

Memorandum

Date: Tuesday, May 21, 2019

To: Members of Council

From: Kyle Munro, Community Policy Planner, Community Services

Subject: Bolton Queen Street Corridor Study

The purpose of this memo is to advise Council that the Bolton Queen Street Corridor Study (Study) is completed and can be accessed on the Town's Website:

<https://www.caledon.ca/en/townhall/bolton-queen-street-corridor-study.asp>

The Town undertook this Study resulting from recent changes in transportation and infrastructure policy that are significantly altering traffic activity towards local-based usage in the area of the Highway 50/Queen Street in Bolton. The Study focused on identifying land use and design opportunities along the corridor that:

- Promote active transportation (walking, accessible and cycling) facilities and connectivity in Bolton;
- Promote enhancement of the corridor as a "complete street";
- Identify future land uses that can thrive within such a modified landscape while; accommodating changing demands for growth to 2041;
- Recognize and build upon research and policies that exist within the study area; and
- Accommodate and support future transit demands.

The findings of this Study will contribute to the development of planning policies for areas of Bolton as part of the Caledon 2041 Official Plan Review and directly reflects feedback collected through public and government agency consultation.

Background

1. Approach to the Study

The Bolton Queen Street Corridor Study was conducted in three phases:

- Phase 1 involved information and idea gathering via public consultation and a review of existing policies and site conditions within the study area.
- Three (3) dimensional (3D) computer modeling was created from this information and utilized to assist the later stages of the public consultation process.

- Phase 2 focused on the development of precedent study of design examples, consultation-based design concepts and policy scenarios for the study area.
- Phase 3 focused on the selection and justification of design plan and associated policy opportunities and recommendations for the Study area. The final study deliverables will be used as research material to inform the Town's current Official Plan Review.

2. Study Area

The Study area included the portion of Highway 50/Queen Street from Emil Kolb Parkway in the North to Mayfield Road in the South and King Street from Coleraine Drive in the West to Old King Road in the East. The primary focus of public interested focused along the Highway 50/Queen Street portion of the Study area.

3. Consultative Approach

Consultations with key stakeholders and the public provided context to the data gathered and the interests of community members. Presentations were conducted with stakeholders from the public, private and government sectors throughout the study. Three (3) non-statutory public sessions were held (Open House #1 - September 21, 2016, Design Charrette - November 30, 2016 and Open House #2 - September 28, 2017).

Some Key Findings

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The study area was found to include four (4) distinct streetscape types, described in the Study as "Rural Highway", "Downtown Core", Commercial Highway" and "Highway Employment". • There is significant interest towards establishing a safe and separate bridge for an active transportation crossing of the railway corridor at Highway 50. • There is significant interest towards establishing a safe, continuous and integrated active transportation network along Highway 50/Queen Street, from Emil Kolb Parkway to Mayfield Road and along King Street from Coleraine Drive to Old King Road.
Primary Study recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) by the Region, with involvement of the Town that at a minimum addresses the Downtown Section of the Queen Street Corridor, with consideration of the EA extension, if appropriate.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Such an EA should at minimum include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Functional Engineering Design ○ Streetscape Design Options ○ Engagement Strategy ○ Parking Study of the Downtown Area ○ Climate change analysis ○ Servicing Plan ○ Bridge assessment and Hydrology Study ○ Costing Estimates
Secondary Study Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity is needed for the design and planning policies surrounding Bolton. • Existing Bolton Secondary Plans should be updated and integrated within the updated Official Plan • The establishment of new Secondary Plans and other initiatives/studies can help to build a vision for Bolton and the Study area specifically. • Potential studies include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Secondary Plans for the “Highway Employment Area” and the “Commercial Industrial Area” ○ Gateway and Public Arts Strategies ○ Design for a new Pedestrian Bridge over the Rail Corridor
Ongoing Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many of the Study recommendations arrived at would require joint Regional and Town partnership. • Addressing formal infrastructural components of the corridor (roadway, bridges) should be led by the Region. • Planning Studies (Secondary Plans, cultural heritage) should be led by the Town. • The Region and Town working in close collaboration on these studies and the results of each should be formally integrated into the Official Plans of both jurisdictions.

Conclusion

The recommendations and directions from the Bolton Queen Street Corridor Study will contribute to the creation of new official plan policies as part of the Official Plan 20141 Review process.