

What is covered in a Draft EA/EIR? Sample EA/EIR Contents

The Methuen Rotary Project will be preparing a consolidated Federal (EA) and State (EIR) document on the impacts of the proposed project.

Key upfront document sections address

- Purpose of and Need for Action – why is the project necessary?
- Alternatives – describe and evaluate the full range of alternatives which meet the Purpose and Need statement:
 - No Action
 - Build Alternatives (Alternatives 2B and 3A)

Two main sections address

- Affected Environment (the existing environment) and
- Environmental Consequences (the probable effects of the proposed alternatives)
 - Land Use, Social, Zoning and Visual Resources – including land takings and relocations
 - Traffic and Safety – including pedestrian and bicycle
 - Air Quality/Noise – including greenhouse gases
 - Water Resources – including storm water
 - Fisheries
 - Wildlife
 - Threatened and Endangered Species Habitat
 - Wetland Resources
 - Floodplains
 - Historic and Archeological Resources
 - Oil and Hazardous Materials
 - Economic Resources – less delay, travel time savings, improved access
 - Energy
 - Construction Impacts

Additional sections include

- Mitigation measures – description of all mitigation to be included with the project
- Compliance and consistency with environmental laws, regulations and programs
- Comments and coordination – respond to MEPA ENF comments; describe public outreach and agency coordination
- Technical Appendices
 - Wetlands Variance Alternatives Analysis
 - Wildlife Habitat Analysis
 - Air Quality/Noise Analyses
 - Traffic Analyses