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THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BARRIE
Engineering Department
"Committed to Total Service Excellence"

November 26, 2015

File: D03-CO2

To All Area Residents / Business Owners / Tenants / Agencies:

**Re: Comprehensive Stormwater Management Master Plan
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA)
Public Information Centre No. 2**

The Corporation of the City of Barrie (City) has retained the consulting firm Aquafor Beech Ltd. to complete a Comprehensive Stormwater Management Master Plan (CSWM-MP) as required by Policy 4.5 of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan (LSPP). The LSPP requires the completion of this study for each settlement area that drains to Lake Simcoe, thus the portion of the City that drains to Lake Simcoe is included in this study (see attached Study Area map). The purpose of the LSPP is to restore aquatic life, improve water quality, maintain water quantity, improve shorelines and natural heritage features and address impacts of invasive species, climate change and recreational activities. The development and implementation of the CSWM-MP is seen as a key vehicle for meeting the vision and objectives of the LSPP. The CSWM-MP will provide direction to the City of Barrie on how the LSPP objectives will be achieved through the effective management of stormwater within existing and expanding settlement areas.

In an effort to develop a consistent city-wide stormwater policy, the City has proactively expanded the scope of this project to include the remaining areas of the City that are within the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority boundary. This study now encompasses all areas within the City's boundary.

This CSWM-MP is being prepared in accordance with the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) guidance document following Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) process pursuant to the approved procedures, as defined in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment dated October 2000, and as amended in 2007 and 2011. The Notice of Study Commencement was advertised on January 30, 2014 and April 11, 2014. This letter is to advise you of upcoming activities and the progress that has been made on this study and for this Class EA.

Upcoming Activities:

A second Public Information Centre (PIC) is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 15th, 2015, 4:00pm to 7:00pm, in the Sir Robert Barrie Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 70 Collier Street**. The public is invited to attend the PIC to view project information panels and provide comments regarding the preliminary preferred SWM strategy and additional SWM retrofit opportunities that have been identified (see attached map). Aquafor Beech project team members and City staff will be available to discuss issues and concerns with members of the public. Input and comments will be accepted by the City until January 12, 2016. Comments and responses received from the PIC will be considered in fine tuning of the preliminary preferred alternative solution that will be presented to City Council.

The first PIC was held on Thursday, June 25, 2015 to receive comments regarding the proposed alternative SWM strategies and additional SWM retrofit opportunities (within LSRCA boundaries). The following alternatives are being considered at PIC #2:

Alternative 1 – Traditional Stormwater Management (Do Nothing): This alternative allows for the consideration of maintaining traditional SWM systems consisting of storm sewers and wet ponds providing water quality treatment as well as quantity (flood protection) and erosion control.

Comprehensive Stormwater Management Master Plan (CSWM-MP)

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Alternative 2 – Stormwater Management using LID Practices: This alternative consists of implementing Low Impact Development (LID) practices to utilize natural processes to provide water quality treatment. Primary components of this alternative include implementing LIDs as part of City road reconstruction projects, retrofitting direct draining catchments to Lake Simcoe using mechanical devices and implementation of additional SWM retrofit opportunities.

Alternative 3 - Combination of Traditional Stormwater Management with LID Practices: This alternative is a combination of Alternative 1 (Traditional Stormwater Management) and Alternative 2 (LID Practices).

Stormwater Management Funding: LSRCA requires that municipalities within its watershed examine funding sources to operate a financially sustainable stormwater management system including implementation of recommendations in this study. Preliminary assessments indicate a significant stormwater infrastructure funding gap exists. The City is seeking comments as to whether alternative funding mechanisms should be evaluated to eliminate this funding gap.

Comments and responses received from the PIC will be considered in the fine tuning of the preliminary preferred alternative. The alternatives have been evaluated based on the physical, natural, social, cultural heritage and economic environments. The preliminary preferred alternative has been identified as Alternative 3 – Combination of Traditional Stormwater Management with LID Practices.

Next Steps:

Following the completion of PIC #2 and in consideration of all comments received from the review agencies and public consultation, the preliminary preferred alternative will be further refined. The final report and accompanying recommendations will then be presented to City Council for ratification. Those individuals and parties that request to be kept informed of the Class EA process will be notified of the date that General Committee will be presented with the CSWM-MP.

On December 11, 2015 a PDF version of the updated draft Phases 1 and 2 Report will be available online at (www.barrie.ca/EASStudies). A paper copy of the updated Draft Class EA will be available for review at the following locations on December 11, 2015:

City of Barrie
Clerk's Office
City Hall, 1st Floor
70 Collier Street
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

City of Barrie
Engineering
City Hall, 6th Floor
70 Collier Street
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

Barrie Public Library
Downtown
Information Desk
60 Worsley Street
Barrie, ON L4M 1L6

Barrie Public Library
Painswick Branch
Information Desk
48 Dean Avenue
Barrie, ON L4N 0C2

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please feel free to contact Mr. Brett Gratrix at (705) 739-4220, extension 5117, or e-mail brett.gratrix@barrie.ca

Yours truly,



B. Gratrix, P. Eng.
Infrastructure Planning Engineer

BG/sm

Figure 1 – Map of Study Area and Additional End-of-Pipe Stormwater Management Opportunities



