



TRANSPORTATION AND  
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Design and Construction

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**Refer To:** John Stephenson, 519-575-4096  
**File No:** 5796(F)  
**Date:** November 18, 2019

**To: Area residents and those who attended the June 26, 2019 Public Consultation Centre**

Dear Sir/Madam:

**Re: Upcoming Planning and Works Committee Meeting on December 3, 2019.  
Ottawa Street Improvements – Fischer-Hallman Road to Alpine Road.  
Recommended Design.**

The Region of Waterloo is currently considering improvements on Ottawa Street from Fischer-Hallman Road to Alpine Road in the City of Kitchener.

This project has been initiated to address the deteriorated condition of asphalt pavement on Ottawa Street, incorporate enhanced facilities for pedestrians and cyclists, improve Grand River Transit (GRT) bus stop locations and reduce transfer distances, and provide improved operations at the intersections within the project zone.

A Public Consultation Centre (PCC) was held on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at the Grand River Transit facility on Chandler Drive, at which time plans for the improvements were presented for public information and comment. The PCC Information Package and drawings are still available for viewing on the Region's web site at:

<https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/living-here/resources/Documents/Future-Construction>

A summary of all public comments received and the Project Team's responses are included in the staff report that will be available for release to the public on Tuesday, December 3, 2019. Please contact us if you would like to see any of the Project Team responses in advance of formal release to the public.

Following a review of the public comments received and upon consideration of other relevant criteria, the Project Team has identified a Recommended Design Concept for the improvements on Ottawa Street from Fischer-Hallman Road to Alpine Road as follows:

- Reconstruction of the Ottawa Street / Westmount Road intersection as a new two-lane roundabout;
- Removal of the sidewalks on both sides of Ottawa Street and removal of the short section of cycling lanes from Williamsburg Road to Fischer-Hallman Road, in favour of construction of a new 3.0 metre wide asphalt boulevard multi-use trail on both sides of Ottawa Street from Fischer-Hallman Road to Strasburg Road;
- Construction of new bus stops, to accommodate improved passenger amenities such as shelters, benches, and real-time information displays. Stops would be relocated as necessary to reduce crossing distances, transfer distances, and integrate with new active transportation infrastructure;
- Construction of new pedestrian refuge islands on Ottawa Street at Williamsburg Road, Howe Drive, Pinedale Drive, the pathway to Chandler Drive, Mowat Boulevard, Howland Drive and Elmsdale Drive;
- Reconstruction of the existing roadway base and asphalt pavement on Ottawa Street from Fischer-Hallman Road to Alpine Road;
- Construction of new designated eastbound left-turn lane on Ottawa Street at Howe Drive, Mowat Boulevard and Elmsdale Drive;
- Construction of new designated westbound left-turn lane on Ottawa Street at Williamsburg Road, Pinedale Drive and Howland Drive;
- Reconfiguration of the left turn lanes on Ottawa Street between Strasburg Road and the Laurentian Centre mall to improve storage and traffic capacity;
- Modifications to Strasburg Road near Ottawa Street to improve left turn capacity from Ottawa Street to Strasburg Road;
- Construction of new channelized right-turn lanes at the northeast and southeast corners of the intersection of Ottawa Street and Fischer-Hallman Road; and
- Replacement of the corrugated steel pipe culvert carrying Borden Creek under Ottawa Street with a new open bottom concrete culvert;

Pending approval of the Recommended Design Concept by Regional Council it is proposed to complete construction of these improvements in phases from Spring 2021 to Fall 2023. Note that utility relocations may proceed in advance, starting in 2020. You will receive further notification concerning the timing of construction, traffic restrictions and contact information prior to the commencement of the construction. Interested members of the public who wish to voice an opinion on this project may attend Regional Planning and Works Committee as a delegation on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Regional Administration Building, 150 Frederick Street, Kitchener. If you wish to attend the Planning and Works Committee, please contact the Regional Clerk's Office to register in advance at (519) 575-4400. Questions or comments may also be directed to the project manager at any time.

Yours truly,

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cc: Frank Kosa, Head, Transportation Capital Projects