
News Release

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO, AND THE COUNTY OF ESSEX INVEST IN CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ROADS IN LEAMINGTON

August 27, 2010

LEAMINGTON, ONTARIO – The Municipality of Leamington and the County of Essex are pleased to announce the completion of the construction of the East Side Arterial Road – Phase 1, thanks to nearly \$2,000,000 from the federal Gas Tax Fund and over \$1,100,000 from the Provincial Government through the Investing in Ontario Act. These projects will benefit residents, businesses and tourists who work, live and play in and around Leamington.

The newly constructed East Side Arterial Road comprises the construction of a new 1.2 km road segment complete with street lighting, intersection improvements and the construction of a new box culvert over the Sturgeon Creek. Along with the road construction the Municipality and the County have planted over 600 new trees and shrubs.

“The federal Gas Tax Fund acknowledges that all orders of government must work together to address the pressing need for infrastructure investment in Ontario,” said Peter Hume, President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO). “The funding is supporting thousands of important infrastructure projects and is critical to job creation, Ontario’s competitiveness and environmental sustainability.”

The federal Gas Tax Fund provides municipalities with a stable and predictable source of funding for environmentally sustainable municipal infrastructure. Funding is also available for planning projects that contribute to the sustainability of communities and regions.

Under the Economic Action Plan, the Government of Canada is allocating \$12 billion to infrastructure projects across the country. This is further complemented by a previous commitment of making the federal Gas Tax Fund permanent at \$2 billion nationally as of 2014.

Through the Investing in Ontario Act, 2008, the provincial government has provided Ontario municipalities with \$1.1 billion in additional funding, including \$2.2 million to the town of Leamington, to support infrastructure investments. The act, which was passed in May 2008, allowed the government to use a portion of any unanticipated year-end

surplus to address priority public needs as well as reduce the province's accumulated deficit.

"The completion of this project is great news for the residents of Leamington," said Pat Hoy, MPP for Chatham-Kent Essex. "By working with our municipal partners, we are helping to create jobs and strengthening communities across the province."

"Renewing essential infrastructure is important to our local communities," said Bruce Crozier, MPP for Essex. "This project is another example of how our government is keeping Ontario moving with investments that matter to people in their everyday lives."

Upon its completion the East Side Arterial Road will provide Regional connectivity between County Roads and support the intent of the Windsor-Essex Transportation Master Plan. The County of Essex has committed up to \$3.2 million in funding for this initiative.

For additional information:

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