

Manning Road to be widened

BY FREE PRESS STAFF

The provincial and federal governments and the County of Essex jointly announced Sept. 5 funding for a \$7 million project to widen Manning Road between County Road 22 and the VIA Rail line. The road will be widened from two to five lanes.

The project is part of the Let's Get Windsor-Essex Moving strategy.

The Canada-Ontario Border Infrastructure Fund is providing the funding for the strategy, which is a partnership plan by both the provincial and federal gov-

ernments to contribute \$300 million into the Windsor gateway.

"Investing in our highways is critical to our local economy," said Essex MPP Bruce Crozier in a press release. "These improvements will go a long way toward improving the flow of goods, services and commuters in Essex County."

The widening of Manning Road is part of a preliminary engineering design initiated by both governments to improve the road from County Road 22 to Highway 401.

"Improvements to Manning Road will provide

better highway access, benefiting industrial, commercial and commuter traffic in Essex County," said Essex County Warden Mike Raymond in the release.

Crozier said the widening of Manning Road will begin in Spring 2007. The road will remain open during construction.

Essex County Federation of Agriculture holds regional meeting

The Essex County Federation of Agriculture held its regional meeting on Wednesday, September 6 in McGregor.

The purpose of the regional meeting is to elect two directors to represent Essex County members on the provincial level and to elect six delegates for the Ontario Federation of Agriculture's Annual Convention being held in Toronto on November 20 and 21. It is also an opportunity for the local farming community to discuss concerns, get updates on OFA activities and to socialize.

The meeting began with ECFA President, Julien Papineau welcoming everyone. This year the guest speaker was meteorologist



ROCK ON – Manic Drive performs for crowds Sept. 8 beside Essex Memorial Arena. The band opened for Starfield, a Canadian Christian rock band that now operates out of Nashville, Tenn. The concert has become an annual event for area Christian rock lovers.

Jay Campbell from A-Channel. He discussed some of the variables that affect Essex County weather and why our area is unique. Also attending the meeting were Paul Mistele, OFA Vice-President and Don McCabe, OFA Executive member with current up-dates on OFA activities.

OFA Member Services Representative, Gayle Bogart was in charge of the elections. Julien Papineau was newly elected as Provincial Director for

Essex East and along with Bonnie Popov and Jason Fuerth will be representing this area at the November convention.

Bill Mailloux remains the Provincial Director for Essex West and Bernard Calhoun, Marianne Mailloux and Bernard Nelson were elected as this region's convention delegates.

Thank you to all who attended this meeting. If you have any questions, please contact the ECFA office at (519) 776-5159.

CORRECTION

A story that appeared in the Sept. 6 edition of the Essex Free Press incorrectly indicated that voters could vote at any polling station. For the municipal election Nov. 13 residents must vote in their prescribed poll. Voters are not eligible to cast a vote at any polling station.



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