



## CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, ONTARIO

# CASE STUDIES

### CITY OF CAMBRIDGE DEDICATES \$1.5 MILLION TO NEW ASSET MANAGEMENT DIVISION BASED ON INFRAGUIDE BEST PRACTICE

The City of Cambridge has developed an aggressive approach towards managing its infrastructure assets more effectively by introducing new technical skill sets and associated technology highlighted by InfraGuide best practices. Cambridge has dedicated \$1.5 million towards a new Asset Management Division based on InfraGuide best practices.

#### The Challenge

Cambridge has a very capital-intensive public works operation with thousands of records and pieces of information that could not be managed without the assistance of computer technology. Studies conducted by the city have found that it is not managing infrastructure in a cohesive way and various divisions and individuals approach asset management in a disjointed way. There exists no cohesive approach to asset management, making it very difficult to manage.

#### The Solution

The City of Cambridge has used several InfraGuide best practices to successfully address its long-term sustainable infrastructure needs. *Planning and Defining Municipal Infrastructure Needs* and *Managing Infrastructure Assets*, both **Decision Making and Investment Planning** best practices, were widely used. These documents helped Cambridge develop a clear vision and presented a logical and defensible case for the development of a comprehensive system to manage municipal asset statistics. In response to Cambridge's growing asset management needs, the City's Department of Transportation and Public Works has created an 'Asset Management Division' to consolidate the often fragmented work of managing infrastructure assets.

#### The Value

Ed Kovacs, Commissioner of Transportation and Public Works, City of Cambridge, believes the development of an Asset Management System is essential without which the management of the city's infrastructure would not be possible. As of June 2005, the Asset Management Division will be underway with over \$1.5 million dollars in capital funding for an asset management system and 4 full-time staff. Kovacs states that *"InfraGuide has been instrumental in getting this money"* and that this new group will act as the 'agent of change' required to bring about sustainable infrastructure solutions.

Collect necessary data, convert manual data to electronic form so we can start using that tool for condition rating and prioritization of replacement or rehabilitation of our assets, when inventory is complete, then we can start saying, these are the worst assets in our municipality, these are the ones we should target. We need to look at assets on a network level, allowing a schematic envisioning of assets, this would allow you to look at worst assets and will allow for best expenditure of money

#### Testimonial

*"If municipalities want funding they have to show that they have the capability of managing these assets, InfraGuide Decision Making and Investment Planning Best Practices are enabling municipalities to put in place tools to manage assets. Without these they cannot manage assets because the data that has to be analysed is overwhelming otherwise."*

*"InfraGuide provided us with the ability of showing council how you need to go from a manual based system to a tool where you can look at your assets from a more global basis and once achieving that you can strive for the objective of cost effective expenditures of your capital dollars."*

Ed Kovacs, Commissioner of Transportation and Public Works, City of Cambridge



**InfraGuide presents a new knowledge product on Managing Infrastructure Assets, available in June 2005 on our Web site and on CD.**

If you are a municipal elected official or senior manager interested in infrastructure issues, then this course is for you. It introduces you to asset management. A systematic process that helps municipalities identify the right treatment on the right assets, at the right time.

Contact InfraGuide either by phone or visit our Web site, both listed below, to obtain further information on the course, on ordering, or costs.

Contact InfraGuide toll-free at 1-866-330-3350 or visit our Web site at <[www.infraguide.ca](http://www.infraguide.ca)> for more information.



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