

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

REPORT NO. 1

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AND THE COMMISSIONER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

**For Consideration by
The Council of The Regional Municipality of York
on May 28, 2009**

1

WATER AND WASTEWATER MASTER PLAN UPDATE DRAFT REPORT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. Regional Council receive the Draft Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update report contained in *Attachments 1 and 2*.
2. Regional Council authorize staff to file a public notice of study completion and to place on public record the Draft Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update report for a minimum 30-day public review period.
3. Regional Council direct staff to report back with final Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update report incorporating comments received in the fall of 2009.
4. The Regional Clerk forward a copy of this report to the clerks of the local municipalities, Durham Region, Peel Region, Simcoe County, City of Toronto, and to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, Toronto & Region Conservation Authority, Provincial Ministries of Environment, Municipal Affairs and Housing, Energy and Infrastructure, and Natural Resources for review and comment by September 30, 2009.

2. PURPOSE

This report seeks Regional council authorization to file the Draft Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update report for a minimum 30-day public review period as part of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Master Plan process, circulate it to the local municipalities and other stakeholders for review and comment, for staff to complete any necessary consultation as a result of this review.

3. BACKGROUND

Final round of public consultation centres was conducted in early 2009

As part of the public consultation strategy for the Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update, a total of three rounds of Public Consultation Centres (PCCs) were held throughout the Region. At its January 7, 2009 meeting, the Planning and Economic Development Committee endorsed the recommendation to present the draft water and wastewater master plan recommendations to the public in the third and final round of PCCs. The third round of PCCs was conducted on January 15, 20, 21, and February 4, 2009 in the municipalities of Newmarket, Richmond Hill, Whitchurch-Stouffville, and Aurora. For the third round of PCCs, York Region incorporated a variation of the *Dot-mocracy* technique to gauge public opinion about recommendations presented by the study team. A public consultation session will also be scheduled in Durham Region.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Comments received at final round of public consultation centres

The comments received throughout the consultation process will be documented as part of the study's Consultation Record. Through a 'dot-mocracy' surveying process, the public supported the following solutions to York Region's long-term water and wastewater needs:

- Proceed with Lake Ontario based servicing (Alternative 1) as the most sustainable long term solution.
- Seek approval for an increase under the Great Lakes Charter for an Intra-basin transfer.
- Explore with Peel Region the potential to treat additional wastewater above the current agreement.
- Continue to enhance the Water Efficiency Program (Water for Tomorrow).
- Continue with inflow/infiltration reduction/prevention program.

- Implement operational changes to optimize use of groundwater from the Yonge Street Aquifer.
- Limit wastewater discharges to Lake Simcoe to comply with the Lake Simcoe Protection Act.
- Ensure consideration of natural environment enhancements associated with each major infrastructure project.
- Develop an overall climate change strategy including a program aimed at reducing greenhouse gases on a per capita basis.
- Develop an overall climate change strategy including a program to manage future risks in water and wastewater infrastructure based on principles of adaptation and building resiliency.

Apart from supporting the recommendations of the project team, members of the public also provided verbal and written comments. These comments included:

- Review the Region's role in stormwater management
- Reduce reliance on groundwater for drinking water supply
- Eliminate or reduce infiltration and inflow into the Regional sewer system
- Extend municipal services into the Vandorf/Gormley area

All comments received have been considered in the study

All comments received in the prior rounds of PCCs were considered and incorporated in our draft recommendations presented in the third round of PCCs. Comments received from the third and last round of PCCs are incorporated in this set of draft reports.

Draft reports are ready for final public and stakeholder consultation

With the conclusion of the public consultation centres and refinement of study recommendations, a set of draft reports documenting the process, analyses and recommendations is ready for final public and stakeholder review and comment. The draft reports prepared include an executive summary, main study report, compendium of technical appendices, and a record of study consultation comments.

The Master Plan Update report contains sections describing the following elements:

- Innovative study approach incorporating sustainability principles and best practices
- Identification of existing conditions and relevant policies and plans driving the need for the Master Plan update
- Review of the planning process and public consultation initiatives conducted as part of the study
- Recommended set of water and wastewater plans to address the sustainability goals

- Complementary set of policies and strategies emphasizing the sustainability principles
- Recommended phasing plan for the implementation of the water and wastewater master plan as well as the policies and strategies
- Estimate of the total cost of the master plan and potential funding and other resource needs.

The draft Executive Summary report summarizing the key findings and recommendations is attached (*Council Attachment 1*), as is the draft Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update report detailing the approach, recommended plans, and implementation strategy (*Attachment 2*).

Draft reports to be filed for final public and stakeholder consultation

Staff seeks Regional Council authorization to place a public notice of study completion and to place on public record the draft reports for a minimum 30-day public review period. Draft reports will also be distributed to local municipalities and other stakeholders on the study Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for final review and comment. In addition to the local municipalities in York Region, TAC members include adjacent regional municipalities, conservation authorities, provincial ministries, and other stakeholders.

Final Water and Wastewater Master Plan Report presented in Fall 2009

Comments received from the 30-day public review period will be considered and incorporated into the final study reports. Final study reports will be prepared and presented to Regional Council for endorsement in the fall of 2009.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Master Plan Capital Cost Estimates

Tables 1 and 2 show the estimated capital costs for the recommended servicing alternative for water and wastewater to the year 2051. The project capital costs do not include any allowance for annual O&M costs. The majority of the capital costs will be spent in the period to 2031 with approximately 28% being estimated for the post 2031 period. Also shown in the tables are the rehabilitation costs that are non-growth related capital costs.

Table 1

Recommended Alternative – Summary of Wastewater Capital Works to 2051

Growth/ Non- Growth	Facilities	Capital Cost – MP Update (in millions)		
		2009- 2031	2032- 2051	Total 2051
Growth	Sewers/Forcemains	\$ 1,493	-	\$ 1,493
	Pumping Stations	\$ 51	-	\$ 51
	Treatment	\$ 501	\$ 542	\$ 1,043
	Outfalls	\$ 73	-	\$ 73
	External Costs	\$ 45	-	\$ 45
	Assessment, Planning and Enhancement	\$ 193	\$ 168	\$ 361
Non- Growth	Rehabilitation and Replacement	\$ 509	\$ 630	\$ 1,139
Total		\$ 2,865	\$1,340	\$ 4,205

Table 2

Recommended Alternative – Summary of Water Capital Works to 2051

Growth/ Non- Growth	Facilities	Capital Cost – MP Update (in million)		
		2009- 2031	2032- 2051	Total 2051
Growth	Watermains	\$ 313	-	\$ 313
	Pumping Stations	\$ 48	\$ 25	\$ 73
	Storage	\$ 271	\$ 8	\$ 279
	Supply and Treatment	\$ 67	\$ 20	\$ 87
	Decommissioning	\$ 9	-	\$ 9
	External Works	\$ 700	-	\$ 700
	Programs and Initiatives	\$ 108	\$ 90	\$ 198
	Assessment, Planning and Enhancement	\$ 165	\$ 144	\$ 309

Non- Growth	Rehabilitation and Replacement	\$ 215	\$ 218	\$ 433
Total		\$ 1,896	\$ 505	\$ 2,401

Staff had previously reported preliminary capital cost estimates for the water and wastewater projects through the January 7, 2009 staff report on *Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update and Public Consultation Centres*. Those estimates were further refined and reviewed with the Environmental Services and Finance Departments. Estimated costs presented in Tables 1 and 2 compared to the previously reported estimates reflect an increase in water projects costs, particularly in the major rehabilitation and replacement category. In addition, capital costs related to system capacity assessment, master planning and environmental enhancement were identified as a result of the comprehensive review of the preliminary costs based on the current 10-year capital program.

25 Year Fiscal and Economic Analysis will be completed by the end of 2009

Regional staff continue to estimate the cost components which are inputs into the 25 – Year Fiscal Impact Study, anticipated to be completed by year end 2009. These cost estimates will also be inputs to the next Development Charges By-law update.

The 25-year fiscal and economic analysis is being undertaken to assess the costs in water and sewer infrastructure investment as well as transportation investment and human services investment associated with the amount of growth anticipated to occur in York Region by 2031. The fiscal and economic analysis will include an evaluation of long-range capital expenditures and revenues, operating costs, tax levy impacts, reserve fund and debt requirements.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

Local municipalities are fully engaged and consulted

The water and wastewater master plan update provides the framework to support long term growth and development across the local municipalities. Local municipal representatives are part of each study's Technical Advisory Committee. Their input and assistance in the development of the Master Plan are key to planning for sustainable future growth in our communities. During the month of March 2009, a series of meetings with each of the nine local municipalities was conducted to review the proposed works and the associated timing as they applied to each municipality. In addition, a TAC meeting was held in May 2009 to review the draft Master Plan and to obtain any

remaining comments. Attachment 3 provides a chronology of interaction with local area municipalities.

Final opportunity to comment

When the Draft Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update report is placed on the public record for the minimum 30-day public review period, local municipalities will have an opportunity to comment. When the Draft Update reports are circulated to the local municipalities and other stakeholders, there will be sufficient time allowed for local council comments as they will have a final opportunity to review and comment by September 30, 2009.

7. CONCLUSION

The third and final round of the Public Consultation Centres for the Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update was conducted in January and February 2009. The comments received from the public and stakeholders are incorporated in the draft reports.

Staff seeks Regional Council authorization to place on public record the Draft Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update reports for a minimum 30-day public review period. This report also recommends the circulation of the Draft Update reports to the local municipalities and other stakeholders for review and comment by September 30, 2009.

For more information on this report, please contact Paul May, Director, Infrastructure Planning Branch at 905-830-4444, Ext. 5029.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

Respectfully submitted,

May 15, 2009
Newmarket, Ontario

E. Mahoney
Commissioner of Environmental Services

B. Tuckey
**Commissioner of Planning and
Development Services**

***(Report No. 1 of the Commissioner of Environmental Services and the
Commissioner of Planning and Development Services was adopted as amended,
by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting on May 28,
2009.)***