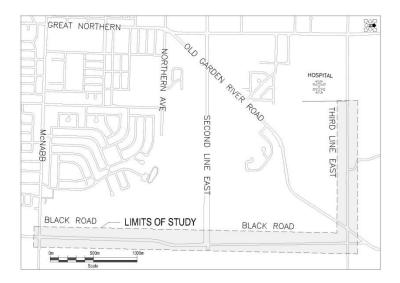
City of Sault Ste. Marie Black Road and Third Line Corridor Improvements From McNabb Street to the Sault Area Hospital Entrance Class Environmental Assessment

In 2011 the City retained AECOM Canada Ltd., a consulting engineering firm, to complete the **Black Road/Third Line Class Environmental Assessment Study.** The study was initiated to address changing traffic patterns and vehicular and pedestrian safety in the Black Road and Third Line corridors from Second Line to Third Line and from Black Road to the Sault Area Hospital entrance respectively. Changing traffic patterns are the result of congestion in other parallel corridors and recent new and planned developments in the northern portion of the City, including the new Sault Area Hospital (SAH).

Since the study was initiated there have been some delays to accommodate other related studies that have been proceeding in parallel. A near final Draft of the City's Transportation Master Plan was completed in October 2014 which includes projected traffic volumes for the subject road corridors. In addition, in 2014, the study limits were extended to include Black Road from McNabb Street to Second Line. The revised study area is shown in the key plan below.



The purpose of this study is to look at alternative solutions to address potential impacts and possible improvements in the Black Road and Third Line corridors from McNabb Street to the SAH Entrance. Alternatives will include consideration of doing nothing, road widening, pedestrian and cyclist safety and other elements. The preferred solution will be determined based on technical requirements, environmental considerations, overall cost and stakeholder 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 stakeholder consultation, identification of problems and opportunities, evaluation of alternative solutions and designs, assessment of potential effects on the environment and identification of reasonable measures to mitigate any adverse affects.

Public and external agency consultation is a key component of this Study. Details of this project will be presented at a future Public Open House to be held in early 2015. The Open House will provide

interested stakeholders with an opportunity to meet with the Project Team and discuss the project. Notification of the Open House will be advertised in local media and delivered to individuals included on the project mailing list and/or abutting the project. Interested individuals are also encouraged to visit the project web page periodically (ie www.saultstemarie.ca/BlackRoadEA) to access project documentation and updates.

We are interested in receiving comments that you may have about the study. Should you have any comments or questions, or wish to receive additional project information and/or be included on the project mailing list please contact either of the Project Team members.

Don Elliott, P.Eng.
Director of Engineering Services
City of Sault Ste. Marie
Tel: 705-759-5329

Fax: 705-541-7165

Email: d.elliott@cityssm.on.ca

Project Webpage: www.saultstemarie.ca/BlackRoadEA

Rick Talvitie, P.Eng. Project Manager AECOM Canada Ltd. Tel: 705-942-2612

Fax: 705-942-3642

Email: rick.talvitie@aecom.com

If significant concerns regarding this project cannot be resolved through discussions with City staff or its consultant, a person may request that the Minister of the Environment issue an order for the project to comply with Part II of the Environmental Assessment Act (referred to as a Part II Order). Subject to the decision of the Minister an Individual Environmental Assessment may have to be completed.

Please note that the information related to this study will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments received will become part of the public record and may be included in Study documentation prepared for public review.

This Notice issued December 4, 6, and 11, 2014.