

Natural Environment - Key Findings



- The Natural Environmental Assessment Area is comprised of the Project Footprint plus an additional 120 metres from the perimeter of the Project Footprint and an additional 500 metres from the approximate centre point of the GO station locations.
- Field work was carried out in spring and summer of 2021 and 2022. This work included surveys of the terrestrial and aquatic environments including habitat assessments, wildlife inventories and species at risk targeted surveys.
- Fish and fish habitat observations were completed at 14 watercourse crossing locations. Several of the rivers and tributaries provide habitat for fish migration, feeding and refuge.
- The Species at Risk confirmed through direct observations during site visits in the Project Footprint include: Little Brown Myotis, Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark and Butternut.
- Potential pure Butternut trees (a Species at Risk) may be present within the Project Footprint. Genetic testing is planned to confirm if the trees are pure Butternut or hybrids.
- Blanding's Turtle and American Eel are Species at Risk that have a medium to high probability of occurring in the Assessment Area.
- Two watercourses in the Assessment Area (Farewell and Harmony Creeks) connect to the Oshawa Second Marsh PSW and an unnamed watercourse west of Prestonvale Road connects to the McLaughlin Bay Coastal PSW Complex (the PSWs are located outside of the Assessment Area).



Bobolink

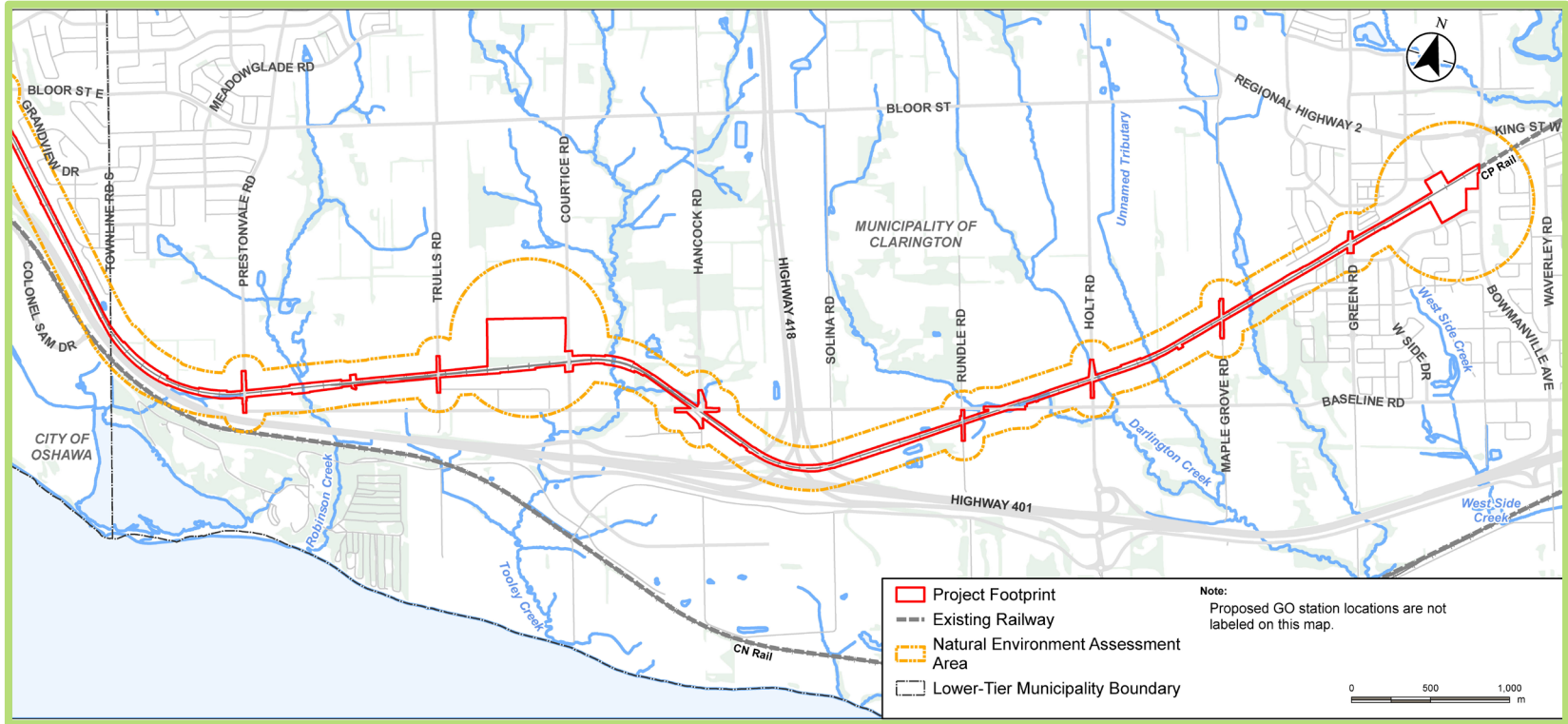
Oshawa to Bowmanville Rail Service Extension

Natural Environment - City of Oshawa Assessment Area



Oshawa to Bowmanville Rail Service Extension

Natural Environment - Municipality of Clarington Assessment Area



Natural Environment - Potential Effects



- Disturbance, displacement, or mortality of wildlife.
- Reduction in ecological function, habitat quality and integrity.
- Removal of and/or damage to trees, terrestrial vegetation and wildlife habitat.
- Introduction or spread of invasive species.
- Removal of/damage to aquatic/riparian vegetations and wetlands.
- Potential for harmful impacts to fish and fish habitat related to culverts and bridge work over watercourses.
- Soil erosion and increased surface water/stormwater run-off resulting in changes to stormwater quality and quantity.
- Soil or water contamination as a result of spills (e.g., grease and/or fuel) from equipment use during maintenance activities.



Natural Environment - Mitigation Measures



- Sensitive wildlife timing restrictions will be followed for construction activities (e.g., removal of vegetation outside of the breeding bird season).
 - Wildlife exclusion measures will be implemented as required to avoid destruction, injury or interference with wildlife species and their habitat.
 - All requirements of the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, *Endangered Species Act*, *Species at Risk Act* and *Fisheries Act* will be met.
 - Compensation for tree removals and vegetation will be undertaken in accordance with the Metrolinx Vegetation Guideline (2022) and subsequent amendments.
 - New culverts or bridges will be designed to accommodate fish passage
 - Temporarily disturbed areas will be re-vegetated using non-invasive, preferable native plantings and/or seed mix.
 - An erosion and sediment control plan will be developed and implemented.
- A Spill Prevention and Response Plan and an Integrated Vegetation Management Plan will be developed.
 - Sensitive wildlife timing restrictions will be followed for operational maintenance activities (e.g., removal of vegetation outside of the breeding bird season).
 - Vegetation removal will be avoided and reduced to the extent possible and limited to Metrolinx properties and right-of-way (RoW).



Barn Swallow

Oshawa to Bowmanville Rail Service Extension

Thank You for Attending!

We appreciate the time you have taken to learn about the EPR Addendum, and we value your opinions. Please provide input online from **June 8 to June 21, 2023** via slido or by emailing DurhamRegion@metrolinx.com.

Let us know if you have questions or comments regarding:

- Project Assessment Area
- Existing conditions or potential environmental effects
- EPR Addendum and TPAP process
- A Notice of EPR Addendum is anticipated to be issued in Fall of 2023 where:
 - Final EPR Addendum and supporting technical documents will be made available for a 30-day review period
 - Following 30-day public review period, the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) has 35 days to review
 - MECP will issue a notice allowing the proposed Project to proceed or a notice requiring further work to address concerns
 - Statement of Completion will be posted on the Metrolinx website

Stay involved with the Bowmanville Extension by reaching out to the Durham Community Engagement Team below:

- Email us at DurhamRegion@metrolinx.com
- Call us at (416) 202-3900
- Visit our website www.metrolinx.com/bowmanville

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