

February 14, 2019

UTRCA 72ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In conformity with the Conservation Authorities Act, RSO, 1990 Chapter 27, Regulation 17(1), the Chair of the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority has designated the 2019 Annual General Meeting to be held as follows:

DATE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019

TIME: 9:30 A.M. – 12:35 P.M.

**LOCATION: WATERSHED CONSERVATION CENTRE
BOARDROOM**

AGENDA:	TIME
1. Approval of Agenda	9:30am
2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest	
3. Review and Approval of the Factual Certificate (Certificate attached)	
4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting - Tuesday, November 27, 2018	
5. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes (a) Dingman Delegation Report to Board (Report attached)(T.Annett/C.Tasker) (Doc: ENVP #7253)(10 minutes)	9:35am
6. Transition to 2019 Board	
7. Elections (20 minutes) (a) Chair (b) Vice-Chair (c) Hearings Committee (3 positions) (d) Finance & Audit Committee (2-4 positions) (e) Source Protection Striking Committee/Committee Liaison (1 position)	9:45am
8. Delegation Regarding 2019 Draft Budget Perth South, St. Marys & Ingersoll (20 minutes)	10:05am
9. Business for Approval	10:25am

- (a) Presentation & Approval of 2019 Draft Budgets
(Report attached)(I.Wilcox/C.Saracino)
(Doc: #121097)(20 minutes)
 - (b) Pending 2019 Capital Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure
(WECI) Projects (Report attached)
(C.Tasker/D.Charles)(Doc: FC #1480)(5 minutes)
 - (c) 2019 Meeting Schedule
(Report attached)(I.Wilcox)
(Doc: #3246)(5 minutes)
10. Business for Information 10:55am
- (a) January/February For Your Information Report
11. Other Business 11:00am

The Authority Staff and Guests will be invited to join the meeting at 11:00am
*******15 Minute Break*******

- 12. Welcome and Board Introductions (10 minutes) 11:15am
- 13. Retiring Board Member Presentations
(15 minutes) 11:25am
- 14. Presentation of Service Awards
(10 minutes) 11:40am
- 15. Guest Speaker David Mayberry
(25 minutes) 11:50am
- 16. UTRCA Community Conservation Award Presentation
(15 minutes) 12:15pm
- 17. Chair and General Manager's Concluding Remarks 12:30pm
- 18. Adjournment 12:35pm

LUNCH TO FOLLOW



Ian Wilcox, General Manager

c.c. Chair and Members of the Board of Directors
All UTRCA Staff

MINUTES
UTRCA 72nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019

M.Blackie, Chair of the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority called the 72nd Annual General Meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Watershed Conservation Centre Boardroom. The following members and staff were in attendance.

Members Present:	M.Blackie	H.McDermid
	M.Blosh	P.Mitchell
	R.Chowen	A.Murray
	A.Dale	B.Petrie
	D.Edmiston	J.Reffle
	A.Hopkins	M.Ryan
	T.Jackson	J.Salter
	S.Levin	M.Schadenberg
	N.Manning	D.Shepherd
	S.McCall-Hanlon	A.Westman
Solicitor:	G.Inglis	
Regrets:	T.Birtch	G.Way
Staff:	T.Annett	C.Saracino
	C.Harrington	A.Shivas
	E.Heagy	M.Viglianti
	E.Lounsbury	I.Wilcox
		C.Tasker

1. Approval of Agenda

T.Jackson moved – seconded by M.Ryan:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the agenda as posted.”

CARRIED.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Chair inquired whether the members had any conflicts of interest to declare relating to the agenda. There were none.

3. Review and Approval of the Factual Certificate
(Certificate attached)

T.Jackson moved – seconded by B.Petrie:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the Factual Certificate as presented.”

CARRIED.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
November 27, 2018

S.McCall-Hanlon moved – seconded by R.Chowen:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the minutes of the Board of Directors’ meeting dated November 27, 2018 as posted on the Members’ Website.”

CARRIED.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) Dingman Delegation Report to Board
(Report attached)

M.Blackie introduced the report. T.Jackson addressed his concerns regarding the screening area tool from the November 2018 meeting and asked that a follow up discussion occur at a future meeting.

T.Jackson moved – seconded by A.Hopkins:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors receive the report and follow up at a future meeting to discuss the nuances and protocols of the screening area tool.”

CARRIED.

6. Transition to 2019 Board of Directors

7. Elections

M.Blackie requested a motion to nominate Grant Inglis as Acting Chair for the purpose of conducting the elections for Authority Chair and Vice-Chair for 2019.

M.Ryan moved – seconded by B.Petrie:-

“RESOLVED that G.Inglis be nominated as Acting Chair for the purpose of conducting the elections for the Authority’s Chair and Vice-Chair for 2019.”

CARRIED.

The 2019 Board of Directors took their places at the table and the official transition was made.

G.Inglis outlined the procedures for electing the Authority’s Chair and Vice-Chair as specified in the Conservation Authorities Act and the UTRCA Board of Directors’ Administrative By-Law.

(a) Chair

G.Inglis called for nominations for the position of Chair of the UTRCA Board of Directors for 2019.

Anna Hopkins nominated Sandy Levin for the position of Chair of the UTRCA Board of Directors for 2019.

G.Inglis called twice more for further nominations.

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

G.Inglis inquired if the nominee would allow his name to stand and if he would like to speak to the nomination. Sandy Levin stated he would allow his name to stand.

G.Inglis declared Sandy Levin as Authority Chair for 2019.

(b) Vice-Chair

G.Inglis called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the UTRCA Board of Directors for 2019.

Paul Mitchell nominated Alan Dale for the position of Vice-Chair of the UTRCA Board of Directors for 2019.

G.Inglis called twice more for further nominations.

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

G.Inglis inquired if Alan Dale would allow his name to stand. Alan Dale stated he would allow his name to stand.

G.Inglis declared Alan Dale as the Vice- Chair of the UTRCA Board of Directors for 2019.

G.Inglis congratulated the new Chair and Vice-Chair, and relinquished the Chair to S.Levin.

(c) Hearing Committee

S.Levin noted that traditionally the Hearing Committee consists of the Authority Chair, Vice-Chair, past Chair and two additional Authority members, but as there is no past Chair, the 2019 Hearings Committee will consist of S.Levin, A.Dale and three additional Board members.

The Chair called three times for nominations for three positions on the Hearings Committee.

Marie Blosch nominated Brian Petrie to be a member of the Hearing Committee for 2019.

Hugh McDermid nominated Tony Jackson to be a member of the Hearing Committee for 2019.

Annamarie Murray nominated Marie Blosch to be a member of the Hearing Committee for 2019.

All three nominees agreed to let their names stand for the positions on the Hearing Committee for 2019.

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

S.Levin confirmed the 2019 Hearings Committee will consist of himself, Alan Dale, Brian Petrie, Tony Jackson, and Marie Blosh.

(d) Finance & Audit Committee

S.Levin noted that the Finance & Audit Committee consists of the Authority Chair, and two to four additional Authority members.

The Chair called three times for nominations for the positions on the Finance & Audit Committee.

Hugh McDermid nominated Tony Jackson to be a member of the Finance & Audit Committee for 2019.

Anna Hopkins nominated Jim Reffle to be a member of the Finance & Audit Committee for 2019.

Marie Blosh nominated Annamarie Murray to be a member of the Finance & Audit Committee for 2019.

All three nominees agreed to let their names stand for the positions on the Finance & Audit Committee for 2019.

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

S.Levin confirmed the 2019 Finance & Audit Committee will consist of himself, Tony Jackson, Jim Reffle, and Annamarie Murray.

(e) Source Protection Striking Committee Member & Committee Liaison

S.Levin noted that the election of this position will be ratified in April at the next meeting of the Source Protection Authority.

The Chair called three times for nominations for the position on the Source Protection Striking Committee and Committee Liaison.

Tony Jackson nominated Joe Salter to be the Source Protection Striking Committee Member and Committee Liaison.

Joe Salter agreed to let his name stand to be the Source Protection Striking Committee Member & Committee Liaison.

S.Levin confirmed Joe Salter as the Source Protection Striking Committee Member & Committee Liaison, to be ratified at the April Source Protection Authority meeting.

8. Delegation Regarding 2019 Draft Budget

I.Wilcox introduced Mayor Robert Wilhelm of Perth South. Mayor Wilhelm introduced Mayor Rhonda Ehgoetz and Councillor Daryl Herlick from Perth South, Mayor Don McKay from East Zorra-Tavistock, Mayor David Mayberry from South West Oxford, and Mayor Al Strathdee, Deputy Mayor Marg Luna, and CAO Brent Kittmer from St. Marys, who were there to support the delegation. Rebecca Clothier, Treasurer of Perth South, presented to the Board on behalf of the delegation. She gave an overview of the financial situation in Perth South and explained the challenges they face, including a two million dollar reduction of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund from 2012. She discussed the increases of the UTRCA budget and that the Municipal cost of the Authority for Perth South has increased 50% since 2012. They feel the 2016 Targets increases are not sustainable and Council is frustrated by their inability to control the cost increases of the UTRCA. They are concerned future increases may be more than projected based on the unreliability of grants. With the Province reviewing transfer payments, there are concerns that provincial transfers and grants used by the UTRCA will be cut and should that happen, that those costs will be passed along to Municipalities. They are pleased the Environmental Planning Policy manual is under review, as they feel it is overly restrictive, shows an unwillingness to work together, lacks clarity and causes delays. She suggested the UTRCA and Municipalities need to find a way to work together on these matters.

The Board discussed the comments made by R. Clothier. H.McDermid asked about the \$750 per household cut the Province has presented and how it will impact Perth South. R.Clothier responded that the exact number will be calculated by the Province, but even though they have lost two million dollars already, there will be more cuts coming. B.Petrie asked if Perth South has a long range financial plan they can share with the Board. R.Clothier confirmed that they do and it can be provided. It was added that the largest employer in Perth South will be closing in 2020, adding to the financial challenges they already face. A.Westman added there is a high probability people will leave the community to find work and spoke to the challenges Perth South is facing.

S.Levin thanked the delegation for their presentation.

9. Business for Approval

(a) Presentation & Approval of 2019 Draft Budgets
(Report attached)

I.Wilcox recalled to the Board the email he sent to them on February 20th giving an updated account of the municipal feedback he had received on the 2019 Draft Budget.

T.Jackson spoke to the financial struggles of the smaller Municipalities while the UTRCA has been going through prosperous times. He spoke to the progress already taken in breaking away from the status quo through the Targets. He shared concerns around isolating disenfranchised Municipalities if their needs are not heard and the need of their support if the goals of the UTRCA are to be achieved. He highlighted recent UTRCA budgets, noting a five million dollar increase since 2013. He clarified that no one is asking to change the base budget. He outlined how the budget will grow over the next few years with only increases in inflation, raising concerns that Municipalities will not be able to afford the cost and expressed a need for decisions to be forward thinking. He compared a neighbouring Conservation Authority's Levy per person to the UTRCA's, highlighting the large difference despite them being a similar size with similar goals to the UTRCA. He asked that, at a minimum, the Board consider deferring the levy component of the Targets for 2019, which would not compromise staff or the core mandate of

the UTRCA. He concluded that he cannot support the current draft budget, especially with the inclusion of the \$288,000 for Targets.

There was discussion and clarification around the change in how budgets were prepared after 2016.

A.Hopkins asked staff to speak to the effects of deferring the \$288,000 from the levy. Staff spoke to the effects, which included a slowdown and deferral of flood modeling updates, water quality efforts, and forest loss prevention efforts. Staff added that should the \$288,000.00 be removed, the expectations for progress would have to be adjusted.

In response to a question around London's four year budget planning process, staff responded that the fourth year of the Targets phase-in would be a similar request to 2019, but after that it is expected that increases will be more in line with the Consumer Price Index.

A.Hopkins asked if the UTRCA has uncovered all opportunities to address the concerns of, and help, the smaller Municipalities while balancing the interests of all Member Municipalities. Staff are aware of the concerns of the Member Municipalities, both with the draft budget and beyond, specifically around planning and regulations. Staff acknowledged the need to work better with Perth South, St. Marys, and Ingersoll and discussions around service levels need to be held.

B.Petrie requested more information from staff on the numbers provided by T.Jackson and discussed the difficulty in balancing interests given two municipalities pay the majority of the levy.

Vulnerability around provincial funding was discussed.

H.McDermid noted that trees planted are not counted as forest cover until full grown.

P.Mitchell expressed his understanding of the issues Perth South and all Municipalities are facing. While agreeing that as a new member he is lacking history and background information, he voiced his support for the budget, trusting management and respecting the previous Board's decisions.

A.Dale spoke to his past experience on Conservation Authority Boards and the inability to please everyone. He felt that if the Targets funding is deferred momentum will be lost and it will not be regained. He added that Targets funding addresses the problems the Municipalities are asking the UTRCA to fix.

H.McDermid asked if the Board can receive in writing that there will be no more increases after the final year of Targets funding. Staff responded that future budget decisions would be up to the Board.

A.Hopkins asked how staff wage increases are determined. I.Wilcox responded that direction from the Board is usually requested in June, and the increase is based on the April to April Consumer Price Index.

T.Jackson moved – seconded by H.McDermid:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors

approve the first recommendation, with an amendment to remove the \$288,000.00.

DEFEATED.

B.Petrie moved – seconded by M.Blosh:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the 2019 Draft Operating Budget under Section 27 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* in the amount of \$15,744,571 and that staff be directed to circulate the Approved Budget to member municipalities as part of the required 30 day review period. Please note the 2019 new levy component of the operating budget of \$5,282,716 will be apportioned to member municipalities based on a general levy formula as developed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry using Current Value Assessment data from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation and by Special Benefitting Percentages for structure operations.”

CARRIED.

Recorded Vote:

UTRCA Weighted Vote: 2019 Draft Operating Budget

Municipality	CVA Apportionment Percentage	Voting Weight	Number Of Members	Weight Per Member	For	Against	Absent
County of Oxford	16.551	23.44	5	4.69	5		
City of London	64.698	50.00	4	12.50	4		
Lucan-Biddulph	0.318	0.45	1	0.45		1	
Thames Centre	3.217	4.56	1	4.56		1	
Middlesex Centre	2.287	3.23	1	3.23	1		
Stratford	7.285	10.32	1	10.32	1		
Perth East	1.373	1.94	1	1.94		1	
West Perth	1.419	2.01	1	2.01	1		
St. Marys	1.509	2.14	1	2.14		1	
Perth South	1.143	1.62	1	1.62		1	
South Huron	0.200	0.30	1	0.30		1	
Results			15		88.91%	11.09%	
CARRIED BY % OF THE WEIGHTED VOTE IN ATTENDANCE							
*Based on UTRCA share of assessment							
Notes: Voting weight is capped at 50% for any municipality unless the number of its representatives exceeds 50% of the total number of municipal appointees. The voting weight of the remaining municipalities is increased proportionally.							

The motion carries with 88.91% of the weighted vote supporting the recommendation.

Adoption of 2019 Flood Control Capital Levy

J.Salter moved – seconded by M.Blosh:-

“RESOLVED That the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the 2019 Capital Budget under Section 26 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* in two parts:

- a) The amount of \$4,463,950 to support the Authority’s 20 year Flood Control Capital Plan. Apportionment of the flood control portion of the 2019 capital levy of \$1,749,604 is based on Special Benefiting Percentages, by structure, as presented in the 2019 Draft Budget. It is noted this levy amount has been set based on cooperative discussions with participating municipalities and assumes that the majority of the works will receive a matching funding contribution through the provincial Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Program (WECI).

- b) The amount of \$732,258 to support the Authority’s other (non-flood control) capital spending needs. The municipal levy share of this capital amount is \$171,690 and will be apportioned to member municipalities based on a general levy formula as developed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry using Current Value Assessment data from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation.

CARRIED.

Recorded Vote:

UTRCA Weighted Vote: 2019 Flood Control Capital Levy

Municipality	CVA Apportionment Percentage	Voting Weight	Number Of Members	Weight Per Member	For	Against	Absent
County of Oxford	16.551	23.44	5	4.69	5		
City of London	64.698	50.00	4	12.50	4		
Lucan-Biddulph	0.318	0.45	1	0.45		1	
Thames Centre	3.217	4.56	1	4.56		1	
Middlesex Centre	2.287	3.23	1	3.23	1		
Stratford	7.285	10.32	1	10.32	1		
Perth East	1.373	1.94	1	1.94	1		
West Perth	1.419	2.01	1	2.01	1		
St. Marys	1.509	2.14	1	2.14	1		
Perth South	1.143	1.62	1	1.62	1		
South Huron	0.200	0.30	1	0.30	1		
Results			15	94.99%		5.01%	
CARRIED BY % OF THE WEIGHTED VOTE IN ATTENDANCE							
*Based on UTRCA share of assessment							
Notes: Voting weight is capped at 50% for any municipality unless the number of its representatives exceeds 50% of the total number of municipal appointees. The voting weight of the remaining municipalities is increased proportionally.							

The motion carries with 94.99% of the weighted vote supporting the recommendation.

- (b) Pending 2019 Capital Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECEI) Projects
(Report attached)

B.Petrie moved – seconded by A.Hopkins:-

“RESOLVED that the 2019 Capital Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Projects be approved as outlined in the attached report.”

CARRIED.

- (c) 2019 Meeting Schedule
(Report attached)

D.Shepherd moved – seconded by J.Reffle:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors accept the recommendation as presented.”

CARRIED.

10. Business for Information

- (a) February FYI Report
(Report attached)

The report was presented for the members’ information. S.Levin suggested Board members send the FYI to their Municipal Councils.

A.Hopkins left the meeting at 11:00am

11. Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

Staff and Guests joined the meeting.

12. Welcome

The Board members introduced themselves. I.Wilcox updated staff on the Budget discussions.

13. Retiring Board Member Presentations

I.Wilcox and S.Levin recognized the following departing Board members:

- Trevor Birtch, served from 2015-2019
- Murray Blackie, served from 2007-2019, served as Chair and Vice-Chair, and sat on both the Hearing Committee and Finance and Audit Committee
- Ray Chowen, served from 2011-2019, served as Vice-Chair, and sat on the Hearing Committee
- Nancy Manning, served from 2013-2019, served as Vice-Chair and sat on the Hearing Committee and Finance and Audit Committee
- Shirley McCall-Hanlon served from 2016-2019
- Marcus Ryan served from 2015-2019
- George Way served from 2011-2019

14. Presentation of Service Awards

The following staff were presented with service awards

Ten Year

Michelle Fletcher
Imtiaz Shah
Karen Winfield
Jeff Cantelon
Tracey Haycock
MaryEllen Kyte

Fifteen Year

Brad Hertner

Twenty Year

Randy Bettinger

Thirty Year

Vanni Azzano
Chris Tasker
Ian Wilcox

Thirty-Five Year

Brad Glasman
Craig Merkley
Teresa Hollingsworth

Alex Westman left the meeting at approximately 11:45am.

15. Guest Speaker David Mayberry

I.Wilcox introduced Mayor David Mayberry. Mayor Mayberry presented to the Board and staff about current and planned efforts by Oxford County to convert to 100% renewable energy and have zero waste.

16. UTRCA Community Conservation Award Presentation

Todd Sleeper was awarded the Board of Directors award for his twenty years of his work founding and organizing the Thames River Clean Up, as well as his work with the General Motors GREEN education program in Ingersoll, and volunteer participation in the Children's Water Festival.

17. Chair and General Manager's Concluding Remarks

S.Levin thanked David Mayberry for his inspiration, Todd Sleeper for showing how an individual can make a difference, and staff for their continued work.

18. Adjournment

There being no further business to bring forward, B.Petrie moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:21 p.m. The members, staff, and guests participated in a luncheon.



I.Wilcox,
General Manager
Att.

MINUTES
UTRCA 72nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019

M.Blackie, Chair of the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority called the 72nd Annual General Meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Watershed Conservation Centre Boardroom. The following members and staff were in attendance.

Members Present:	M.Blackie	H.McDermid
	M.Blosh	P.Mitchell
	R.Chowen	A.Murray
	A.Dale	B.Petrie
	D.Edmiston	J.Reffle
	A.Hopkins	M.Ryan
	T.Jackson	J.Salter
	S.Levin	M.Schadenberg
	N.Manning	D.Shepherd
	S.McCall-Hanlon	A.Westman
Solicitor:	G.Inglis	
Regrets:	T.Birtch	G.Way
Staff:	T.Annett	C.Saracino
	C.Harrington	A.Shivas
	E.Heagy	M.Viglianti
	E.Lounsbury	I.Wilcox
		C.Tasker

1. Approval of Agenda

T.Jackson moved – seconded by M.Ryan:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the agenda as posted.”

CARRIED.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Chair inquired whether the members had any conflicts of interest to declare relating to the agenda. There were none.

3. Review and Approval of the Factual Certificate
(Certificate attached)

T.Jackson moved – seconded by B.Petrie:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the Factual Certificate as presented.”

CARRIED.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
November 27, 2018

S.McCall-Hanlon moved – seconded by R.Chowen:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the minutes of the Board of Directors’ meeting dated November 27, 2018 as posted on the Members’ Website.”

CARRIED.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) Dingman Delegation Report to Board
(Report attached)

M.Blackie introduced the report. T.Jackson addressed his concerns regarding the screening area tool from the November 2018 meeting and asked that a follow up discussion occur at a future meeting.

T.Jackson moved – seconded by A.Hopkins:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors receive the report and follow up at a future meeting to discuss the nuances and protocols of the screening area tool.”

CARRIED.

6. Transition to 2019 Board of Directors

7. Elections

M.Blackie requested a motion to nominate Grant Inglis as Acting Chair for the purpose of conducting the elections for Authority Chair and Vice-Chair for 2019.

M.Ryan moved – seconded by B.Petrie:-

“RESOLVED that G.Inglis be nominated as Acting Chair for the purpose of conducting the elections for the Authority’s Chair and Vice-Chair for 2019.”

CARRIED.

The 2019 Board of Directors took their places at the table and the official transition was made.

G.Inglis outlined the procedures for electing the Authority’s Chair and Vice-Chair as specified in the Conservation Authorities Act and the UTRCA Board of Directors’ Administrative By-Law.

(a) Chair

G.Inglis called for nominations for the position of Chair of the UTRCA Board of Directors for 2019.

Anna Hopkins nominated Sandy Levin for the position of Chair of the UTRCA Board of Directors for 2019.

G.Inglis called twice more for further nominations.

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

G.Inglis inquired if the nominee would allow his name to stand and if he would like to speak to the nomination. Sandy Levin stated he would allow his name to stand.

G.Inglis declared Sandy Levin as Authority Chair for 2019.

(b) Vice-Chair

G.Inglis called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the UTRCA Board of Directors for 2019.

Paul Mitchell nominated Alan Dale for the position of Vice-Chair of the UTRCA Board of Directors for 2019.

G.Inglis called twice more for further nominations.

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

G.Inglis inquired if Alan Dale would allow his name to stand. Alan Dale stated he would allow his name to stand.

G.Inglis declared Alan Dale as the Vice- Chair of the UTRCA Board of Directors for 2019.

G.Inglis congratulated the new Chair and Vice-Chair, and relinquished the Chair to S.Levin.

(c) Hearing Committee

S.Levin noted that traditionally the Hearing Committee consists of the Authority Chair, Vice-Chair, past Chair and two additional Authority members, but as there is no past Chair, the 2019 Hearings Committee will consist of S.Levin, A.Dale and three additional Board members.

The Chair called three times for nominations for three positions on the Hearings Committee.

Marie Blosch nominated Brian Petrie to be a member of the Hearing Committee for 2019.

Hugh McDermid nominated Tony Jackson to be a member of the Hearing Committee for 2019.

Annamarie Murray nominated Marie Blosch to be a member of the Hearing Committee for 2019.

All three nominees agreed to let their names stand for the positions on the Hearing Committee for 2019.

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

S.Levin confirmed the 2019 Hearings Committee will consist of himself, Alan Dale, Brian Petrie, Tony Jackson, and Marie Blosch.

(d) Finance & Audit Committee

S.Levin noted that the Finance & Audit Committee consists of the Authority Chair, and two to four additional Authority members.

The Chair called three times for nominations for the positions on the Finance & Audit Committee.

Hugh McDermid nominated Tony Jackson to be a member of the Finance & Audit Committee for 2019.

Anna Hopkins nominated Jim Reffle to be a member of the Finance & Audit Committee for 2019.

Marie Blosch nominated Annamarie Murray to be a member of the Finance & Audit Committee for 2019.

All three nominees agreed to let their names stand for the positions on the Finance & Audit Committee for 2019.

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

S.Levin confirmed the 2019 Finance & Audit Committee will consist of himself, Tony Jackson, Jim Reffle, and Annamarie Murray.

(e) Source Protection Striking Committee Member & Committee Liaison

S.Levin noted that the election of this position will be ratified in April at the next meeting of the Source Protection Authority.

The Chair called three times for nominations for the position on the Source Protection Striking Committee and Committee Liaison.

Tony Jackson nominated Joe Salter to be the Source Protection Striking Committee Member and Committee Liaison.

Joe Salter agreed to let his name stand to be the Source Protection Striking Committee Member & Committee Liaison.

S.Levin confirmed Joe Salter as the Source Protection Striking Committee Member & Committee Liaison, to be ratified at the April Source Protection Authority meeting.

8. Delegation Regarding 2019 Draft Budget

I.Wilcox introduced Mayor Robert Wilhelm of Perth South. Mayor Wilhelm introduced Mayor Rhonda Ehgoetz and Councillor Daryl Herlick from Perth South, Mayor Don McKay from East Zorra-Tavistock, Mayor David Mayberry from South West Oxford, and Mayor Al Strathdee, Deputy Mayor Marg Luna, and CAO Brent Kittmer from St. Marys, who were there to support the delegation. Rebecca Clothier, Treasurer of Perth South, presented to the Board on behalf of the delegation. She gave an overview of the financial situation in Perth South and explained the challenges they face, including a two million dollar reduction of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund from 2012. She discussed the increases of the UTRCA budget and that the Municipal cost of the Authority for Perth South has increased 50% since 2012. They feel the 2016 Targets increases are not sustainable and Council is frustrated by their inability to control the cost increases of the UTRCA. They are concerned future increases may be more than projected based on the unreliability of grants. With the Province reviewing transfer payments, there are concerns that provincial transfers and grants used by the UTRCA will be cut and should that happen, that those costs will be passed along to Municipalities. They are pleased the Environmental Planning Policy manual is under review, as they feel it is overly restrictive, shows an unwillingness to work together, lacks clarity and causes delays. She suggested the UTRCA and Municipalities need to find a way to work together on these matters.

The Board discussed the comments made by R. Clothier. H.McDermid asked about the \$750 per household cut the Province has presented and how it will impact Perth South. R.Clothier responded that the exact number will be calculated by the Province, but even though they have lost two million dollars already, there will be more cuts coming. B.Petrie asked if Perth South has a long range financial plan they can share with the Board. R.Clothier confirmed that they do and it can be provided. It was added that the largest employer in Perth South will be closing in 2020, adding to the financial challenges they already face. A.Westman added there is a high probability people will leave the community to find work and spoke to the challenges Perth South is facing.

S.Levin thanked the delegation for their presentation.

9. Business for Approval

(a) Presentation & Approval of 2019 Draft Budgets
(Report attached)

I.Wilcox recalled to the Board the email he sent to them on February 20th giving an updated account of the municipal feedback he had received on the 2019 Draft Budget.

T.Jackson spoke to the financial struggles of the smaller Municipalities while the UTRCA has been going through prosperous times. He spoke to the progress already taken in breaking away from the status quo through the Targets. He shared concerns around isolating disenfranchised Municipalities if their needs are not heard and the need of their support if the goals of the UTRCA are to be achieved. He highlighted recent UTRCA budgets, noting a five million dollar increase since 2013. He clarified that no one is asking to change the base budget. He outlined how the budget will grow over the next few years with only increases in inflation, raising concerns that Municipalities will not be able to afford the cost and expressed a need for decisions to be forward thinking. He compared a neighbouring Conservation Authority's Levy per person to the UTRCA's, highlighting the large difference despite them being a similar size with similar goals to the UTRCA. He asked that, at a minimum, the Board consider deferring the levy component of the Targets for 2019, which would not compromise staff or the core mandate of

the UTRCA. He concluded that he cannot support the current draft budget, especially with the inclusion of the \$288,000 for Targets.

There was discussion and clarification around the change in how budgets were prepared after 2016.

A.Hopkins asked staff to speak to the effects of deferring the \$288,000 from the levy. Staff spoke to the effects, which included a slowdown and deferral of flood modeling updates, water quality efforts, and forest loss prevention efforts. Staff added that should the \$288,000.00 be removed, the expectations for progress would have to be adjusted.

In response to a question around London's four year budget planning process, staff responded that the fourth year of the Targets phase-in would be a similar request to 2019, but after that it is expected that increases will be more in line with the Consumer Price Index.

A.Hopkins asked if the UTRCA has uncovered all opportunities to address the concerns of, and help, the smaller Municipalities while balancing the interests of all Member Municipalities. Staff are aware of the concerns of the Member Municipalities, both with the draft budget and beyond, specifically around planning and regulations. Staff acknowledged the need to work better with Perth South, St. Marys, and Ingersoll and discussions around service levels need to be held.

B.Petrie requested more information from staff on the numbers provided by T.Jackson and discussed the difficulty in balancing interests given two municipalities pay the majority of the levy.

Vulnerability around provincial funding was discussed.

H.McDermid noted that trees planted are not counted as forest cover until full grown.

P.Mitchell expressed his understanding of the issues Perth South and all Municipalities are facing. While agreeing that as a new member he is lacking history and background information, he voiced his support for the budget, trusting management and respecting the previous Board's decisions.

A.Dale spoke to his past experience on Conservation Authority Boards and the inability to please everyone. He felt that if the Targets funding is deferred momentum will be lost and it will not be regained. He added that Targets funding addresses the problems the Municipalities are asking the UTRCA to fix.

H.McDermid asked if the Board can receive in writing that there will be no more increases after the final year of Targets funding. Staff responded that future budget decisions would be up to the Board.

A.Hopkins asked how staff wage increases are determined. I.Wilcox responded that direction from the Board is usually requested in June, and the increase is based on the April to April Consumer Price Index.

T.Jackson moved – seconded by H.McDermid:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors

approve the first recommendation, with an amendment to remove the \$288,000.00.

DEFEATED.

B.Petrie moved – seconded by M.Blosh:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the 2019 Draft Operating Budget under Section 27 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* in the amount of \$15,744,571 and that staff be directed to circulate the Approved Budget to member municipalities as part of the required 30 day review period. Please note the 2019 new levy component of the operating budget of \$5,282,716 will be apportioned to member municipalities based on a general levy formula as developed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry using Current Value Assessment data from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation and by Special Benefitting Percentages for structure operations.”

CARRIED.

Recorded Vote:

UTRCA Weighted Vote: 2019 Draft Operating Budget

Municipality	CVA Apportionment Percentage	Voting Weight	Number Of Members	Weight Per Member	For	Against	Absent
County of Oxford	16.551	23.44	5	4.69	5		
City of London	64.698	50.00	4	12.50	4		
Lucan-Biddulph	0.318	0.45	1	0.45		1	
Thames Centre	3.217	4.56	1	4.56		1	
Middlesex Centre	2.287	3.23	1	3.23	1		
Stratford	7.285	10.32	1	10.32	1		
Perth East	1.373	1.94	1	1.94		1	
West Perth	1.419	2.01	1	2.01	1		
St. Marys	1.509	2.14	1	2.14		1	
Perth South	1.143	1.62	1	1.62		1	
South Huron	0.200	0.30	1	0.30		1	
Results			15		88.91%	11.09%	
CARRIED BY % OF THE WEIGHTED VOTE IN ATTENDANCE							
*Based on UTRCA share of assessment							
Notes: Voting weight is capped at 50% for any municipality unless the number of its representatives exceeds 50% of the total number of municipal appointees. The voting weight of the remaining municipalities is increased proportionally.							

The motion carries with 88.91% of the weighted vote supporting the recommendation.

Adoption of 2019 Flood Control Capital Levy

J.Salter moved – seconded by M.Blosh:-

“RESOLVED That the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the 2019 Capital Budget under Section 26 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* in two parts:

- a) The amount of \$4,463,950 to support the Authority’s 20 year Flood Control Capital Plan. Apportionment of the flood control portion of the 2019 capital levy of \$1,749,604 is based on Special Benefiting Percentages, by structure, as presented in the 2019 Draft Budget. It is noted this levy amount has been set based on cooperative discussions with participating municipalities and assumes that the majority of the works will receive a matching funding contribution through the provincial Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Program (WECI).

- b) The amount of \$732,258 to support the Authority’s other (non-flood control) capital spending needs. The municipal levy share of this capital amount is \$171,690 and will be apportioned to member municipalities based on a general levy formula as developed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry using Current Value Assessment data from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation.

CARRIED.

Recorded Vote:

UTRCA Weighted Vote: 2019 Flood Control Capital Levy

Municipality	CVA Apportionment Percentage	Voting Weight	Number Of Members	Weight Per Member	For	Against	Absent
County of Oxford	16.551	23.44	5	4.69	5		
City of London	64.698	50.00	4	12.50	4		
Lucan-Biddulph	0.318	0.45	1	0.45		1	
Thames Centre	3.217	4.56	1	4.56		1	
Middlesex Centre	2.287	3.23	1	3.23	1		
Stratford	7.285	10.32	1	10.32	1		
Perth East	1.373	1.94	1	1.94	1		
West Perth	1.419	2.01	1	2.01	1		
St. Marys	1.509	2.14	1	2.14	1		
Perth South	1.143	1.62	1	1.62	1		
South Huron	0.200	0.30	1	0.30	1		
Results			15	94.99%		5.01%	
CARRIED BY % OF THE WEIGHTED VOTE IN ATTENDANCE							
*Based on UTRCA share of assessment							
Notes: Voting weight is capped at 50% for any municipality unless the number of its representatives exceeds 50% of the total number of municipal appointees. The voting weight of the remaining municipalities is increased proportionally.							

The motion carries with 94.99% of the weighted vote supporting the recommendation.

- (b) Pending 2019 Capital Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) Projects
(Report attached)

B.Petrie moved – seconded by A.Hopkins:-

“RESOLVED that the 2019 Capital Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Projects be approved as outlined in the attached report.”

CARRIED.

- (c) 2019 Meeting Schedule
(Report attached)

D.Shepherd moved – seconded by J.Reffle:-

“RESOLVED that the UTRCA Board of Directors accept the recommendation as presented.”

CARRIED.

10. Business for Information

- (a) February FYI Report
(Report attached)

The report was presented for the members’ information. S.Levin suggested Board members send the FYI to their Municipal Councils.

A.Hopkins left the meeting at 11:00am

11. Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

Staff and Guests joined the meeting.

12. Welcome

The Board members introduced themselves. I.Wilcox updated staff on the Budget discussions.

13. Retiring Board Member Presentations

I.Wilcox and S.Levin recognized the following departing Board members:

- Trevor Birtch, served from 2015-2019
- Murray Blackie, served from 2007-2019, served as Chair and Vice-Chair, and sat on both the Hearing Committee and Finance and Audit Committee
- Ray Chowen, served from 2011-2019, served as Vice-Chair, and sat on the Hearing Committee
- Nancy Manning, served from 2013-2019, served as Vice-Chair and sat on the Hearing Committee and Finance and Audit Committee
- Shirley McCall-Hanlon served from 2016-2019
- Marcus Ryan served from 2015-2019
- George Way served from 2011-2019

14. Presentation of Service Awards

The following staff were presented with service awards

Ten Year

Michelle Fletcher
Imtiaz Shah
Karen Winfield
Jeff Cantelon
Tracey Haycock
MaryEllen Kyte

Fifteen Year

Brad Hertner

Twenty Year

Randy Bettinger

Thirty Year

Vanni Azzano
Chris Tasker
Ian Wilcox

Thirty-Five Year

Brad Glasman
Craig Merkley
Teresa Hollingsworth

Alex Westman left the meeting at approximately 11:45am.

15. Guest Speaker David Mayberry

I.Wilcox introduced Mayor David Mayberry. Mayor Mayberry presented to the Board and staff about current and planned efforts by Oxford County to convert to 100% renewable energy and have zero waste.

16. UTRCA Community Conservation Award Presentation

Todd Sleeper was awarded the Board of Directors award for his twenty years of his work founding and organizing the Thames River Clean Up, as well as his work with the General Motors GREEN education program in Ingersoll, and volunteer participation in the Children's Water Festival.

17. Chair and General Manager's Concluding Remarks

S.Levin thanked David Mayberry for his inspiration, Todd Sleeper for showing how an individual can make a difference, and staff for their continued work.

18. Adjournment

There being no further business to bring forward, B.Petrie moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:21 p.m. The members, staff, and guests participated in a luncheon.



I.Wilcox,
General Manager
Att.

Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

FACTUAL CERTIFICATE

To: Board of Directors

The undersigned hereby certify that, to the best of their knowledge, information and belief after due inquiry, as at February 13, 2019:

1. The UTRCA is in compliance, as required by law, with all statutes and regulations relating to the withholding and/or payment of governmental remittances, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following:
 - All payroll deductions at source, including Employment Insurance, Canada Pension Plan and Income Tax;
 - Ontario Employer Health Tax;
 - WSIB premiumsAnd, they believe that all necessary policies and procedures are in place to ensure that all future payments of such amounts will be made in a timely manner.
2. The UTRCA has remitted when due to the Group RRSP carrier, Group Insurance carrier and to OMERS Pension Plan all funds deducted from employees along with all employer contributions for these purposes.
3. The UTRCA is in compliance with all applicable Health and Safety legislation and all applicable Pay Equity legislation.
4. The UTRCA is in compliance, as required by law with remittances and claims for:
 - Federal Harmonized Sales Tax (HST).
5. The UTRCA is in compliance with the requirements of the Charities Act. Corporate information updates are provided through this means.
6. In addition to statutory obligations, the UTRCA, through its internal processes, confirms the payment of supplier transactions so as to support the credit-worthiness of the organization.
7. The UTRCA is providing the prescribed standard of service in the performance of its functions and following the prescribed procedures and practices in accordance with our funding agreements and as reported to the Board of Directors of the UTRCA through the following reports:
 - Quarterly Financial Report to the Board
 - Regular Program Updates from the General Manager and unit Managers

Dated at London, Ontario this February 13, 2019



per/



Chair, Finance and Audit Committee

General Manager

To: UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Tracy Annett & Chris Tasker
Date: February 14, 2019
Subject: Dingman Delegation Report to Board

Agenda #: 5 (a)
Filename: C:\Users\annett\Documents\GroupWise\7253-1.doc

BACKGROUND

On November 27th, 2018 two delegations were heard at the Board of Directors Meeting;

- Mr. Herman Turkstra, Lawyer representing Bluestone Properties, Tradewinds Properties and Exeter Dingman Investments; and
- Mr. Bill Vietch representing the London Development Institute and Ms. Lois Langdon spoke on behalf of the London Home Builders' Association

As a result of the delegations made at the November 27, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting clarification from staff were requested regarding if a policy was needed to apply screening areas. In addition, this report outlines the steps taken to inform landowners, stakeholders and their consultants of the updates to flood plain modelling within the Dingman Creek Study EA.

SCREENING AREAS

The UTRCA is involved in the review of development applications through the Planning Act and Conservation Authorities Act. This review is important to satisfy our roles under the Planning Act and the Conservation Authorities Act:

1) Planning Act:

- a. Delegated responsibility to review municipal policy documents and applications under the Planning Act to ensure that they are consistent with the natural hazards policies contained in Section 3.1 Provincial Policy Statement. It should be noted that Section 3.1.3 of the PPS states that "Planning authorities shall consider the potential impacts of climate change that may increase the risk associated with natural hazards";
- b. CAs are also considered public commenting bodies pursuant to Section 1 of the Planning Act. As such, CAs must be notified of municipal policy documents and applications as prescribed; and
- c. Ensure that the applicant and municipal planning authority are aware of the Section 28 regulations and requirements under the *CA Act*, and, assist in the coordination of applications under the *Planning Act* and the *CA Act*

- 2) **Conservation Authorities Act:** Legislated responsibility for the "Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses" regulation.

The use of Screening protocols are described in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry *Policies and Procedures for Conservation Authority Plan Review and Permitting Activities, MNR (May, 2010)*. It states: 3.3 CAs are considered public commenting bodies pursuant to Section 1 of the Planning Act and regulations made under the Planning Act. As such, **CAs must be notified of municipal policy documents and applications as prescribed. To streamline this process, CAs may have screening protocols with municipalities, normally through service agreements, which identifies those applications that CAs should review.**

Link to document

https://conservationontario.ca/fileadmin/pdf/conservation_authorities_section_planning_regulations/Policies_and_Procedures_for_CA_Plan_Review_and_Permitting_Activities.pdf

The purpose of the Screening Area mapping is for the Municipality to identify which properties require CA staff review of applications made pursuant to the Planning Act, in order to streamline the review process. Screening Area mapping can include areas affected by CA Act Regulations and areas where we have either delegated or public commenting roles under the Planning Act. To emphasize, these areas for screening are not only for our Regulatory responsibility.

Section 9.1.2 of the UTRCA's Environmental Planning Policy manual outlines the approach for Pre-screening protocol maps and states that: *The pre-screening protocol is map based. The maps will reflect the most current location information available for natural hazard, natural heritage and natural resource areas. Adjacent lands, allowances and areas of interference are included on the maps to ensure that the area of potential interest is reflected.* Page 99/110 of the pdf <http://thamesriver.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/PlanningRegulations/UTRCA-EnvironmentalPlanningPolicyManual-2006.pdf>

Examples of Conservation Authorities throughout the province that produce screening maps for each of their watershed Municipalities include; Halton Region CA, Cataraqui Region CA, Toronto Region CA, Mississippi Valley CA are a few.

Staff feel that a specific policy to reflect Screening Areas as an approach to identifying properties where CA's are to be circulated for comments is not required. Direction for utilizing this approach is provided in current UTRCA policies and in the Policy and Procedures set out by the Province for the CA's review of *Planning Act* Applications. The current Screening maps for the Dingman Creek Subwatershed were developed with the City of London to ensure CA staff are reviewing development proposals in areas where hazard modelling and mapping are being updated.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The delegation requests from LDI and LHBA both suggested that the screening area mapping be withdrawn and that there be no requirement for the City of London to refer applications to the UTRCA for applications outside of the current Regulation Limits with any development. Further, LDI felt that the impacts of climate change are not a regulatory responsibility and had concern that these buffers did not reflect the current regulation. While Herman Turkstra requested that the Board not approve the 'new lines' without talking to stakeholders. It was clarified that the report before the Board was an information item, not for approval. Through the presentations made by the delegations it was evident that additional engagement was necessary to understand the goals of the Dingman EA and the update to the flood plain mapping project.

As a result, the UTRCA and the City of London have engaged in further meetings and presentations to clarify the Flood Modelling Updates being undertaken through the Dingman EA process, and describe the purpose of the Screening Area. This additional engagement includes;

- Meeting with Dingman EA Stakeholders December 6th
- Meeting with Dingman Industry Representatives December 17th (the presentation to the Development Industry is attached).
- Monthly Dingman Implementation Team meetings have occurred with City Staff; December 10th, January 9th, and February 14th
- Peer Review Kick off Meeting Jan 29, 2019 – City of London, AECOM, UTRCA and LDI and a consultant representing Tradewinds/Bluestone Properties
- Updated website including FAQ's and project information is currently being finalized
- City staff have arranged a meeting proposed on February 19th with Tradewinds/ Bluestone Properties and their consultant, UTRCA staff have been asked to attend; and
- An updated EA Report is currently being drafted to be shared at City of London's Planning & Environment Committee on March 18, 2019.

Feedback received after the Dingman Industry Session was positive and Industry representatives shared with the City that they were impressed by the amount of information received.

Key messages shared with the Development Industry representatives during these meetings are summarised in the attached presentation (Delegation Landowners and/or their consultants, LDI and LHBA were in attendance).

Until the flood plain updates for the Dingman Subwatershed have been completed, the areas within the screening area may be subject to Conservation Authority Regulations. The delegations focused on the “change to Regulation” and that the screening map was beyond the Regulatory jurisdiction of the Conservation Authority. To clarify, the Regulation has NOT changed. Ongoing modelling suggests that previous hazard mapping does not accurately represent the flood hazards defined in Ontario Regulation 157/06. The Dingman Subwatershed Screening Area map is an interim tool intended to assist the UTRCA, City of London and proponents to assess proposed development. Land outside the screening area can proceed as usual through the development process. Within the screening area, further analysis and discussion is required to determine the impact of the hazard on development proposals. New development may be restricted in some areas identified within the Screening Area while the floodplain mapping is being verified and updated. These requirements are consistent with the Transition Policies as approved by the Board of Directors in August 2018 stated that:

When the available information is deemed insufficient to make decisions regarding hazard lands, the CA shall require the applicant to collect information, undertake calculations/modeling, produce mapping etc. to allow an informed decision to be made regarding the hazard lands.

CONCLUSION

Ontario Regulation 157/06 indicates that if there is a conflict between the description of areas and the areas as shown on the maps, the description of areas prevails. As the UTRCA continues the significant task of completing updates to hazard models and mapping staff continue to rely on the best available information, whether prepared through these updates or provided by the applicant, in their review of development proposals. The use of screening maps are a tool, supported by MNRF Policies and Procedures and UTRCA policies, intended to assist the UTRCA, City of London and proponents to assess proposed development through these updates. Staff will rely on the direction provided in the Transition Policies approved by the Board of Directors in August 2018, while public consultation and engagement continues through the EA process and subsequent updates to regulatory mapping. Subsequent reports will be provided to the Board as Target #3 work progresses.

PREPARED BY:

Tracy Annett, MCIP, RPP, Manager
Environmental Planning and Regulations

Chris Tasker, P.Eng., Manager
Water and Information Management

Attachments:
December 17th, 2018 Presentation to the Development Industry Meeting



DINGMAN EA

DEVELOPMENT INDUSTRY MEETING

December 17, 2018

City of London & Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

OUTLINE

- Background into Conservation Authority Regulations
- Role in Development Applications
- Dingman Background
- Floodplain update and modelling
- Screening Area approach
- Growth Management Implementation Strategy (GMIS)
- Next steps



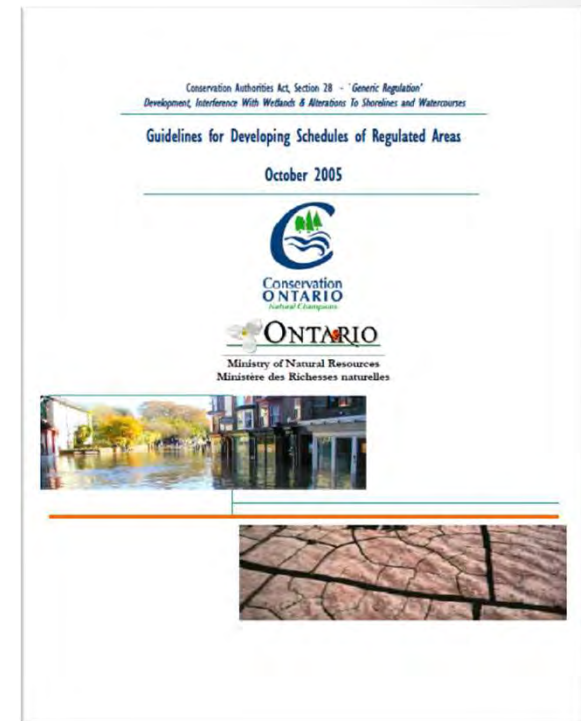
REGULATION LIMITS

- Conservation Authorities Act, implemented through Regulation: Ontario Regulation 157/06 *Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses*
- The Act and Regulation provide direction for CA's to identify hazard areas The area of land where the Regulation applies are:
 - Watercourses
 - Valleys, steep slopes and areas subject to erosion (meander belts)
 - Floodplains
 - Wetlands
 - Areas surrounding wetlands

It is important to note that the text of Ontario Regulation 157/06 describes the areas regulated, features and hazards do not have to be shown on the mapping to be regulated. The Regulation has not changed. In the event that there is a conflict between the text of the Regulation and the mapping, the text prevails

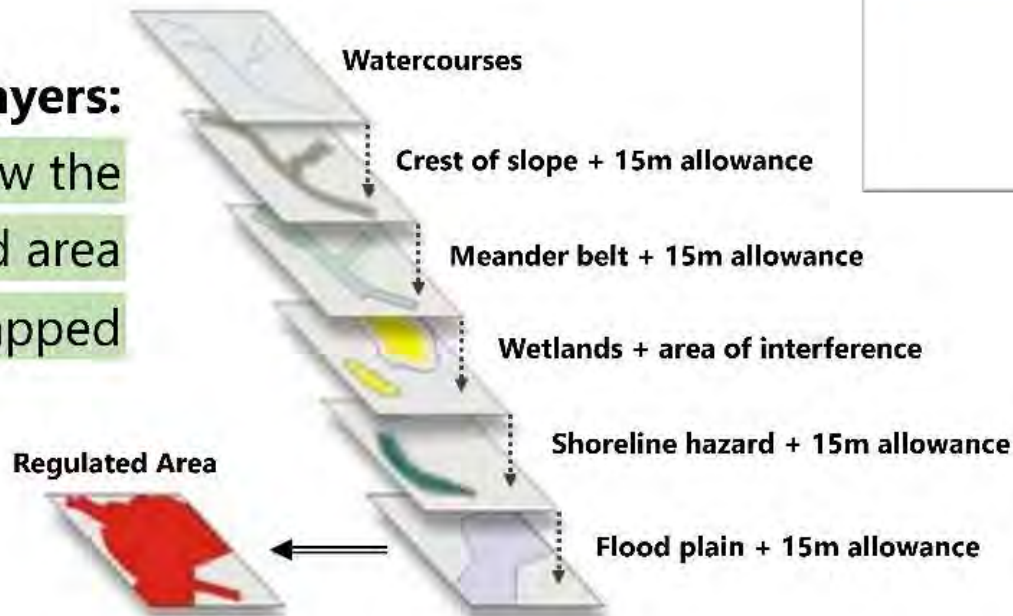
REGULATION TEXT

- Mapping process established by the Province (MNRF) and Conservation Ontario in 2005



GIS Data Layers:

How the regulated area is mapped



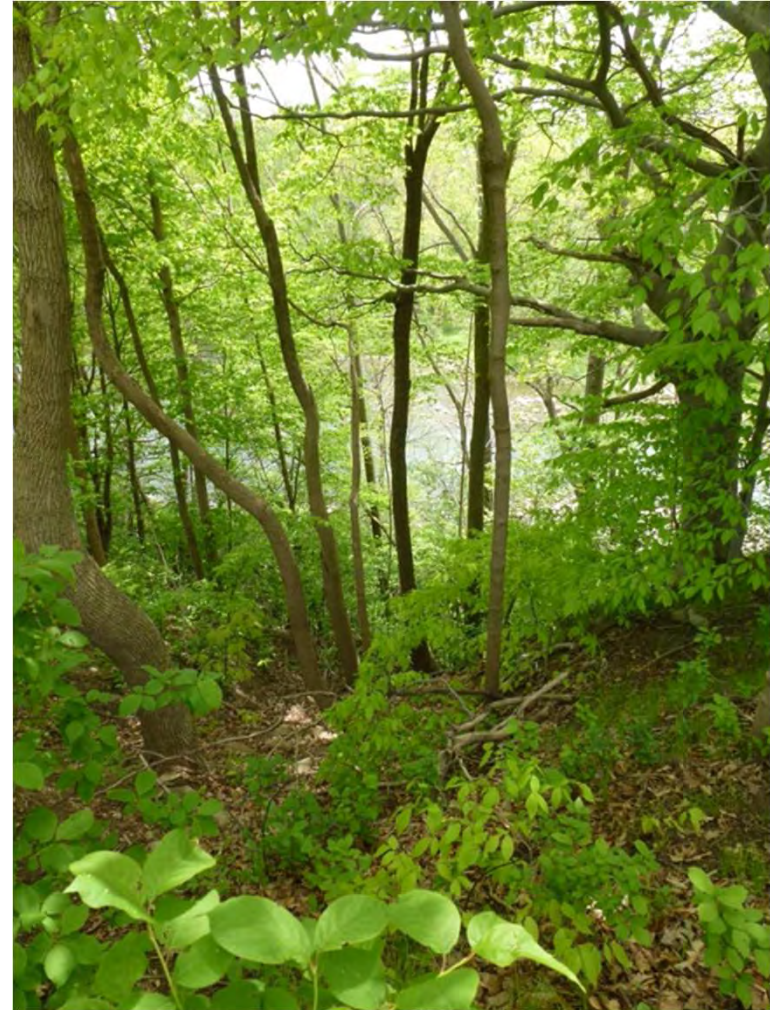
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

- Conservation Authorities (CA's) have a delegated responsibility to review municipal policy documents and applications under the Planning Act to ensure that they are consistent with the natural hazards policies contained in section 3.1 of the Provincial Policy Statement.
- CA's are also public commenting bodies pursuant to Section 1 of the Planning Act and regulations made under the Planning Act. As such CA's must be notified of municipal policy documents and applications as prescribed. To streamline this process, CA's may have screening protocols with municipalities.



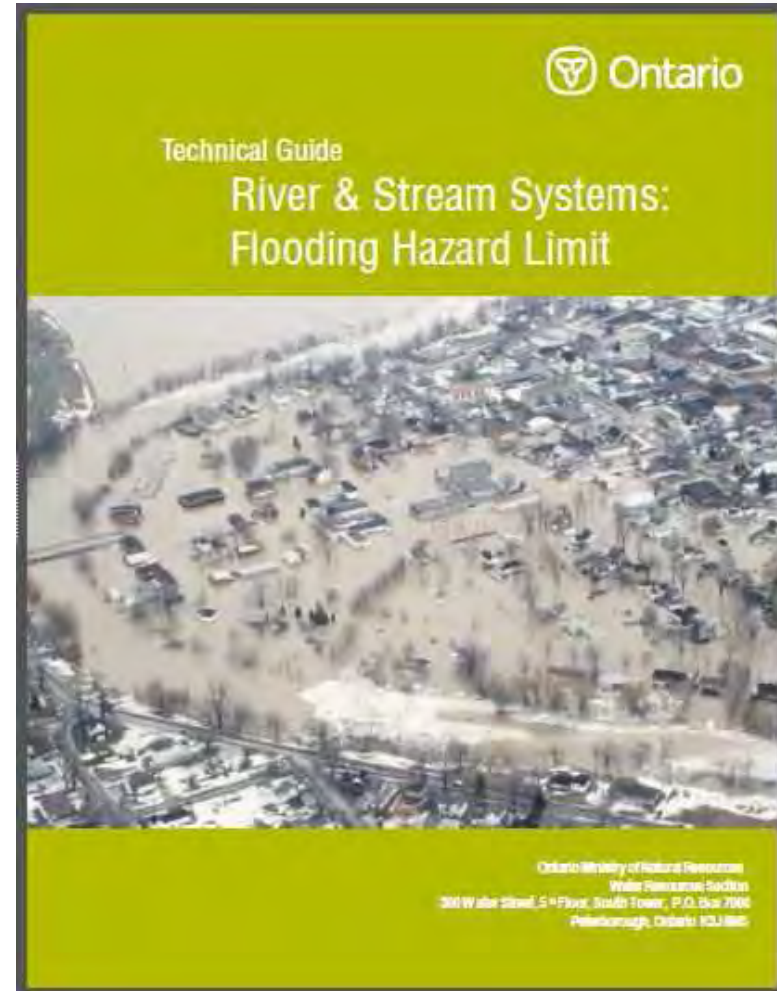
DINGMAN EA BACKGROUND

- Initiated the Dingman Creek Subwatershed: Stormwater Servicing Municipal Class Environmental Assessment October 2015
- UTRCA was appointed to carry out the modelling for the Floodplain update
- The EA initiatives are intended to inform the review of future development applications within the subwatershed



FLOODPLAIN UPDATE

- Methods to identify Hazards are provided through technical guidance provided by the Province, 2002



FLOOD MODELLING

- Updated to reflect new technical information to more accurately identify floodplain hazard areas.
- Became apparent that previous floodplain mapping was no longer accurate
- While we are at the beginning of the public engagement process - needed to ensure these potential areas of change were identified – not wait until the end of the process
- Modelling/Mapping update efforts will be peer reviewed



SCREENING AREA MAP

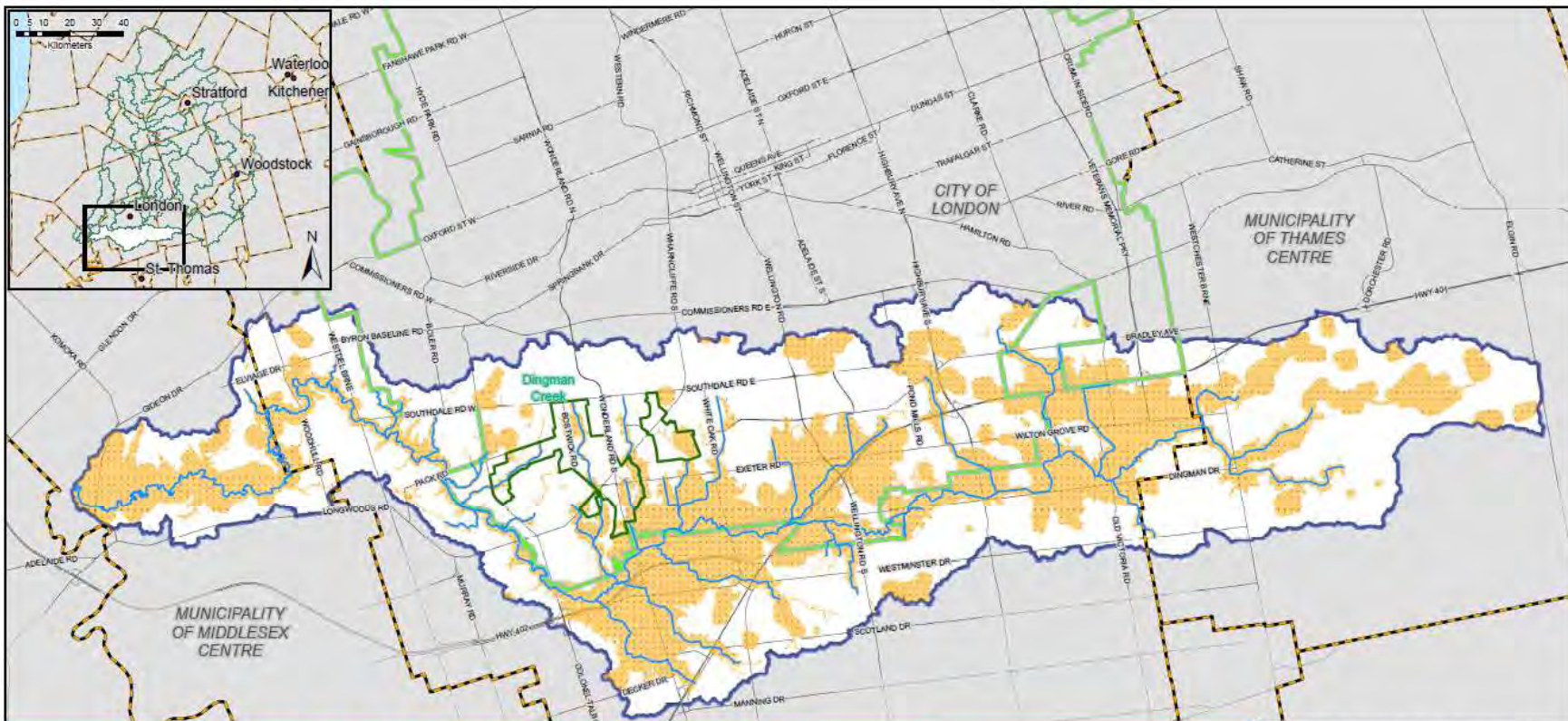
- Interim tool to aid City staff in appropriately engaging UTRCA early in planning process for proposed development in these areas
- Screening Map is intended to capture all Natural Hazards as identified in the PPS, 2015, including 3.1.3, impacts of climate change.

For Information Reports

- Planning & Environment Committee Nov 12, 2018
- UTRCA Board of Directors Nov 27, 2018



SCREENING AREA



DINGMAN SUBWATERSHED SCREENING AREA NATURAL HAZARDS (FLOODING, EROSION, WETLANDS)

UPPER THAMES RIVER
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

The UTRCA disclaims explicitly any warranty, representation or guarantee as to the content, sequence, accuracy, timeliness, fitness for a particular purpose, microformability or completeness of any of the data depicted and provided herein.

The UTRCA assumes no liability for any errors, omissions or inaccuracies in the information provided herein and further assumes no liability for any decisions made or actions taken or not taken by any person in reliance upon the information and data furnished hereunder.

This map is not a substitute for professional advice. Please contact UTRCA staff for any changes, updates and amendments to the information provided.

This document is not a Plan of Survey.

Data Sources:
2018 Watercourse, Oct. 2018 Section 28 Screening Area
Copyright © UTRCA, 2018

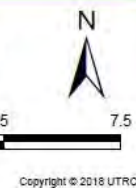
2016 Urban Growth Boundary Copyright © City of London, 2016.

2018 Roads, 2013 Municipal Boundary
Copyright © Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2016, 2018.

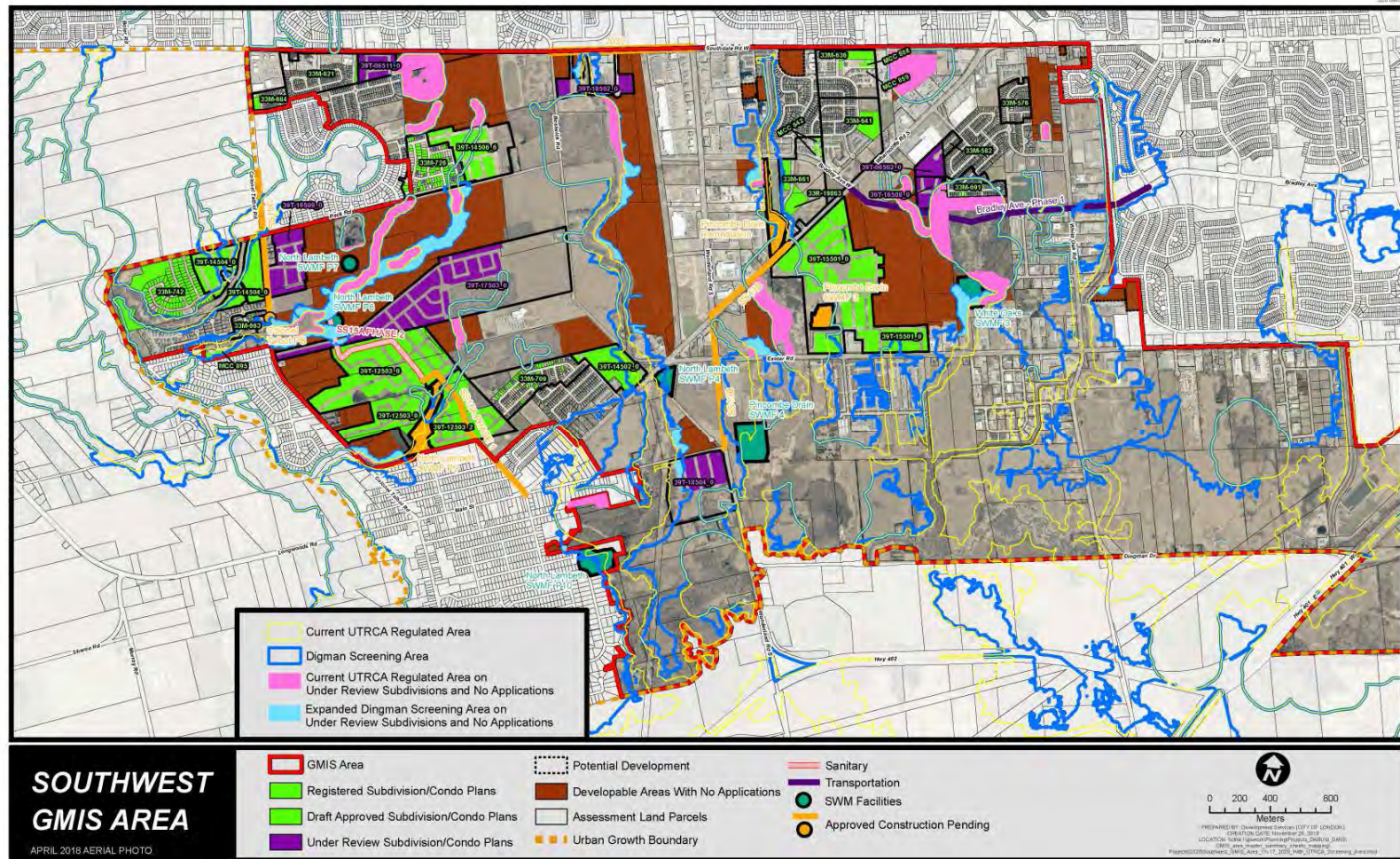
Legend

- River
- Roads
- Municipalities
- Dingman Subwatershed
- Urban Growth Boundary
- Screening Area
- Dingman Creek EA
- Proposed Phase 1 Area

Map Created by UTRCA
October 31, 2018



Screening Area



REVIEW PROCESS

- Registered & Draft Approved and Under Review Plans of Subdivisions / Condominiums within the Southwest Growth Area;
 - Where the 'Principle of Development' has been established under the Planning Act, the Authority will work with the proponent and the municipality to pursue a resolution where possible
 - The UTRCA review will ensure that the lands have appropriate access, minimize risk to public health and safety, and not create new or aggravate existing hazards
 - Under Review Plans also need to consider with other natural heritage considerations



Dingman Creek at Colonel Talbot looking south January 10, 2008

MITIGATION

Build Resilient watersheds to prevent flooding. Flood Mitigation can include both structural measures and policy approaches. Examples may include:

- Structural Approaches:
 - Watercourse channelization
 - Infrastructure improvement (e.g. roads, culverts, bridges)
 - Low Impact Development
- Policy Approaches
 - Two Zone Floodway Flood Fringe
- Requirements for flood proofing



CONSULTATION & ENGAGEMENT

- December 5th, Dingman Creek EA Stakeholders meeting
- December 17th, Landholders Meeting
- December 19th GMIS Meeting at the City
- Planning & Environment Committee early February
- Feb 25th onward, will follow the EA schedule



SUMMARY OF NEXT STEPS

- Further review and refinement of the hazard areas will continue
- Webpage dedicated to Floodplain updates and include answers to Frequently Asked Questions
- Peer review of the modelling results will be undertaken
- UTRCA and City Implementation Team
- Public consultation and engagement through the EA process
- EA will consider options for flood mitigation and/or policy approaches on impacted lands



Highbury Ave. at Dingman Creek, February 2018 looking northwest

QUESTIONS

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Chris Tasker, P. Eng.
Manager, Water & Information Management
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Mark Shifflett, P.Eng.
Sr. Water Resources Engineer
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Dingman Creek EA – Update to Development Community



December 17, 2018

Shawna Chambers, P.Eng., DPA
Division Manager, Stormwater Engineering, City of London
schambers@london.ca
519-661-2489 x7318



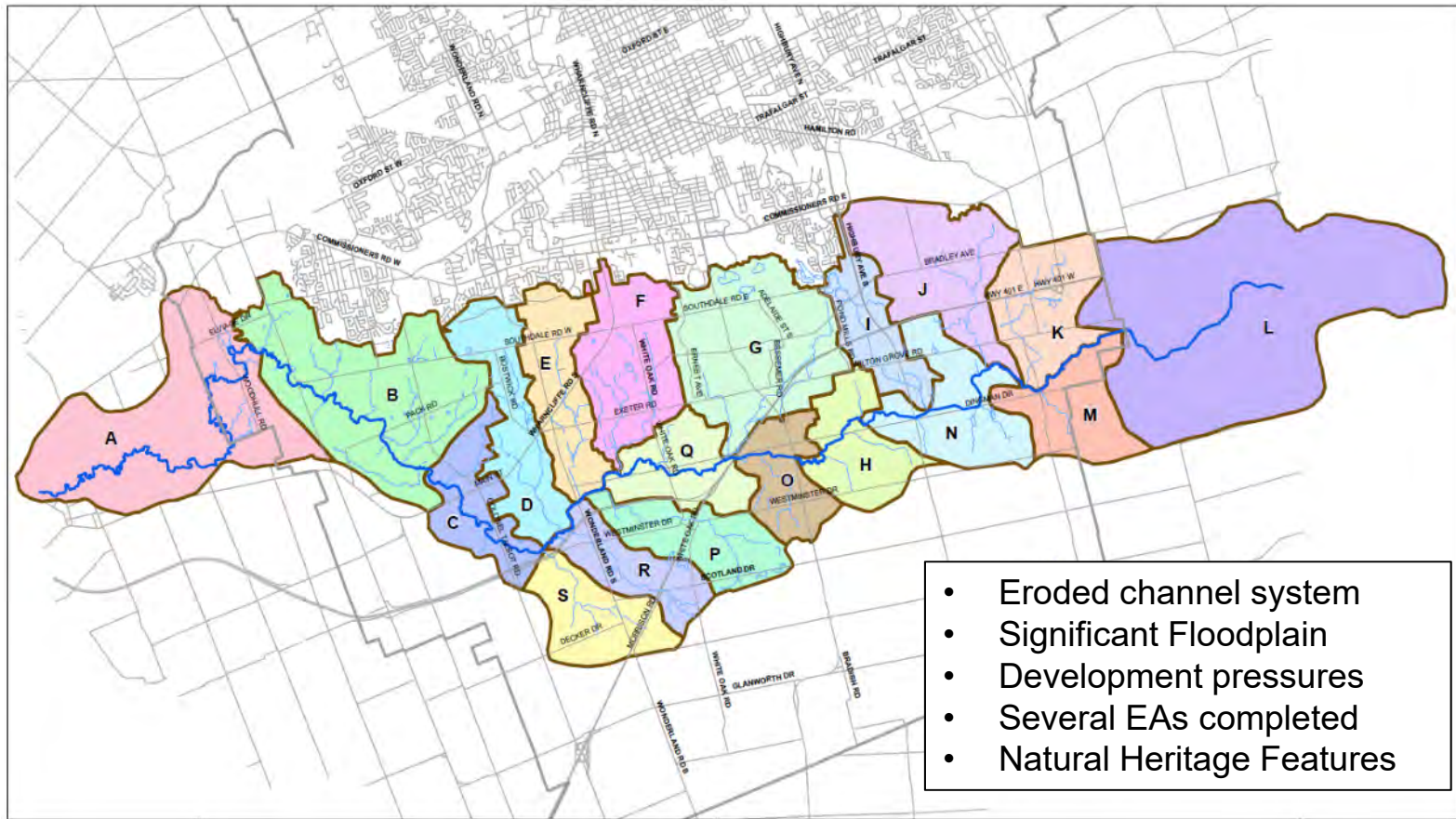
Outline

- Summary of Dingman EA
- EA Phasing
- Implications to DC
- Next Steps
- Advisory Services

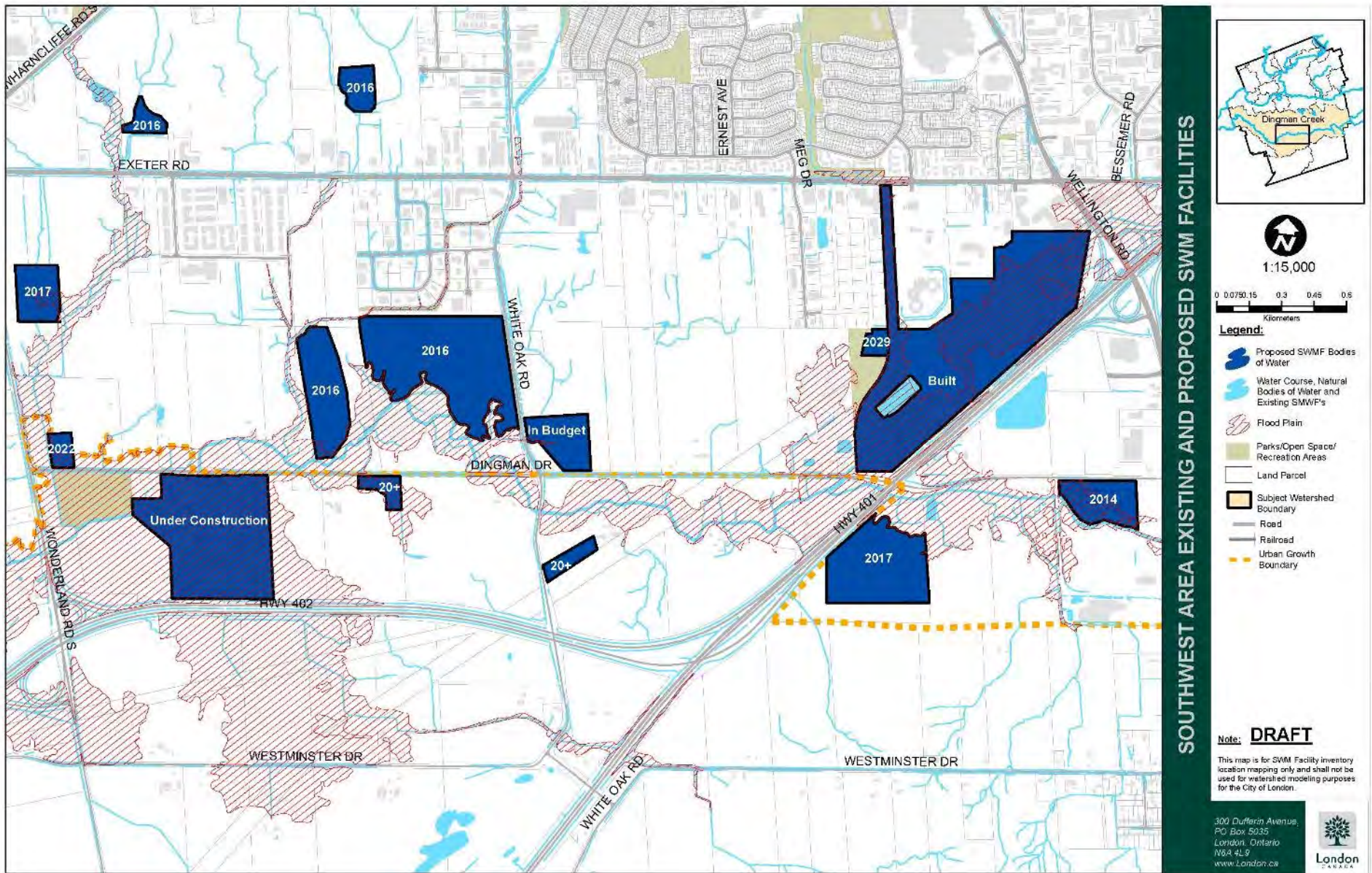




Dingman Creek Subwatershed SWM Servicing EA



Purpose: To develop an innovative stormwater servicing strategy with consideration for current and potential flooding, erosion concerns, as well as wildlife/aquatic habitat and natural corridor enhancement.

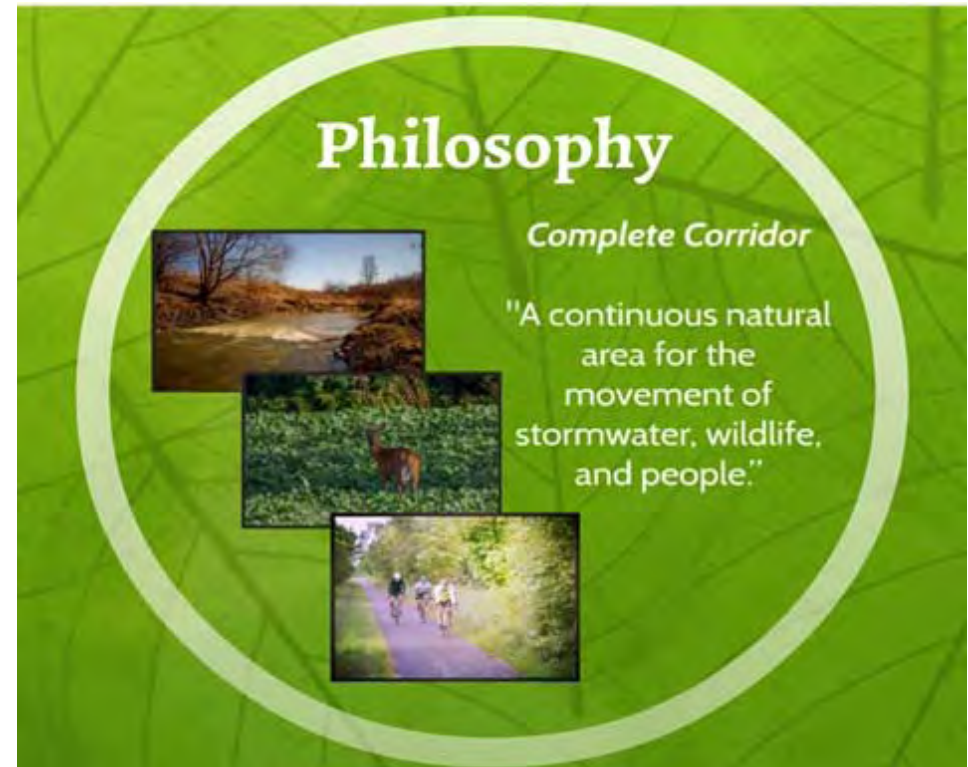


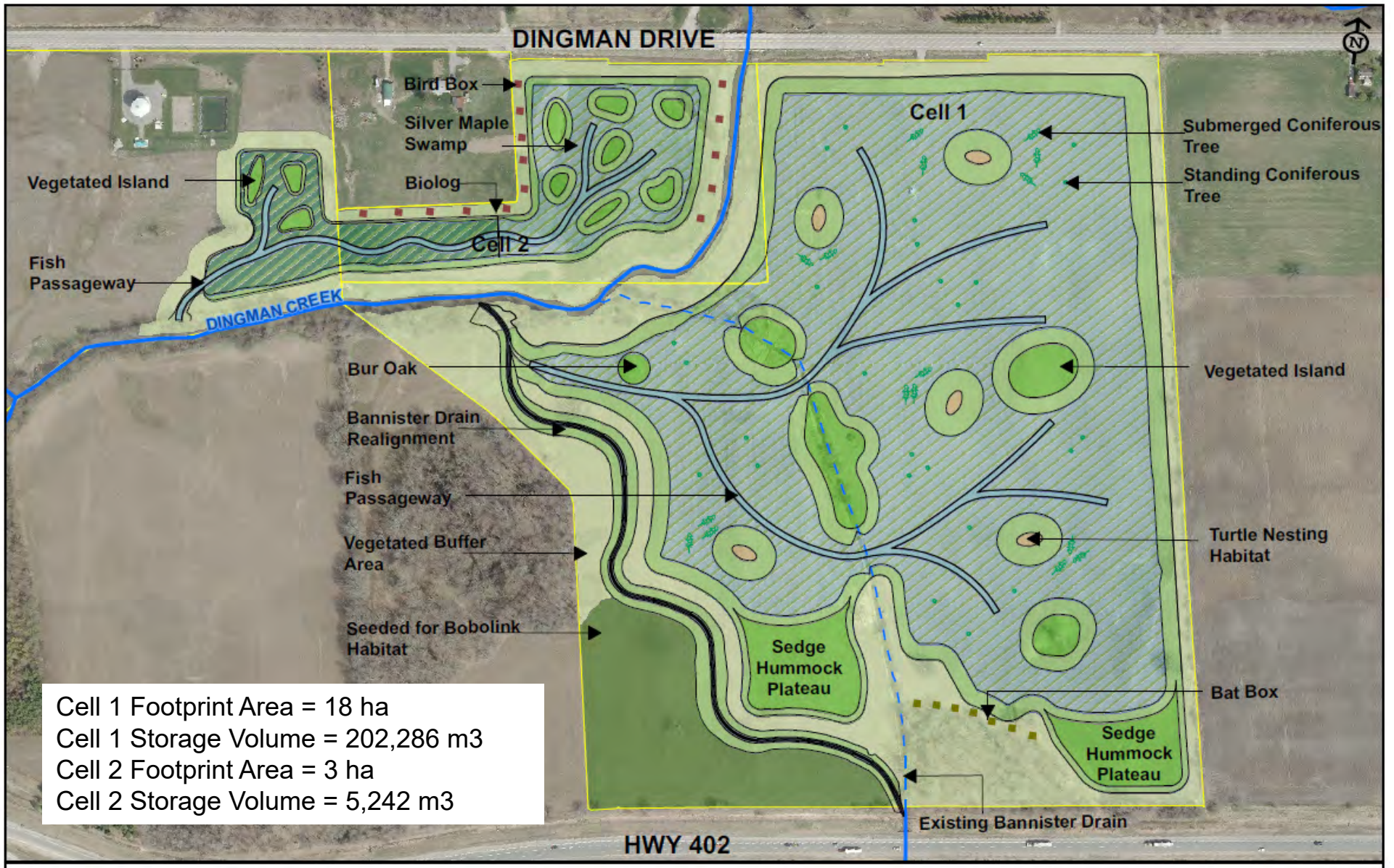
Dingman Creek – 2015 Proposed SWMFs – “Land of Lakes”



Complete Corridor Approach

- Integrate natural heritage, open space, recreational, and SWM
- Continuous corridor for the protection, maintenance, rehabilitation, and restoration of ecological function
- Potential to replace wet ponds with LIDs and dry ponds along the floodplain





Dingman Erosion Control Wetland –
Constructed 2015



Dingman Creek Erosion Control Facility (2015) London, ON - Drone Footage

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4vMtmOakCdpazg1bHhTQW5yZU0/view?pli=1>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_D0ZQPqeJkk

TOGETHER WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

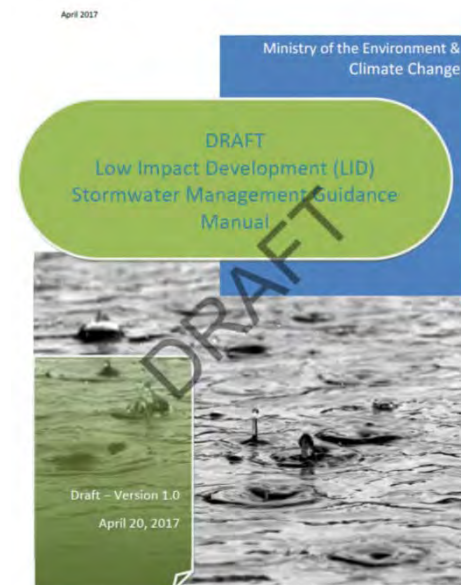




Opportunity for LIDs

- Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Bulletin, Expectations Re: Stormwater Management (*MECP, February 2015*)
- Regard for subwatershed conditions and maintain natural hydrologic cycle to the greatest extent possible
- Pending provincial LID Guidance Manual under new government

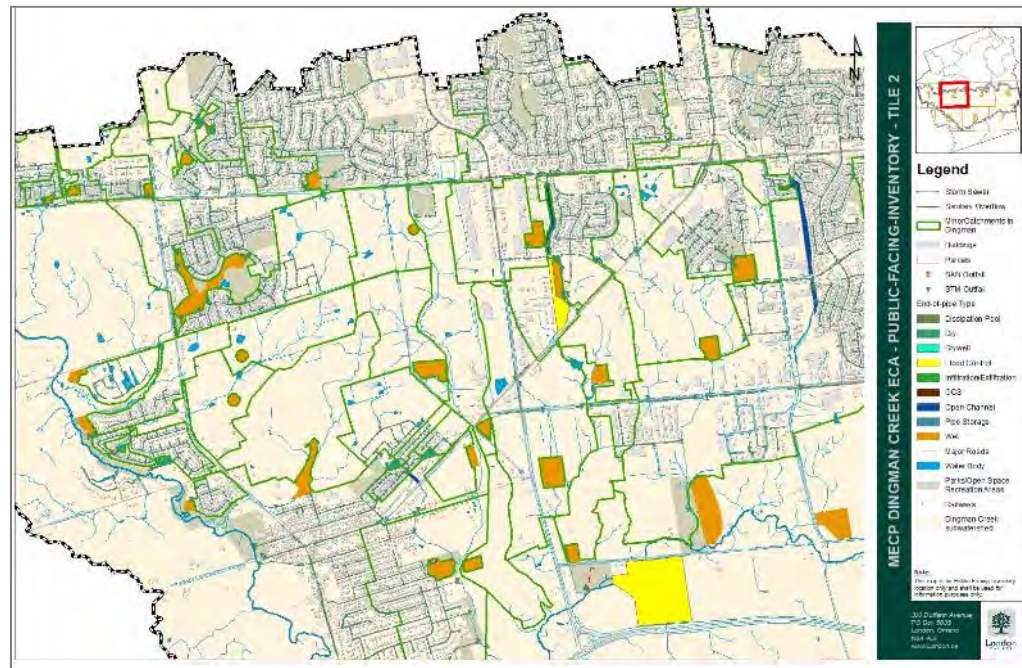
Going forward, the Ministry expects that stormwater management plans will reflect the findings of watershed, sub-watershed, and environmental management plans, and will employ LID in order to maintain the natural hydrologic cycle to the greatest extent possible.





One Subwatershed-wide Environmental Compliance Approval from the Province

- **Online “living” GIS inventory** of all lot level, conveyance and end of pipe controls, including record of operation and maintenance records
- **“One window”** GIS database in cloud format to share between City and MECP





Engage! Hearts and Minds

- Enhanced communications and outreach
- Stakeholder Group with Gov't Agencies, Developers, City Environmental Advisory Committees and Councilors
- Enhanced website:
<https://getinvolved.london.ca/DingmanCreek>
- Logo development
- Professional photography and drone footage





Bringing it all together

- Integrated subwatershed management
- Incorporate LIDs
- Concept of a 'Complete Corridor'
- MECP ECA Pilot Project – One ECA
- Enhanced communications and outreach
- Stakeholder Group
- [UTRCA Floodplain Update](#)



EA Alternatives

- Subwatershed Management Strategies comprised of a suite of management options:
 1. Do Nothing
 2. Traditional Strategy (End-of-pipe only)
 3. Low Impact Development (LID) Strategy
 4. Combined Traditional & LID
 5. Integrated Dingman Creek Corridor





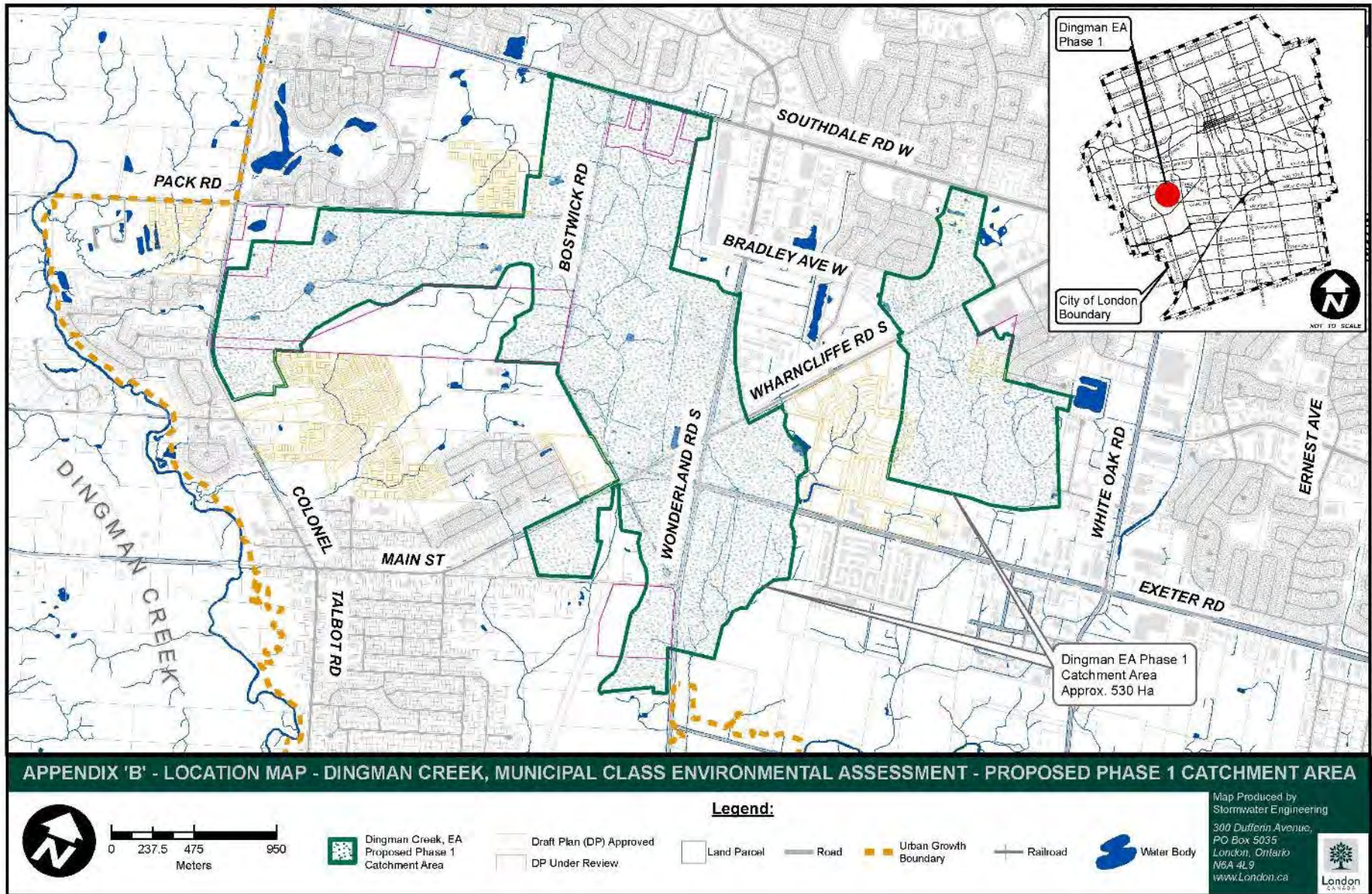
Since Public Meeting on May 31, 2017

- Stormwater Servicing Modelling for all EA Alternatives conducted by Aquafor Beech
- Updated Regulatory Floodplain modelling conducted by UTRCA (preliminary)
- Subwatershed-wide monitoring approach developed with Provincial Partners
- Planning and Environment (PEC) report November 12, 2018 - Screening Area Introduced and proposed Phasing of Dingman EA



Phasing of EA

- **Phase 1:** lands less impacted by floodplain expansion (mid-2019)
 - Recommend Stormwater Servicing solutions for developable lands
 - Lands outside of floodplain zone of influence
- **Phase 2:** lands directly impacted by the proposed floodplain (2021).
 - Assess storage options to mitigate expansion of floodplain
 - Recommend Stormwater Servicing solutions for developable lands



Dingman Creek EA – Phase 1 Catchment Areas



Development Charges

- DC Impacts:
 - Total of \$94.5M of proposed 2014 DC and 2019 DC SWM projects on hold:
 - \$34.1M of previously budgeted 2014 DC SWM works
 - \$60.4M of proposed 2019 DC SWM works



Previously Budgeted – On Hold

- \$34.1M of previously budgeted 2014 DC SWM works on hold:
 - *North Lambeth P7*
 - *Pincombe Drain Remediation*
 - *Murray Marr SWMF 4 – Phase 1*
 - *Dingman Creek Online 1*



Phase 1 Projects

- \$25.6M of new projects under review in Phase 1:
 - Tributary B12: North Lambeth SWMFs P7* & P8 (2020)
 - Thornicroft Drain: North Lambeth SWMFs 1, 3, 4, 5 (2023-2033)
 - Pincombe Drain: SWMF 4 (2020)
 - White Oak Drain: SWMF 3 (2022)
- EA target completion by Fall 2019.

*Previously budgeted**



Phase 2 Projects

- \$34.8M of new projects under review in Phase 2:
 - Thornicroft Drain: North Lambeth SWMFs 6 & 10 (2026)
 - Pincombe Drain: SWMF 5 (2025)
 - White Oak Drain: SWMF 4 (2027)
 - Old Oak 2 (2027)
 - Dingman Creek Online 2 (2019)
 - Dingman Creek Channel Remediation (2020)
 - *Dingman Creek Online 1**
 - *Pincombe Drain Remediation**
 - *Murray Marr 4 – Phase 1**
- Target EA completion in 2021.

*Previously budgeted**



Next Steps: Phase 1 Lands

Dingman EA – Phase 1

- Develop and recommend SWM infrastructure for Phase 1 lands less impacted by floodline revisions
- Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Issue ECA for existing and proposed works
- Public Meeting #2 target June 2019
- Notice of Completion target August 12, 2019 Civic Works Committee with 30-day review in September



Next Steps: Phase 2 Lands

Dingman EA – Phase 2

- Peer review process of UTRCA Regulatory floodplain model in parallel with Phase 1 EA
- Target consultant award of Phase 2 EA at September 24, 2019 CWC
 - Scope will be to assess opportunities to mitigate floodplain through engineering works; or,
 - possibility to conduct more detailed 2D modelling to confirm flooding extents
- Conduct Public Meeting #3 in 2020 to present strategies
- Phase 2 target completion in 2021



Advisory Services

Dingman EA – Phase 2

- Peer review process of UTRCA Screening Area hydrologic and hydraulic model in parallel with Phase 1 EA
- Main objectives of review of UTRCA Screening Area model:
 1. To ensure that the UTRCA's modelling methodology and assumptions are consistent with other jurisdictions.
 2. To ensure that there is a justifiable area of flood risk.

AECOM has prepared a draft work plan to the City to provide “advisory services”.



Why AECOM?

- **Staff expertise for modelling and policy development**
- **Brian Richert, P.Eng.**, Senior Water Resources Engineer
 - 29 years experience in stormwater and floodplain modelling, specifically working with TRCA, Ausable Bayfield and UTRCA
 - Local resource who is trusted as a true professional by the City, UTRCA, and engineering community
 - Fully aware of local conditions and drivers
- **Ray Tufgar, P.Eng. M.Eng., MBA**, Senior Water Resources Lead
 - 42 years experience working in water resources engineering
 - Directly involved in developing foundational policies and guidelines for stormwater and subwatershed management in Ontario and Canada (MNRF, MTO, MEA)
 - Recently worked with Environment Canada in evaluation of current state of Floodplain Mapping and policies in Canada



Why AECOM?

- **Goal for Balanced Review**

- Clients include City of London, UTRCA, and development community
- Balanced approach based on knowledge of all three client-types
- Determine if model is consistent with other Ontario CAs and Provincial/Federal guidelines
- Create a strong starting point to develop Phase 2 mitigation solutions using models that have been vetted by an expert third party



Peer Review – Advisory Services

City of London
Advisory Review Services
UTRCA Dingman Creek Subwatershed Modelling

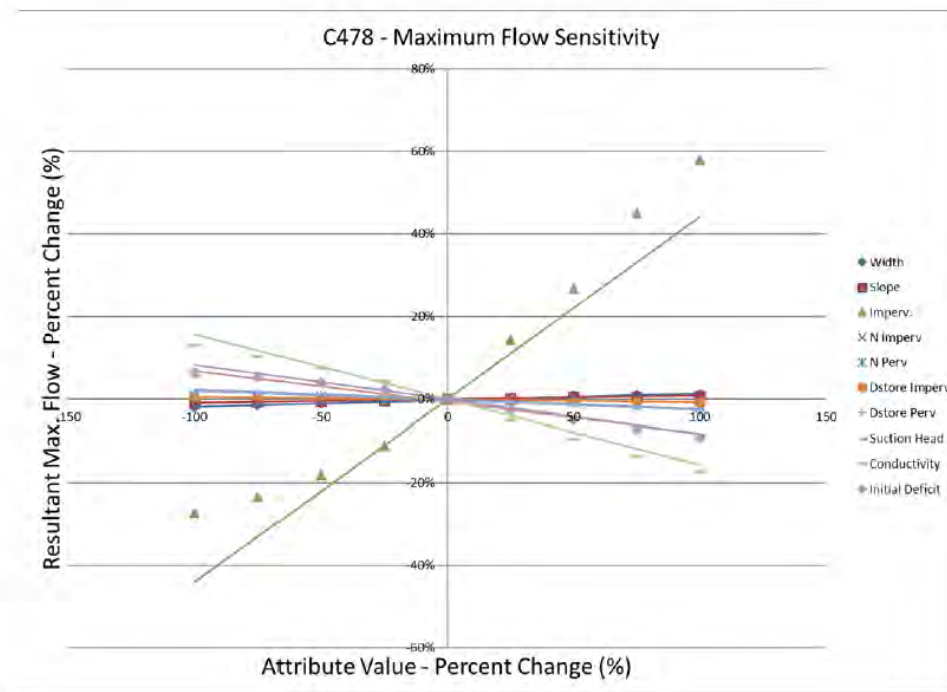


Project Schedule
Figure 1



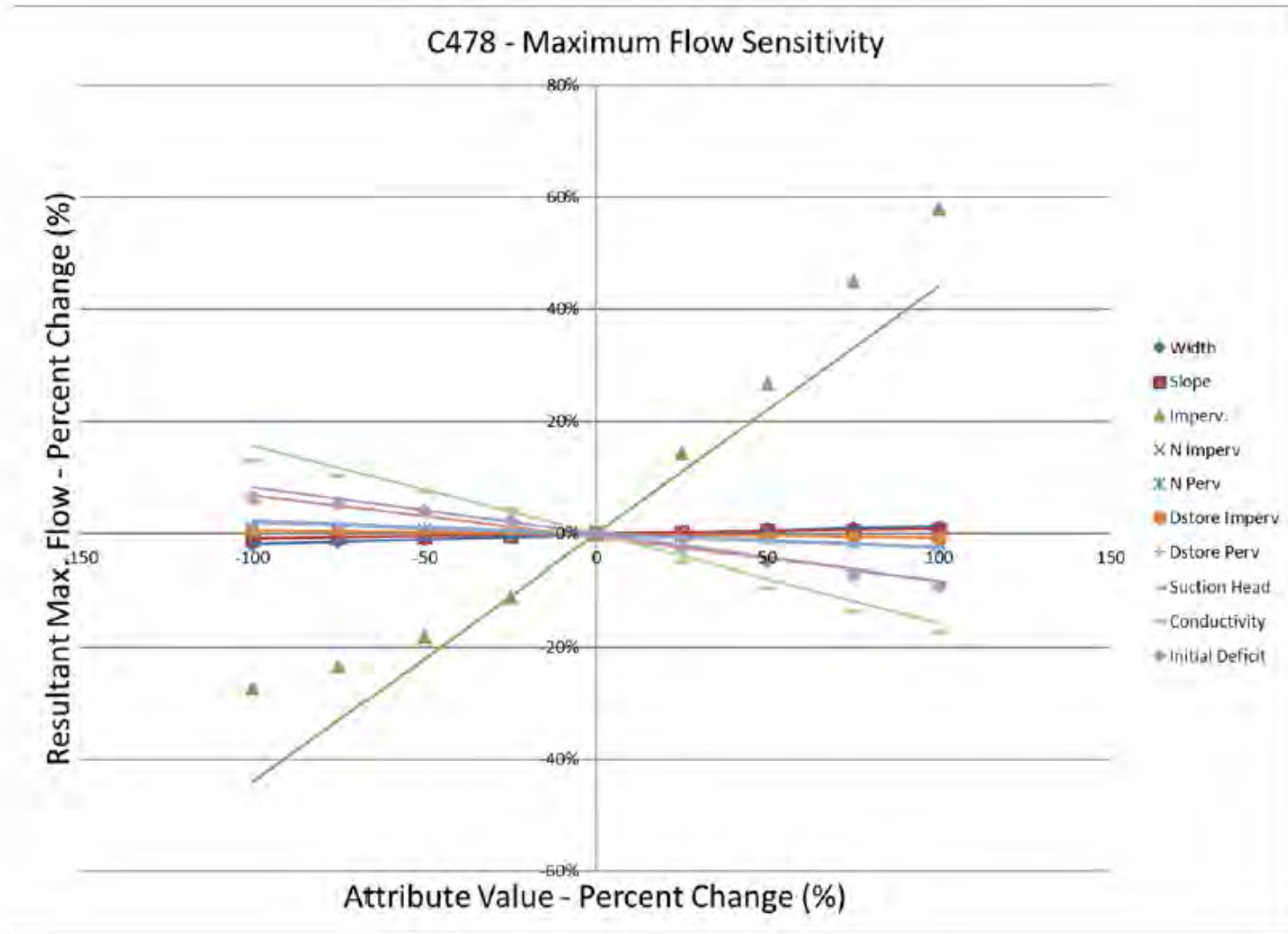
Deliverables

- Advisory Report on the items assessed in the review
- Run growth scenarios including Full Build Out, development within Urban Growth Boundary, possible hybrid, other.
- Modelling parameter verification





Example from Don River





Next Steps: Advisory Services

- UTRCA and Development Community to provide feedback to the City regarding Scope of Work for Advisory Services by Friday, January 11, 2019.
- Proceed with Kick Off Mtg in January 2019 with AECOM and UTRCA.
- Meeting with Developers approx. at the end of May 2019 with results for comment.
- Does not preclude ability to assess opportunities for individual properties during Phase 2.



- Questions?

<https://getinvolved.london.ca/DingmanCreek>

To: UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Ian Wilcox, General Manager
Christine Saracino, Supervisor, Finance and Accounting
Date: February 14, 2019 **Agenda #:** 9 (a)
Subject: 2019 Draft Budget: For Approval **Filename:** ::ODMA\GRPWISE\UT_MAIN.UT
RCA_PO.File_Centre_Library:119
404.1

Recommendations:

1. That the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the 2019 Draft Operating Budget under Section 27 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* in the amount of \$15,744,571 and that staff be directed to circulate the Approved Budget to member municipalities as part of the required 30 day review period. Please note the 2019 new levy component of the operating budget of \$5,282,716 will be apportioned to member municipalities based on a general levy formula as developed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry using Current Value Assessment data from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation and by Special Benefiting Percentages for structure operations.
2. That the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the 2019 Capital Budget under Section 26 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* in two parts:
 - a) The amount of \$4,463,950 to support the Authority's 20 year Flood Control Capital Plan. Apportionment of the flood control portion of the 2019 capital levy of \$1,749,604 is based on Special Benefiting Percentages, by structure, as presented in the 2019 Draft Budget. It is noted this levy amount has been set based on cooperative discussions with participating municipalities and assumes that the majority of the works will receive a matching funding contribution through the provincial Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Program (WECI).
 - b) The amount of \$732,258 to support the Authority's other (non-flood control) capital spending needs. The municipal levy share of this capital amount is \$171,690 and will be apportioned to member municipalities based on a general levy formula as developed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry using Current Value Assessment data from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation.

Context

Attached please find a copy of the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority's 2019 Draft Budget. The total forecast budget is estimated at \$20,940,779 (sum of recommendations 1. and 2. above).

- The 2019 Draft Budget was circulated to member municipalities November 8, 2018.

- Budget presentations were requested from nine municipalities. The General Manager (or alternate) and appropriate Board representative provided presentations and/or attended to answer questions for the following councils: Oxford County, Middlesex Centre, Perth East, Southwest Oxford, Thames Centre, Stratford, Woodstock, St. Marys and Perth South. A summary of municipal feedback received during those sessions is provided below. Written comments were received from Perth East (see attached).

The Board should note that while the municipal levy represents only 34.7% of revenue, it dominates in terms of municipal interest. As such, municipal feedback provided below is primarily based on the levy increase, and generally not the UTRCA’s global budget.

Municipal Levy Summary

There is an overall 2019 draft municipal levy decrease of -1.2% (5.9% operating increase and -16.4% capital decrease). The operating increase incorporates a 2.1% cost of living increase with the remainder supporting new investment in the Environmental Targets Strategic Plan. Increases for any individual municipality can vary greatly from that average value due to 1) the effects of changes in local capital funding and 2) the effects of the provincial levy apportionment formula which is in turn affected by changes in property assessment values. The attached budget fact sheet further describes our 2019 budget objectives.

Budget presentations have been provided to seven municipalities to date with two more scheduled. Please find below questions and comments offered during municipal presentations and/ or correspondence with member municipalities. Perth East has provided a formal position (see attached correspondence) and there has been a delegation request from Perth South to speak to the budget as part of our AGM. Board members may have also received comments directly from their municipality and they are encouraged to share that information with their Board colleagues and staff.

2019 Draft Budget Municipal Feedback

Municipality	Comments
Oxford County	- Various questions unrelated to budget (Glengowan, natural heritage, regulation mapping, water quality, Clean Water Program, etc.)
Middlesex Centre	- Why did London’s budget decrease? - Do you expect a levy increase in 2020 as well? (Municipal staff noted while our percent request sounds high, the dollar amount is low in terms of the municipal budget). - Is the proportion of revenue from each source the same at all CAs? - Mayor empathized with our transfer payment frustration.
Perth East	- Request for clarity regarding the four year levy phase-in for Targets. - Various other questions and comments regarding regulations, Dingman Creek, barriers to project uptake by landowners, climate change, Upper Avon, etc. - Formal motion received expressing “Council’s concern with the percent of rate of increase of assessment for the 2019 budget.”
Southwest Oxford	- Question concerning forest loss statistics and wondering what can be done to reduce loss. - No budget specific questions.

Thames Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asked about outreach and communication efforts locally- mentioned Friends of Dorchester Swamp Creek and Stream of Dreams - Comment that message of leveraging municipal funding was impressive and important - Mayor thanked Ray Chowen for his eight years of service. - No budget specific questions.
Stratford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various questions (dams and their relationship to water quality, suggestions to improve water quality in Lake Victoria, benefits of dredging). - No budget specific questions.
Woodstock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Question concerning importance of education programs.
London	City budget approved February 12, including the UTRCA levy.
St. Marys	Pending: February 19
Perth South	Pending: February 19

Voting Procedure

All Conservation Authority budgets are subject to a weighted vote according to the relative value of property assessment in the municipality. Fundamentally, this means those who pay more, have more influence on the budget. Members representing more than one municipality will have multiple votes. The following table provides the relative weighting for the 2019 budget vote.

A budget will be approved if greater than 50% of the weighted vote of those members in attendance is cast in favour of the budget. Please note that if a member is unable to attend the Annual General Meeting, they are not able to vote by proxy and their vote is lost. (Attendance and voting by teleconference is acceptable). If a member is absent, each remaining member's weighting remains the same but a new 50% value is calculated based on only those members in attendance.

Municipality	2019 Voting Weight (%)
London	50 (12.5% per member)
Oxford County	23.4 (4.68% per member)
Stratford	10.3
Thames Centre	4.6
Middlesex Centre	3.2
St. Marys	2.1
West Perth	2.0
Perth East	1.9
Perth South	1.6
Lucan Biddulph	0.5
South Huron	0.3

Budget approval is a recorded vote. Each municipality will be announced in turn and the representative of that municipality will be asked to either support or oppose the budget. Those members representing more than one municipality will have to vote separately for each municipality.

Please note two recorded votes will be conducted for approval of the 2019 Draft Budget. The first will be for approval of the Budget under Section 27 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (Recommendation 1.), the second for the Flood Control Capital Levy under Section 26 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (Recommendation 2.).

Should you have questions regarding the draft budget or the voting procedure in advance of the AGM, please contact Ian Wilcox directly at (519) 451-2800 ext. 259 or Christine Saracino at ext. 232.

Prepared and Recommended by:

Ian Wilcox,
General Manager
Accounting

Christine Saracino,
Supervisor, Finance &

Environmental Targets Strategic Plan

What are Environmental Targets:

For decades, environmental agencies, not-for-profit organizations and individuals have collaborated to improve the health of the Thames River watershed. However, while the effort has been tremendous, **progress in terms of measurable health improvements has been slow, largely due to a lack of capacity.** That is not to suggest past efforts have been ineffective; in fact, maintaining these measures as status quo, in light of increasing stressors such as development, population growth, climate change and invasive species, is a form of success. However, the UTRCA has a responsibility to do more than simply “maintain.”

In June 2016, the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority’s (UTRCA) Board of Directors approved the UTRCA Environmental Targets Strategic Plan, which outlines four aggressive but realistic environmental targets. These targets are a statement of how healthy and resilient the Thames River watershed can be by 2037, with adequate resources and strong partnerships.

The adoption of Environmental Targets represents an organizational commitment to achieve measurable improvements in our watershed’s health during the next 20 years. These efforts, in turn, will support economic development, human and environmental health, and make the watershed more attractive and resilient.



The UTRCA's Environmental Targets:

1. Improve each subwatershed's water quality score by one letter grade, as measured by the UTRCA Watershed Report Cards, by the year 2037.
2. Establish and restore 1,500 hectares of natural vegetation cover, windbreaks and buffers by 2037.
3. Reduce flood and erosion risk by updating flood models and hazard mapping for all UTRCA subwatersheds by 2020, then integrating climate change scenarios into the updated models and developing climate change adaptation strategies by 2030.
4. Reach 1 million people annually with conservation messages through access to UTRCA lands and demonstration of green infrastructure, by the year 2037.

Four Year Targets Phase-in:

In total, **\$4 million in new funding** to support new staff and programs will be required annually to support this work. This new funding is being sought from all four of the UTRCA's traditional revenue streams in the following proportions: senior government funding (28%), municipal funding (28%), user fees (30%) and special contracts (14%). Municipal levy funding will be requested from all 17 member municipalities with a planned four year phase-in (2017-2020).

The UTRCA's Environmental Targets are aggressive but realistic. The UTRCA and its partners have the tools, experience, expertise and relationships to achieve these Targets. Funding needed to support this work is also significant, but the proposed plan is practical and achievable, with partner support and a phased approach to implementation.

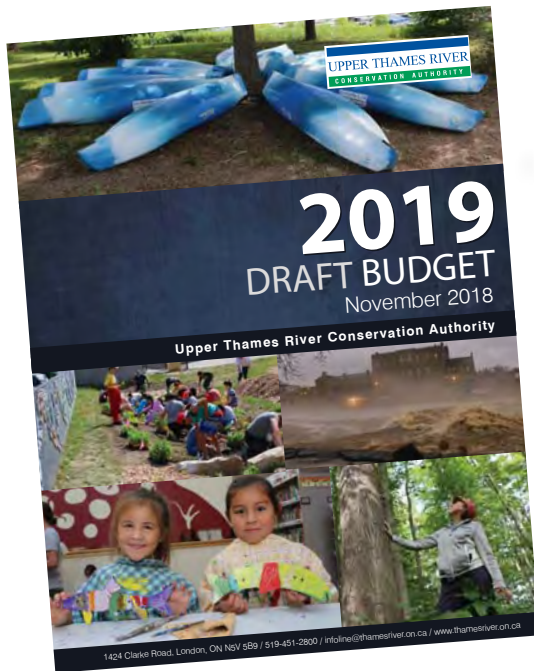
Specific benefits for municipalities and their residents include:

- Safer and more efficient growth and streamlined development approvals process through accurate identification of developable lands free from flood and erosion hazards.
- Visible improvement in the water quality of the Thames River and its tributaries, which supports and encourages a healthy and growing community.
- Net growth in naturalized green spaces, which makes the watershed more resilient to weather extremes.
- Expanded outdoor recreation and education opportunities with a target of two visits/ year to a natural area for every resident of the watershed.
- Cost sharing by using multiple revenue sources to implement the Environmental Targets.

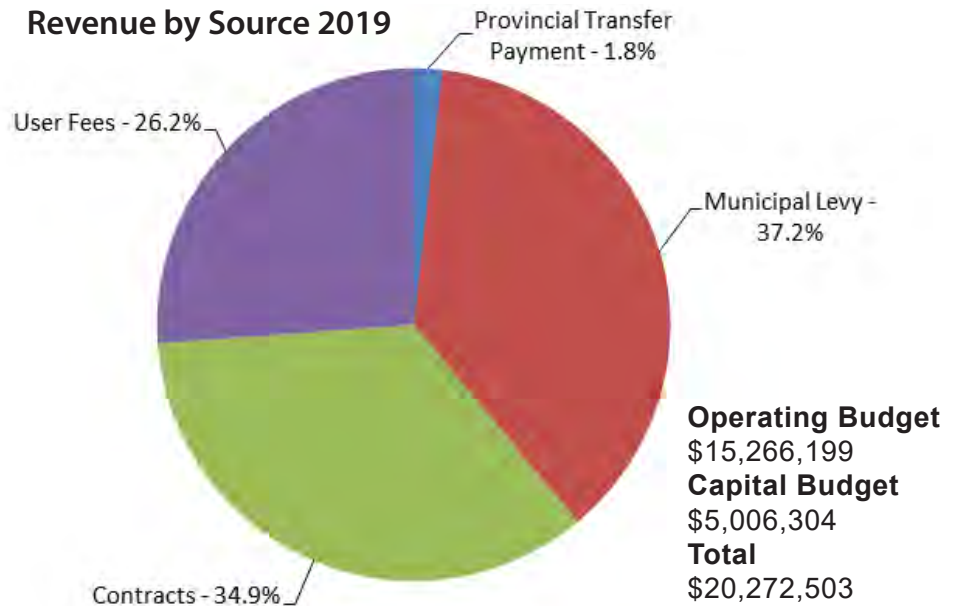
Budget Revenue Allocations	Water Quality	Natural Areas	Hazard Management	Outdoor Recreation/ Education	Total	Percent of New \$
(\$) Total investment Needed	\$1,133,188	\$1,133,188	\$902,388	\$857,188	\$4,025,952	
Proposed Revenue Sources						
Provincial/ Federal Transfer Payment	\$453,275	\$0	\$586,552	\$85,719	\$1,125,546	28.0%
Municipal Levy	\$339,956	\$339,956	\$270,716	\$171,438	\$1,122,067	27.9%
Contracts	\$113,319	\$226,638	\$45,119	\$171,438	\$556,513	13.8%
User Fees	\$226,638	\$566,594	\$0	\$428,594	\$1,221,826	30.3%

Target	Additional Funding Required/Year					2021-2025	Total New Revenue
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2017-2020 Total		
Annual Increase by Revenue Source							
Provincial/ Federal Transfer Payment	\$125,000	\$300,000	\$200,000	\$228,275	\$853,275	\$272,271	\$1,125,546
Municipal Levy	\$256,676	\$270,716	\$288,130	\$306,544	\$1,122,066	\$0	\$1,122,066
Contracts	\$25,000	\$145,119	\$157,000	\$156,319	\$483,438	\$73,076	\$556,514
User Fees	\$0	\$70,000	\$90,000	\$190,000	\$350,000	\$871,826	\$1,221,826
TOTAL	\$406,676	\$785,835	\$735,130	\$881,138	\$2,808,779	\$1,217,173	\$4,025,952

2019 Draft Budget



Revenue by Source 2019



2019 Pressures

1. Cost of Living

The Board of Directors consider the April- April Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Ontario when recommending a cost of living increase. For the 2019 draft budget, the April 2017-April 2018 CPI value of 2.1% has been applied.

2. Environmental Targets

For 2019, a total of \$288,130 in new levy funding has been included for this third year of the proposed four year funding phase-in. This new revenue is needed to support water quality improvements and the expansion of natural cover in the watershed. Note that new funding from senior levels of government as well as user fees are also being requested to help support the plan's implementation.

Proposed 2019 Municipal Levy

Municipality	2019 Env. Targets	Total Operating \$		Year over Year Increase		Total Capital \$		Total Municipal Funding		Year over Year Increase	
		2018	2019	\$	%	2018	2019	2018	2019	\$	%
Oxford County	\$47,690	\$772,701	\$829,129	\$56,428	7.3	\$151,967	\$153,111	\$924,668	\$982,240	\$57,572	6.2
London City	\$186,415	\$3,257,670	\$3,480,407	\$222,737	6.8	\$2,016,011	\$1,597,779	\$5,273,681	\$5,078,186	-\$195,495	-3.7
Lucan Biddulph	\$916	\$13,103	\$14,388	\$1,285	9.8	\$521	\$531	\$13,624	\$14,920	\$1,296	9.5
Thames Centre	\$9,269	\$138,794	\$150,764	\$11,970	8.6	\$5,314	\$5,420	\$144,108	\$156,185	\$12,077	8.4
Middlesex Centre	\$6,588	\$96,860	\$103,483	\$6,623	6.8	\$3,850	\$3,927	\$100,710	\$107,410	\$6,700	6.7
Stratford	\$20,991	\$383,883	\$405,028	\$21,144	5.5	\$12,325	\$62,572	\$396,208	\$467,599	\$71,391	18.0
Perth East	\$3,955	\$58,693	\$64,720	\$6,027	10.3	\$2,231	\$2,276	\$60,924	\$66,996	\$6,072	10.0
West Perth	\$4,088	\$96,167	\$98,791	\$2,624	2.7	\$2,297	\$7,343	\$98,464	\$106,134	\$7,670	7.8
St. Marys	\$4,348	\$95,920	\$86,125	-\$9,795	-10.2	\$102,579	\$104,631	\$198,499	\$190,756	-\$7,744	-3.9
Perth South	\$3,294	\$46,011	\$51,712	\$5,701	12.4	\$1,829	\$1,866	\$47,840	\$53,577	\$5,737	12.0
South Huron	\$577	\$8,365	\$9,056	\$691	8.3	\$333	\$340	\$8,698	\$9,396	\$698	8.0
Zorra		\$15,000	\$8,500	-\$6,500	-43.3		\$6,500	\$15,000	\$15,000		
SW Oxford		\$5,610	\$5,610					\$5,610	\$5,610		
Total	\$288,131	\$4,988,777	\$5,307,713	\$318,935	6.4	\$2,299,257	\$1,946,296	\$7,288,034	\$7,254,009	-\$34,026	-0.5



Township of Perth East

P.O. Box 455, 25 Mill Street
Milverton, Ontario N0K 1M0

Phone- (519) 595-2800
Fax- (519) 595-2801

Theresa Campbell
Municipal Clerk, CMO, Dipl.M.M., AOMC

email – tcampbell@pertheast.ca

January 11, 2019

Ian Wilcox, General Manager/Secretary Treasurer
Upper Thames River Conservation Authority,
1424 Clarke Road,
London, Ontario,
N5V 5B9

Re: 2019 Draft UTRCA Budget – Delegation to Council

Thank you for attending the January 8th, 2019 regular meeting of Council of the Township of Perth East as a delegation to provide your presentation regarding the UTRCA Draft 2019 Budget.

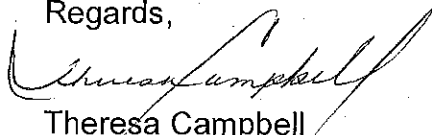
As a follow up to the meeting, Council endorsed the following resolution;

THAT the Council of the Township of Perth East receive the delegation presentation from Ian Wilcox, General Manager/Secretary Treasurer – Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) regarding the UTRCA 2019 Draft Budget for information;

AND THAT staff provide comments to the UTRCA expressing Council's concern with the percent of rate of increase for assessment for the 2019 Budget.

Should you require additional information, please contact Glenn Schwendinger, CAO at gschwendinger@pertheast.ca or 519-595-2800 ext. 232.

Regards,



Theresa Campbell
Municipal Clerk

cc. G. Schwendinger, CAO



UPPER THAMES RIVER
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

2019 DRAFT BUDGET

January 2019

Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

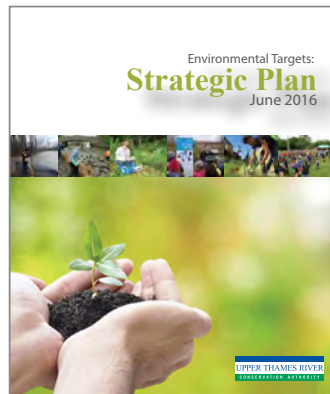


The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) 2019 Draft Budget (expenditures) is forecast at \$20,940,779. This total is split between operating expenses (\$15,744,571) and capital (\$5,196,208).

Key influences on the 2019 Budget include:

1. Continued Implementation of the UTRCA's Environmental Targets Strategic Plan

The Board of Directors approved a new Environmental Targets Strategic Plan in June 2016. The Plan represents the most significant programming change in the UTRCA's nearly 70 year history and is designed to ensure measurable improvements in watershed health by setting Watershed Targets.



These Targets are designed to advance achievement of the UTRCA's Ends:

1. Protecting people and their property from flooding and erosion,
2. Protecting and improving water quality,
3. Managing and expanding natural areas, and
4. Providing outdoor recreation/education opportunities.

Monitoring data has clearly shown that progress in achieving these Ends has plateaued during the past 20 years. That is not to suggest current conservation efforts have been ineffective. In fact, maintaining these measures as status quo is a form of success, in a landscape facing increasing stressors such as development, population growth, climate change and invasive species. However, the UTRCA has a responsibility to do more



than simply "maintain." The Environmental Targets represent an organizational commitment to achieve measurable improvements in our watershed's health. This in turn supports economic development, human health, and makes the watershed more attractive and resilient. The Environmental Targets are aggressive but realistic. The UTRCA has the tools, experience, expertise and relationships to achieve these Targets. Funding needed to support this work is also significant; however, given partner support and a phased approach to implementation, the plan is practical and achievable.

For 2019, a total of \$288,130 in new levy funding has been included for this, the third year of the proposed four year funding phase-in. This new revenue is needed to support water quality improvements and the expansion of natural cover in the watershed. Note that new funding from senior levels of government as well as user fees are also being requested to help support the plan's implementation.



2. Inflation

An inflationary increase of 2.1% (April 2017- April 2018 Consumer Price Index for Ontario) has been applied to the 2019 budget.

3. Finance System Modernization

The UTRCA continues to revise its internal systems to improve budgeting accuracy. More comprehensive planning on the part of management, a clear separation of operating and capital expenditures, and realistic projections of capital costs have led to much more realistic budgeting. Comparisons of the 2019 Draft Budget with past years suggests rapid organizational growth and, while there has certainly been an element of growth, better and more accurate budgeting accounts for a significant portion of what appears to be an increased total budget. As the new system becomes normalized, more accurate comparisons, projections and reporting will result.



- 1 -

Flood & Erosion Hazard Protection

Program Examples

- Operation and maintenance of dams and dykes
- Floodplain and hazard regulations
- Flood forecasting and warning
- Plan review
- River Safety education program
- Fanshawe Dam education program

Flood / Water & Erosion Control

(Water & Information Management Unit budget)



What we do:

- Reduce the risk of property damage and loss of lives due to flooding by providing flood forecasting and warning programs
- Operate and maintain water control structures to control flood flows and augment stream flow during dry periods
- Operate and maintain recreational water control structures on behalf of municipalities

Examples:

- Providing and maintaining flood situation emergency plans and a flood warning system
- Continually monitoring stream flow, reservoirs and watershed conditions, and forecasting floods
- Collecting and maintaining flood damage information and historical flooding data
- Maintaining and expanding stream gauge network in order to improve stream flow, climatic and water quality monitoring
- Improving and calibrating flood forecasting models
- Coordinating, maintaining, and improving stream flow through flow augmentation reservoirs
- Coordinating the upper Thames River watershed's Low Water Response Team, which is planning for drought response to meet the needs of watershed residents and business, while protecting natural systems and human health
- Operating, inspecting, and maintaining flood control dams, dyke systems, channels, and erosion control structures, constructed in partnership with municipalities
- Operating, inspecting, and maintaining medium sized municipal recreation dams and Conservation Area dams
- Undertaking major maintenance projects on water and erosion control structures, and assessing municipal erosion control works
- Undertaking dam safety studies, and improving public safety around dams
- Updating operation and maintenance manuals
- Securing capital maintenance funding for water and erosion control infrastructure
- Providing technical expertise to identify natural hazards (such as floodplains and steep slopes) with the goal of protecting people and property from these natural hazards
- Providing, interpreting and maintaining floodplain mapping
- Updating hazard modelling and mapping in support of Environmental Planning & Regulations unit
- Securing senior government funding support for flood hazard mitigation

Why:

- Reduce property damage, injury and loss of life
- Comply with legislative requirements and guidelines at the local level
- Maintain public investment in infrastructure to prevent catastrophic loss
- Improve water quality and stream flow
- Key component of a comprehensive floodplain management program
- Provide park land and recreational opportunities

Who benefits/ participates:

- Municipalities
- Watershed residents and businesses potentially affected by flooding or drought
- Conservation area users
- Province (through reduced flood damages)

Environmental Planning & Regulations

(Environmental Planning & Regulations Unit budget)



What we do:

- Administer the Conservation Authorities Act related to the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulations
- Assist municipalities with fulfilling their Planning Act responsibilities by identifying natural hazard areas and natural heritage features, and providing policy support
- Respond to Planning Act and Conservation Authorities Act inquiries
- Provide municipalities with access to policy and technical experts in various disciplines including hydrology, hydrogeology, ecology, fisheries, bioengineering, engineering, stream morphology and land use planning
- Perform a planning advisory role to municipalities which may include, but is not limited to, matters related to the assessment or analysis of environmental impacts associated with activities near or in the vicinity of sensitive natural features such as wetlands, river and stream valleys, fish habitat and significant woodlands; hydrogeology; and stormwater management studies

Examples:

- Providing comments to assist municipalities with processing Official Plan and zoning by-law amendments, severances, variances and plans of subdivision
- Answering questions from the public on the environmental aspects of land use planning
- Responding to property inquiries (legal, real estate, and general information)
- Providing resource mapping as well as technical reviews and clearances
- Administering approvals and investigating violations related to regulations made pursuant to the Conservation Authorities Act
- Screening and commenting on mitigation related to projects requiring federal Fisheries Act review or approval
- Liaising between municipalities and other government agencies

Why:

- Reduce the risk to life and property from natural hazards such as flooding and unstable slopes
- Conservation Authorities have delegated responsibilities to represent provincial interests regarding natural hazards encompassed by Section 3.1 of the Provincial Policy Statement, 2014 (MMAH, 2014). These delegated responsibilities require CAs to review and provide comments on policy documents (Official Plans and comprehensive zoning by-laws) and applications submitted pursuant to the Planning Act as part of the Provincial One-Window Plan Review Service.
- Promote the maintenance and enhancement of natural heritage features and areas such as woodlands, wetlands and threatened species
- Protect and promote the wise use of groundwater resources
- Complement other UTRCA mission centres such as Water & Information Management, Watershed Planning, Research & Monitoring, and Conservation Services
- Comply with legislative requirements

Who benefits/ participates:

- Municipal decision makers (planning committee, committee of adjustment, and council)
- General public
- Ratepayers associations and other special interest groups
- Landowners, developers, private planning and engineering consultants, lawyers, real estate agents
- Municipal planners, building officials, engineers, parks and recreation services staff
- Provincial ministries, Local Planning Appeal Tribunal, and Mining and Lands Tribunal
- Academic community



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Water Quality Protection & Improvement

Program Examples

- Clean Water Program
- Drinking Water Source Protection Planning
- Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network
- Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network
- Benthic monitoring program
- Thames River Clear Water Revival
- Watershed Report Cards
- Watershed Report Card education program
- Developing and implementing community-based watershed strategies
- Environmental education programs for 20,000 students annually at Fanshawe and Wildwood Conservation Areas
- Children's Water Festival

Environmental Monitoring

(Watershed Planning, Research & Monitoring Unit budget)

What we do:

- Provide watershed scale environmental monitoring, summarized every 5 years in a comprehensive Watershed Report Card document, to understand current health and emerging trends as a basis for setting environmental management priorities and tracking progress on Environmental Targets



Examples:

- Working in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation & Parks (MECP) and municipal Health Units to collect and analyze surface water samples at 24 sites as part of the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN)
- Working in partnership with the MECP to collect and analyze groundwater samples at 24 sites as part of the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Information System
- Undertaking expanded water quality and stream health monitoring, in support of efforts identified in the Environmental Targets Strategic Plan, at 13 additional sites to fill gaps in data collection
- Working in partnership with member municipalities to undertake detailed local water quality studies to better understand local water quality issues identified in Watershed Report Cards
- Compiling water quality and aquatic community health data in a comprehensive and standardized time series database that is integrated with water quantity and available to watershed partners
- Monitoring aquatic community health including benthic invertebrates at approximately 100 sites annually and fisheries as an indicator of environmental health
- Monitoring aquatic species at risk, including fish, reptiles and freshwater mussels, to identify priority areas for implementation of best management practices and stewardship aimed at improving habitat
- Continuing a monitoring program in Wildwood, Pittock and Fanshawe Reservoirs for parameters such as dissolved oxygen, to ensure operations of the structures do not negatively impact water quality
- Developing interactive GIS tools for use by UTRCA staff to track project work and progress towards achieving Environmental Targets
- Developing UTRCA Watershed Report Cards to summarize and report all monitoring data and trends

Why:

- To gather long term data and create information to measure outcomes related to the UTRCA Environmental Targets Strategic Plan
- Changes in environmental health must be monitored and understood to help guide the conservation authority, municipalities, government agencies and community groups in implementing restoration and rededication programs
- Monitoring can detect problems before serious damage occurs and result in considerable cost saving and improved environmental health in the watershed

Who benefits/ participates:

- Watershed residents
- Municipalities
- Agencies
- Schools, universities

Watershed Planning

(Watershed Planning, Research & Monitoring Unit budget)

What we do:

- Develop and maintain watershed, subwatershed and property specific management plans in cooperation with government agencies, municipalities and community groups

Examples:

- Supporting the development of natural heritage targets for the watershed and participating in property assessment and acquisition projects in partnership with other UTRCA units in order to characterize, protect and rehabilitate natural features and systems
- Participating in the ongoing implementation of recovery strategies for aquatic and terrestrial species at risk
- Developing and maintaining Geographic Information System (GIS) databases, performing spatial analysis and producing mapping and GIS tools to support watershed planning initiatives, assist in property management and support regulatory activities
- Developing and maintaining Internet-based GIS mapping tools to support UTRCA staff
- Developing land management plans for UTRCA properties, such as the Lowthian Flats and Fullaraton area lands, in partnership with the Conservation Areas and Lands & Facilities units
- Presenting findings on environmental conditions in the watershed's 28 subwatersheds through watershed report cards
- Providing technical support and review for applications related to planning advisory services for the Environmental Planning & Regulations unit
- Facilitating the development of an updated Water Management Plan for the Thames River watershed that serves to refine water management objectives, in collaboration with a broad group of stakeholders
- Participate in senior government working groups related to development of a Domestic Action Plan to reduce phosphorus loads to Lake Erie

Why:

- Solving environmental problems and implementing plans to improve watershed health requires a broad geographic perspective and knowledge of current resources, research and implementation practices
- Private landowners ultimately manage the majority of lands and, therefore, need to help determine the future of these properties; we provide the forum for the community to work collectively toward a common vision for the watershed

Who benefits/ participates:

- Watershed residents
- Community groups
- Municipalities
- Agencies



Research

(Watershed Planning, Research & Monitoring Unit budget)

What we do:

- Implement research studies to fill resource information gaps and develop innovative methods of protecting and enhancing watershed resources

Examples:

- Developing an assessment of water quality in the Thames River watershed based on analysis of existing data, modeling and long term trends
- Studying threatened and endangered wildlife species and their habitat requirements (such as the spiny softshell turtle, queen snake, black redhorse fish and freshwater mussels) that are indicators of watershed health
- Participating in multi-agency research projects, such as Conservation Ontario's Provincial Information Technology Forum, Conservation Authorities Aquatics Group, Lake St. Clair Management Plan, and Lake Erie Lakewide Action & Management Plan
- Providing technical lead in the development of natural heritage system studies and models for determining natural heritage system significance (such as the Perth and Elgin County Natural Heritage System Studies)
- Spatially quantifying natural heritage feature gains and losses to identify areas of concern and guide our advocacy for protection/restoration

Why:

- New information and solutions are required for existing environmental problems to ensure we can live in healthy communities
- To advocate for natural heritage feature protection and restoration in the watershed as identified in UTRCA Environmental Targets
- Provide clean water for community use and for the enjoyment of future generations
- Decrease the health risk to humans and animals
- Improve habitat for fish and wildlife

Who benefits/ participates:

- Private landowners, the local community and municipal partners
- Industry gains new technology and products
- Individuals and agencies share new ideas and expertise
- Landowners, community groups and municipalities benefit from funding that they could not access on their own



Soil Conservation

(Conservation Services budget)



What we do:

- Provide comprehensive in-field and in-stream conservation planning services to address soil and water quality concerns

Examples:

- Working under the auspices of Environment & Climate Change Canada (ECCC) to deliver the Medway Creek Watershed Phosphorus Reduction Initiative
- Working under auspices of the Agricultural Adaptation Council to deliver the Medway Creek Watershed Demonstration Project for Phosphorus Reduction
- Working under the auspices of ECCC to gather background water quality data from agriculture-based selected Thames River subwatersheds
- Managing demonstration and research efforts, including: controlled drainage, engineered vegetated filter strips, saturated buffers, constructed wetlands, and surface inlet effectiveness, with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)
- Managing biofilter demonstration and research efforts with the Universities of Waterloo and Guelph
- Partnering with Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada on edge-of-field research efforts to monitor phosphorus movement on agricultural cropland
- Continuing with monitoring of several demonstration projects implemented through the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation & Parks's Showcasing Water Innovation program, including on-farm stormwater management, the use of slag filters for phosphorus removal in barnyard and silage leachate runoff, wetland restoration, and sub-irrigation/drainage projects
- Working with local communities and agency funders to improve the overall watershed health of the Avon River, as well as Cedar, Halls and Stoney Creeks
- Focusing efforts to restore natural stream flow and structure in Medway Creek in order to improve the stream's aquatic health
- Working with the community to implement a low impact development program across the watershed
- Working with OMAFRA on the Soil Health Project to determine the state of agricultural soils in Ontario and demonstrate methods for improvement
- Implementing practical, cost-effective alternatives for landowners and other agency staff with water quality concerns, such as bioengineering to control streambank erosion and slope instability, natural channel design in disturbed watercourses and drainage systems, and constructed wetlands to treat industrial, septic and agricultural wastewater
- Working with the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative on the Thames River Phosphorus Reduction Collaborative to reduce phosphorus input to the Thames River

Why:

- Reduce watercourse pollution and maintenance costs by keeping soil on the land
- Stabilize streams experiencing pressure from surrounding land uses
- Improve water quality and habitat for fish and wildlife
- Reestablish natural aquatic linkages
- Protect topsoil for agriculture

Who benefits/ participates:

- Groups and individuals in the participating communities
- Private landowners and the local community can sustain crop yields, avoid costly drain maintenance and keep local water resources clean
- Local contractors carry out much of the work
- Industry gains new technology and products
- Agencies and individuals share new ideas and expertise

Clean Water Program

(Conservation Services budget)



What we do:

- Provide technical assistance and financial incentives to rural landowners for implementing measures that improve surface water and groundwater quality and contribute to sustainable agriculture operations. CWP is funded by the Counties of Oxford, Middlesex and Perth, the Town of St. Marys and the Cities of Stratford and London. Additional funding is provided by Environment & Climate Change Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program. The program is delivered by the Ausable Bayfield, Catfish Creek, Grand River, Kettle Creek, Long Point Region, Maitland Valley, St. Clair Region, and Upper Thames River Conservation Authorities.
- Provide technical delivery of Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada's Greencover Program
- Deliver the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program to eligible landowners throughout the Thames-Sydenham and Region Source Protection Region

Examples:

- Eligible projects include the following:
 - milkhouse washwater disposal
 - clean water diversion
 - livestock access restriction to watercourses
 - nutrient management plans
 - wellhead protection
 - decommissioning unused wells
 - fertilizer, chemical and fuel storage or handling
 - septic systems
 - erosion control structures
 - fragile land retirement
 - woodlot and wetland enhancement

Why:

- To address locally identified priority water quality impairment issues
- To maintain working relationships between various municipalities, local farm groups, government agencies and interested groups or associations that have a direct stake in the issue of agriculture, water quality and future health of our watersheds
- To protect municipal drinking water sources

Who benefits/ participates:

- Landowners within the Counties of Oxford, Perth and Middlesex, the Cities of Stratford and London and the Town of St. Marys
- Municipalities, by joining together, enjoy environmental programs and services that would otherwise be too costly for individual municipalities
- Everyone benefits from improved environmental health

Source Water Protection

(Environmental Planning & Regulations Unit budget)

What we do:

- Work with our partners to develop and implement a Source Protection Plan that will:
 - protect human health, and
 - protect present and future municipal drinking water sources (quality and quantity)
- The Upper Thames River, Lower Thames Valley, and St. Clair Region Conservation Authorities are working together in a partnership with the Province and our member municipalities
- The UTRCA, as the lead CA, is responsible for the overall project administration

Examples:

- Provide risk management services to regulate identified risks to drinking water sources
- Support municipalities in the implementation of the Source Protection Plan
- Provide education and outreach related to the Source Protection Plan
- Monitor and report on implementation progress
- Support the Source Protection Committee
- Ensure transparent, multi-stakeholder involvement
- Provide technical information and resources
- Integrate drinking water source protection into other program areas
- Update technical information in Assessment Reports
- Develop a water budget
- Manage and maintain data

Why:

- The Walkerton Inquiry recommended a multi-barrier approach to protecting drinking water, with drinking water source protection as the first barrier
- Protecting our surface water and groundwater from becoming contaminated or overused will ensure that we have a sufficient supply of clean, safe drinking water now and for the future
- Clean and sustainable drinking water sources are critical to healthy and economically sustainable communities
- Protecting drinking water sources is more cost-effective than remediating water quantity and/or quality, if remediation is even possible
- Required by the Clean Water Act

Who benefits/ participates:

- Province
- Conservation authorities
- Municipalities
- Stakeholders
- Water users





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Natural Areas Protection & Expansion

Program Examples

- Private land tree planting
- Communities for Nature program
- Tree Power program
- Various management plans (Ellice, Sifton)
- Watershed Report Cards
- Property management
- Wetlands education program
- Developing and implementing community-based watershed strategies
- Creating value for the UTRCA and the environment by linking the Authority and its information with the watershed residents and their ability to take action

Forestry

(Conservation Services budget)

What we do:

- Offer a range of tree planting and woodlot management services to improve the health of the local environment and provide a learning experience



Examples:

- Providing a wide range of forestry services including tree planting plans (including technical assistance, planting or supplying appropriate stock, and maintenance assistance), woodlot management, non-native vegetation control (with the EZject system and other herbicide and manual methods), and planning and auditing for the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program
- Initiating inventories and management plans for UTRCA-owned plantations and other wooded areas
- Carrying out controlled burns to sustain Communities for Nature native grass and wildflower plantings, with the UTRCA's Environmentally Significant Areas team
- Planning and implementing naturalization projects through the Communities for Nature program, which gives 4,000 people each year a hands-on educational experience enhancing their local environment, through community forestry, wildflower and aquatic planting, and provides local businesses with an opportunity to provide lands and/or financial support
- Coordinating the George Furtney, Woodstock, Zorra, Thames Centre, and St. Marys Area Memorial Forests, to improve the local environment while commemorating people or events
- Partnering with the Canadian Forestry Service on Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) parasitoid research for control of EAB
- Partnering with the Forest Gene Conservation Association to establish a Southwest Ontario Butternut Tree Archive site at Pittock Conservation Area, to help preserve the genetics of this endangered species
- Providing tree marking and woodlot management advice for private landowners
- Providing technical assistance to the London airport tree trimming project

Why:

- Improve crop yields and water quality by reducing soil erosion
- Provide habitat for wildlife
- Improve air quality
- Shade and protect buildings, reducing heating and cooling costs
- Reduce snow drifting and snow removal costs
- Provide timber products
- Provide recreational opportunities and aesthetics

Who participates/ benefits:

- Farmers and rural landowners
- Students, non-profit groups, service clubs and community associations
- General public
- Municipalities
- Private tree nurseries
- Funeral homes
- Corporations/ businesses

Lands & Facilities

(Lands & Facilities Unit budget)



What we do:

- Work in partnership with the community to ensure the long-term protection of natural areas, such as woodlands and wetlands, and provide a variety of recreational opportunities on UTRCA-owned/ managed lands
- Lease structures and properties to clubs and community groups, individuals and municipalities for activities that complement the UTRCA's programs and services

Examples:

- Providing passive day-use recreational opportunities on 1900 hectares of rural properties, including woodlands, wetlands, agreement forests and 7 rural conservation areas
- Initiating asset management plan as per the UTRCA Strategic Plan
- Initiating or assisting with capital development projects
- Managing UTRCA fleet vehicles and equipment system
- Working with the local community to implement the Ellice and Gads Hill Swamps Management Strategy
- Performing comprehensive risk management and safety inspections on UTRCA-owned properties
- Assessing hunting opportunities on UTRCA-owned properties and, where appropriate, implementing a controlled hunting program
- Responding to infringement and encroachment related issues on UTRCA-owned properties
- Leasing 24 UTRCA-owned agricultural properties totalling approximately 475 hectares
- Leasing 5 residential homes and managing/maintaining 7 storage buildings located throughout the watershed
- Maintaining lease agreements with 7 community-based groups for the management and maintenance of our rural conservation areas
- Maintaining lease agreements with more than 20 clubs for recreational opportunities within Fanshawe, Wildwood and Pittock Conservation Areas
- Maintaining lease agreements for 80 cottages at two locations
- Maintaining leases with groups and individuals for a variety of activities at properties throughout the watershed

Why:

- Natural areas are highly valued by the community
- Wetlands provide storage for flood waters, help reduce the impacts of drought, and improve water quality by trapping sediments and storing nutrients
- Natural areas provide habitat to a variety of plants and animals
- We provide safe access to UTRCA owned/managed lands for permitted activities
- When acquiring lands for the development of the reservoirs, the UTRCA was obliged to purchase entire holdings (farms); some of these lands are not needed to support the flood management and recreational programs of the UTRCA and have been made available to the community

Who benefits/ participates:

- Local communities enjoy access to day-use opportunities in nearby parks and natural areas
- Local economies benefit from tourism
- Tenants, club members, cottagers, outdoor enthusiasts

Environmentally Significant Areas (Lands & Facilities Unit budget)

What we do:

- As of January 2019, the UTRCA is in an agreement with the City of London to manage 11 Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs) covering 735.6 hectares: the Coves, Kains Woods, Kelly Stanton, Kilally Meadows, Lower Dingman, Meadowlily Woods, Medway Valley, Pottersburg Valley, Sifton Bog, Warbler Woods, and Westminster Ponds/Pond Mills Conservation Area
- Our management goals are to protect the ESAs, encourage partnership and education, ensure public safety, and promote and enforce proper use

Examples:

- Working with the local community to implement ESA Conservation Master Plans, in partnership with the City of London
- Implementing site planning and trail design, and installing signs and trail markers
- Maintaining and constructing bridges, boardwalks, staircases, railings, barricades and other trail structures
- Working with the City of London to develop and implement an encroachment management strategy
- Implementing management strategies for wildlife (e.g. coyote, beaver, Species at Risk) in partnership with agencies, the City of London and stakeholders
- Undertaking tree risk assessment and hazard tree mitigation on ESA trails and boundaries
- Restricting unofficial access points by installing barricades to protect sensitive vegetation
- Enforcing rules to protect vegetation, wildlife and people under the Provincial Offences Act and the City of London's Parks & Recreation By-law
- Working with local interest groups and schools to build valuable partnerships and provide education
- Implementing invasive species management programs, including inventory, removal and monitoring, using the most current Best Management Practices
- Developing and implementing restoration projects including tree, shrub and wildflower planting, bioengineering and erosion control
- Providing co-op students, volunteers and summer students with placement opportunities where they enhance their skills and knowledge and make career decisions to work in the environmental/ conservation field

Why:

- ESAs provide excellent examples of a variety of natural habitats, including upland forests, wetlands, meadows, ponds and river corridors
- ESAs are highly valued by the community, enhance quality of life and provide educational opportunities for students and the public

Who benefits/ participates:

- All City of London and area residents and visitors





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Provide Outdoor Recreation & Education Opportunities

Program Examples

- Camping
- Day use, hiking, biking
- Boating, fishing, hunting
- Pavilion rentals, special events
- Cottages
- Environmental education programs for 20,000 students annually at Fanshawe & Wildwood Conservation Areas

Conservation Areas

(Conservation Areas Unit budget)



What we do:

- Provide a variety of recreational and educational opportunities and facilities on 3200 hectares of conservation lands at Fanshawe, Wildwood and Pittock Conservation Areas. Our target is to reach 1M annual visitors to our conservation areas by 2037 and ensure their experience includes a conservation message to take with them.

Examples:

- Over 1300 seasonal and nightly camping sites, including new back country camp sites
- Over 50 km of trail systems for biking, hiking and nature watching
- Water-based recreational opportunities including rental equipment
- Variety of special events and programs in partnership with local organizations for all ages to enjoy, including:
 - bike workshops and races
 - dragon boat festivals
 - cross country run events
 - reptile shows
 - campfire programs
 - trail days
- Day use opportunities including picnic areas, pavilion rentals, disc golf, geocaching, sand volleyball, yoga classes
- Cottage program
- Hunting program
- Assisting other UTRCA units with a range of activities and programs, including:
 - flood control operations and snow course readings
 - risk management for community education program areas
 - grounds maintenance of the Watershed Conservation Centre
 - tree storage and pick up locations for tree planting programs
 - Memorial Forests and dedication services
- Land Management Agreement with the City of Woodstock for portions of the north shore and the entire south shore of Pittock Reservoir
- Using our conservation areas as demonstration sites for environmental projects completed by other Units (e.g., rain garden, fish habitat creation, shoreline erosion solutions)
- Ensuring conservation area lands comply with applicable legislation and associations including but not limited to the Conservation Authorities Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, Electrical Safety Authority, Swimming Pool Safety Act, and Occupational Health and Safety Act
- Setting annual goals and implementing strategies to continue to improve the current services and investigate opportunities for new ones

Why:

- Lands that were acquired for the development of flood control reservoirs also serve as multi-purpose recreational facilities
- Create value for the environment by providing outdoor recreational opportunities
- Provide safe access to UTRCA-owned lands and permitted activities

Who benefits/ participates:

- 500,000 people visit Fanshawe, Pittock and Wildwood CAs annually, mostly from local communities
- 22 non-profit organizations are based on UTRCA properties
- Local economies benefit from tourism
- Local communities enjoy access to day use opportunities in nearby parks
- Visitors can step into nature without traveling far
- Opportunity to work in partnership with local businesses and agencies to promote an outdoor experience

Community Partnerships

(Community Partnerships Unit budget)



What we do:

- Motivate watershed residents to adopt stewardship (behaviours that protect and restore the environment) by facilitating access to environmental and conservation information, and involvement in stewardship activities

Examples:

- Coordinating community involvement in planning and implementing environmental restoration, information sharing and education projects in the Trout, Medway, South Thames, Cedar Creek, Stoney and Forks watersheds and the Dorchester Mill Pond
- Providing environmental education programs and hands-on resource management opportunities in local natural areas and in class, to students and community groups (e.g., stream health monitoring, stream rehabilitation, Watershed Report Card and Wetlands Education programs)
- Building partnerships with First Nation communities
- Delivering a "Focus on Flooding" awareness and education program to help communities recognize flood prone areas and minimize their risk
- Continuing to assist communities in learning about and implementing Low Impact Development (LID) for stormwater projects, including hosting professional development and training sessions and the Stream of Dreams (Fish on Fences) community art program
- Continuing GREEN education program partnership with GM Canada to foster environmental youth leadership
- Working with corporate partners to naturalize industrial properties (GM Canada - Ingersoll, Toyota - Woodstock)
- Partnering with the City of Woodstock to re-naturalize Burgess Park and restore the Brick Ponds Wetland Complex
- Facilitating involvement of the community, industry and corporations in environmental clean up and community events
- Assisting, as a member of the Oxford County Trails Council, with development and promotion of trails throughout Oxford County, and protection and enhancement of natural heritage within trail corridors
- Creating opportunities for Specialist High Skills Major students to obtain environmental and leadership accreditations
- Partnering with Cargill Cares and Ontario Power Generation to deliver the Watershed Report Card education program and the Sifton Bog Wetland education program
- Introducing student use of and accreditation for new environmental technologies (GPS)
- Coordinating the 2019 London Middlesex Children's Water Festival and planning for a Perth County Children's Water Festival in 2020

Why:

- Create value for a healthy environment by providing opportunities to experience and learn about conservation
- Accrue future benefits for the environment from citizens with an environmental stewardship ethic
- Provide hands-on learning opportunities to help the environment
- Empower people to take action in their local community
- Help people make informed environmental decisions

Who benefits/ participates:

- 20,000 students from regional boards of education visit our two outdoor education centres each year
- Landowners, community groups and municipalities benefit from funding that they could not otherwise access
- Watershed residents participate in restoration projects in their local communities
- Municipalities benefit by having an involved and informed constituency

Corporate & Support Services

Corporate & Support Services (Service Cost Centres budget)

What we do:

- Support the Conservation Authority's staff, members of the Board of Directors, and programs

Examples:

- Corporate and strategic planning, governance policy development, and implementation
- Financial control support including development of procedures, systems integration and efficiency projects
- Continue efforts to develop the General Ledger for management reporting purposes
- Adopting new accountings standards
- Developing the treasury function including investment programs
- Implementing an acquisition policy and automated system
- Human resources administration, benefits administration
- Payroll and health and safety initiatives
- Engaging communities of interest through interactive social media channels
- Assessing community needs and opportunities through communications and marketing
- Administrative, clerical, systems, communications and graphic design support
- Providing information products including printed materials, GIS mapping and Geoportal, and websites to watershed residents, the Board of Directors and staff
- Professional development opportunities
- Coordinating community volunteers

Why:

- Ensure programs are consistent with watershed resources, management needs, community values, and political and financial realities
- Ensure accountability to the community, partners, and municipal and senior government
- Inform staff, members, stakeholders and the public of the UTRCA's programs and policies
- Provide programs that are cost-effective
- Maintain competent, highly trained, safe and motivated staff to implement the UTRCA's programs
- Maintain efficient systems and equipment to support the organization

Who benefits/ participates:

- Municipalities benefit from targeted programs tailored to their specific environmental needs and economic realities
- Taxpayers receive the most value for their dollars
- UTRCA suppliers and customers
- UTRCA staff and members
- Community volunteers such as students

Who pays:

- All Corporate & Support Services costs are allocated among the programs of the UTRCA



Operating Budget 2019

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	% Incr (decr)	Notes
REVENUES:				
Levy Funding				
Municipal General Levy	3,605,251	3,963,386	9.9%	Includes Targets Year 3 funding
Deferred Municipal Levy	-	66,359		
Dam and Flood Control Levy	1,351,126	1,286,282	-4.8%	
Deferred Dam and Flood Control Levy	-	59,755		
Operating Reserve Levy	32,400	33,048	2.0%	
	4,988,777	5,408,830		
MNRF Transfer Payment	351,020	351,016	-0.0%	
Contracts and Grants				
Municipal within UTR Watershed	812,337	864,151	6.4%	
Municipal outside of UTR Watershed	75,840	107,340	41.5%	
Provincial	930,411	742,759	-20.2%	Anticipated provincial funding reductions NDMP funding continues through 2019
Federal	993,815	1,326,772	33.5%	
All Other	1,636,069	1,603,495	-2.0%	
	4,448,472	4,644,517	4.4%	
User Fees and Other Revenues				
Conservation Areas	3,559,859	3,646,079	2.4%	
Planning and Permit Fees	195,000	220,140	12.9%	Increased levels of activity
Education Fees	129,700	145,000	11.8%	
	3,884,559	4,011,219	3.3%	
Other Revenues	2,132,186	1,275,227	-40.2%	Lower investment revenue and donations
Funding from Reserves	1,491,366	65,304	-95.6%	
TOTAL REVENUES	17,296,380	15,756,112	-8.9%	
EXPENDITURES:				
Mission Cost Centres				
Community Partnerships	1,448,396	1,293,540	-10.7%	Reductions planned
Water & Information Management	2,686,574	2,732,311	1.7%	
Environmental Planning & Regulations	1,858,588	1,902,382	2.4%	
Conservation Services	1,689,792	2,182,862	29.2%	Expenses related to new grants
Watershed Planning, Research & Monitoring	1,036,483	1,057,218	2.0%	
Conservation Areas	4,544,804	4,732,126	4.1%	
Lands & Facilities	3,641,273	1,562,177	-57.1%	Skewed from 2018 due to land transaction
Service Cost Centres	104,368	96,071	-7.9%	
Program Operating Expenditures	17,010,278	15,558,687	-8.5%	
Desired Transfer to Reserves	165,407	185,884	12.4%	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	17,175,685	15,744,571	-8.3%	
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	120,695	11,541		
Depreciation Expense	828,446	1,033,045	24.7%	
CASH SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	949,141	1,044,586		

Capital Budget 2019

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	% Incr (decr)	Notes
Capital Funding for Flood Control				
Flood Control Capital Levy	2,189,754	1,749,604		
Federal - National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP)	1,874,231	1,576,227		
Provincial - Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI)	1,401,535	827,104		
Funding from reserves	217,255	308,288		
Total funding for Flood Control Capital	5,682,775	4,461,223	-21.5%	
Capital Projects				
Fanshawe Dam	1,139,866	20,006		
Wildwood Dam	220,685	175,022		
Pittock Dam	41,339	65,021		
London Dykes	3,195,600	3,394,754		
St Marys Flood Wall	738,513	444,560		
RT Orr Dam	14,284	100,021		
Mitchell Dam	30,000	30,005		
Small dams	6,127	109,561		
Transfer to structure reserves	225,000	125,000		
Total Flood Control Capital Spending	5,611,414	4,463,950	-20.4%	
Net Flood Control Capital Budget	71,360	(2,727)		
Capital Funding for Other Capital needs				
Capital Maintenance Reserve Levy	168,324	171,690	2.0%	
From other reserves	-	330,259		\$226K parks, \$104K property reserve
	168,324	501,949	198.2%	
Land	-	104,258		Hydro property, approved Sept 2018
Land Improvements	176,000	86,000	-51.1%	
Buildings and Building Systems	50,000	60,000	20.0%	
Infrastructure	70,000	50,000	-28.6%	
Furniture and Fixtures	50,000	67,000	34.0%	
Vehicles and Equipment	104,500	255,000	144.0%	2 tractors plus 1 new vehicle
Technology Equipment	110,000	110,000	0.0%	
	560,500	732,258	30.6%	
Net Other Capital Budget	(392,176)	(230,309)		
Surplus (Deficit) in Capital Spending Activities	(320,816)	(233,036)		

Water & Information Management - All Activities Except Capital

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	Change from last year	Notes
Revenues				
Municipal Levies	1,624,822	1,637,206	0.8%	
Government Transfer Payments	322,068	322,064	-0.0%	Assumes no reduction; unchanged since 1995
Contracts	565,700	884,800	56.4%	Includes multi-year federal funding
User Fees	-	60,000		New services contract obtained
All Others incl deferred amounts	180,400	65,304	-63.8%	
Total Revenues	2,692,990	2,969,374	10.3%	
Operating Expenditures				
Wages, Benefits, Per Diems	1,393,766	1,265,516	-9.2%	Considers reallocation of personnel to other projects/units
Training	26,350	4,900	-81.4%	Error found late - should be \$15,000 budget
Legal, Audit, Insurance	32,366	23,000	-28.9%	
Services	55,000	57,000	3.6%	
Computers, Property and Utilities	210,607	214,725	2.0%	
Supplies	140,350	87,550	-37.6%	
Depreciation Expenses	248,009	457,461	84.5%	Includes best estimate from 2018 depreciation costs
Allocated Costs	580,126	622,159	7.2%	
Total Operating Expenditures	2,686,574	2,732,311	1.7%	
Desired Transfers to Reserves	113,007	32,836	-70.9%	
Total Unit Budget	(106,591)	204,227	-291.6%	

Water & Information Management - Capital Activities Only

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	Change from last year	Notes
Revenues				
Municipal Levies	2,189,754	1,749,604	-25.2%	
Contracts	3,275,766	2,538,331	-22.5%	
All Others incl deferred amounts	217,255	308,288	41.9%	
Total Revenues	5,682,775	4,596,223	-19.1%	Capital projects vary year to year
Capital Expenditures				
Wages, Benefits, Per Diems	188,921	257,525	36.3%	Staff needs for capital works now more accurately projected
Services	4,327,219	3,575,275	-17.4%	
Computers, Property and Utilities	824,014	473,964	-42.5%	
Supplies	46,260	167,186	261.4%	
Total Capital Expenditures	5,386,414	4,473,950	-16.9%	
Desired Transfers to Reserves	225,000	125,000	-44.4%	
Total Unit Budget	71,360	(2,727)	-103.8%	

Lands & Facilities

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	Change from last year	Notes
Revenues				
Municipal Levies	591,579	553,155	-6.9%	Reductions due to redistribution to other units
Contracts	913,243	806,045	-11.7%	Golf course revenues expected to continue decreasing
User Fees	2,100	2,000	-4.8%	
All Others incl deferred amounts	1,982,000	25,000	-98.7%	Little requirement for use of reserves in 2019
Total Revenues	3,488,922	1,386,200	-60.3%	
Operating Expenditures				
Wages, Benefits, Per Diems	942,748	866,448	-8.1%	
Training	8,850	10,100	14.1%	
Legal, Audit, Insurance	32,575	20,900	-35.8%	
Services	1,969,200	85,000	-95.7%	See use of reserves above
Computers, Property and Utilities	124,986	124,400	-0.5%	
Supplies	98,400	45,100	-54.2%	2019 Budget reflects actual more closely
Flow Through Expenses	9,000	8,000	-11.1%	
Depreciation Expenses	17,572	17,572	0.0%	
Allocated Costs	437,942	384,657	-12.2%	
Total Operating Expenditures	3,641,273	1,562,177	-57.1%	
Total Unit Budget	(152,351)	(175,977)	15.5%	

Conservation Areas

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	Change from last year	Notes
Revenues				
Municipal Levies	109,830	113,482	3.2%	Targets directed
Contracts	703,287	838,075	19.2%	Increase reflects new land management agreement with City of Woodstock
User Fees	3,557,759	3,644,079	2.4%	
All Others incl deferred amounts	88,000	175,000	98.9%	Deferred projects from 2018
Total Revenues	4,458,876	4,770,636	7.0%	
Operating Expenditures				
Wages, Benefits, Per Diems	1,986,878	2,042,326	2.8%	
Training	17,250	22,990	33.3%	Implementation of new seasonal staff training program
Legal, Audit, Insurance	107,250	82,000	-23.5%	Did not overestimate insurance as in the past
Services	308,111	371,686	20.6%	Includes airport runway project hazard tree management
Computers, Property and Utilities	886,200	1,003,924	13.3%	Improved communication devices (2-way radios) and property tax increases
Supplies	376,907	359,507	-4.6%	
Depreciation Expenses	76,301	76,373	0.1%	
Allocated Costs	785,907	773,320	-1.6%	
Total Operating Expenditures	4,544,804	4,732,126	4.1%	
Capital Expenditures	-	-		
Total Unit Budget	(85,928)	38,510	-144.8%	

Environmental Planning & Regulations

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	Change from last year	Notes
Revenues				
Municipal Levies	710,000	893,309	20.5%	Includes Targets water quality efforts
Government Transfer Payments	28,952	28,952	0.0%	
Contracts	717,497	815,877	13.7%	
User Fees	195,000	220,140	12.9%	Increasing activity level for inquiries, permits and regulations management
All Others incl deferred amounts	303,278	85,381	-71.8%	Deferred RMO services as per service agreement
Total Revenues	1,954,727	2,043,659	4.5%	
Operating Expenditures				
Wages, Benefits, Per Diems	1,198,710	1,211,106	1.0%	
Training	10,600	13,500	27.4%	Anticipated 2019 staff changes; may require add'l training
Legal, Audit, Insurance	22,000	27,000	22.7%	Increase planned primarily for legal expenses
Services	185,975	171,500	-7.8%	
Computers, Property and Utilities	25,400	27,750	9.3%	
Supplies	7,750	8,400	8.4%	
Allocated Costs	408,153	443,126	8.6%	
Total Operating Expenditures	1,858,588	1,902,382	2.4%	
Total Unit Budget	96,139	141,277	47.0%	

Watershed Planning, Research & Monitoring

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	Change from last year	Notes
Revenues				
Municipal Levies	695,408	698,962	0.5%	Added Targets funding but decreasing general levy allocation
Contracts	174,875	173,200	-1.0%	
User Fees	-	-		
All Others incl deferred amounts	10,941	10,000	-8.6%	
Total Revenues	881,224	882,162	0.1%	
Operating Expenditures				
Wages, Benefits, Per Diems	715,363	708,323	-1.0%	
Training	5,250	5,250	0.0%	
Services	23,000	23,000	0.0%	
Computers, Property and Utilities	10,500	8,500	-19.0%	
Supplies	15,001	16,000	6.7%	
Depreciation Expenses	2,176	2,176	0.0%	
Allocated Costs	265,193	293,969	10.9%	
Total Operating Expenditures	1,036,483	1,057,218	2.0%	
Total Unit Budget	(155,259)	(175,056)	12.8%	Reflects continuing Targets efforts

Conservation Services

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	Change from last year	Notes
Revenues				
Municipal Levies	614,538	763,077	19.5%	Natural heritage and water quality Targets workplan year 3
Contracts	774,040	819,750	5.9%	New ECCC and Agricultural Adaptation Council contracts
User Fees	130,000	151,500	16.5%	Increased tree costs passed on to landowners
All Others incl deferred amounts	794,698	514,746	-35.2%	Ongoing multi-year contracts
Total Revenues	2,313,276	2,249,073	-2.8%	
Operating Expenditures				
Wages, Benefits, Per Diems	750,378	797,456	6.3%	Specific to Targets efforts
Training	1,000	9,000	800.0%	More concentrated training related to specific contracts
Services	62,800	40,700	-35.2%	
Computers, Property and Utilities	50,675	187,603	270.2%	All expenses related to contract obligations
Supplies	291,130	423,133	45.3%	
Flow Through Expenses	73,500	243,361	231.1%	Cost sharing opportunities to landowners as part of contracts
Depreciation Expenses	2,403	2,403	0.0%	
Allocated Costs	457,906	479,206	4.7%	
Total Operating Expenditures	1,689,792	2,182,862	29.2%	
Total Unit Budget	623,484	66,211	-89.4%	

Community Partnerships

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	Change from last year	Notes
Revenues				
Municipal Levies	610,200	652,421	6.5%	
Contracts	599,830	305,270	-49.1%	Provincial and federal contracts ending
User Fees	129,700	145,000	11.8%	
All Others incl deferred amounts	8,935	103,200	1055.0%	Deferred revenues from ongoing programs
Total Revenues	1,348,665	1,205,891	-10.6%	
Operating Expenditures				
Wages, Benefits, Per Diems	815,513	691,294	-15.2%	
Training	4,200	4,100	-2.4%	
Services	28,250	14,150	-49.9%	
Computers, Property and Utilities	71,520	47,220	-34.0%	
Supplies	111,430	118,120	6.0%	
Flow Through Expenses	9,350	31,700	239.0%	Budgeting closer to 2018 actuals
Depreciation Expenses	1,442	1,442	0.0%	
Allocated Costs	406,691	385,514	-5.2%	
Total Operating Expenditures	1,448,396	1,293,540	-10.7%	
Total Unit Budget	(99,731)	(87,649)	-12.1%	

Service Cost Centres

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	Change from last year	Notes
Revenues				
Municipal Levies	32,400	97,217	66.7%	Includes operating reserve levy and deferred levies
Contracts	-	1,500		
User Fees	3,300	3,300	0.0%	
All Others	122,000	147,100	20.6%	
Total Revenues	157,700	249,117	58.0%	
Operating Expenditures				
Wages, Benefits, Per Diems	2,066,300	2,046,954	-0.9%	
Training	40,900	37,000	-9.5%	
Legal, Audit, Insurance	205,851	204,394	-0.7%	
Services	32,250	48,000	48.8%	Includes new investment management fees
Computers, Property and Utilities	444,975	476,200	7.0%	Increases are primarily utility costs
Supplies	188,500	189,100	0.3%	
Depreciation Expenses	480,543	475,618	-1.0%	
Allocated Costs	(3,354,951)	(3,381,195)	0.8%	
Total Operating Expenditures	104,368	96,071	-7.9%	
Desired Transfers to Reserves	52,400	153,048	192.1%	Operating reserve, WCC building reserve, sick leave reserve
Total Unit Budget	932	(2)	-100.2%	

All Units, All Activities

	2018 Budget	2019 Budget	Change from last year	Notes
Revenues				
Municipal Levies	7,346,855	7,330,124	-0.2%	Dam & Flood Control Levy portion reduced for 2019
Government Transfer Payments	351,020	351,016	-0.0%	
Contracts	7,724,238	7,182,848	-7.0%	Provincial contracts expected to fall
User Fees	4,017,859	4,226,019	5.2%	
All Others incl deferred amounts	3,707,507	1,764,278	-52.4%	Investment returns are volatile, deferreds lower in 2019 than 2018, use of reserve funding reduced for 2019
Total Revenues	23,147,479	20,854,284	-9.9%	
Operating Expenditures				
Wages, Benefits, Per Diems	10,058,577	9,886,948	-1.7%	Some reductions in staff hours planned
Training	114,400	106,840	-6.6%	
Legal, Audit, Insurance	400,042	357,294	-10.7%	Estimates reflect actual experience more closely
Services	6,991,805	4,386,311	-37.3%	Reductions related to changes in provincial grants
Computers, Property and Utilities	2,648,877	2,564,286	-3.2%	
Supplies	1,275,728	1,414,096	10.8%	
Flow Through Expenses	91,850	283,061	208.2%	Incentive programs well funded for 2019
Depreciation Expenses	828,446	1,033,045	24.7%	
Allocated Costs	(13,033)	756	-105.8%	
Total Operating Expenditures	22,396,692	20,032,637	-10.6%	
Capital Expenditures	560,500	732,258	30.6%	
Desired Transfers to Reserves	390,407	310,884	-20.4%	
Total Budget All Units	(200,121)	(221,495)	10.7%	



The UTRCA operates and manages a number of water and erosion control structures on behalf of its member municipalities. The operation and maintenance costs for these structures are apportioned to municipalities on a beneficiary pays basis. The UTRCA also maintains and operates a number of recreation dams on behalf of member municipalities. The benefiting municipality for these recreational structures is the municipality within which they are located. Capital maintenance of all of these structures is funded in the same proportions as operating, as shown in the table below.

The UTRCA Board of Directors has approved a 20 Year Capital Maintenance Plan for Water and Erosion Control Structures. This long term plan has been developed to coordinate the timing and financing of major capital repairs to the water and erosion control structures. The plan is reviewed and updated annually, to maintain a rolling 20 year estimate for planning and financing purposes.

With the plan in place, the UTRCA is able to leverage the municipal contributions to pursue senior government funding support for specific projects. The long term cost projections are also used to lobby senior levels of government to continue providing major capital repair grant programs, such as Ontario's Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure program. In 2019, the UTRCA has again obtained funding from the National Disaster Mitigation Program for Major Capital Maintenance Projects.

The amounts for the annual fixed contributions from the affected municipalities have been calculated based on long term flood control capital repair estimates. The 20 Year Capital Maintenance Plan includes provisions for reviews and for the adjustment of the municipal contributions, depending on updated studies and cost estimates. The 2019 Draft Flood Control Capital Levy is described in the following table.

Flood Control Capital Levy Summary

Municipality	Structure	Apportionment	2019 FC Capital Levy Total
Oxford County	Wildwood Dam	0.97%	\$125,000
	Pittock Dam	62.07%	
	Ingersoll Channel	100.00%	
City of London	Fanshawe Dam	100.00%	\$1,486,104
	Wildwood Dam	83.96%	
	Pittock Dam	36.86%	
	London Dykes & Erosion Control Structures	100.00%	
	Springbank Dam	100.00%	
Town of St. Marys	St. Marys Floodwall	100.00%	\$102,000
	Wildwood Dam	14.10%	
City of Stratford	RT Orr Dam & Channel	100.00%	\$25,000
Municipality of West Perth	Fullarton Dam	100.00%	\$5,000
Township of Zorra	Embro Dam	100.00%	\$1,500
	Harrington Dam	100.00%	\$5,000
Total Flood Control Capital Levy			\$1,749,604



Municipality	2018 CVA	2019 CVA	Current Year Operations											Capital Investments						2019 Totals									
			General Levy		Operating Reserve Levy		Dam and Flood Control Levy <i>(see table below for details)</i>		Specific Project Funding		Env Targets Year 3 of 4	Total Municipal Operational Funding		Year over Year Increase		Capital Maintenance		Flood Control Capital Levy		Total Municipal Capital Funding		Year over Year Increase		Total Municipal Funding for Operations and Capital		Year over Year Increase			
			2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2019	2018	2019	\$	%	2018	2019	Structure	2018	2019	2018	2019	\$	%	2018	2019	\$	%	
Oxford County	16.373	16.551	573,096	590,927	5,305	5,470	194,300	185,042			47,690	772,701	829,129	56,428	7.3%	27,560	28,111	WWD & PTTK Dams	124,407	125,000	151,967	153,111	1,144	0.8%	924,668	982,240	57,572	6.2%	
London	65.045	64.698	2,276,729	2,309,891	21,075	21,382	854,866	857,719	105,000	105,000	186,415	3,257,670	3,480,407	222,737	6.8%	109,485	111,675	Total Structures ¹	1,906,526	1,486,104	2,016,011	1,597,779	(418,232)	-20.7%	5,273,681	5,078,186	(195,495)	-3.7%	
Lucan/Biddulph	0.309	0.318	10,827	11,350	100	105	2,176	2,018			916	13,103	14,388	1,285	9.8%	521	531				521	531	10	2.0%	13,624	14,920	1,296	9.5%	
Thames Centre	3.157	3.217	110,499	114,848	1,023	1,063	27,272	25,585			9,269	138,794	150,764	11,970	8.6%	5,314	5,420				5,314	5,420	106	2.0%	144,108	156,185	12,077	8.4%	
Middlesex Centre	2.287	2.287	80,051	81,637	741	756	16,068	14,501			6,588	96,860	103,483	6,623	6.8%	3,850	3,927				3,850	3,927	77	2.0%	100,710	107,410	6,700	6.7%	
Stratford	7.322	7.285	256,292	260,097	2,372	2,408	125,219	96,533			20,991	383,883	380,028	(3,856)	-1.0%	12,325	12,572	RT Orr Dam		25,000	12,325	37,572	25,247	204.8%	396,208	417,599	21,391	5.4%	
Perth East	1.326	1.373	46,402	49,012	430	454	11,861	11,298			3,955	58,693	64,720	6,027	10.3%	2,231	2,276				2,231	2,276	45	2.0%	60,924	66,996	6,072	10.0%	
West Perth	1.365	1.419	47,769	50,651	442	469	47,956	43,583			4,088	96,167	98,791	2,624	2.7%	2,297	2,343	Fullarton Dam		5,000	2,297	7,343	5,046	219.7%	98,464	106,134	7,670	7.8%	
St. Marys	1.532	1.509	53,632	53,882	496	499	41,792	27,396			4,348	95,920	86,125	(9,795)	-10.2%	2,579	2,631	St. Marys Floodwall	100,000	102,000	102,579	104,631	2,052	2.0%	198,499	190,756	(7,744)	-3.9%	
Perth South	1.087	1.143	38,037	40,812	352	378	7,622	7,229			3,294	46,011	51,712	5,701	12.4%	1,829	1,866				1,829	1,866	37	2.0%	47,840	53,577	5,737	12.0%	
S Huron/Usborne	0.198	0.200	6,917	7,148	64	66	1,384	1,265			577	8,365	9,056	691	8.3%	333	340				333	340	7	2.0%	8,698	9,396	698	8.0%	
Zorra		0		-	-	-	15,000	8,500			-	15,000	8,500	(6,500)	-43.3%		-	Harrington \$5,000 Embro \$1,500	\$1,500	6,500	-	6,500	6,500			15,000	15,000	-	0.0%
SW Oxford				-	-	-	5,610	5,610			-	5,610	5,610	-	0.0%		-				-	-	-			5,610	5,610	-	0.0%
Total	100	100	3,500,251	3,570,256	32,400	33,048	1,351,126	1,286,279	105,000	105,000	288,130	4,988,777	5,282,713	293,936	5.9%	168,324	171,690		2,130,933	1,749,604	2,299,257	1,921,294	(377,963)	-16.4%	7,288,034	7,204,008	(84,026)	-1.2%	

¹Total City of London Structures (Flood Control Capital Levy)

2019 UTRCA Draft Budget: Dam & Flood Control Levy - Details

Municipality	2018 CVA	2019 CVA	Flood Forecasting	Plan & Tech Studies	Small Holdings	Wildwood Dam		Pittock Dam		100% Structures		2018	2019
						%	\$	%	\$	Structure	\$		
Oxford County	16.373	16.551	94,896	6,835	1,134	0.97	1,095	62.07	58,582	Ingersoll Channel	22,500	194,300	185,042
London	65.045	64.698	370,940	26,718	4,432	83.91	94,757	36.81	34,741	Total Structures ²	326,131	854,866	857,719
Lucan/Biddulph	0.309	0.318	1,823	131	22	0.02	23	0.02	19			2,176	2,018
Thames Centre	3.157	3.217	18,443	1,328	220	0.19	215	0.19	179	Dorchester Mill Pond Dam & Dorchester CA Dam (\$2,600 ea)	5,200	27,272	25,585
Middlesex Centre	2.287	2.287	13,110	944	157	0.14	158	0.14	132			16,068	14,501
Stratford	7.322	7.285	41,768	3,009	499	0.44	497	0.44	415	RT Orr Dam & Channel	50,345	125,219	96,533
Perth East	1.326	1.373	7,871	567	94	0.08	90	0.08	76	Shakespeare Dam	2,600	11,861	11,298
West Perth	1.365	1.419	8,134	586	97	0.08	90	0.08	76	Mitchell Dam (\$32,000) & Fullarton Dam (\$2,600)	34,600	47,956	43,583
St. Marys	1.532	1.509	8,653	623	103	14.10	15,923	0.10	94	St. Marys Floodwall	2,000	41,792	27,396
Perth South	1.087	1.143	6,554	472	78	0.06	68	0.06	57			7,622	7,229
South Huron/Usborne	0.198	0.200	1,148	83	14	0.01	11	0.01	9			1,384	1,265
Zorra										Harrington Dam & Embro Dam	8,500	15,000	8,500
South West Oxford										Centreville Dam	5,610	5,610	5,610
Total Member Municipalities	100.00	100.00	573,340	41,296	6,850	100.00	112,927	100.00	94,380		457,486	1,351,126	1,286,279

Totals	
Fanshawe Dam	10,000
Wildwood & Pittock Dams	120,000
London Dykes	1,356,104
Total London Structures	1,486,104

²Total City of London Structures (Dam & Flood Control Levy)

Totals	
Fanshawe Dam	300,825
Springbank Dam	14,616
London Dykes/Erosion Control	10,690
Total London Structures	326,131

To: UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Chris Tasker, Manager, Water & Information Management
Date: February 13, 2019 **Agenda #:** 9 (b)
Subject: Pending 2019 Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) Project Proposal **Filename:** FC # 1480

Recommendation:

That the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the attached UTRCA 2019/20 WECI Project Proposal and Total Project Budgets for submission when the 2019 call for WECI Applications is issued by the MNRF.

Background:

The Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) program provides provincial funding for capital repairs of CA infrastructure. This program provides 50% funding for eligible repairs and studies. In past years, project submissions have been made in February for review by the WECI committee made up of representatives from MNRF, Conservation Ontario and Conservation Authorities. Projects are prioritized to determine which projects are approved for the 5 million dollars of provincial funding available each year. Provincial funding must be matched with local funding which generally come from flood control levy or program reserves.

In late January of this year, CAs received notification that MNRF does not have any information on this year's WECI application process as the government is undertaking a spending review and the 2019 Call for WECI Applications has not yet been scheduled. For comparison, the 2018/19 WECI Application was due on February 12, 2018. Having an approved project list and budgets will allow submission of applications if and when a request for applications is received. If a call for applications is not received, projects may be adjusted to allow them to proceed with available local funding or deferred to a subsequent year.

The proposed projects for the 2019 WECI fiscal year ending March 31, 2020 are outlined in the attached table including a brief description and total budget for each project. The list of projects is based on the 20 Year Flood Control Capital Repair Plan with some projects that have become a higher priority. The local share of the project costs are supported through structure reserves or have been included as levy in the proposed 2019 Budget.

Project Proposal Highlights:

- The total estimated cost of the proposed 2019/20 WECI projects is \$3,993,000
- 4 repair projects are subsequent phases from previously funded WECI projects.
- The total project costs include UTRCA project management and labour costs where applicable as these costs are eligible for WECI funding.

Please contact David Charles (x244 or charlesd@thamesriver.on.ca) or Chris Tasker (x238 or taskerc@thamesriver.on.ca) if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Recommended by:

Chris Tasker, Manager
Flood Control
attachment

Prepared by:

David Charles, Supervisor
Water Control Structures

UTRCA 2019/20 WECI Project Proposal - Planned Funding Application 8 Repair Projects and 4 Studies Name & Description	2019/20 Total Project Budget
St. Marys Floodwall Rehabilitation Phase 3 - Continuation of 2017 - 2019 WECI/NDMP funded projects including repairs to the foundation, wall and earth dyke segments. The total project value for Phases 1 - 3 is \$1,046,000 including the funding application that was submitted to the NDMP on September 14, 2018 for 2019/2020.	\$256,000 Repair
West London Dyke Phase 5A Reconstruction - The reconstruction of the West London Dyke was identified as part of the Master Repair Plan EA. The Phase 5 design is ongoing as per the 2018/19 WECI Project and the 2017 - 2019 NDMP Project. Phase 5A reconstruction includes 200 m of replacement dyke upstream of the Blackfriars Bridge. The project may also be funded by the NDMP or DMAF as per the funding applications submitted on September 14, 2018 and January 11, 2019 respectively.	\$3,000,000 Repair
Pittock Dam Gate Heater Replacement Design - Gate/gain heaters are failing and in need of replacement. Heaters are only functional at 1 of 5 gates. Heaters are required to keep gains free of ice to allow operation of the gates in the winter. Controller is desired to rotate heating between gates to reduce heating costs.	\$50,000 Repair
Fanshawe Dam Phase 6 Painting and Concrete Repairs - Continuation of the 2017 - 2019 WECI Phase 4 & 5 Projects with the remaining painting work in 2 of 6 upstream along with the completion of the concrete repairs on the north wingwall and piers.	\$300,000 Repair
Wildwood Dam Motor Control Centre Replacement Design - The motor control centre (MCC) is the original unit and reaching the end of its life expectancy. The UTRCA would like to issue an RFP for the design of a new unit with similar capabilities of the recently installed MCC at the Fanshawe Dam as part of the 2016/17 WECI Project.	\$50,000 Repair
Wildwood Dam Gate Painting & Gate Wheel Replacement Phase 1 - The gate wheels have been problematic for the past several years. The intent is to issue a RFP in order for a consultant to combine the gate painting with the replacement of the gate wheels for 1 or 2 gates depending on the costs as the project will require the removal of the respective gates in order for the repairs and painting to be completed at a local shop.	\$100,000 Repair
Wildwood Dam Exhaust Fan & Duct Replacement - Exhaust fan for air circulation through the dam gallery requires replacement. Exhaust duct is also required as the fan is not effective in current configuration when the south entrance doors are open to the outside.	\$10,000 Repair
Orr Dam Wingwall Repairs Phase 1 - Orr Stability Study indicates that the upstream wingwalls and downstream retaining walls are reaching an unstable condition. Advance the preliminary design of the recommended preventative and remedial actions to preferred design, tender package and detailed estimates of construction costs with a potential for Phase 1 of construction depending on recommendations and urgency as per upcoming final report in March 2018.	\$100,000 Repair
Fullarton Dam Environmental Assessment - Determine the preferred option for the future of the dam.	\$50,000 Study
Dam Safety Studies Phase 1 Scoping for Fanshawe, Wildwood and Pittock Dams - Research, Scoping, Workplan and Terms of Reference by consultant for the required continuations to the studies completed in 2004 - 2007 in order for the Phase 2 Dam Safety Studies to begin in 2020.	\$50,000 Study
Harrington Dam Cultural Heritage Reports (CHER, HIA) - When the final draft EA project files were discussed with municipal council it was determined that a Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (CHER) should be completed prior to posting the notice of completion of the EA. The scope of this project is limited to the additional work required to complete the CHER and Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA)	\$18,000 Study
Embro Dam Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (CHER) - When the final draft EA project files were discussed with municipal council it was determined that a Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report should be completed prior to posting the notice of completion of the EA. This project is intended to complete the CHER and update the EA project file based on the results.	\$9,000 Study
Total	\$3,993,000

To: UTRCA Board of Directors
From: Michelle Viglianti
Date: January 29, 2019
Subject: 2019 Board of Directors Meeting Dates

Agenda #: 9 (c)
Filename: ::ODMA\GRPWISE\UT_MAIN.UT
RCA_PO.Administration:3246.1

Recommendation:

Tuesday March 26, 2019
Tuesday April 23, 2019
Tuesday May 28, 2019
Tuesday June 25, 2019
Tuesday August 27, 2019
Tuesday September 24, 2019
Tuesday October 22, 2019
Tuesday November 26, 2019

As in previous years all Board of Directors meetings will be held on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 9:30am in the WCC Boardroom, with the exception of the Annual General Meeting. There are no meetings scheduled for July and December.

Recommended by:

Ian Wilcox,
General Manager



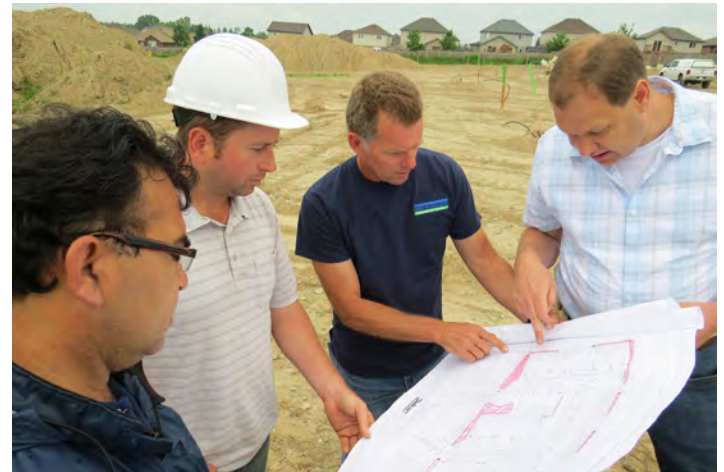
Tree Power is Coming!

London Hydro and the UTRCA are once again partnering to distribute 600 native shade trees to London homeowners. This is the ninth year for the Tree Power program!

On-line ordering opens on March 19 at 10 am, at www.treepowerprogram.ca
Contact: John Enright, Forester

Southwestern Ontario Low Impact Development (LID) Training

The Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program (STEP) is a partnership between the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Credit Valley Conservation, and Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority. The program has received funding through Canada's Climate Change Adaptation Platform, with support from Natural Resources Canada. The funding will be used to enhance and expand Low Impact Development (LID) training offerings.



Training is critical for anyone involved in LID features.



Rural Landowner Workshop

Find out about grants and environmental work in your watershed

This year's Rural Landowner Workshop will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 7-9 pm, at the St. Marys Pyramid Recreation Centre.

The keynote speaker will be Dan Breen, a Putnam-area dairy farmer and the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association's 2018 Soil Champion. Other presentations will include:

- Saving Butternut,
- Creating a Pond or Wetland on your Property: Local Examples,
- The Cade Tract: New Conservation Area to Explore, and
- Landowner Engagement.

Everyone is welcome to this free evening event. Please check out [the flyer](#) for more details.

Contact: John Enright, enrightj@thamesriver.on.ca

Between March 2018 and March 2020, STEP will be developing new training tools and resources to help professionals learn to design, construct, inspect, operate, maintain and monitor LID stormwater features. In addition, STEP will be delivering 20 in-class courses across Ontario at subsidized rates, including three days in southwestern Ontario.

The UTRCA, along with the Maitland Valley and St. Clair Region Conservation Authorities, is assisting with the presentation of the southwestern Ontario training at the Strathroy Gemini Sportsplex on March 27-29. The training will include three, one-day courses:

- **Day 1 – Introduction to LID:** This course will explore how LID differs from traditional stormwater practices, and why LID is becoming a necessary part of our infrastructure. Participants will learn the fundamentals of LID and review

common misconceptions about LID performance. The course will also address overcoming common barriers to implementing LID, including planning, design, construction, assumption, operations and maintenance.

- **Day 2 – Bioretention Design:** Water management practitioners need to be familiar with the ‘ins and outs’ of bioretention design, including sizing and siting, inlet and outlet design, material specification, and construction planning, as well as the associated lifecycle inspection and maintenance requirements that should be considered during the design process. Participants will be guided through a bioretention design, using an example project site.
- **Day 3 – LID Treatment Train Tool and WIKI Guide:** This workshop is an overview of the LID Treatment Train Tool (LID TTT) and introduces the updated LID Planning and Design Guide. A walk through of the capabilities of the LID TTT tool, case study examples, and a Q & A and experimentation period will be components of the morning workshop. In the afternoon, participants will focus on infiltration/exfiltration design equations.

Participants can sign up for all three days, or only attend the session(s) most relevant to them. The fee is \$100 per course. Typically, STEP charges \$250 per course; the NRCan funding has helped to reduce this cost by more than half.

Contact Vanni Azzano, Community Education Supervisor

Connect to Nature with Wildwood

Wildwood Conservation Area (CA) staff and community education staff were at a very cold Stratford Winterfest to promote various nature-based opportunities at Wildwood. CA staff partnered with Totally Spoke’d to set up a short trail for fat bikes and supply bikes for the public to ride. Participants were also able to use natural forest materials to imagine and create with.

We look forward to having a warming station with a fire next year!
Contact: Paul Switzer, Superintendent, Wildwood Conservation Area, or Vanni Azzano, Community Education Supervisor



The cold didn't keep these people from enjoying Stratford Winterfest.



New ESAs & Updated Brochures

The UTRCA's Environmentally Significant Area (ESA) Management Team, funded by the City of London, manages 11 ESAs, including four new properties: Lower Dingman (20 ha), Coves (47 ha), Kelly Stanton (5 ha), and Pottersburg Valley (14 ha). The City of London acquired these sites over the last few years, adding more public natural areas throughout London.

UTRCA staff have produced new brochures with maps for the Lower Dingman and Coves ESAs. Also completed were updates to the brochures of the seven older ESAs (Kains Woods, Kilally Meadows, Meadowlily Woods, Medway Valley, Sifton Bog, Warbler Woods, and Westminster Ponds/Pond Mills). The covers have a fresh look and the text and maps have been updated. The text was trimmed down to allow larger font sizes to be used. New sections on First Nations history and ecological restoration efforts have been added.

These nine brochures are available on the [UTRCA](#) and [City of London](#) websites. There are also maps (but not full brochures) for the Kelly Stanton and Pottersburg Valley ESAs on the websites.

Contact: Cathy Quinlan, Terrestrial Biologist

Innovative Method for Removing Phosphorus from Subsurface Drainage Tiles

It is well documented that agricultural drainage tiles can convey nutrients directly to an open watercourse. How much depends on many factors, including nutrient levels in the surrounding soil, soil type, field management, and the amount of rainfall or snow melt.

The UTRCA is leading a new research and demonstration project to look at an innovative method to possibly reduce these



Slag material.



UTRCA staff discuss the slag filter design and installation with the area farmer on whose land one of two demonstration and testing sites will be located.

nutrient losses. Project partner Bluewater Pipe will design and fabricate a refillable ‘cartridge’ that will be installed in a tile system near its outlet. The cartridge will be filled with a by-product of the steel manufacturing industry, commonly known as slag. It is anticipated that phosphorus in tile water will bind to the slag through a chemical reaction and eventually be removed from the system when the cartridge is replaced.

The two year project will get underway in the spring. It is funded by the Thames River Phosphorus Collaborative, and partners include Stelco, McCutcheon Farm Drainage and Bluewater Pipe. *Contact: Brad Glasman, Manager, Conservation Services*

Wildwood Plantation Thinning

In late December 2018, a contractor hired by the UTRCA began thinning conifer plantations at Wildwood Conservation Area (CA). Planted in the 1960s after the park was created, most of the plantations are approximately 50 years old. Winter is the ideal time to do this work, as the snow cover and frozen ground minimize ground disturbance. It is hoped that all the work will be completed by mid-February.

Approximately 40 hectares (100 acres) have been marked by forestry staff for thinning. This will be the third time that most of the 40 ha have been commercially thinned.



UTRCA’s Jay Ebel marks a white pine to be removed.



Cut-to-length harvester working in spruce plantation.

Thinning is being done by a two person cut-to-length harvesting system. Trees are felled, delimited, and cut into log lengths by a tracked harvester. A wheeled forwarder then forwards the logs to the roadside, where they are picked up by a log truck and delivered to local sawmills.

Most of the material being cut will be sawn into 4x4 and 6x6 squares for pressure treating. Some of the larger logs will be sawn into dimensional lumber.



White pine sawlogs ready for shipping.

The goal of thinning is to increase the plantations’ overall health and diversity. Planted as mostly pure blocks of white pine, white spruce and Norway spruce, the plantations stabilized soil and created habitat. The trees were planted at a density of 3000 trees/ha (1.8 m x 1.8 m spacing). Thinning allows them to continue to grow at an optimum rate. After approximately 25 years, the plantations can be thinned every 10-15 years. In each thinning, approximately 25% of the trees are removed. The first thinning removed every fourth row to allow equipment access for future thinning. In each subsequent thinning, trees are selected for removal based on spacing and tree health. The goal is to “release” the healthy dominant trees by giving them more space and sunlight.



Aerial view of white pine plantation showing thinned (left side) and unthinned (right side) areas. Log piles are visible on the forest floor.

At the same time, by opening the crown and allowing more sunlight to penetrate, hardwood trees should start to self seed into the plantations. Under proper management these once mono-culture plantations should convert to diverse natural hardwood stands. The issue at Wildwood is an overpopulation of deer whose browsing is preventing the hardwoods from regenerating.

Contact: John Enright, Forester

Lake Victoria Trail Enhancements

The UTRCA, in partnership with the Rotary Club of Stratford and Stratford's Energy and Environment Committee, will be increasing accessibility along the loop trail around Lake Victoria. Sixty metres of shoreline will be enhanced with wooden cribs, river stone and aquatic plants. Two viewing areas will be incorporated into the work, enabling people using walkers or wheelchairs to enjoy the vista along the lake. Additional benefits include shoreline stability, aquatic and biodiversity, and improved safety along this section of the trail. Work will begin in February and should be completed before the swans' parade in April.

Contact: Craig Merkley, Conservation Services Specialist

It's Raining Cover Crops!

More than three years of monitoring in the Upper Medway Creek has shown that the non-growing season (November to April) is when the majority of phosphorus runoff occurs. Cover crops offer erosion control and can improve soil structure, reducing the risk of soil and nutrient runoff. If farmland can be covered through the non-growing season, the expectation is that phosphorus losses can be reduced during this time period. The Upper Medway project will test cover crops on 2000 acres to see if phosphorus reductions can be attained on the larger scale.



Aerial seeding of cover crops establishes the seeds before corn or soybean is harvested in the fall.



Broad uptake of cover crops in the Upper Medway is expected to reduce phosphorus runoff during the non-growing season.

Conventionally, cover crop seed is broadcast or planted after harvest. For this project, staff have partnered with Paul and David Hodgins from General Airspray to offer aerial seed application as an option to farmers. This method will use an airplane to drop cover crop seed into the standing cash crop, which can minimize time and equipment commitments for landowners and ensure seed establishment earlier in the fall.

Contact: Michael Funk, Agricultural Soil & Water Quality Technician

Board of Directors - On the Agenda

The next Board of Directors meeting will be the UTRCA Annual General Meeting on February 21, 2019, at the Watershed Conservation Centre, located in Fanshawe Conservation Area. Agendas and approved minutes are posted on our "Board Agendas & Minutes" page at www.thamesriver.on.ca.

- Dingman Delegation Report to Board
- Transition to 2019 Board
- Elections: Chair, Vice-Chair, Hearings Committee (3 positions), Finance & Audit Committee (2-4 positions), Source Protection Striking Committee/Committee Liaison (1 position)
- Delegation - Perth South, St. Marys & Ingersoll
- Presentation and Approval of 2019 Draft Budgets
- Pending 2019 Capital Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure Projects
- 2019 Meeting Schedule
- February For Your Information Report
- Retiring Board Member Presentations
- Presentation of Service Awards
- UTRCA Community Conservation Award
- Guest Speaker: David Mayberry

Contact: Michelle Vigilanti, Administrative Assistant