

Highway 404 Mid-Block Crossing Class EA Study
Between Major Mackenzie Drive and Elgin Mills Road

Evaluation of Alternative Solutions

ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS	ASSESSMENT	CONCLUSION
Do Nothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not provide an opportunity for improvements in the overall transportation network in the area Does not alleviate existing and future congestion along Major Mackenzie Drive and Elgin Mills Road Does not conform with future planning of the Town of Markham, Town of Richmond Hill, and the Region of York 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not considered a feasible alternative since it would not address overall transportation needs. The “Do Nothing” alternative will only be carried forward for comparison purposes.
Transit and Other Modes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transit strategy is to provide overall transportation improvements on a regional level. On its own, does not fully alleviate existing and future traffic congestion No internal connectivity of lands east and west of Highway 404 is provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry Forward Transit strategy is to improve the transportation network on a regional level. On its own, however, it will not fully address the projected future traffic demand in the study area. This alternative will be combined with other roadway improvement strategies.
Other Arterial Road Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Transportation Master Plans of the Town of Markham, Town of Richmond Hill, and the Region of York have identified the need for additional east-west capacity even with improvements on Major Mackenzie Drive (i.e. 6 lanes). Traffic analysis indicated the need for additional capacity of 2 lanes in each direction to provide sufficient east-west capacity in the area (i.e. would require Major Mackenzie Drive at 8 lanes and Elgin Mills Road at 6 lanes) Requires modification to Highway 404 interchanges at Major Mackenzie Drive and Elgin Mills Road Planned road improvements / widening will not provide internal connectivity of the land east and west of Highway 404 The estimated cost of this alternative would be in the range of \$15-18M (construction estimate only, excludes property) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry Forward Additional east-west capacity (i.e. mid-block crossing) would still be required even with the proposed road improvements (e.g. potential widening of Major Mackenzie Drive, and the proposed ramp extension from Highway 404).
Proposed Highway 404 Mid-Block Crossing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compatible with future planning of the Town of Markham and Town of Richmond Hill Connects Regional arterial roads (future Woodbine By-pass and Leslie Street) Alleviates current and future congestion issues on Regional arterial roads Provides additional east-west capacity and achieve a more balanced distribution of east-west traffic Provides residents and employees with multiple routes, which encourages “direct travel” The estimated cost of this alternative would be in the range of \$15-18M (construction estimate only, excludes property) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry Forward <p><i>This alternative has been identified as the preferred alternative (subject to public comments).</i></p>