

**PUBLIC NOTICE - PUBLIC INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE**  
**Detroit River International Crossing**  
**Environmental Assessment Terms of Reference**

**THE STUDY:**

Transport Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Transportation in partnership with the U.S. Federal Highway Administration and the Michigan Department of Transportation, are working to provide for safe, efficient and secure movement of people and goods at the Canada-U.S. border in Southeastern Michigan – Southwestern Ontario.

The Partnership has developed a six-stage process to identify and implement effective solutions to current and future cross-border transportation problems. The first stage was completed with the publishing of the Planning/Need and Feasibility Study in January 2004. The study identifies a 30-year strategy for cross-border transportation in the Detroit River area.

As part of the second of six stages leading to the implementation of major transportation improvements, the Partners are proceeding with the formal environmental study processes on both sides of the border, namely, the U.S. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act (OEAA), and a study that meets the requirements of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA).

**THE PROCESS:**

Prior to preparing an Individual Environmental Assessment (EA), the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act requires that a proponent prepare a Terms of Reference (TOR). The Terms of Reference is a document that provides the framework the Partnership must follow in completing the environmental study. The TOR requires approval by the Minister of the Environment (MOE), and the subsequent Individual EA is then prepared in accordance with the approved TOR. The intention is to submit the TOR to the Minister of the Environment for review in April of 2004. Comments on the draft TOR are to be submitted to the Project Team by April 16, 2004.

**DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE:**

The Draft TOR and Supporting Documents are currently available for review. Information provided in the TOR includes:

- Purpose of the project
- Integrated process for conducting the EA
- Framework for generating and assessing alternatives
- Framework for defining study area
- Proposed generation and evaluation criteria
- Proposed evaluation methodology
- Proposed consultation plan

You are encouraged to review the documents on the project website ([www.PartnershipBorderStudy.com](http://www.PartnershipBorderStudy.com)) and provide comments directly to the Project Team or through the Public Information Open Houses. The document is also available at the following viewing locations:

*City of Windsor Clerk's Office*  
350 City Hall Square West  
*Windsor Public Library*  
850 Oullette Avenue

*Town of LaSalle Clerk's Office*  
5950 Malden Road  
*LaSalle Public Library*  
5940 Malden Road

*Town of Amherstburg Clerk's Office*  
271 Sandwich Street South  
*Amherstburg Library*  
232 Sandwich Street South

*Town of Tecumseh Clerk's Office*  
917 Lesperance Road  
*Tecumseh Public Library*  
13675 St. Gregory's Road

*Essex County Clerk's Office*  
360 Fairview Avenue West  
*Essex Library*  
18 Gordon Avenue

**PUBLIC INFORMATION OPEN HOUSES:**

The Project Team is also seeking public input and comments through Public Information Open Houses. The purpose of this round of consultation is to allow the public to review the draft Terms of Reference. You are encouraged to attend and provide your comments and suggestions.

The open houses will be held as follows:

**Monday, March 22, 2004**  
2:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Cleary International Centre  
Canadian Club Room B  
201 Riverside Drive West  
Windsor, Ontario

**Tuesday, March 23, 2004**  
4:00p.m. – 9:00p.m.  
Sandwich West Public School  
2055 Wyoming Avenue  
LaSalle, Ontario

**Wednesday, March 24, 2004**  
4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Verdi Club  
689 Texas Road, R.R. 3  
Amherstburg, Ontario

**Thursday, March 25, 2004**  
4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Ciociaro Club  
3745 North Talbot Road  
Tecumseh, Ontario

**Saturday, March 27, 2004**  
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Radisson Riverfront Club Room  
Radisson Hotel  
277 Riverside Drive West  
Windsor, Ontario

Comments received during this round of open houses will be considered in the development of the final Environmental Assessment Terms of Reference document. Comments on the draft TOR are to be submitted to the Project Team by April 16, 2004. The final TOR will be prepared and submitted to the Minister of the Environment for approval. The Minister of the Environment will provide an opportunity for public and agency input when making a decision.

**COMMENTS:**

Comments and information regarding this project will be collected to assist the Partnership and the Project Team. This material will be maintained on file for use during the project and may be included in project documentation. Information collected will be used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the Access to Information Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

For further information, or to be added to the mailing list, please contact the following Project Team representatives or visit our web site at [www.PartnershipBorderStudy.com](http://www.PartnershipBorderStudy.com):

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