



# Environmental Assessments

## An Overview for Civic Works Committee

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# Environmental Assessment Act

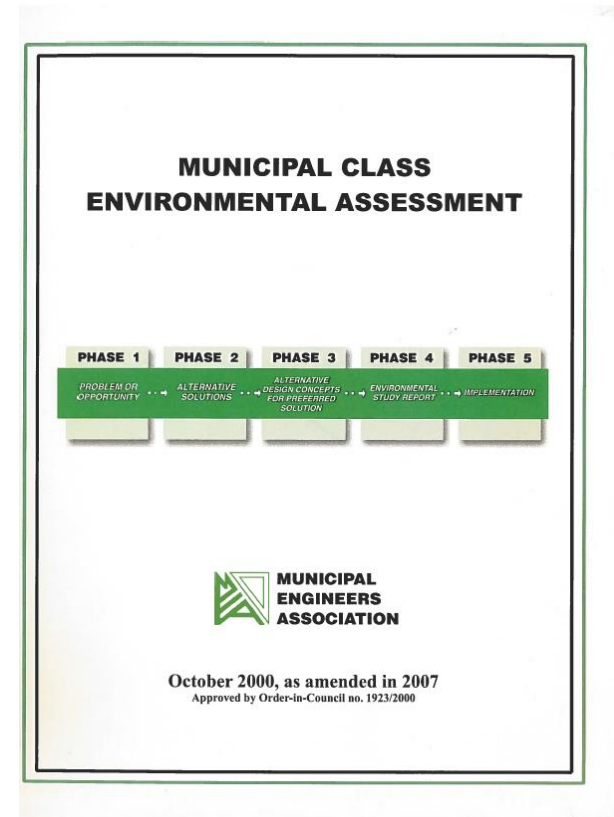
- Protecting the environment is important in Ontario
- The provincial Environmental Assessment Act applies to all publicly funded projects
- The Environmental Assessment (EA) is a planning and decision making tool
- The “environment” includes natural, social, cultural, built and economic aspects





# Municipal Class EA Process

- The Municipal Class EA is an approved process under the Act
- The Class EA provides a standardized process to help municipalities comply with the Act for typical sewer, water, road and transit projects

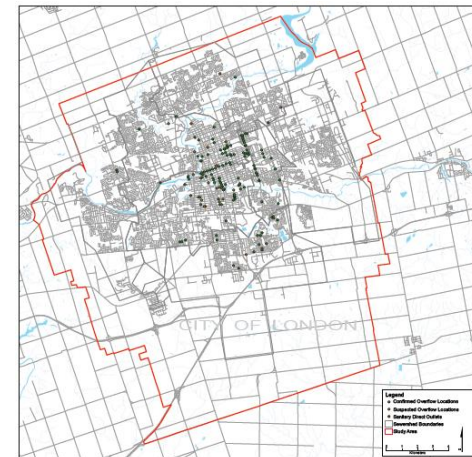






# Master Plans

- Broad consideration of an entire system
- Develops strategy
- Initial phases of the Municipal Class EA process
- Recommends future projects
- Plans are updated periodically





# Project Types

<b>Schedule A</b>	preapproved work such as normal operations and repair activities with minimal adverse effects
<b>Schedule A+</b>	preapproved but require local notification due to the potential for local impacts
<b>Schedule B</b>	improvements or minor expansions of existing facilities with potential for environmental effects. A project file is created.
<b>Schedule C</b>	construction of new facilities or major expansions of existing facilities with the potential for significant environmental effects.





# A Typical Schedule C Project

Most projects appearing before the Civic Works Committee are Schedule C projects.

A typical Schedule C project takes 12 to 24 months and comprises:

- detailed field investigations
- four formal notices advertised and broadly distributed
- two public meetings and ongoing interaction with those interested
- engagement with First Nations, the public and agencies
- consideration of alternatives, evaluation and recommendations
- determination of mitigation measures
- documentation
- approval by Council
- public review period and opportunity for appeal





# Alternatives

- A reasonable range of alternatives are considered
- This includes:
  - alternative solutions (how to solve a problem or address an opportunity)
  - alternative designs (how to implement the solution)





# Evaluation

- Alternatives are evaluated considering various factors including effects on the environment and consultation input
- A preferred solution is identified
- Mitigation measures are identified to minimize or reduce adverse effects

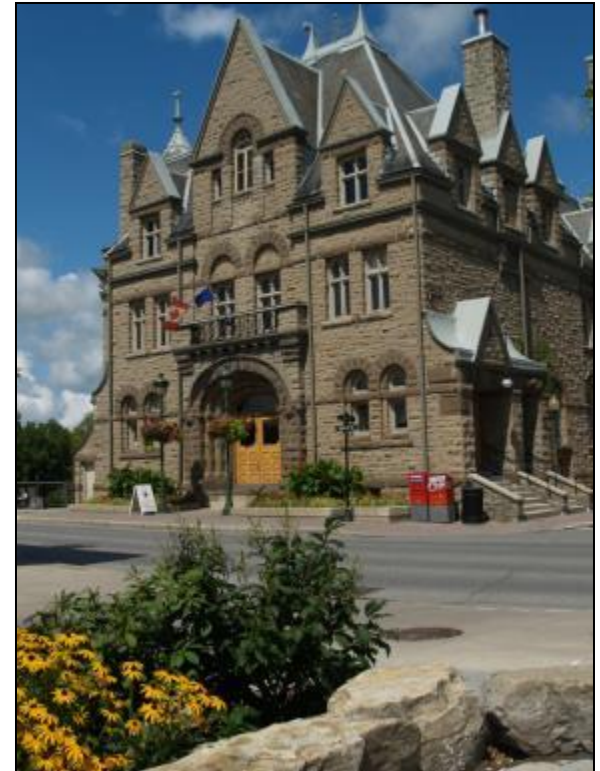






## Part II Orders

- Schedule B and C projects are subject to formal public review.
- An appeal mechanism (a Part II Order request) can be submitted to the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change if a stakeholder's concerns have not been addressed.
- Appeals are a request for a more rigorous Schedule process. They are commonly called a “bump-up request”.





# EA Information

- Information on current and recent London EAs is available on the Environmental Assessments webpage of:

[www.london.ca](http://www.london.ca)

- More EA information is available including links to educational presentations on the Municipal Engineers Association website at:

[www.municipalengineers.on.ca](http://www.municipalengineers.on.ca)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8MspdRzW0g>



# Solid Waste Management

## Regulation 101/07 Waste Management Projects

- ***Environmental Screening Process*** (Streamlined Environmental Assessment similar to Class EA) for projects that have predictable environmental effects that can be readily mitigated
- ***Individual Environmental Assessment*** for major projects with potential for significant environmental impacts

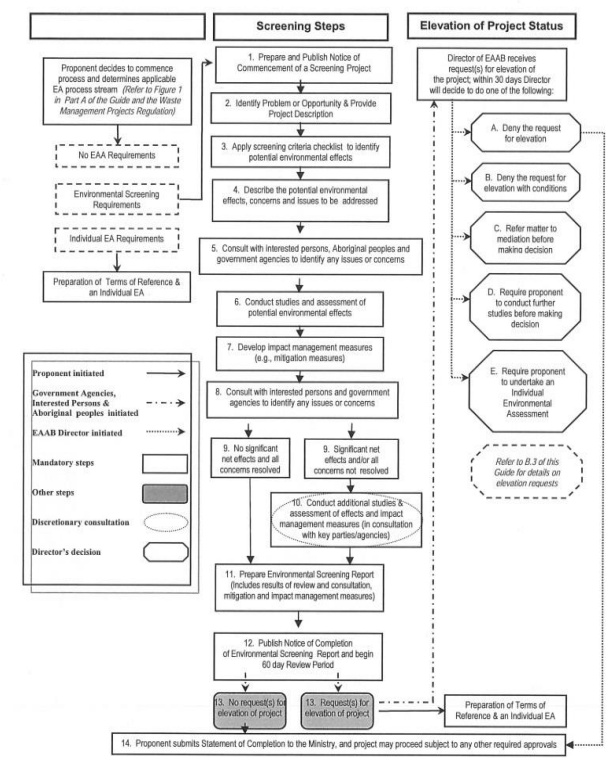




# Environmental Screening Process

- Examples include minor landfill expansion (< 100,000 m<sup>3</sup>), change in service area
- 14 step process with two mandatory public consultations
- Proponent driven, self assessment process
- 12 to 24 months to complete

Figure 1: Details of Environmental Screening Process





# Individual EA

- Examples include new landfill or landfill expansion (> 100,000 m<sup>3</sup>)
- Process depends on project and level of public interest
- Starts with a Terms of Reference (ToR)
- Significant consultation; community engagement
- 3 to 10 years to complete

