

## 2. Vaughan Study Area

The population within the City of Vaughan is changing rapidly and has doubled since 1991 (1991 population 111,359, and 2006 population 238,886) (Statistics Canada). The projected growth anticipates an expanded population to between 400,000 and 430,000 by 2031 (City of Vaughan Strategic Growth Plan). There has been a considerable amount of development in the last five years, with an increase in 17,000 dwelling between 2001 and 2006.

The focus of this study is the City of Vaughan, but a larger landscape perspective has also been considered, to provide context for the existing natural environment conditions within the city. The City of Vaughan is roughly bounded by King-Vaughan Road in the north, Bathurst Street and Yonge Street in the east, Steeles Avenue in the south and Highway 50 in the west (Figure 1).

## 3. Methodology

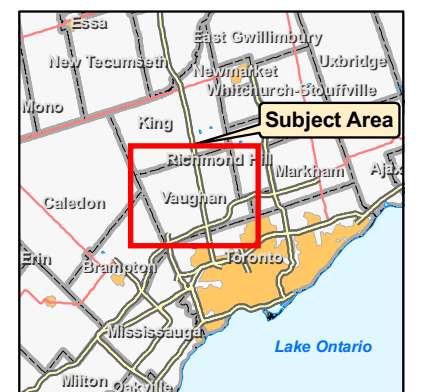
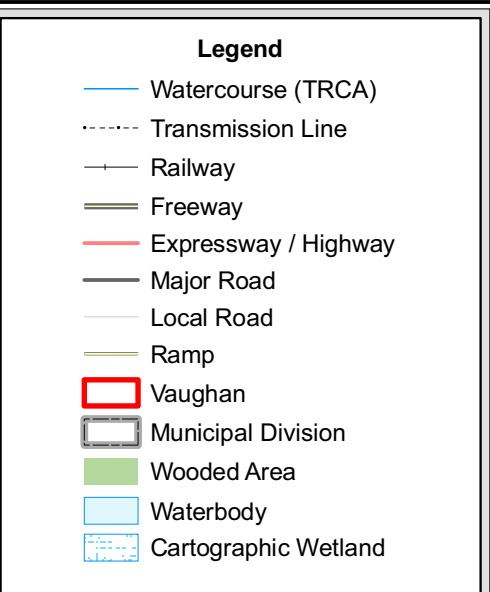
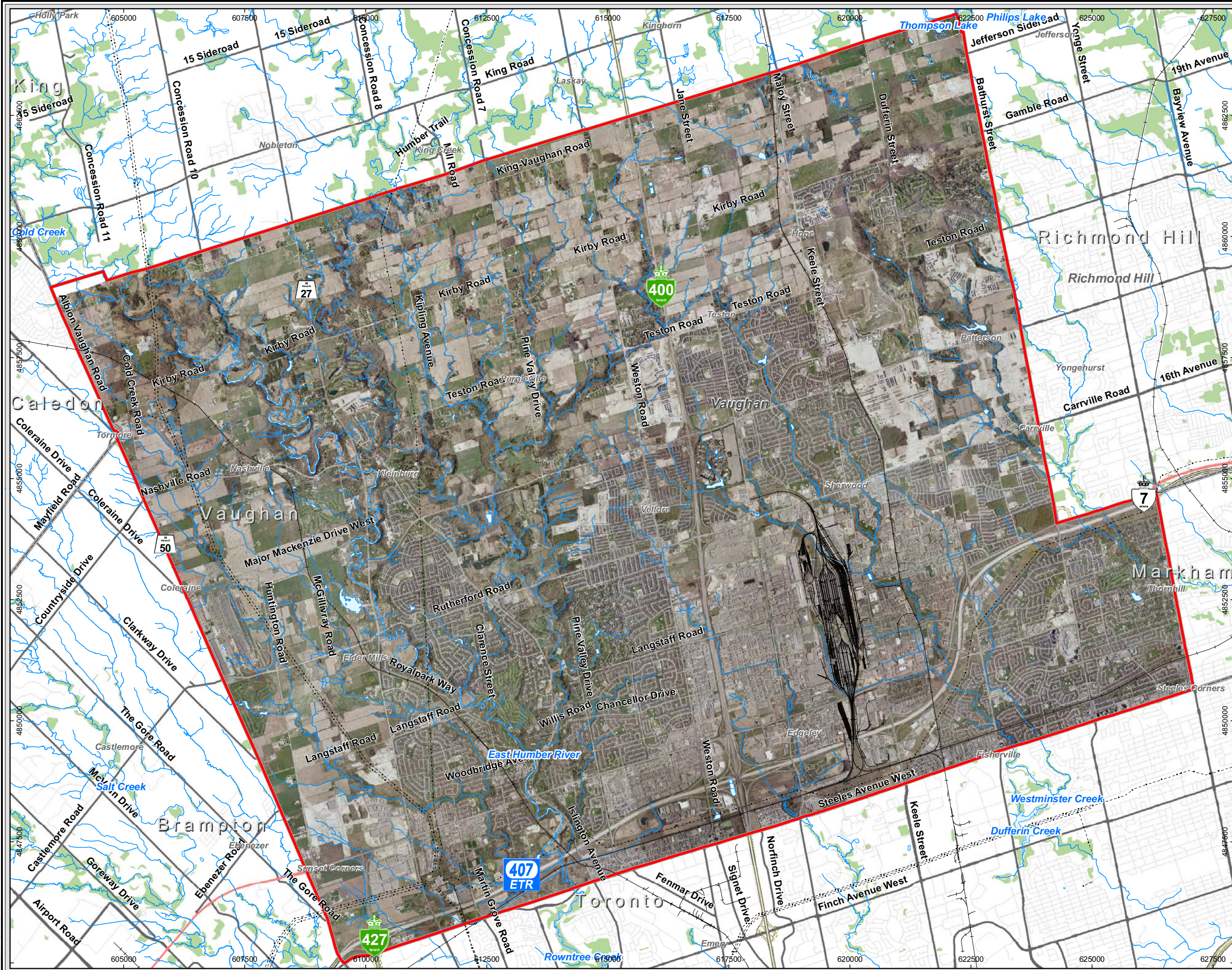
A considerable amount of natural heritage information has been collected by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources in the City of Vaughan. Many of the records date back more than fifty years and provide historical context to present conditions within the City. Data provided by these agencies and other secondary source information was compiled and analyzed for this report.

This discussion is based on a review of existing documentation and interviews with agency staff, residents and naturalists. The aim was to locate and examine existing information on the environmental functions or features of the study area, species of concern, existing mapping and other available data. The background review included correspondence with appropriate agencies and stakeholders including the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR).

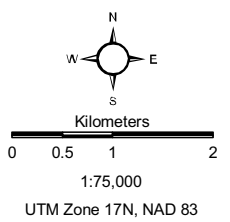
### 3.1 Available Secondary Source Information Collection and Review

Numerous reports and databases were acquired and compiled for the City of Vaughan (Figure 2). Spatial data was mapped to provide an understanding of species distribution, hydrogeology, vegetation communities, habitat fragmentation and sensitive areas.

- **Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR)**
  - ▶ MNR Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) Species at Risk,
  - ▶ MNR NHIC Natural Areas records
  - ▶ MNR NHIC Life Science Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI)



Basemapping from Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources  
Orthophotography: 2007, City of Vaughan



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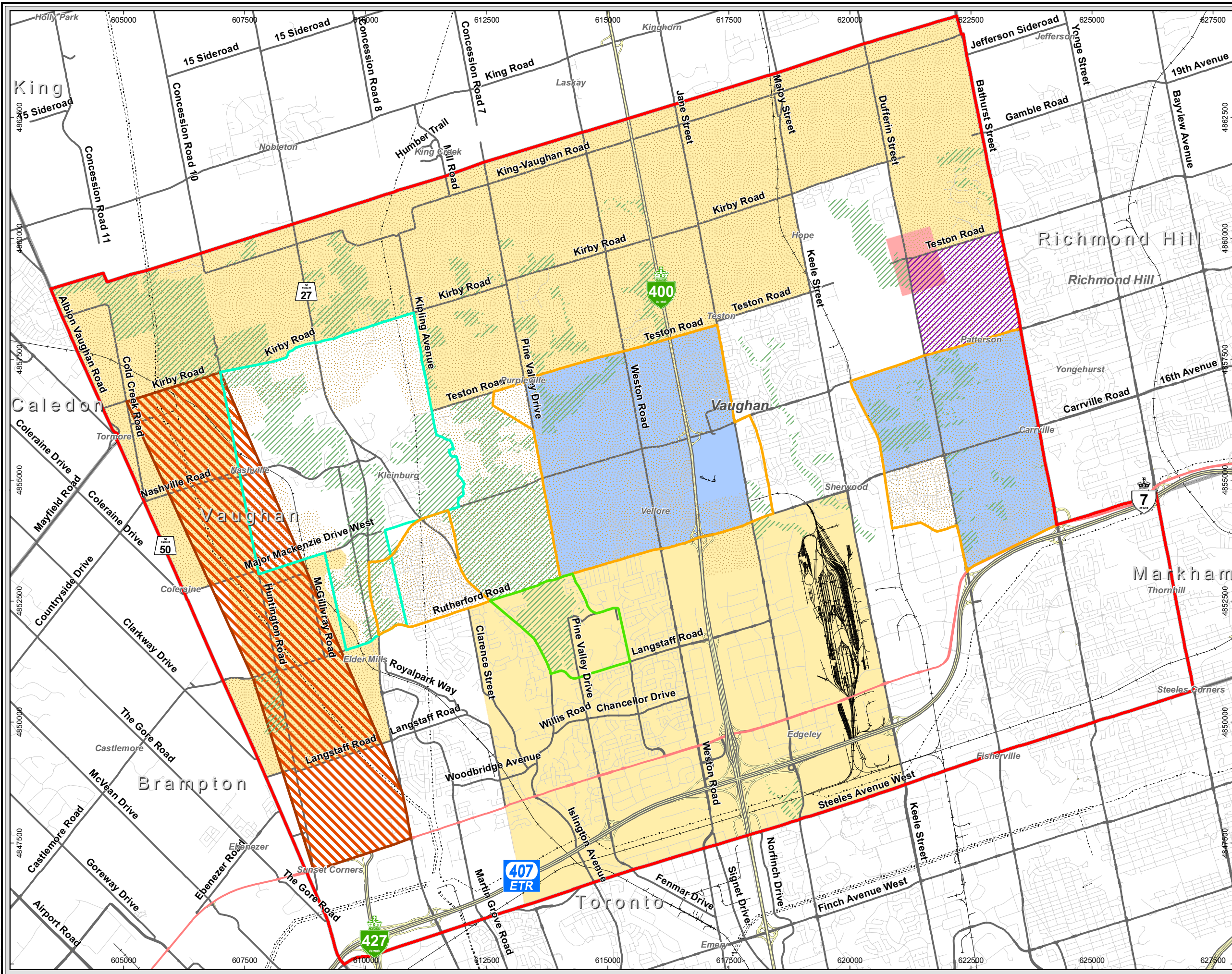
## Study Area

April 2010  
Project 70894

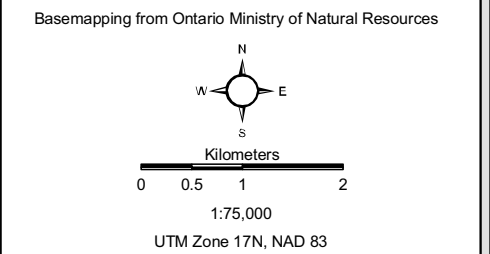
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Figure 1

Map Document: (N:\projects\2007\0894\2010\Final\GIS\Spatial\MXDs\Report\MXDs\70894\ReportStudy\Areas-11x17.mxd) 4/23/2010 10:34:19 AM



- Legend**
- Transmission Line
  - Railway
  - Freeway
  - Expressway / Highway
  - Major Road
  - Local Road
  - Ramp
  - Municipal Division
- Report Name**
- TRCA Terrestrial Natural Heritage System/York Region Significant Woodland Study
  - Pine Valley Drive Transportation Corridor Environmental Assessment
  - City of Vaughan Subwatershed Study
  - OPA 160 - Kleinburg - Nashville Community Plan
  - OPA 600
  - Block 12 Master Environmental Servicing Plan & Environmental Impact Statement
  - TRCA Ecological Land Classification
  - Hwy 427 Environmental Assessment
  - Vaughan Trunk Sewer Class EA
  - City of Vaughan Woodlot Protection Strategy
  - City of Vaughan Focus Rural Area Woodland Ecosystem Assessment



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**Data Sources:  
Report Study Areas**

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**Figure 2**

- ▶ Natural Resource Values Information Centre (NRVIS)
- ▶ Wetland Evaluations for 2 Provincially Significant Wetlands and 3 Locally Significant Wetlands in Vaughan
- **Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)**
  - ▶ Environmentally Significant Areas Study (1982)
  - ▶ Terrestrial Natural Heritage System Strategy
  - ▶ Humber River Watershed Plan
  - ▶ Humber River Fisheries Management Plan
  - ▶ City of Vaughan Subwatershed Plan
  - ▶ A Time for Bold Steps: Don Watershed Report
  - ▶ 40 Steps to a New Don
  - ▶ Surface Water quality Conditions of Streams in the Toronto Area
  - ▶ Don Report card 2003
  - ▶ Summary of Water Quality Data in the Toronto Region 1996-2002
  - ▶ Report Card on the health of the Humber Watershed
  - ▶ Fisheries Datasets
  - ▶ Ecological Land Classification Data
  - ▶ Wildlife Observations Dataset
- **Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (Second Edition) 2008**
- **Nature Conservancy Canada Conservation Blueprint for the Great Lakes Region**
- **Consultant Reports**
  - ▶ Gartner Lee Limited internal reports
  - ▶ City of Vaughan Focus Rural Area Woodland Ecosystem Assessment - AMEC
  - ▶ Highway 427 Environmental Assessment Report - AMEC
  - ▶ Pine Valley Environmental Assessment – Gartner Lee Limited
  - ▶ Bathurst Environmental Assessment – Gartner Lee Limited
- **York Region**
  - ▶ York Region Significant Woodlands study
- **City of Vaughan**
  - ▶ City of Vaughan Subwatershed Study 1993. Gartner Lee Limited
  - ▶ OPA 160 Official Plan Review, Kleinburg-Nashville Community Plan, Natural Environment – Background Study Report, 2001. AGRA Earth & Environment
  - ▶ OPA 600, 2003
  - ▶ City of Vaughan Focus Rural Area Woodlot Ecosystem Assessment, 2002. AMEC Earth & Environmental Limited
  - ▶ City of Vaughan Woodland Protection Strategy, 2001. J.H. Stevens, Planning & Development Consultants.
- **Ontario Ministry of the Environment**
  - ▶ Waterwell records