

# Reg. Rd. 25 widening may start in 2009

By **MELANIE HENNESSEY**  
*The Champion*

Local residents could soon see Regional Road 25 from James Snow Parkway to Campbellville Road widened from two to four lanes.

The proposed expansion is part of the 'preferred alternative' for the road put forward by planners at a public information centre held in Milton last week.

Regional staff and consultants from URS Canada Inc. were on hand to discuss the \$4.8-million road project with local residents, but few attended.

But that doesn't mean area citizens haven't been involved, according to Mark Nykoluk of URS.

"We've had great feedback and great public involvement too," he said, noting some people have been involved in stakeholder group meetings on the project.

He explained the work will include widening the road, installing a raised median in some sections and making improvements to intersections in the subject area. Multi-use paths have also been planned for both sides of the road.

While some trees will be removed to make way for the expansion, Mr. Nykoluk explained there'll be a plan to replace those trees. He noted the design of the project has also been adjusted to save some trees.

The project is intended to address the future traffic demands on the northern stretch of Regional Road 25 in Milton.

For Nick Chronopoulos, who owns The Chalet restaurant on Regional Road 25 near the intersection of Campbellville Road, the widening is something he thinks will soon be warranted.

"I think as time goes by, it (congestion in the area) will be more of an issue," he told The Champion. "Four lanes certainly will be needed in the future."

A staff recommendation regarding the project is expected to go before regional council soon. An environmental study report on the work is also anticipated to be done shortly and filed for public review in April.

If everything goes well, actual work on the road will start in 2009 and will take one or two years to complete.

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# Mileage hike is approved

Milton council approved a mileage and car allowance increase for itself and staff Monday evening.

The approximate four per cent jump, which came into effect Wednesday, means the Town's mileage rate has gone from 45.7 cents per kilometer to 47.5 cents, the mayor's car allowance from \$438.96 a month to \$456.34 and the CAO's allowance from \$485.65 to \$504.88. The special additional rate for inspection staff has also increased from five cents a kilometer to 5.2 cents.

The mileage rate and car allowances are adjusted each year based on car cost increases determined by the Canadian Automobile Association.

It's anticipated the changes will cost the Town less than \$2,000, which will be accommodated within the existing budget.

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