

Economic and Development Services – February 3, 2025

Highway 401 Interchange at Townline Road South (File:03-05) (Ward 5)

That the Economic and Development Services Committee recommend to City Council:

Whereas, in February 2024, City Council considered [ED-24-24](#), Notice of Motion, – Interchange at Townline Road (Ward 5); and,

Whereas, Council directed staff investigate the feasibility of adding a Highway 401 interchange at Townline Road South; and,

Whereas, a new Highway Interchange on Highway 401 is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transportation; and,

Whereas, the City sent a letter to the Minister of Transportation, Honorable Prabmeet Sarkaria, to consider adding an interchange at Townline Road South along Highway 401; and,

Whereas, the Ministry of Transportation (M.T.O.) previously investigated the possibility of Highway 401 Interchange at Townline Road as part of their Highway 401 from Brock Road to Courtice Road Environmental Assessment (E.A.) Study (2016), and,

Whereas, M.T.O. advised in their response letter dated November 26, 2024 (see Attachment 1) that the 2016 E.A. study demonstrated that future capacity and operational requirements of the section of Highway 401 between Harmony Road and Courtice Road can be sufficiently addressed with the proposed other improvements to Highway 401 and the adjacent interchanges; and,

Whereas, the 2016 E.A. Study also included a review of the general technical feasibility of a potential interchange at Townline Road and identified that there are potentially significant profile and grading issues associated with the location given the proximity of the adjacent rail corridors and municipal road connections, thus was not recommended at that time; and,

Whereas, notwithstanding the technical and operational challenges with a potential interchange at Towline Road, M.T.O. indicated that an interchange is not precluded, provided a Study is undertaken, at no cost to M.T.O., that includes mitigation measures acceptable to M.T.O. that would address any impacts to the Highway 401 mainline and existing local interchanges and is endorsed by M.T.O. as part of the study process;

Therefore, be it resolved that pursuant to ED-25-22, that the Ministry of Transportation's response be received for information.

**Ministry of  
Transportation**

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**Ministère des  
Transports**

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November 26, 2024

107-2024-2170

Dan Carter, Mayor  
City of Oshawa  
[mayor@oshawa.ca](mailto:mayor@oshawa.ca)

Dear Mayor Carter:

Thank you for your letter regarding a request for a new interchange at Highway 401 at Townline Road South, City of Oshawa (City). I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

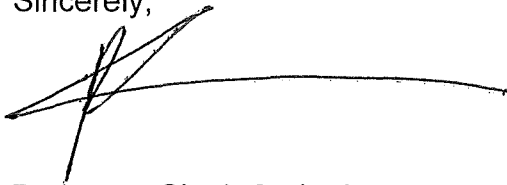
The ministry completed two Preliminary Design and Environmental Assessment (EA) Studies for Highway 401 in Durham Region (Region) in 2016. The first study was from Brock Road to Courtice Road, and the second study was from Courtice Road to the Durham Regional Boundary. The recommendations from these two studies include a proposed extension of the core/collector system from Brock Road to the new Highway 412, widening to 10 lanes between Highway 412 and Liberty Street, and widening to 8 lanes between Liberty Street and the Highway 35/115 interchange.

The traffic analysis undertaken for the ministry's EA Study has demonstrated the future capacity and operational requirements of the section of Highway 401 between Harmony Road and Courtice Road can be sufficiently addressed with the proposed improvements to Highway 401 and the adjacent interchanges.

While municipal initiatives such as a new interchange at Highway 401 and Townline Road were not recommended as part of the ministry's EA study, the study does not preclude future construction of the interchange. The ministry may consider an interchange at this location should the Region or City complete a feasibility study demonstrating that an interchange would not negatively impact provincial highway operations or safety.

Thank you once again for bringing your concerns to the ministry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria  
Minister of Transportation

- c: The Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development  
Jennifer French, MPP, Oshawa  
Anthony Ambra, City of Oshawa  
Greg Hardy, City of Oshawa  
Regional Municipality of Durham – Legislative Services  
Municipality of Clarington – Legislative Services