

Halton starts public consultation on widening Regional Road 25

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The region is looking to overhaul Regional Road 25 between Milton and Halton Hills, and they're beginning the consultation process to expand the area from four to six lanes.

Halton Region staff are taking public input on the widening of the road from Steeles Avenue to 5 Side Road, as part of the second phase of the five-stage process.

The region is undergoing a Municipal Class Environmental Study as part of the project and has retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. to carry out the assessment.

On March 8, the region held their first public information meeting for the project, where concerned residents came to ask questions about the timeline and details.

One main question was about when signalized intersections would be co-ordinated, and when the next steps of the study would commence.

As part of the public information session, staff put up display boards explaining different components of the study. One outlined the potential heritage features near the site, which are the old Milton Train Station and the Maplehurst Correctional Complex and Vanier Centre for Women.

The region has already identified three areas of archeological potential, which will also be included in the environmental assessment. There were no natural features of



Alexandra Heck/Metroland

Nuno Gama, an engineer with Crozier and Associates, takes a look at the panels set up by Halton Region at their public meeting on the widening of Regional Road 25.

concern identified.

One other component looked at nearby species at risk, like the redbird dace, barn swallows, monarch butterflies and big blue-stem grass were other species of note found from preliminary field research.

The use of Regional Road 25 is expected to increase by two to four per cent by 2031, meaning an average of 27,000 to 52,000 vehicles daily. Staff have outlined possibilities for bike lanes, and pedestrian walkways.

The study is in its early stages, and more public consultation is planned before the environmental assessment is completed by winter 2019.

The next session will focus on gathering public input on the preliminary designs for the project.

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