MTC plans truck lane on Highway 25 slope

by Eric Elstone

Highway 25 will never be the same again. Transportation and Communiciations revealed two feet of pavement on plans last week to change both sides. the section of highway running the 9.6 miles ceptions to the two-foot south of Acton to High- addition: there is to be an

way 401.

meeting at Speyside School last Tuesday. The Ontario Ministry of Plans call for a general widening of the road by (Regional Road 9).

There are two main exextra lane for trucks Ministry officials con- climbing the escarpment

and there will be four lanes instead of two from Highway 401 to the flash-

what ministry officials called the preliminary design stage. The final stage, called the detailed design stage, takes at

ing light at Five Sideroad The project today is in

ject manager Jack Des-Heading north from Highway 401, drivers, if all the proposals are last a year to complete on completed, will notice

many

especially

tersections. north of Five Sideroad (Regional Road 9) and the flashing light, the proposals call for four lanes of highway. Today the highway has two lanes, one in each direction. At the intersection there will be a left turn lane east and a left turn lane west.

a typical job, according

Again heading north, the ministry hopes to flatten Highway 25 by a foot and a half at most. At Ten Sideroad there are to be right hand tapers in both directions. About a half mile north

of the sideroad drivers will see the start of the new truck climbing lane. The lane is an 11-foot addition to the highway's for possible removal, eastern rim.

to Soren Pedersen of the ministry's planning and The new lane will run design department. just more than two miles The \$2.2 million job is north and taper in the ministry's fiveaways south of Speyside year program, said pro-

> The ministry is also proposing some smoothing of the highway on the curves up the escarp-

At the intersection with improvements the gas service station, Regional Road 15, there changes in the vicinity of the station. Southbound cars will have a right turn taper onto the road

> Esquesing Road 17 the truck lane will end. At the intersection, three of the four corners are to be made gentler. Right turn lanes are be

featured at the inter-

section with Esquesing

Road 22 and Regional Sideroad 25 (Regional Road 12) will have a left turn lane off the highway for northbound autos and right hand lane for

southbound vehicles. ministry has identified about 50 trees

according to Pedersen. Most of the vegetation is scrub, he said.

"All attempts are being made to save as many trees as possible," said Pedersen. He noted one tree, estimates vary concerning its age-100-300 years—on the east side of the highway north of Sideroad 10, is to be

That old oak conthe start of the truck lane to north of where the ministry would like it to begin. The lane is 1,800

feet short of the ministry's ideal.

hazard criteria said MTC official Chamberlain any trees within 13 feet of pavement will have to be removed and also anything within the limits of construction.

During the afternoon information session 16 people came to the school and four of them left are proposed some tributed to the shifting of written recommendations for the ministry to

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according to Desrocher, is new to this area, is the Under the ministry's recycling of pavement. Chunks of the road which are taken up will be melted, blended with new road material and used again. The estimated saving is \$300,000.

In addition to the work on Highway 25, the ministry plans to alter its interchange with Highway 401. The northwest added to the existing bridge.

By changing the leaf's shape the ministry plans to stop the weaving in and out of vehicles on the Highway 25 bridge over the east-west route, and moved and new spurs on Highway 401 under the

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Hwy. 25 improvements get committee blessing

ciple" has been given to a plan to install a truck climbing lane along with widening of Highway 25 north of Highway 401 to

Regional Public Works traffic. Department has recommended an Ontario Ministry of Transportation and Communication proposal be approved by council today. It will take five years to complete. replanting and general

The first stage will be from Regional Rd. 9 to Regional Rd. 15, to be followed in the second stage about problems which from Regional Rd. 15 to the Acton town limits.

ambitious part of the highway rebuilding will be a truck climbing lane which will allow large vehicles to climb the eswithout carpment holding up the flow of

He said the widening of the highway for the climbing lane will mean about 42 trees will be lost But he said the Ministry has set aside \$12,000 for landscaping.

Councillor Russ Miller said he is concerned might be made for school buses turning into the MTC representative Speyside School but was told the Ministry would look into adding some

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form of merging lane.

Another problem is a small store-gasoline station at the top of the escarpment. Although the Ministry does not have to aid the owner, as the property is far enough back to allow the road to be expanded, Mr. Miller said something in the form of an island or turning lane should be built to protect the small businessman.

Stating the Ministry and Region does not have to help the owner, he said "I think we should be doing something to pro-tect him."

The committee recommendation goes to council today for approval.

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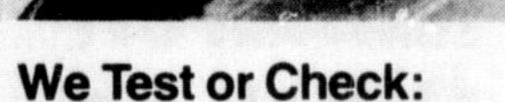
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