

Highway 101 Cambridge Interchange and Connector Roads

The Nova Scotia Department of Public Works (NSPW) is proceeding with planning work for a new interchange on Highway 101 with a connector road south to Trunk 1 (Cambridge/Waterville area), and north to Brooklyn Street. Environmental studies and engineering design work is underway.

BACKGROUND

Exit 14 (Coldbrook) and Exit 15 (Berwick) on Highway 101 are separated by approximately 15 kilometres. Traffic delays occur at peak times through Coldbrook, as Exit 14 is the main exit for traffic travelling along Trunk 1 to the Cambridge/Waterville area. The new interchange will be located approximately midway between Exits 14 and 15 along Highway 101, just west of Annapolis Valley First Nation. This new connection will provide an alternative route allowing for safer and more efficient movement of vehicles between Highway 101 and the Cambridge area, including heavy vehicle traffic.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed interchange will include a diamond ramp configuration with roundabouts constructed at each of the new ramp intersections. The new interchange underpass structure will be designed to accommodate future twinning of Highway 101. The north and south connector roads will be controlled access with two travel lanes. The attached map illustrates the location and configuration of the new interchange and connector roads.

The south connector road runs approximately 2 km from the new interchange to Trunk 1. Opportunities for active transportation along this corridor are also being pursued. A bridge will be required to cross the Cornwallis River. The south connector will be classified as a controlled access arterial with a posted speed of 70 or 80 km/h. A tunnel will be constructed on the Harvest Moon Trail to keep the trail grade-separated from the new connector road. A new roundabout intersection will be constructed at Trunk 1. Waterville Mountain Road will also be re-aligned to this new roundabout; a portion of the existing road will remain and terminate at a new cul-de-sac.

The north connector road runs approximately 1.5 km from the new interchange to Brooklyn Street. A culvert will be required to cross Coleman Brook. The road will be classified as a controlled access collector with a posted speed of 70 or 80 km/h.

Careful planning and design measures along with accepted construction techniques will ensure that environmental impacts from road construction activities are minimized. Highway 101 is a part of the National Highway System, and the Department is pursuing Federal cost sharing opportunities.

PROJECT STATUS

Planning and detailed design work is underway for the project. Property acquisition will begin this Fall to preserve the corridor.

A provincial Environmental Assessment (EA) has been conducted in accordance with the Nova Scotia Environment Act. Once the project is registered, there will be a public comment period available for those who wish to provide feedback on the document.

The next phase of the project requires completion of detailed design for the roadways, interchange, and structures, along with acquisition of the land and environmental mitigation plans. The Department is continuing with pre-construction activities to ensure that the project can proceed to construction when appropriate approvals are in place. Once construction begins, it is expected to take 3 years to complete.

PUBLIC FEEDBACK

If you have comments about the proposed project, please provide feedback to cambridge@novascotia.ca or the address below by October 21, 2022 to ensure they can be considered as the project advances through the detailed design phase.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Nova Scotia Department of Public Works
Highway Planning and Design
P.O. Box 186, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2N2

Email: cambridge@novascotia.ca
Web: novascotia.ca/101cambridge

