



An overview of Niagara's GO Rail Expansion

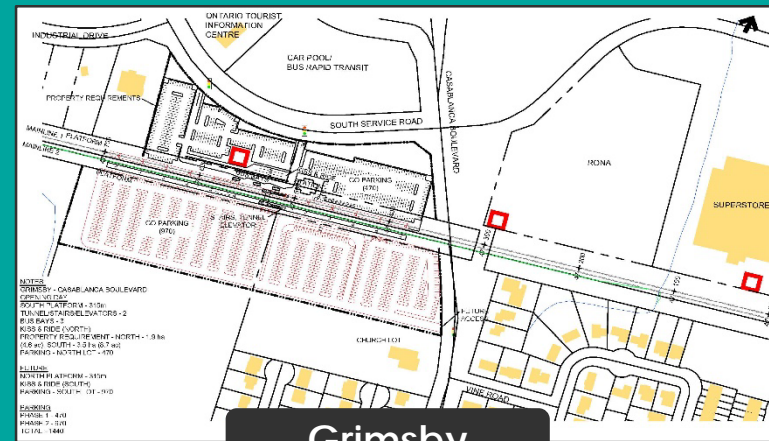
Planning & Economic
Development Committee

A presentation by
Niagara  **Region**

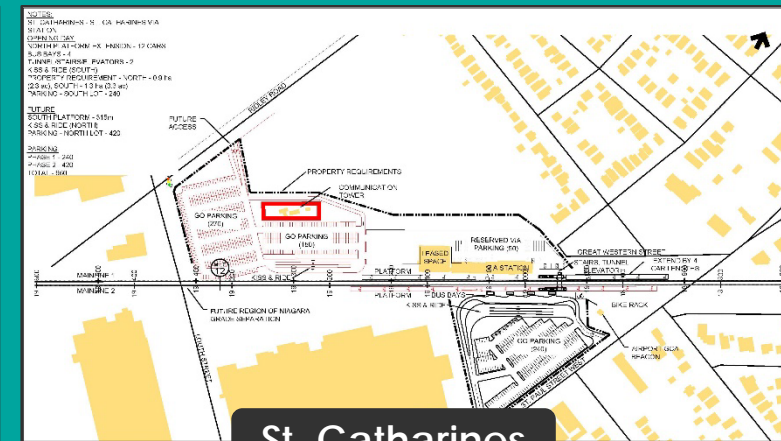
The Catalyst

Environmental Study Report

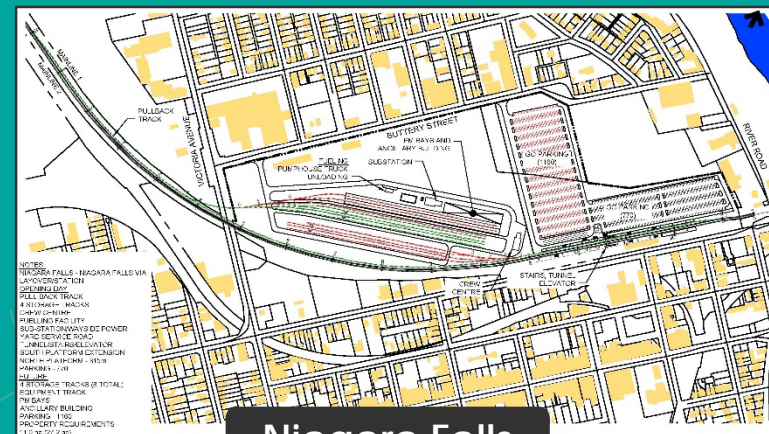
- GO Transit's **Niagara Rail Service Expansion** ESR approved in 2011
- Study included Niagara as a continuation of Hamilton expansion
- Stations at Grimsby, St. Catharines, & Niagara Falls, with a 'future potential station' identified at Lincoln
- Region understood the need for proactive planning
- In 2014, a united Regional Council lobbied the Province to take action



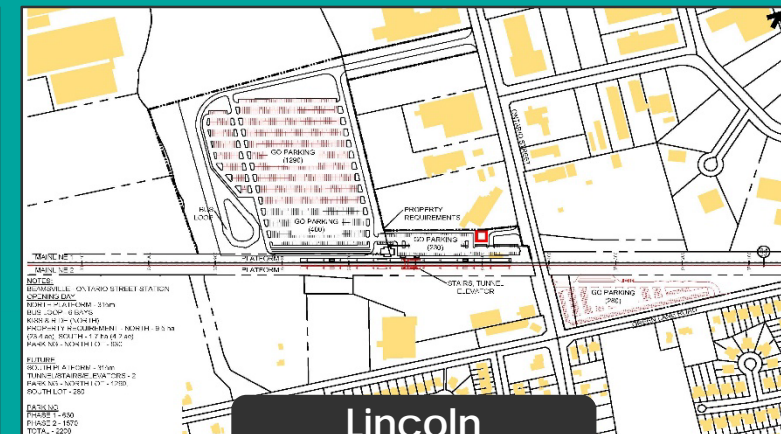
Grimsby



St. Catharines



Niagara Falls

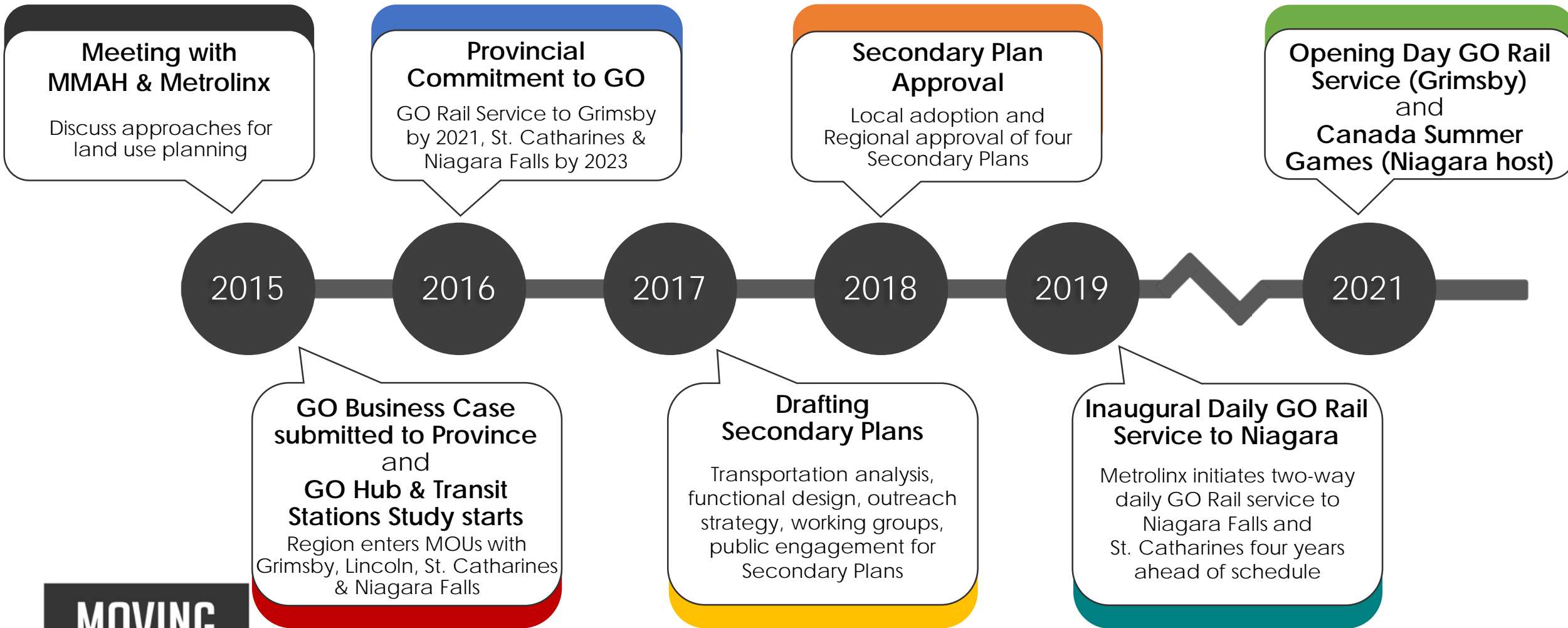


Lincoln

*future potential station

MOVING
TRANSIT
FORWARD

Key Niagara GO Milestones



4

4

- 4

4

- 4





Enabling transit-oriented development (TOD)

- Municipalities across the Greater Golden Horseshoe are **leveraging transit investment to drive growth**.
- Provincial investment presents a **unique opportunity to proactively plan** land uses, transportation networks and infrastructure around the GO station.
- The Province's Growth Plan **directs** municipalities to plan for intensification around GO stations.
- Transit station areas serve an **important function** within the regional transportation system.
- A secondary plan is the **best mechanism** to proactively plan for change and enables the Town to **set its priorities for change**.

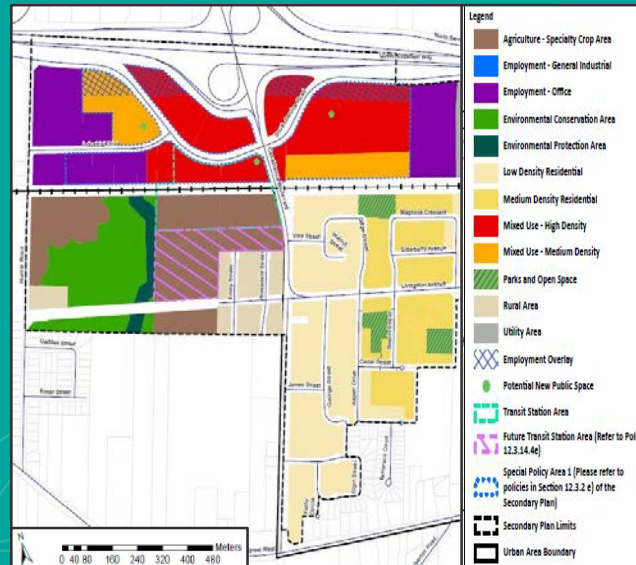
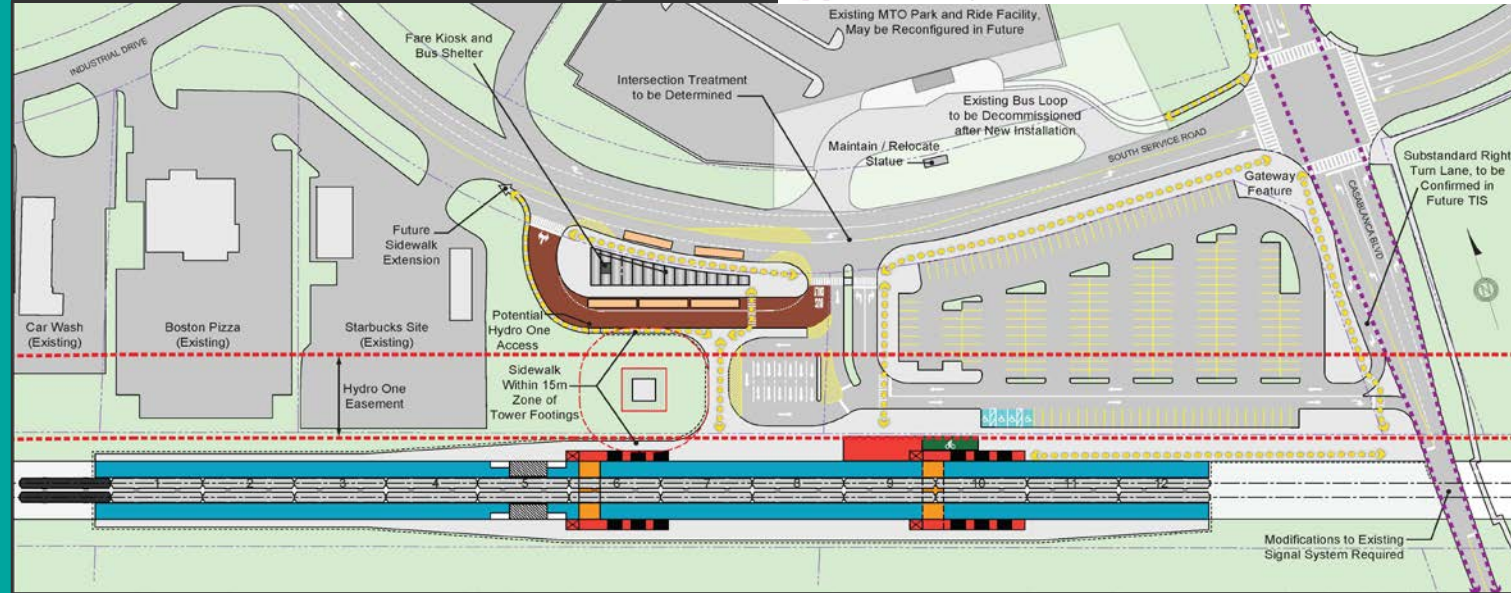


Evolving transit hub in Kitchener (GO rail and LRT station)

Grimsby GO Station

- MX completed functional design (shown left). Detailed design in progress.
- MX now pursuing a “market-driven approach” to station construction at Province’s direction.
- Province has reaffirmed its commitment for GO Rail service to Grimsby by 2021.
- Greenbelt Plan permits linear public infrastructure on specialty crop lands.
- Region-owned lands south of rail line are envisioned to be used for future municipal transit infrastructure.

Metrolinx Functional Design



Parcel Ownership

1	Metrolinx
2	Niagara Region
3	Losani Homes
4	Casa. Holdings
5	MTO

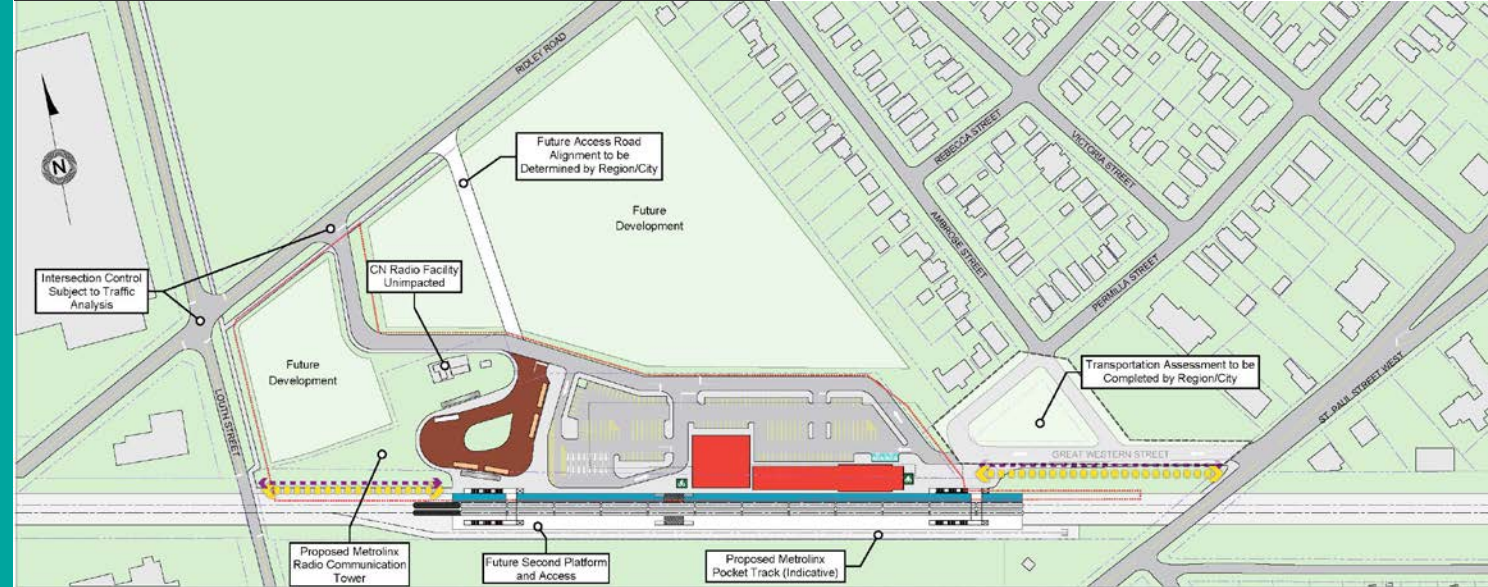


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FORWARD**

St. Catharines GO Station

- Region & City submitted joint comments identifying desirable station elements / amenities for functional design.
- MX has completed functional design. Detailed design in progress.
- Detailed design will confirm feasibility and location of functional design elements.
- Existing station has federal heritage designation.
- Extensive public outreach with Proactive Advisory Group (PAG) for all GHTSS-related capital projects and background studies.

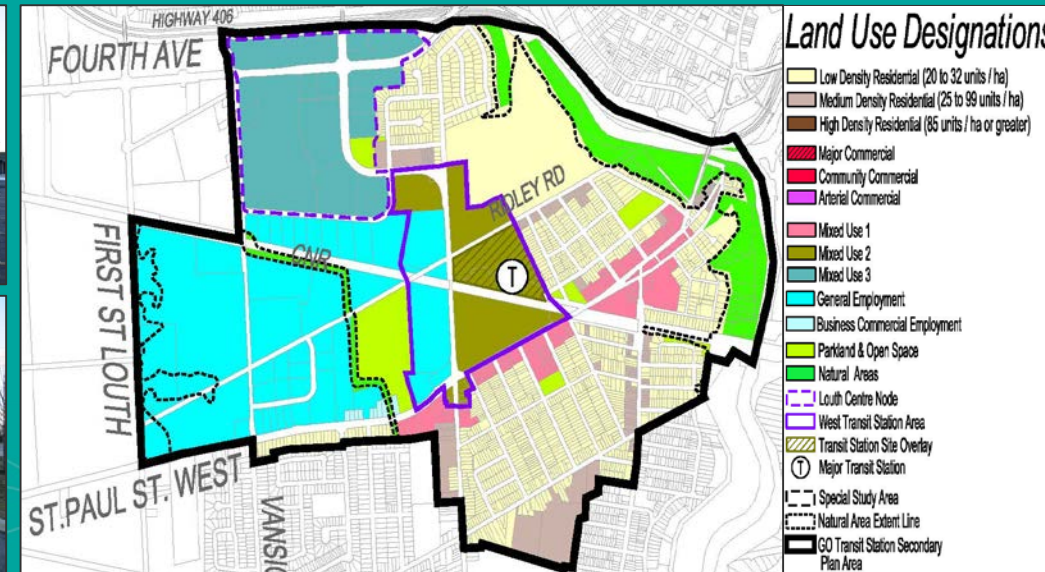
Metrolinx Functional Design



Legend

Heritage Station Facility	Pedestrian Circulation
Platform	Pedestrian Crosswalk
Bus	Planned / Proposed Bike Facility
Bus Shelters	Bicycle Shelter
Future Facilities	Mini-Platform
2011 EPR Boundary	Barrier Face Parking
Extent of Existing Parking	

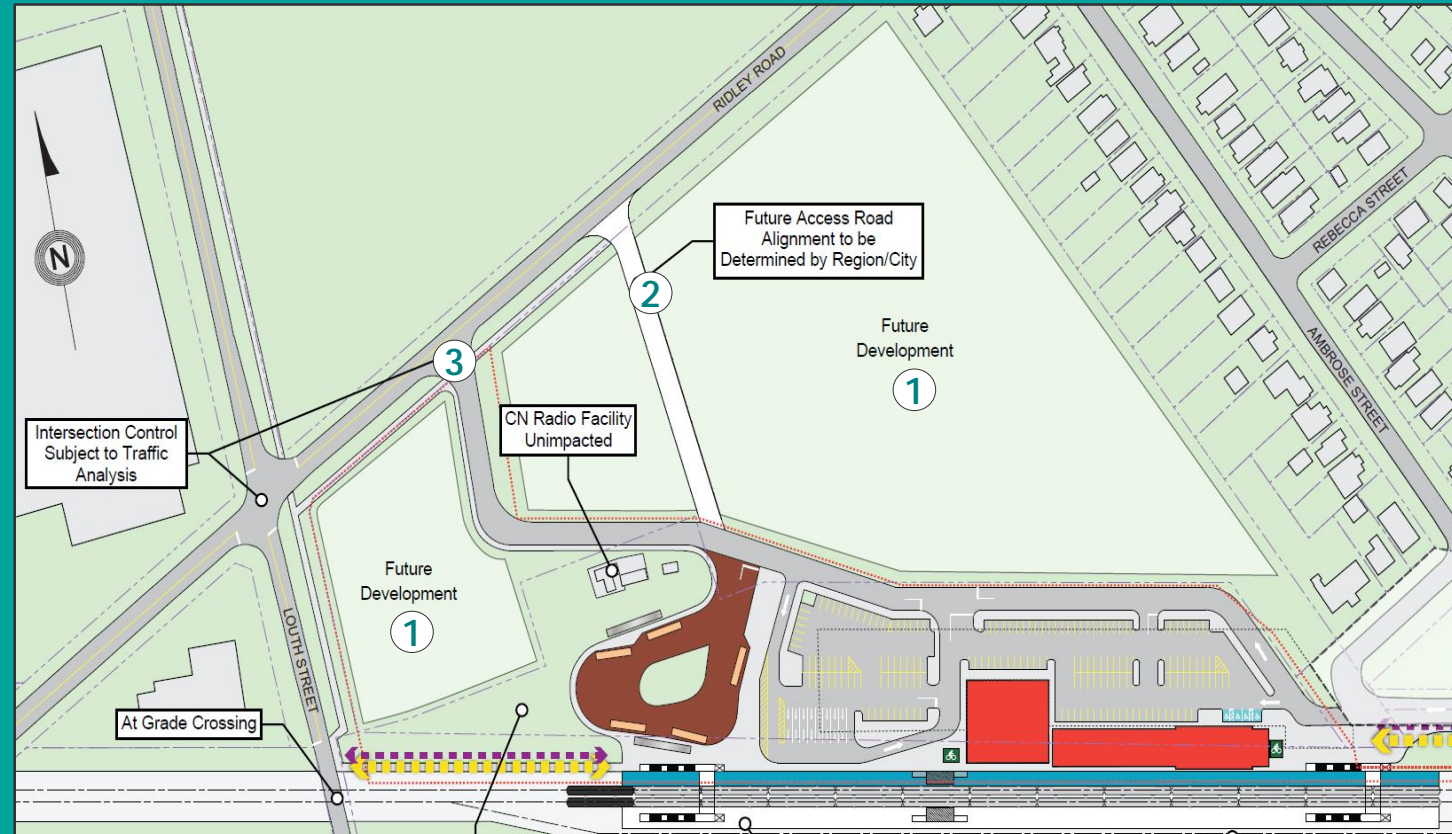
STATISTICS:	
PARKING	165 CARS
BF PARKING	4 CARS
PPUDO	16 CARS



**MOVING
TRANSIT
FORWARD**

St. Catharines GO Station: Primary Station Access

- GO's 2011 ESR station area limits Metrolinx's ability to locate the primary station access (#3).
- Region, City, and Ridley College are undertaking an MOU to establish a dedicated public road access (#2).
- Access will be determined through a Plan of Subdivision application.
- MOU is expected to be brought to PEDC for endorsement Q1 2019.
- Region and City pre-emptively waived review fees associated to Ridley College's Plan of Subdivision application.



1

Ridley College owned lands

2

Region, City, and Ridley College agree a primary station access located mid-point along Ridley Rd. is more desirable

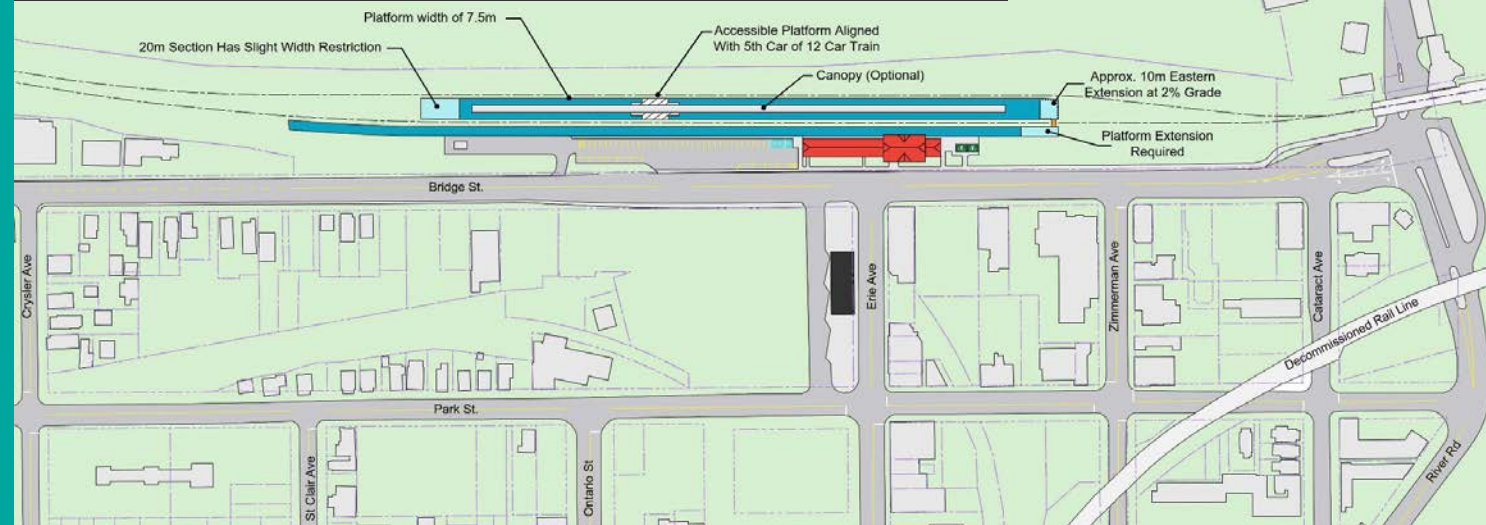
3

Metrolinx's identified primary access to the GO Station if no alternative primary access road is established by Region & City

Niagara Falls GO Station

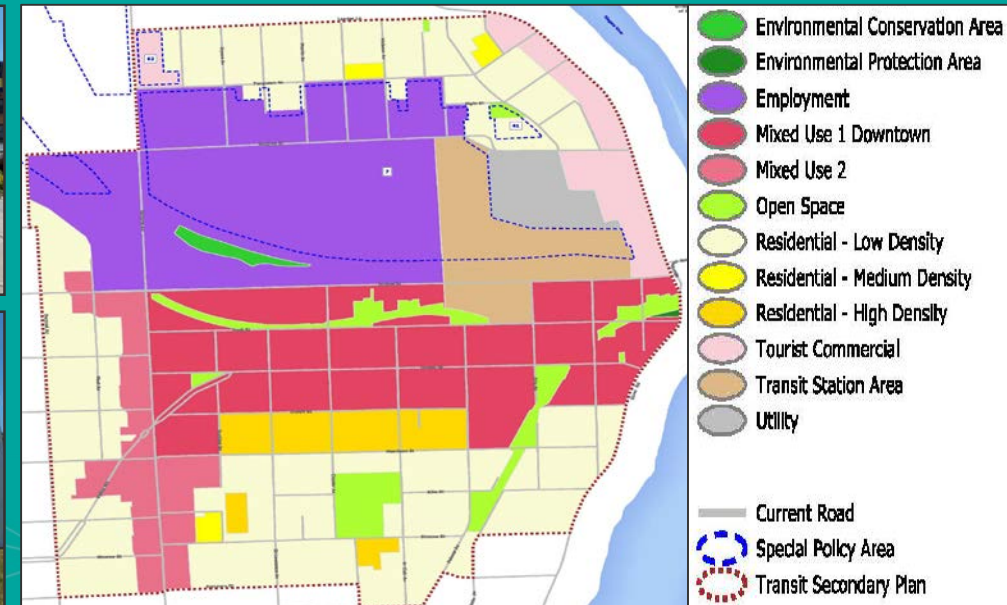
- Region and City have worked closely with MX and have submitted comments identifying desired station elements/amenities.
- MX completed functional design. Detailed design in progress.
- Detailed design will confirm feasibility and location of functional design elements.
- Existing station has federal/municipal heritage designation.

Metrolinx Functional Design



Legend

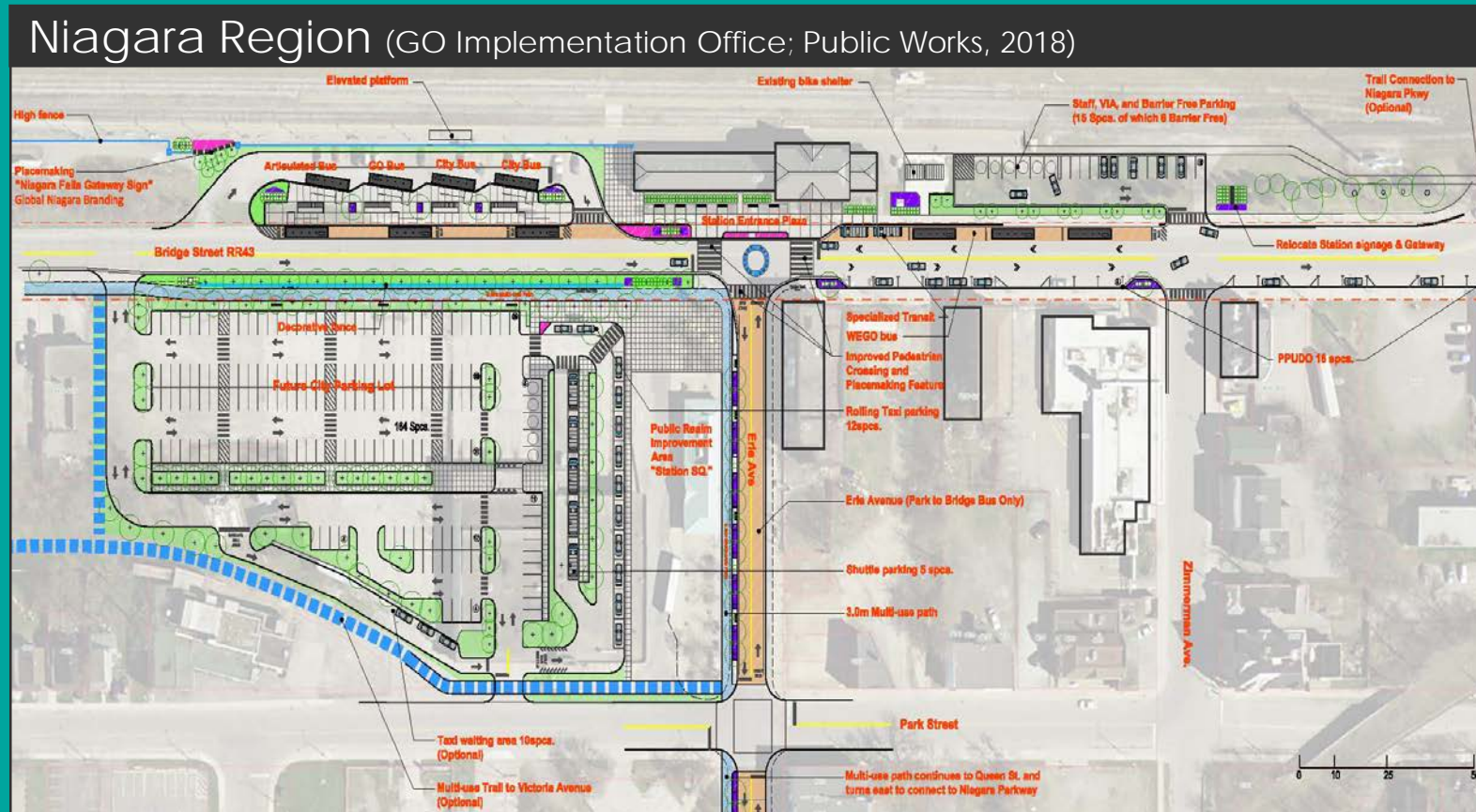
■ Heritage Station Facility	Bicycle Shelter
■ Platform	Mini-Platform
■ At grade crossing	Barrier Free Parking
■ Barriers	



**MOVING
TRANSIT
FORWARD**

Niagara Falls GO Station Area Vision

- Region & City have partnered to create a broader vision for the Niagara Falls GO Station area.
- Elements are identified and recommended within Secondary Plan policy.
- MX has recognized and incorporated elements of this vision into its functional design concept.
- Region's Bridge Street EA will further refine detailed design of streetscape.
- Region & City will budget for, coordinate, and implement these elements in upcoming successive budget years.



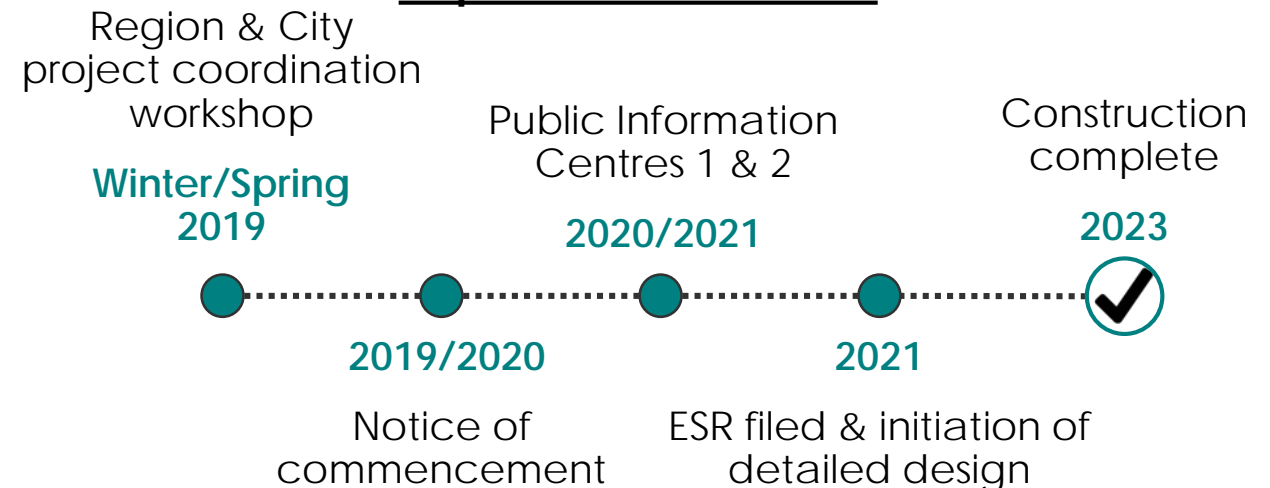
NIAGARA FALLS

Bridge Street Reconstruction EA

- Design will dove-tail with Thorold Stone Rd. Extension Phase II, which includes the new roundabout at Victoria Ave and Bridge St.
- EA design and considerations will take direction from the Niagara Falls GO Secondary Plan and Regional Transportation Master Plan.
- EA will design a new bus loop* at the GO Station as envisioned within the Region and City's broader GO Station area precinct.
- Region and City will coordinate phasing and budget for all capital improvements in this area to ensure alignment and sequencing.



Aspirational Timeline



**Requires approval from CN & VIA*

ST. CATHARINES St. Paul St. West CNR Bridge Reconstruction EA

- Evaluated and determined need for immediate replacement due to aging.
- Existing sight line constraints when accessing Great Western St.
- Reconstruction will enhance safety and travel experience for all transportation modes.
- EA will be coordinated with the City.

1922

year of original bridge construction.

97

years

age of St. Paul St. West CNR bridge.



Aspirational Timeline

Notice of
commencement

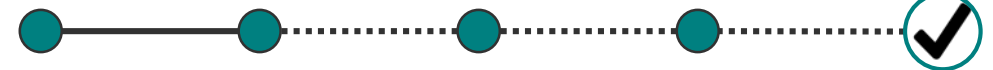
Winter 2019

ESR filed & initiation of
detailed design

Spring/Summer 2019

Construction
complete

2020/2021



Spring 2019

2020

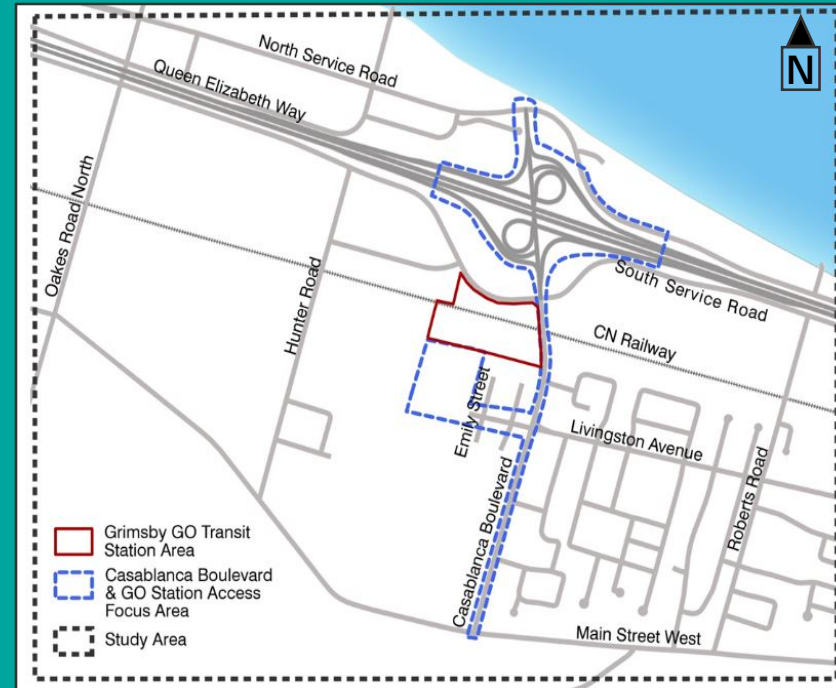
Public Information
Centre

Construction
begins

**MOVING
TRANSIT
FORWARD**

Casablanca Boulevard Reconstruction

- Identified as a key capital work improvement in the Grimsby GO Secondary Plan.
- Improvement area includes Casablanca Blvd. and GO Station access (from North Service Rd. to Main St.) and access to Region-owned lands on the south side of the CN rail line off of Livingston Ave.
- Does not include portion of Livingston Ave. through the woodlot to Main St.
- ESR details planning process and preferred alternative, including how public and agency input was incorporated.



Aspirational Timeline

ESR filed & initiation
of detailed design

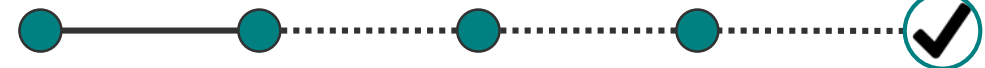
Construction
begins

GO Rail Service
to Grimsby

Winter 2019

Summer/Fall 2019

2021



Spring 2019

2020

Public Information
Centre 3

Construction
complete



Next steps

- Local zoning by-law updates
- Enhance municipal transit services
- Understand MX TOD delivery framework
- MX public engagement (2019)
- File Casablanca ESR (Feb. 2019)
- GO Rail Service to Grimsby (by 2021)
- Work with MX to increase GO service frequency through Niagara corridor

Grimsby



St. Catharines



Niagara Falls



Lincoln

