

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The City of Toronto, in partnership with TRCA, has undertaken a Schedule B MCEA for the Mid Humber Gap to identify a preferred multi-use trail alignment for the remaining 800 m gap in the HRT just south of Mallaby Park west of St. Phillips Road and the southern entrance to Crawford-Jones Memorial Park off Cardell Avenue.

2.1 Class Environmental Assessment

The Ontario Environmental Assessment Act (EAA) requires conservation authorities, government ministries and agencies, and municipalities to undertake a complete environmental assessment (EA) process to identify a project's potential environmental effects. Within the context of an EA, the term "environment" includes the natural, social, cultural, and economic environments related to the project study area. A completed EA must be submitted to the associated Ministry before any decision to proceed can be made and is to include an evaluation and selection of a preferred solution that best meets the project objectives while minimizing effects on the environment (Municipal Engineers Association, 2015).

The EAA identifies two types of EAs: The Individual EA and Class EA. An Individual EA is undertaken for complex, large-scale projects that have the potential for significant environmental effects and where public concern is high. A Class EA is carried out for more streamlined projects with predictable and manageable environmental effects (Municipal Engineers Association, 2015).

Class EA projects undertaken using the provincially approved Municipal Class EA process are classified based on their schedule, determined from their potential magnitude of environmental impacts:

- **Schedule A projects:** limited in scale, have minimal environmental effects and include municipal maintenance and operational activities. These projects are pre-approved;
- **Schedule A+ projects:** similar to Schedule A projects, these projects are pre-approved projects; however, the public is advised prior to project implementation;
- **Schedule B projects:** some potential for environmental effects. The proponent is required to undertake a screening process which includes mandatory contact with directly affected public and applicable review agencies; and,
- **Schedule C projects:** have the potential for significant environmental effects. These projects must proceed under the full planning and documentation procedures outlined in the EAA Class EA document. An Environmental Study Report (ESR) is required and must be filed for public and agency review (Municipal Engineers Association, 2015).

The Mid Humber Gap is being undertaken as an MCEA Schedule B following the requirements of the MCEA process. Schedule B projects are required to satisfy Phases 1 and 2 of the MCEA planning process, whereby alternative solutions to address the problem statement are evaluated equally against evaluation criteria that consider a range of factors to determine the preferred alternative (Figure 2-1).

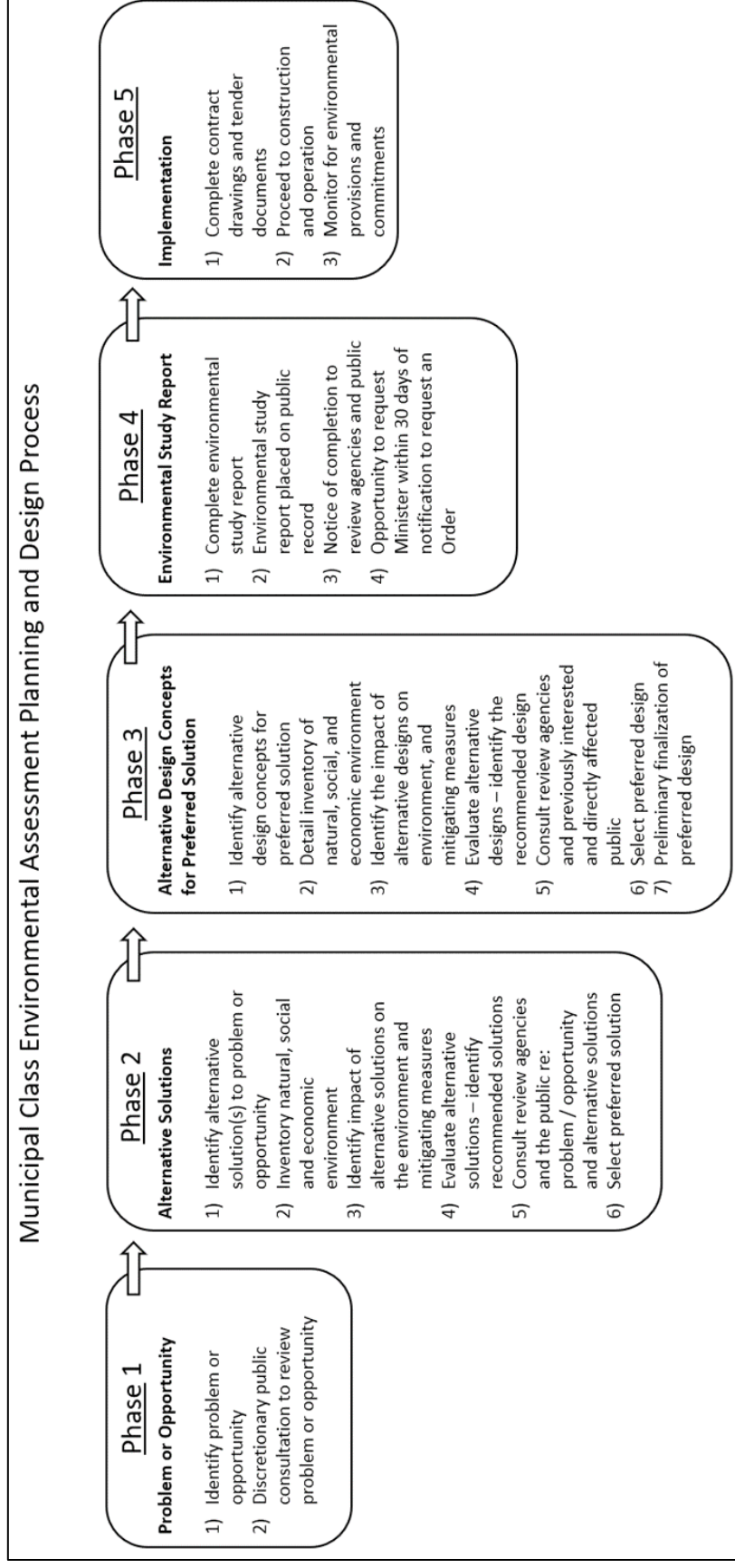


Figure 2-1: MCEA Planning and design process (Source: Modified from Municipal Engineers Association, 2015).

2.2 Section 16(6) Order (formally known as a Part II Order)

As per the MCEA 2015 requirements, the Mid Humber Gap MCEA has been prepared to include the project activities, correspondence, consultation, planning, and decision-making processes up to Phase 2 as per Schedule B of the MCEA process. Members of the public, Indigenous communities, stakeholders, and government agencies were provided with an opportunity to review, examine, and provide feedback on the project's findings at each phase of the process.

The Mid Humber Gap MCEA has been made available for a 30-day review period in which written comments and/or questions about the proposed project can be provided digitally or in writing to the City. A public notice, termed the Notice of Completion, will be released to announce the commencement of the review period. Following the review period, the EAA requirements will be deemed satisfied subject to the appropriate resolution of any objections received. If no objections are received within the 30-day review period, the City may proceed with detailed design and construction as outlined in this MCEA.

Please address comments and/or questions related to this project to the City of Toronto contact information provided below and title your correspondence as the "Mid Humber Gap Multi-use Trail – Comment on MCEA."

City of Toronto
ATT: Maogosha Pyjor
Senior Public Consultation Coordinator
Metro Hall, 55 John Street
Toronto ON, M5V 3C6
Maogosha.Pyjor@toronto.ca

A Section 16(6) Order (formally known as Part II Order) request may be made to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for an order requiring a higher level of study, or that conditions be imposed, only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights.

Requests on other grounds will not be considered. **Requests must include your contact information and be received by October 28, 2022.** Requests should specify what kind of order is being requested (request for conditions or a request for an individual/comprehensive environmental assessment), how an order may prevent, mitigate or remedy potential adverse impacts on Aboriginal and treaty rights, and any information in support of the statements in the request. This will ensure that the ministry

is able to efficiently begin reviewing the request. The request should be sent in writing or by email to:

Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor, Toronto ON M7A 2J3
minister.mecp@ontario.ca

AND

Director, Environmental Assessment Branch
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Fl. Toronto, ON M4V 1P5
EABDirector@ontario.ca

Requests should also be copied to the City of Toronto. For more information on requests for orders under section 16 of the Environmental Assessment Act visit:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/class-environmental-assessments-section-16-order>

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