

NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT

Highway 417 Nicholas Street Underpass (Site #3-224) Replacement (GWP 4048-11-00), Detail Design

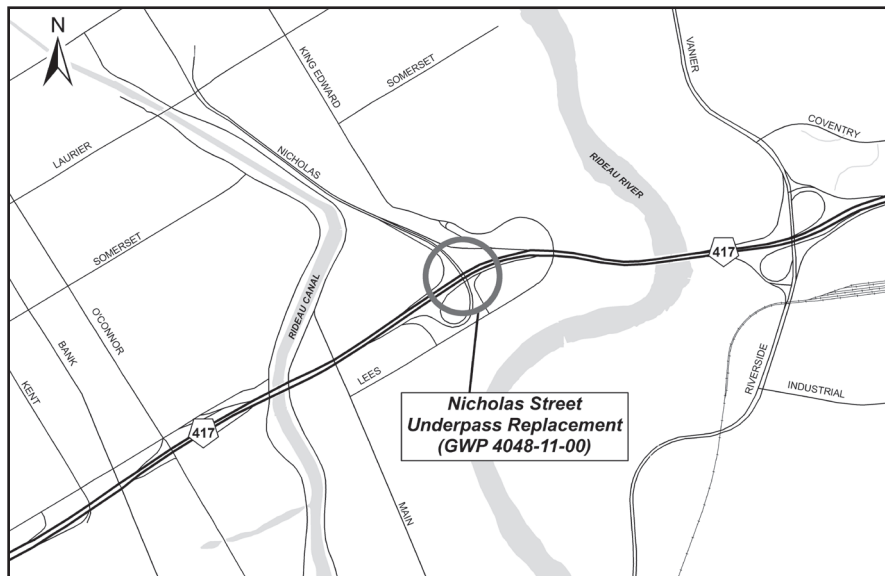
THE STUDY

The **Ministry of Transportation (MTO)** has retained **WSP Canada (WSP)** to complete the detail design and Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the replacement of the Highway 417 Nicholas Street Underpass (Site #3-224) (GWP 4048-11-00), in the City of Ottawa.

The purpose of this notice is to inform the general public of the study, and to provide an opportunity to provide any comments, questions, or concerns.

The scope of work involves the following:

- Full replacement of the existing bridge on a new alignment immediately west of the existing bridge;
- Re-alignment of the associated interchange ramps (specifically, ramps in the northwest, southwest and northeast quadrants) as required by the new bridge alignment;
- Short extension of the fourth Highway 417 through lanes in each direction, to just west of the Nicholas Street Underpass; and
- Construction of related works, including drainage, illumination, and roadside protection barriers.



Traffic management for construction staging will be coordinated with the City of Ottawa.

THE PROCESS

This project is following the approved environmental planning process for Group 'B' projects under the MTO *Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000)*, with the opportunity for public input throughout the project.

A preliminary design for Highway 417 (Ottawa Queensway) from west of Highway 416 easterly to Anderson Road was documented in a Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) and recommended rehabilitation of the bridge. In 2009, a Value Engineering (VE) study was completed which recommended the full replacement of the bridge.

A Public Information Centre (PIC) will be held to provide stakeholders with an opportunity to review and comment on the proposed design, anticipated and potential environmental effects, and proposed mitigation. Notices will be published in local newspapers to advertise the date, time, and location of the PIC. Information will also be available on the project website www.queenswayexpansioneast.com.

Upon completion of the detail design, a Design and Construction Report (DCR) will be prepared and filed for a 30-day public review period. The DCR will document the Class EA process followed, including a description of the Recommended Plan, potential environmental effects, and the final mitigation plan. At that time, a notice of DCR Submission will be published in local newspapers to explain the review process and identify locations where the DCR can be reviewed.

COMMENTS

We are interested in hearing any comments that you may have regarding this study. If you wish to obtain additional information or provide comments, please contact the Consultant Project Manager or MTO Senior Project Engineer listed below, or visit the project website at www.queenswayexpansioneast.com.

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Information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA)*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will be part of the public record.

If you have any accessibility requirements in order to participate in this project, please contact one of the Project Team members listed above.

Des renseignements sont disponibles en français en composant 613 690-1092, auprès de Carmen Lapointe (courriel : Carmen.Lapointe@wsp.com).