attention: Stephen Deneault, Project Evaluator
Tel: 437-247-3443
Email: stephen.deneault@ontario.ca

If not already provided, a copy of the objection will be forwarded to the Region by the Ministry.

Under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Environmental Assessment Act*, unless you request that your personal information remain confidential, any personal information such as name, address, telephone number and property location included in a submission will become part of the public record files for this matter and will be released, if requested, to any person.

This notice was first issued on **April 6, 2021**.