

Hamilton Chamber Of Commerce Study of Goods Movement in Golden Horseshoe

Issue:

Many municipalities within the Golden Horseshoe have undertaken a “Goods Movement Study” as part of local transportation master planning.

Background:

What is lacking is:

- 1) An integrated Goods Movement Master Plan for the entire Golden Horseshoe region including the GTA; and
- 2) A particular focus on the movement of goods by air.

What is required is an integrated strategy with a well-developed set of policy options, and an implementation plan featuring a multimodal approach to movement of goods including air, truck, rail, marine, and multimodal terminals.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Hamilton Chamber of Commerce urges the Government of Ontario.

Undertake a Goods Movement Study in the Golden Horseshoe as the necessary first step in the creation of a Goods Movement Master Plan. This project should be coordinated, as appropriate, with related work currently being undertaken by Ontario Ministry of Transportation, and in consultation with the federal Ministry of Transport. This study should document the nature of goods movement, existing major freight flows, and related issues in the Golden Horseshoe economic region today, and anticipated future issues and challenges.

The objectives of the study should include:

- 1) Immediately conduct a quantitative analysis of current goods movement activity between the Golden Horseshoe and other regions, and an overview of the market including an understanding of the businesses that generate the freight flows.
- 2) Prepare within the next 12 months a perspective on the future of the movement of goods in the Golden Horseshoe in the 10, 20 and 30-year timeframes, translating these into short, medium and long-term objectives for Ontario airports.
- 3) In consultation with key stakeholder, identify current issues, future challenges, potential opportunities, and solutions for the movement of goods by air, today and in the future.
- 4) Development and assessment of strategic policy options to address current issues and emerging challenges.
- 5) Identification of the need for further data collection and the requirement for additional work in support of long term planning.
- 6) Evaluation and presentation of recommendations of appropriate performance indicators and monitoring process for the movement of goods by air, examining all

options for a key intermodal air gateway for international trade to service northeastern North America.

7) Evaluation and presentation of recommendations relating to multi-modal transportation facilities in the Golden Horseshoe and southwestern Ontario.