



**County of Simcoe**  
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# County Road 53 (5<sup>th</sup> Sideroad) Improvements

## County Road 21 to City of Barrie Limits Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study Notice of Study Completion

### Background

The County of Simcoe is proposing improvements to County Road 53 (5<sup>th</sup> Sideroad) from County Road 21 (Innisfil Beach Road) to the City of Barrie south limits. The subject section of road was identified for widening from 2 to 4 lanes in the County's 2014 *Transportation Master Plan Update*. The proposed works are to resurface and widen the road to increase its capacity, improve existing lane configurations at intersections, upgrade drainage features, review illumination needs and address safety concerns. The improvements are necessary to support the arterial function of the road and accommodate planned growth in the area.

### Study Process

The County proceeded with a Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) to consider and address the impacts associated with the proposed improvements. The resulting recommendations and preferred solutions consider the long-term transportation needs to support future growth and development of the area and reflect public and agency comment and input, in addition to the requirements of the Town.

### Preferred Solution

The preferred solution is as follows:

- Maintain a 2-lane cross-section with intersection improvements (turn lanes and traffic signals) at select intersections.
- Upgrade the entire corridor to a County standard cross-section (with wider lanes and shoulders).

### Study Report

The Class EA process, the development and evaluation of the options, and derivation of the preferred solution, have been documented in a Class EA report. The report is available for review on the County's website ([simcoe.ca/cr53](https://simcoe.ca/cr53)). Interested persons are encouraged to review the report and provide written comments within the 30-day review period from August 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023, directed to the project contacts below.

If concerns arise regarding this project, which cannot be resolved in discussion with the County, you may request that the Minister of the Environment Conservation and Parks make an order for the project to comply with Part II of the Environmental Assessment Act (referred to as a Part II Order), which addresses individual environmental assessments. Requests are to be submitted to the Minister, and copied to the County, before the end of the review period. If there is not a request received by August 31, 2023, the project may proceed based on the identified preferred solution.

### The Honourable David Piccini

minister.mecp@ontario.ca  
 Minister of the Environment Conservation and Parks  
 5775 Yonge Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Toronto, Ontario M2M 4J1

### Project Contacts

#### Owner

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