

Chapter 7 – Implementation



407 TRANSITWAY – WEST OF BRANT STREET TO WEST OF HURONTARIO STREET
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION - CENTRAL REGION

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7. IMPLEMENTATION

7.1. Project Activities

Implementation of each phase of the 407 Transitway project will encompass three distinct steps: Pre-construction (including design); Construction; and Operation and Maintenance. A description of each phase and the activities associated with them are discussed and listed below.

Implementation for each stage outlined in the following subsections will be revised and confirmed prior to construction in consultation with the other transit agencies.

7.1.1. Pre-Construction

This phase includes everything prior to construction and preparation of contract drawings and specifications. It is noted that design and construction may be procured as one contract. Although this TPAP includes the final project description of the Preferred Alternative, it was developed based on forecast growth projections. These parameters, as well as any environmental, and design guidelines/standards variation will be reviewed, confirmed, or revised when necessary prior to construction of the facilities. Aspects to be addressed and resolved during this stage include but are not limited to:

- Review of commitments stated in the EPR and development of a plan to comply with the commitments made;
- Further consultation with applicable Stakeholders as described and detailed in **Chapter 10**;
- Review applicable updated regulations, design guidelines, and design standards;
- Detailed archaeological and excess soil contamination investigations, as required;
- Update ridership assessment, if required;
- Update traffic impact analysis in area of influence;
- Geotechnical investigations including drilling of boreholes to determine existing soil and groundwater conditions;
- Site surveying (including field investigations for species at risk) as required;
- Review EPR document and proceed with design refinements of all infrastructure and system components which may include:
 - Runningway;
 - Station, including passenger amenities, access and circulation roads;
 - MSF design;
 - Drainage and SWM;
 - Structures;
 - Pavement;
 - Illumination and traffic signals;

- ITS;
- Landscape; and,
- Phasing requirements for infrastructure implementation.

- Discuss and define, utility relocation strategy and design with owners;
- Acquire required property;
- Define vehicle types and operational service plans;
- Obtain MTO and 407 ETR approvals for runningway design and any interchange modifications;
- Obtain environmental approvals/permits/exemptions, as required;
- Coordinate passenger transfer strategies, and facility designs with local transit agencies; and,
- Develop fare collection strategies in coordination with all relevant operators.

7.1.2. Construction

Physical construction activities will include:

- Installation of traffic accommodation measures as required by staging plan;
- Clearing and grubbing of trees and vegetation within the grading limits for construction of the project;
- Stripping of topsoil within the grading limits;
- Excavation of runningway, station and access road surface;
- Trenching and installing new or relocated above and below grade utility infrastructure;
- Removing existing asphalt and disposing at approved facility;
- Removing redundant structures and disposing of debris;
- Installing SWM system components;
- Preparing Transitway and Station access roadbed including cutting and filling and laying granular;
- Potentially salvaging existing granular/asphalt for reuse;
- Placing concrete or erecting fabricated steel or precast elements for bridges or culverts;
- Placing concrete for curb, barriers, retaining walls, planters and sidewalks;
- Constructing station buildings and ancillary facilities;
- Constructing storage and maintenance facility buildings and support facilities;
- Fabricating and erecting station elements including amenities;
- Laying granular and application of hot mix asphalt;
- Installing lighting, ITS equipment and traffic signals;
- Final site grading and topsoil application;
- Runningway and parking lot line painting;
- Installing landscaping features such as sod, shrubs, trees, paving stones, irrigation systems, station amenities and platform furniture;

- Installing corridor landscape features and replacement vegetation; and,
- Managing excess soil will be done in accordance with the MECP's current guidance document titled "Management of Excess Soil – A Guide for Best Management Practices" (2014).

Throughout the construction stage, various associated activities, such as noise and air quality control and excess soil disposal, which can have potentially adverse environmental effects, will be mitigated, as outlined in **Chapter 6** of this EPR.

There will be opportunities to stage the sequence of activities during the construction phase. Adequate construction staging will be crucial to maintain the best possible level of service during construction, including providing adequate traffic management; maintaining safe pedestrian and cycling routing; maintaining access to all properties; and, maintaining municipal and utility services such as water, sewer and hydro; etc.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

The preparation of an Emergency Response Plan to be used by the Contractor, will be included to allow full emergency services access during the construction period, such that, at all times, there is a method to access all residential, commercial and other land uses in the event of an emergency. Additionally, the Emergency Response Plan will include provisions for providing temporary services to end users in the event of a construction related service outage or other service disruption. A spills response and reporting plan will be prepared and adhered to by the contractor. Spills or discharges of pollutants or contaminants will be reported immediately to the MECP's Spills Action Centre, the municipality in which the spill occurred, and to the person in control of the substance if known and who is not already aware of the spill. Clean up will be initiated quickly to ensure protection of the environment.

MANAGEMENT OF CONTAMINATED MATERIALS

Prior to construction, studies will be completed to determine any potential for the project to interact with contaminated soil or groundwater. Where the potential is confirmed, a plan to remediate the environment to the applicable standards will be prepared. The MECP would be notified immediately upon discovery of any contaminated material encountered within the construction area. If contaminated materials or contaminated groundwater are encountered within the construction limits, these will be removed and disposed of in accordance with all applicable acts and regulations. Treatment and discharge of contaminated groundwater are also to be in accordance with applicable legislation and regulations.

CONSTRUCTION EXCESS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT PLAN

During construction there will be some excess materials requiring disposal off the project site. These could include concrete rubble, asphalt, earth and road ROW appurtenances such as signs and lighting and utility poles. An Excess Materials Management Plan will be developed to ensure that surplus material is recycled wherever practical and to describe the methods to be used by the Contractor for disposal of all other surplus material in accordance with provincial or municipal practices and guidelines.

GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS

Comprehensive geotechnical investigations will be required to confirm groundwater and subsurface geotechnical conditions and potential impacts that will be considered in constructing the project.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING

A Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment was completed as part of the TPAP and lands retaining archaeological potential were identified. As part of the TPAP, a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, including test pit and pedestrian surveys, was conducted by a licensed archaeologist on lands retaining archaeological potential (where permission to enter could be secured) to identify any sites/lands requiring further assessment (i.e. Stage 3 or Stage 4 Site Specific Archaeological Assessment). Any Stage 2 work not completed during the TPAP will be completed prior to construction. The 407 Transitway will be cleared of all archaeological concerns prior to construction. During construction, it may be necessary to monitor deep excavations, by a licensed archaeologist. If, during construction, archaeological resources are discovered, the site will be protected from further disturbance until a licensed archaeologist has completed an investigation, implementing any necessary mitigation measures.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The post-development SWM strategy includes the design of several enhanced swales and dry ponds, as part of a treatment train approach as discussed in **Section 5.4** to provide quality and quantity treatment of runoff generated by the 407 Transitway sub-areas where drainage areas are less than five hectares. In addition, seven SWM ponds have been designed for all proposed station sites where the drainage area was greater than five hectares (details included in **Chapter 4** of **Appendix C**). All ponds were designed for quantity, quality and erosion control providing Level 1 protection at the outlet.

EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN

In advance of the Construction Stage, an Erosion and Sediment Control Overview Risk Assessment will be reviewed and a detailed Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) plan will be prepared to manage erosion and the flow of sediment into watercourses, wetlands and storm sewers. This plan will be based on the Environmental Guide for Erosion and Sediment Control during Construction of Highway Projects (MTO 2007) and the Erosion and Sediment Control Guideline for Urban Construction (GGHA Conservation Authorities 2006). Best management practices will be identified and implemented based on Ontario Provincial Standard Specifications (OPSSs) and standard industry practice. Provision for inspection of erosion and sediment control measures during construction will be identified in permit approvals and will follow the Construction Administration and Inspection Task Manual (MTO 2007) as a minimum.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN PLAN

A detailed Landscape Design Plan will be prepared to guide the species selection, location and planting details for all proposed plantings along the runningway and at stations, where applicable. The plan will be prepared by a professional landscape architect with experience in plantings along arterial highways

and public areas such as the station precincts. Consultation with municipalities and affected agencies will be undertaken during development of the plan.

LIGHTING TREATMENT DESIGN PLAN

A Lighting Treatment Design Plan in accordance with municipal standards will be prepared prior to the initiation of construction. The Lighting Treatment Plan will include lighting fixtures and illumination at stations and along the various sections of the corridor. A lighting audit of the preferred lighting design plan will be conducted to ensure clear sight lines and appropriate illumination.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

The requirement for a Public Communications Plan stems from the need to keep the public informed about the work in progress and the end result of the construction activity. Residents and other stakeholders will be made aware of scheduled road closings and other disruptions to normal service ahead of time in order that their activities can be planned with minimum disruption. The Public Communications Plan will detail how to communicate the information to the public, what information should be disseminated, contact information and at what project stages the communications will take place.

GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING DURING CONSTRUCTION

General environmental monitoring will take place during construction as necessary to ensure that all relevant legislation is adhered to and will include, for example, construction monitoring for species at risk (SAR) and ensuring the requirements of any species at risk permits are satisfied.

7.1.3. Operations and Maintenance

Once construction is complete, operation and monitoring of 407 Transitway revenue service will be initiated. Activities during this stage will include:

- Testing and commissioning of vehicles, fixed facilities, and ITS;
- Training of operators and transit support personnel;
- Public relations and communications prior to and during revenue service;
- Monitoring traffic and transit ridership volumes to determine the potential for future enhancements;
- Accident/incident investigations to analyze and improve safety conditions;
- Monitoring of ITS equipment performance;
- Monitoring access road traffic signal timing; and,
- Landscape health.

Routine maintenance activities include:

- Spring sweeping of runningway, access roads, parking lots, sidewalk and boulevards;

- Snow and ice removal in the winter;
- Landscape maintenance including grass cutting, shrub and tree pruning in the summer;
- Replacement of any landscaped material;
- Stormwater pond maintenance, and,
- On-going scheduled vehicle, runningway, station, and ITS maintenance.

7.2. Project Implementation Strategy

7.2.1. Potential Staged Implementation

The 407 Transitway is a Provincial transit initiative. The MTO continues to be responsible for the planning, design, environmental approvals, and property protection for this project. Implementation of early bus stop and car pool facilities at Dundas Street and Appleby Line in the City of Burlington, Bronte Road and Trafalgar Road in the Town of Oakville, Hurontario Street in the City of Brampton, and Brock Road in Pickering were carried out by Metrolinx in cooperation with the MTO in support of the existing GO 407 Express Bus Service. It is likely this process will continue for the staged implementation and operation of the 407 Transitway into the future. Key stations may be added over time with buses operating on the 407 ETR. A decision on the delivery mechanism will be made in the future.

In establishing the objectives for phased implementation of the 407 Transitway, the current availability of the 407 ETR to Metrolinx services is assumed as a baseline phase. Phasing strategies assessed are based on a combination of part or parts of the existing 407 ETR service. From this starting point, indicators to be considered when defining candidate phasing strategies include:

- Stations of high demand, that present favourable site availability, favourable environmental conditions; proximity to 407 ETR interchanges, and adequate accessibility by all modes (municipal transit, park and ride, pick up and drop off, walk- in and cycling);
- Sequence of implementation of segments of the runningway should ideally correspond to the likely distribution of traffic congestion in the 407 ETR lanes;
- Each phase to be implemented should not result in a significant increase in travel time. Preferably, segment lengths should yield a travel time saving greater than the time penalty to divert from and to the 407 ETR, and phase limits selected must minimize the time to transfer from 407 ETR lanes to the new Transitway;
- Sequence of implementation of segments of the runningway should also be responsive to bus interlining opportunities;
- Phase costs should result in a contract cash flow that MTO (or the implementing agency) can accommodate in annual budgeting;

With a view to meeting the above indicators, potential Phasing Strategies to be considered include:

- Baseline Strategy – Cross-regional Rapid Transit Service on the 407 ETR in mixed traffic;

Transitway stops at existing Metrolinx bus stop locations; construction of additional station facilities at key locations and upgrade existing facilities to Transitway station facilities.

- Enhanced Baseline Strategy – Cross-regional Rapid Transit Service on 407 ETR in mixed traffic; Transitway stops at current stations, construction of runningway segments in locations where 407 ETR is congested and interlining facilities;
- Partial Implementation - Bus Transit Service on newly constructed 407 Transitway in specific segments, combined with service still operating on the 407 ETR; construction of remaining runningway segments and remaining station facilities.
- Full Implementation - Bus Transit Service on exclusive runningway.

The timing for the construction and implementation of the proposed bus storage facility at Bronte Road will need to be coordinated with the implementing agency.

Acceptance of this EPR will enable the MTO, or the proponent at the time, to pursue any one or more of the above strategies, or variations of them, within the limits of this EPR.

POTENTIAL CONVERSION TO LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT

Based on demand forecasts, implementation flexibility, bus interlining opportunities, operation and maintenance concerns, and cost, among other reasons, the 407 Transitway will initially be built as an exclusive, fully grade separated two lane road and operated with buses. However, the design of the runningway alignment has been developed to accommodate conversion to LRT technology; the roadbed would be replaced by a track bed, and special track works (e.g.: track crossovers; pocket tracks) and associated electrical light rail system elements would be installed.

Should it be decided to convert the 407 Transitway to LRT operation, the Transit Regulation would apply following consultation with MECP.

7.2.2. Cost Estimate

Due to multiple possible variations of a staged implementation plan, and the uncertainty of construction timing, capital cost of the proposed complete 407 Transitway facility at the time of initiating operation is not possible to estimate; however, an average cost of \$30 to \$40 million per kilometer of runningway and an average of \$40 to \$50 million per station facility (2017 dollars) can be used for information purposes.