

City of Sault Ste. Marie

## **Third Line/Black Road Corridors Class EA Public Consultation Plan**

**Prepared by:**

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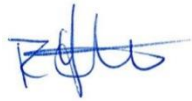
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## Revision Log

Revision #	Revised By	Date	Issue / Revision Description
1	R.Talvitie	November 21, 2014	Updated to reflect a Schedule C project.

## AECOM Signatures

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# 1. Introduction

The City of Sault Ste. Marie has retained AECOM to complete the **Third Line/Black Road Corridors Class Environmental Assessment Study** to identify what, if any, improvements may be required within these corridors to address changing traffic patterns and vehicular and pedestrian safety.

The preferred solution will be determined based on technical requirements, environmental considerations, cost and public input and information gathered during the study.

The study is being conducted in accordance with the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process (Class EA process). The Class EA process includes an assessment of the problem and opportunities, evaluation of alternative solutions, public and review agency consultation, an assessment of potential effects on the environment and identification of reasonable measures to mitigate any adverse affects.

# 2. Proposed Consultation Activities

Public and external agency consultation is a key component of this study. This public consultation program has been developed to incorporate and address input received from a broad cross-section of people and interests. The principle objective of the public consultation process is to solicit meaningful input from the public and review agencies throughout the process. The solicitation of public input will:

- Enhance the quality of the decision making process by capturing ideas and experiences of a broad cross-section of people;
- Ensure transparency in the decision making process;
- Enhance public understanding of the process, and rationale for the decisions reached; and
- Meet legislative requirements.

The City is taking a proactive approach and proposing to use a variety of media, tools and methodologies to reach out to as many individuals as possible. A description of each element of the public consultation program is included in the following subsections.

## 2.1 Website

A webpage has been established on the City's website. The page will include important and relevant planning documentation and will be updated periodically as the study progresses. The site will also include contact information for the Consultant Project Manager and the City's Project Manager.

## 2.2 Newsletters/Notices

Newsletters/Notices will be used to disseminate important information and project updates. Newsletters will also be used to invite input into the planning process. We anticipate that the following Notices will be issued:

- Initial notification of the project;
- Notification of modified project limits;
- Selection of the preliminary preferred alternative and invitation to a Public Open House;
- Selection of preliminary preferred design options and invitation to a Public Open House;
- Notice of Completion.

## **2.3 Public Open Houses**

Two Public Open Houses are planned to disseminate project information once key milestones or decision points have been reached in the process (ie. after a preliminary preferred solution has been identified and following the selection of the preliminary preferred design options). These sessions will be used to solicit feedback and input from review agencies and the public. The format will include a series of display panels arranged to guide individuals through the process. The project team will usher individuals or groups of individuals through the presentation materials, explain the contents and address questions and issues as they arise. A summary report will be prepared which includes a listing of issues, questions and concerns raised together with the responses provided.

## **2.4 Notices and Advertising**

A broad range of media will be used to reach as many people as possible with the Notices and advertising. Advertisements and Notices will be placed in the local newspapers (Sault Star and Sault This Week), mailed or emailed to all individuals on the project mailing list and posted on the City website. Other forms of media may also be used.

## **2.5 Records Management**

An excel spreadsheet will be used to track input received from the public and responses issued by the project team.