Township of Hamilton
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) for

Sackville Bridge
Replacement/Rehabilitation/Removal/Repurposing

Public Information Centre (PIC)
October 28, 2026 | 2 - 4 p.m., 6 - 7:30 p.m.
Bewdley Community Centre
7060 Lake Street, Bewdley, ON

Comments and information regarding this study are being collected to assist in meeting the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act. These comments will be maintained on file for use during the study in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. All comments, with the exception of personal information, will become part of the public record. If you have any accommodation requirements in order to participate in this project, please contact one of the project team members listed in the Project Contacts.

Welcome

Welcome to the Public Information Centre (PIC) for the Schedule 'A+' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the replacement, rehabilitation, removal, or repurposing of the Sackville Bridge. Feel free to provide written input or comment using the comment sheets provided or by contacting the identified representatives of the Township of Hamilton or its consultant for the project (D.M. Wills Associates) :

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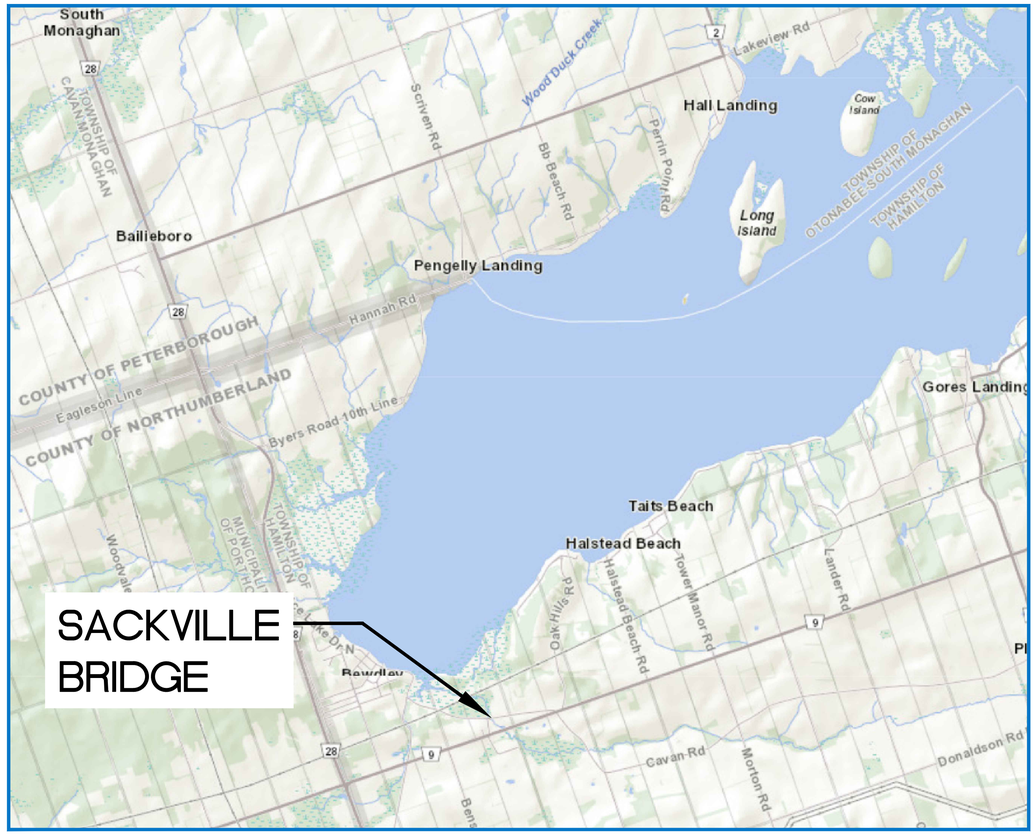
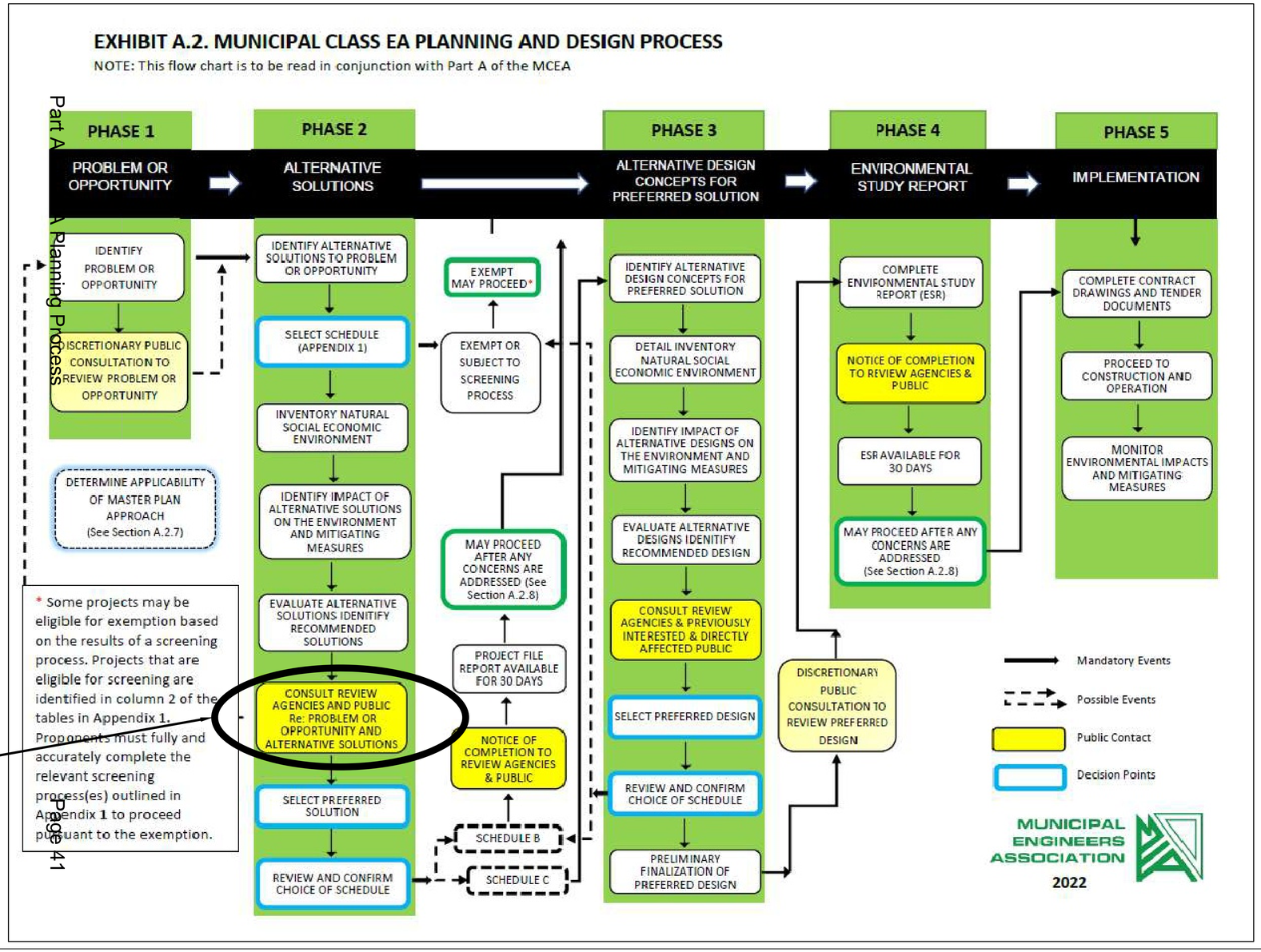
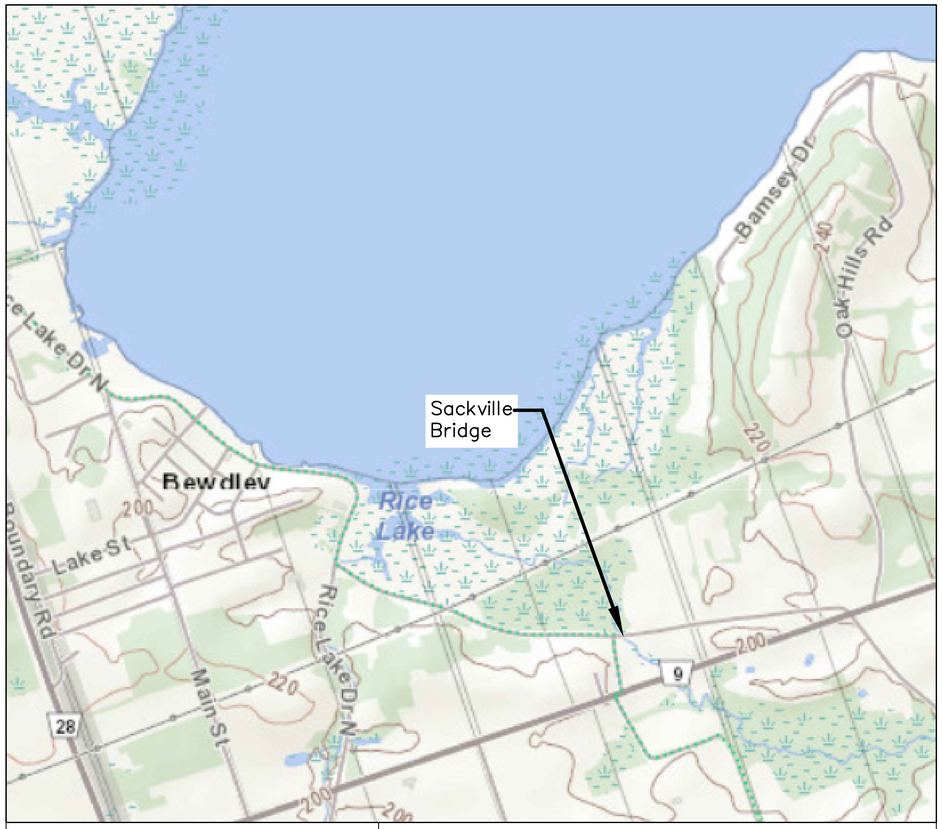


Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process



Phase 1 - Problem or Opportunity - Sackville Bridge



General Location Plan

Problem / Opportunity Statement

- The study will identify and evaluate alternatives to replace, rehabilitate, remove, or repurpose the Sackville Bridge with respect to natural environments (fish habitat and water features, terrestrial ecosystems, vegetation, wildlife, species at risk), cultural environments (First Nations, heritage, archeological), socio-economic environments (accessibility for local residents during construction, cost, impacts to municipal/emergency services, property impacts), and transportation environments (detour route during construction, roadway safety, traffic operations and consideration for AADT volumes)

Study Area

- The Study Area generally covers the Township of Hamilton, with specific attention being given to the area within the immediate vicinity of the bridge and the surrounding residential and recreational areas.
- Sackville Bridge (Structure #16) was constructed in 1925. The Sackville Bridge coveys a single lane of alternating traffic, load posted to 12-22-31, in the east-west direction over the Plainville (Cold) Creek. Plainville Creek flows to the North under Sackville Bridge into Rice Lake.
- The area features natural features, trails, and ecologically diverse wetlands.

Purpose of Study

- Sackville Bridge has been identified as being hydraulically deficient as well as in need of structural intervention in the near future. In addition, the structure is older than its intended design life when constructed. The deterioration of the bridge brings into question its ability to perform its functional requirements without structural intervention. The purpose of this Study is to evaluate alternatives for the replacement, rehabilitation, removal or repurposing of the Sackville Bridge with respect to the cultural heritage of the bridge and potential environmental impacts of the respective alternatives. The findings of the Study will allow the Township of Hamilton to proceed with preferred solution identified throughout the Environmental Assessment process.

Public and Review Agency Consultation

- This Public Information Centre (PIC) is intended to provide an opportunity for members of the public to review and discuss the project with the Township of Hamilton and its representatives, provide input for consideration during the planning of this project, express any concerns with respect to proposed alternatives and the preferred solution, and discuss potential impacts associated with construction related to the project.
- Continuing Indigenous Consultation.

Phase Two - Alternative Solutions

Phase 2: Identification of Sackville Bridge Alternative Solutions

➢ Do Nothing

- This alternative has been included as a basis for comparison to other alternatives.

➢ Replacement

- This option will generally include replacement of the structure with a new single span structure, on new reinforced concrete abutments supported by spread footings. The replacement bridge will have a 75 year design life.

➢ Rehabilitation

- Rehabilitation of the bridge will include installation a code compliant barrier and approach guide rail, and replacement of the deck. Section restoration to the arch members, soffit, floor beams, and the abutments is also required. A load posting will remain in place, and the rehabilitation will extend the life of the bridge by up to 10 years.

➢ Removal

- This option will generally include closure of Cavan Road at the bridge location. The crossing will be removed. This will result in vehicular traffic being directed to Oak Ridges Drive.

➢ Repurposing

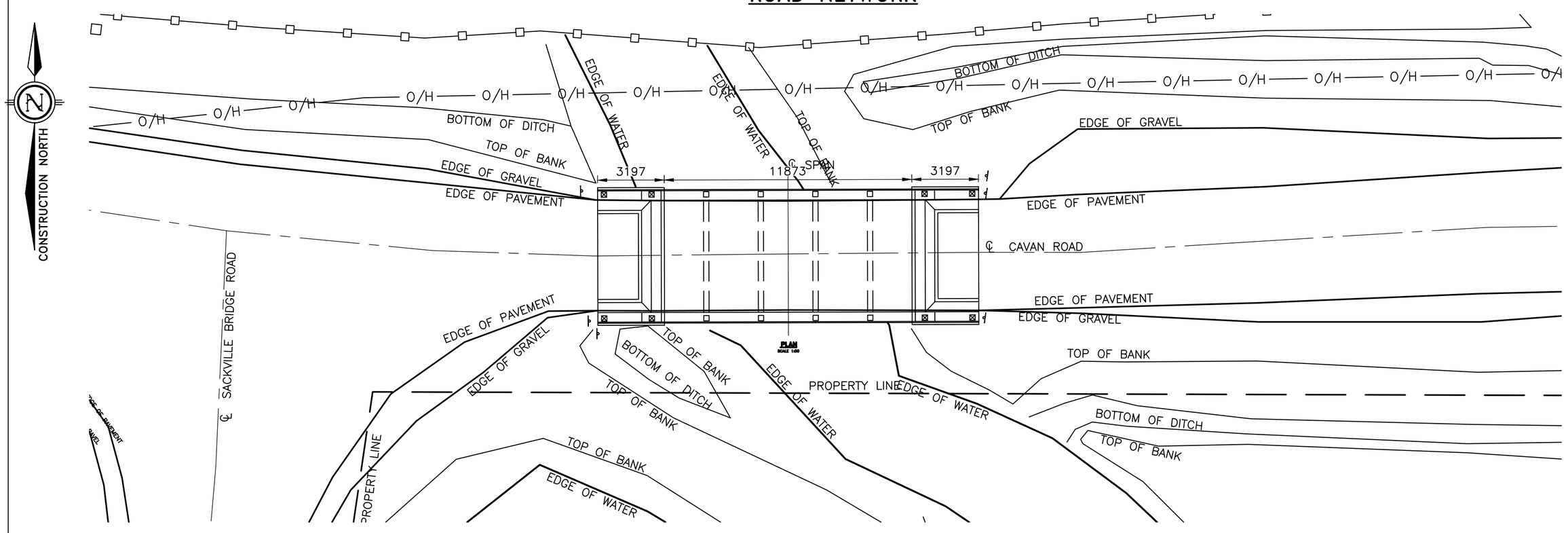
- This option will generally include closure of Cavan Road to vehicular traffic at the bridge location, as well as rehabilitation of the bridge which will include concrete patch repairs. The crossing will be maintained for pedestrian use.

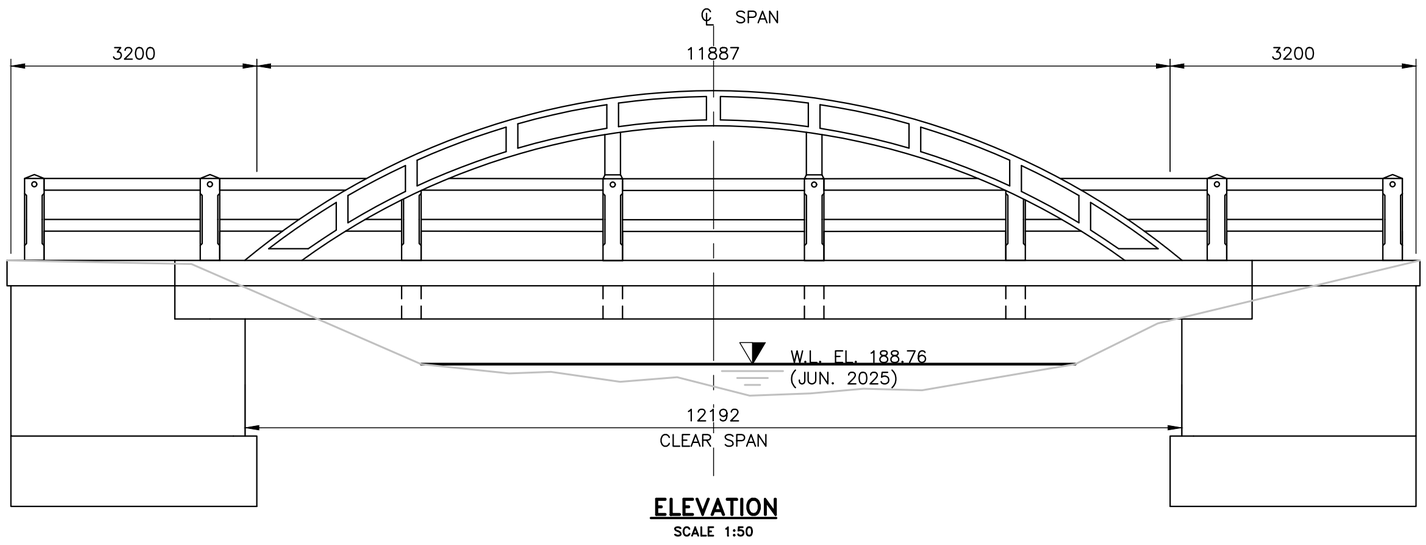
Assessment of Impacts of Alternative Solutions

Alternative	Relative Construction Cost	Summary of Impacts				
		Natural Environment	Cultural Environment	Socio-Economic Environment	Transportation Environment	Rank
Alternative 1 Do Nothing	Lowest	- No impact on natural environment anticipated	- No impact on cultural environment anticipated	- Structure will continue to deteriorate and will result in increased maintenance costs, reduced load posting, and eventual bridge closure	- Safety issues due to deficient approach guide rail and non-compliant bridge barrier will not be addressed - Road closure will become necessary (see Alternative 4)	5
Alternative 2 Replacement	Highest	- Temporary negative impacts during construction of in-water works, timing restrictions and protection measures during construction will mitigate impacts - No Harmful Alteration or Destruction of Fish Habitat anticipated	- Replacement with a sympathetic design (concrete bowstring arch) not considered feasible as these structures are extremely costly. - Structure replacement will incorporate a decorative railing or bridge plaque to acknowledge and partially mitigate the loss of cultural heritage value.	- Increased hydraulic capacity will prevent flooding at the crossing during the design storm - New superstructure will have a 75 year design life	- New crossing maintain the existing 5.4 m wide deck, maintaining single lane alternating traffic - New crossing will not require load posting - New crossing will require minimal maintenance, resulting in reduced partial and full closures	4
Alternative 3 Rehabilitation	Moderate	- Temporary negative impacts during construction of in-water works, timing restrictions and protection measures during construction will mitigate impacts. - Temporary supports during construction, (shoring towers or falsework placed within Plainville Creek). - No Harmful Alteration or Destruction of Fish Habitat anticipated - No impact on hydraulic opening	- Structure aesthetics will not be altered	- Current hydraulic opening is maintained, maintains current risk of flooding. - Complex and costly reconstruction sequence requiring carefully engineered temporary supports of the arch to preserve structural integrity.	- Existing roadway width will be reduced to permit installation of a code compliant barrier - Load posting will remain in place	3
Alternative 4 Removal	Low	- Temporary negative impacts during construction of in-water works, timing restrictions and protection measures during construction will mitigate impacts - No Harmful Alteration or Destruction of Fish Habitat anticipated	- The crossing will be removed	- Naturalized stream will prevent flooding at the crossing during the design storm - No future maintenance at the crossing required	- Cavan Road will no longer be a through route for vehicular and pedestrian traffic, traffic will be permanently diverted to alternate routes (Oak Ridges Drive)	2
Alternative 5 Repurpose	Low	- No impact on natural environment anticipated	- Structure aesthetics will not be altered	- Current hydraulic opening is maintained, maintains current risk of flooding	- Pedestrian traffic will be maintained. - Cavan Road will be closed to vehicular traffic (permanently diverted to Oak Ridges Drive).	1

Options Evaluations for Sackville Bridge
Existing Conditions

ROAD NETWORK





ELEVATION
SCALE 1:50

WEST APPROACH, LOOKING EAST

CONCRETE ARCH – TYPICAL

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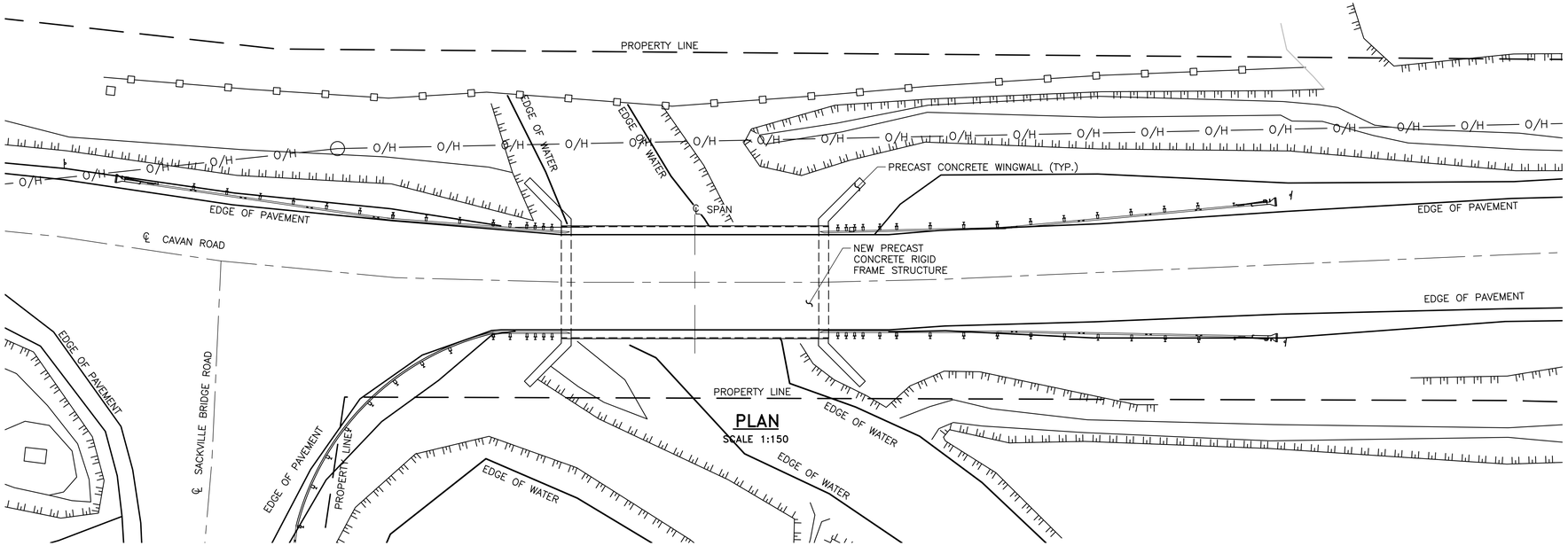
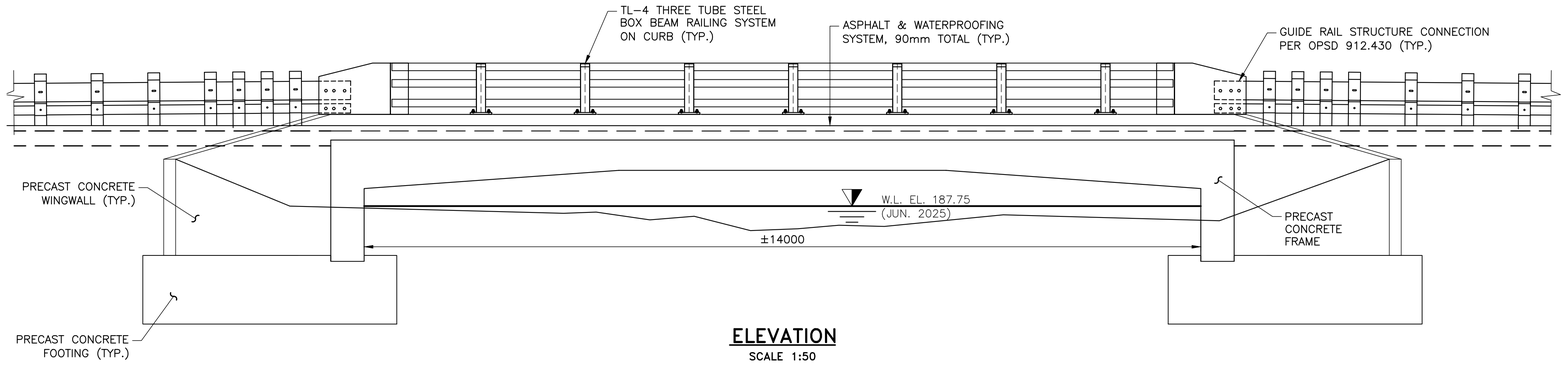
Option 1: Replacement



PLAN
SCALE 1:150



ELEVATION
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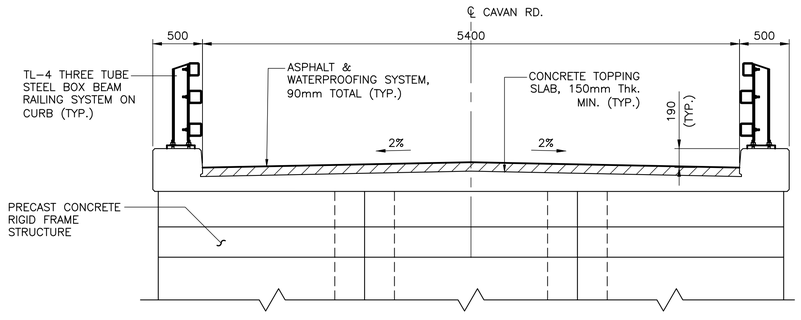

SECTION
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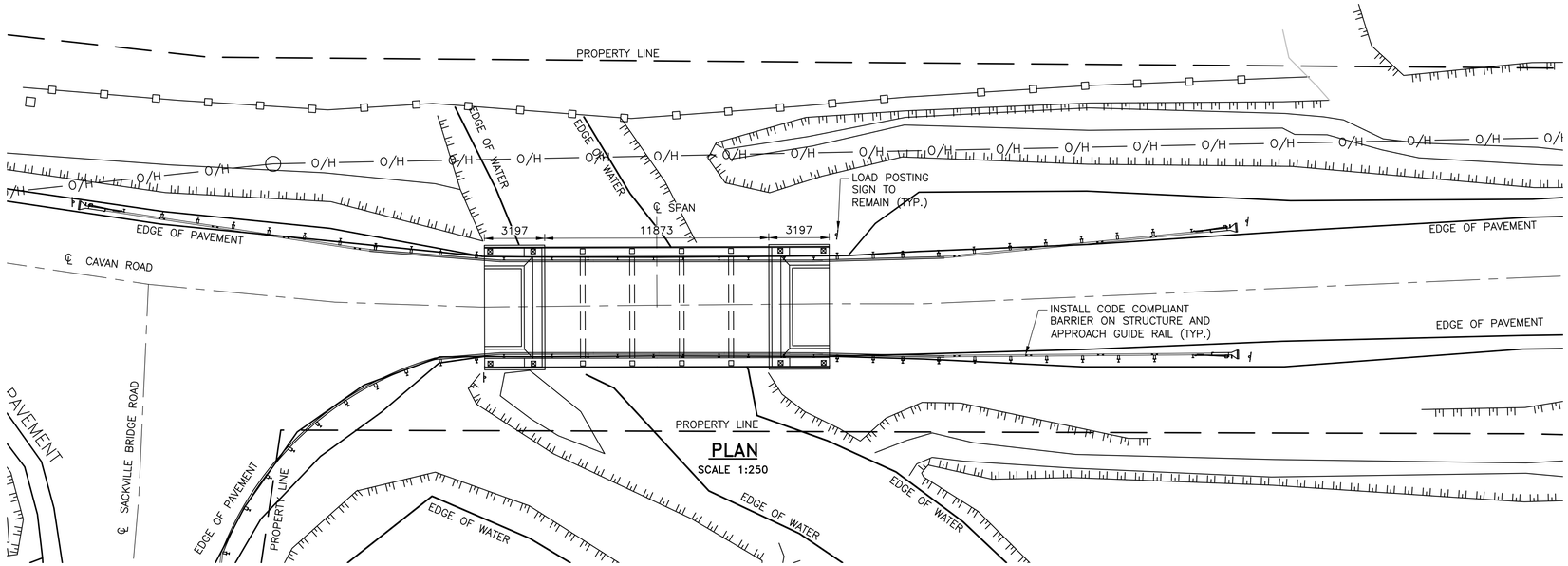
Option 2: Rehabilitation



PLAN
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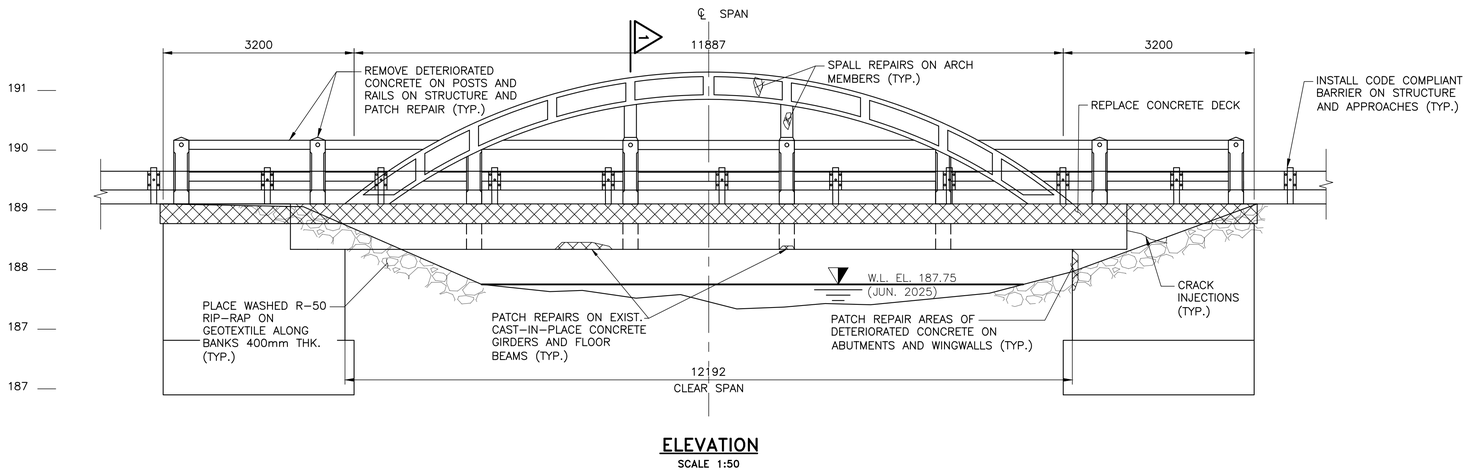

ELEVATION
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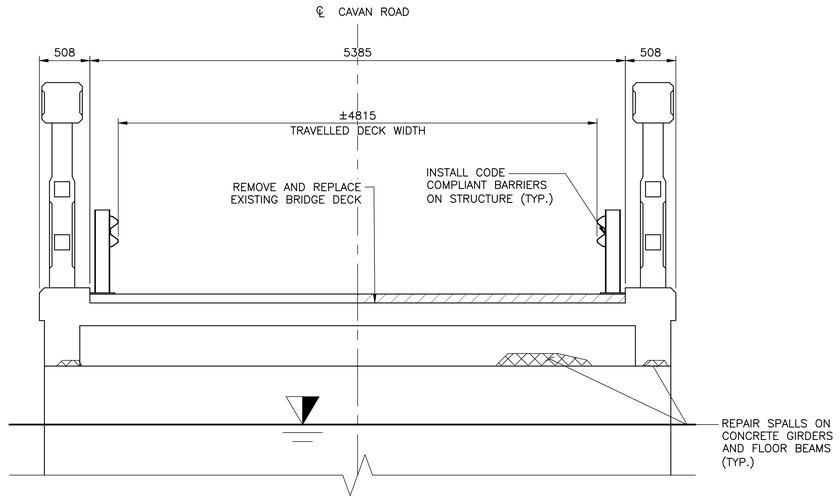

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SCALE 1:30

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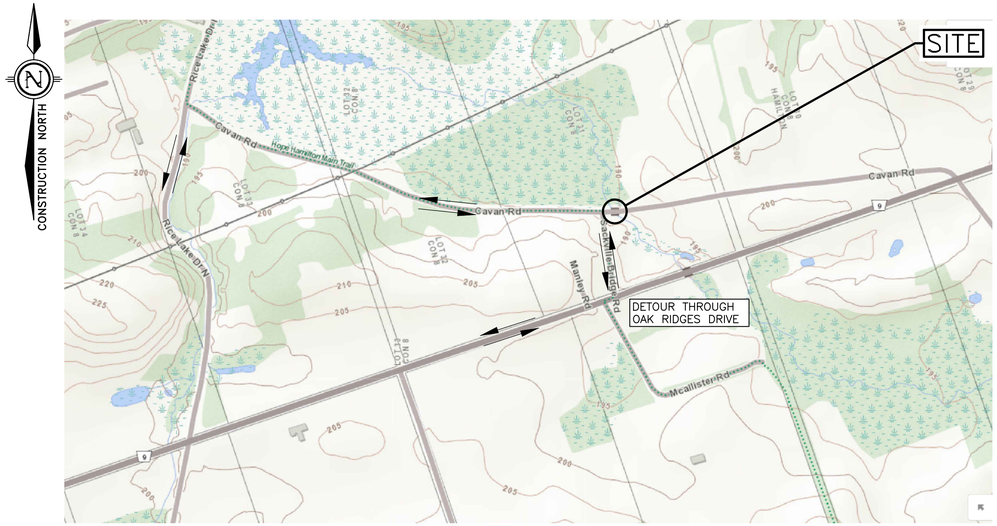
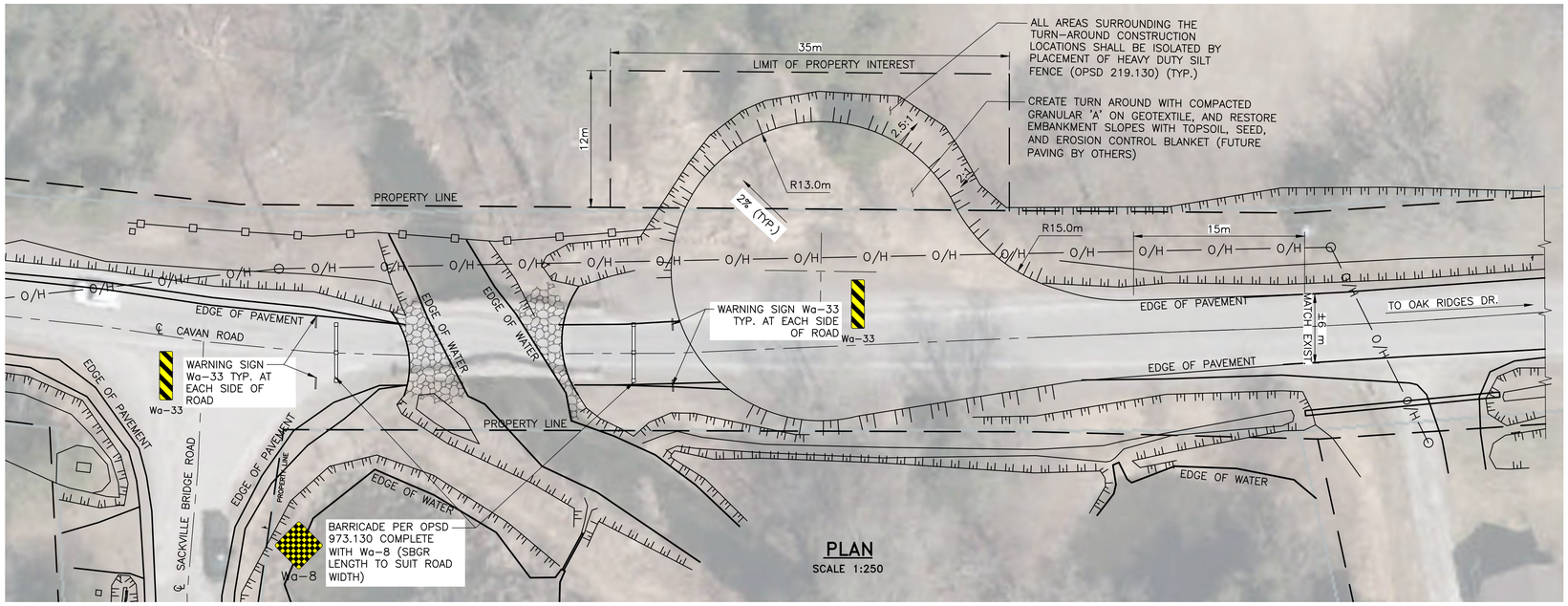
Option 3: Removal



ROAD NETWORK AND VEHICLE DETOUR



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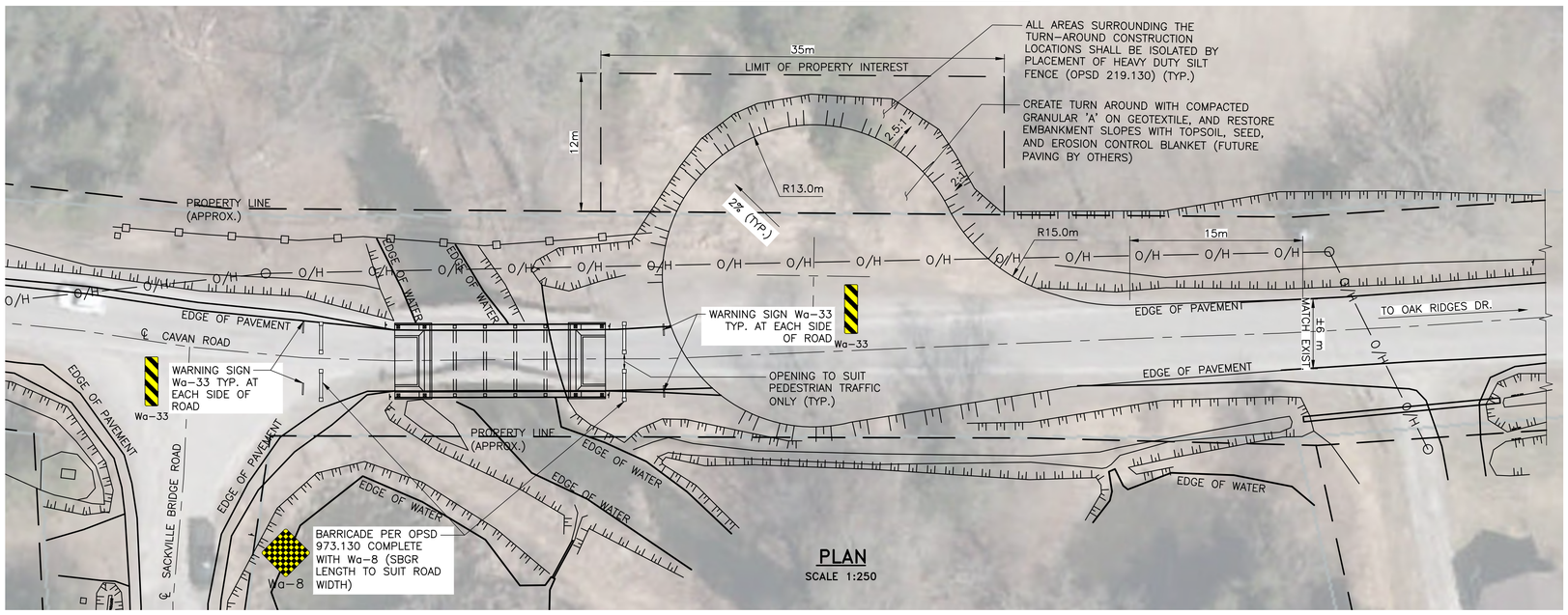
Option 4: Repurpose - Pedestrian Bridge

ROAD NETWORK AND VEHICLE DETOUR



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Next Steps and Project Contacts

Next Steps

- Review Public and Review Agency Input from the PIC.
- Identify Alternative Design Concepts for Preferred Solution.
- Detailed Inventory of Natural, Social and Economic Environment.
- Identify Impact of Alternative Designs on Environment and Mitigating Measures.
- Evaluate Alternative Designs: Identify Recommended Design.
- Prepare Project File
- Publish "Notice of Study Completion".
- Detailed Design and Approvals.
- Construction.
- Report to Township Council.
- Indigenous Consultation.

Public Input and Comment

- Feel free to provide written input or comment using the comment sheets provided or by contacting the identified representatives of the Township of Hamilton or D.M. Wills Associates Limited**.**
- Information and comments received are collected under the authority of the Municipal Act and will be subject to the requirements of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Thank You for Your Interest

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