



Environmental Services

## Memorandum

To: Committee of the Whole  
From: Erin Mahoney, M. Eng.  
Commissioner, Environmental Services  
Date: October 20, 2016  
Re: **2016 Water and Wastewater Master Plan  
Final Consultation Comments**

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The purpose of this memo is to provide a summary of the activities of the 2016 Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update and comments received as part of the public review for the Master Plan report since its endorsement by Council on June 23, 2016.

Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update endorsed by Council June 2016

The 2016 Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update Report and Executive Summary was received by Committee of the Whole on June 9 and endorsed by Council on June 23.

Following Council endorsement, stakeholders were notified of the completion of the Master Plan through local newspaper advertisements, email and posting of the report and notice on the Regional website.

Joint Notice of Master Plan Completion and Comment Period issued July 21

On July 21, 2016, the Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update and associated background reports were made available for public review, alongside the updated Transportation Master Plan. The public comment period ended on September 15, 2016.

The joint Notice of Completion and Comment Period was published on the Regional website and in local newspapers on July 21. Email notifications were sent to 691 stakeholders from the Water and Wastewater Master Plan contact list. A second round of joint newspaper ads was published on July 28.

Electronic copies of the Master Plan were available through the Region's website. Print copies were available through the Regional Clerk's office and each local municipal Clerk's office.

Total of fourteen comments were received on the Water and Wastewater Master Plan during the public review period

A total of fourteen comments on the Master Plan were received during the public review from eight individuals, agencies, stakeholders and First Nations. A summary of the key comments received from the public, stakeholders and First Nations during the public review period includes:

- Questions on how wastewater usage is accounted for in water rates and how the Region is working towards reducing the volume of wastewater discharge
- Requests for status and timing of capital projects and plans to extend Regional water and wastewater services to unserved lands
- General support for the Master Plan

A detailed summary of the comments and any resulting changes to the 2016 Water and Wastewater Master Plan are provided in Attachment 1.

Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change's primary interest is intra-basin transfer

Staff received comments from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (the Ministry) on July 7, 2016, in advance of the public review period. Comments were mostly structural in nature and incorporated into the Master Plan Update that was issued as part of the Notice of Completion and Comment Period. Several additional comments received by the Ministry have been addressed in the final version of the Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update.

The Ministry's primary interest is how the preferred servicing strategy will affect intra-basin transfer. A new paragraph on how the preferred servicing strategy will benefit intra-basin transfer by reducing the amount of water crossing the watershed divide has been included in the final version.

With final comments incorporated, the 2016 Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update will be marked as final and posted online.

For more information on this memorandum, please contact Stephen Fung, Director, Infrastructure Asset Management, at ext. 73025.

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Erin Mahoney, M.Eng.  
Commissioner of Environmental Services

MO/cm  
Attachment  
# 6918158

## Notice of Completion and Comment Period – Comments/Responses

	Comment/Question Received	Response to Comment	Changes made to Master Plan
<b>Public</b>	How is wastewater accounted for and represented through water rates?	The Region has studied billing based on actual wastewater flows but the cost to implement billing meters would be greater than the benefit. The Region does monitor wastewater flows treated at Water Resource Recovery Facilities to ensure the amount of wastewater being treated annually is similar to the volume of water sold annually.	N/A
	Is York Region working to lessen the amount of wastewater discharged into sanitary sewers?	The Region also has policies and programs aimed at reducing the amount of wastewater entering into sewers including the Inflow & Infiltration (I&I) Reduction and Long Term Water Conservation Strategies. Working with nine local municipalities, the Region set a target to reduce I&I by 40 MLD by 2031. Since implementing the I&I Reduction Strategy in 2011 approximately 9 MLD has been reduced to date. Both strategies can be found on York.ca	This information is already included in the Master Plan.
	Servicing of Vandorf secondary plan is omitted in the Water and Wastewater Master Plan 2041 time horizon. Please clarify the future servicing plans for Vandorf Secondary plan.	<p>Servicing is not currently planned for the Vandorf community in the 2016 Water and Wastewater Master Plan through to the horizon of 2041. Provincial policy currently prevents the extension of full servicing from our current Regional systems to areas designated as part of the Greenbelt, and areas within the Oak Ridges Moraine are prevented from being partially serviced.</p> <p>In order to advance servicing to the Vandorf community a Settlement Capability Study for private servicing would need to be completed. This would typically be completed by the proponent proposing a specific development. Suggest following up with Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville for additional details/information.</p>	N/A

	<p>A new subdivision south of Sand Road in Holland Landing will be connected to municipal services. Will the existing properties on Sand Road that back onto the Holland River, be connected in the future? Do the Regional sewer mains have enough capacity to accommodate this existing residential area?</p>	<p>The Region's wastewater infrastructure expansion will be staged over time as indicated in the Master Plan Update, which includes construction and subsequent expansion of the water reclamation centre. This would support the capacity need of the Holland Landing community.</p> <p>Decisions on connections to the Regional trunk sewer including connections of existing homes are under the Town of East Gwillimbury jurisdiction.</p>	N/A
<b>Stakeholders</b>	<p>Please provide a digital copy of the Master Plan appendices.</p>	<p>Sent on September 6, 2016</p>	N/A
	<p>We support the efforts of the Region to prepare a Master Plan which ensures that the delivery of services can keep pace with planned increases in population and employment opportunities.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>	N/A
	<p>For the current expansion area in North Markham the Master Plan does not identify that wastewater infrastructure is required. This is consistent with the current understanding that this area will be serviced with City of Markham infrastructure.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>	N/A
	<p>The Master Plan contemplates construction of a North Markham Sewer (Project WW10) to service growth beyond the current expansion area in North Markham. From our work, your chosen location on McCowan Road appears to be logical, given the connection that has been preconstructed along the 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue Trunk at McCowan road.</p>	<p>Comment noted, and any planning changes will be considered in future Master Plan updates.</p>	N/A

	<p>Completion of the North Markham Sewer is noted to be in the 2031 to 2035 time frame. Should any future expansion of the urban boundary occur in advance of that timing, the completion date for this critical piece of infrastructure may need to be advanced.</p>	<p>Comment noted and any planning changes will be considered in future Master Plan updates.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
	<p>The Master Plan does not indicate how wastewater services will be provided in the area in North Markham east of the Little Rouge River. We believe that it should drain east to the Ninth Line Trunk Sewer. Please confirm that this is your intention and confirm where capacity exists in the Ninth Line Trunk Sewer.</p>	<p>Specific details on the wastewater servicing strategy for North Markham will be subject to the outcome of the Environmental Assessment for the North Markham Sewer. One logical option for lands east of Rouge River would be to service it through the Ninth Line Trunk Sewer as you have indicated.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
	<p>The employment lands within the current expansion area are located within water Pressure District 7 and are to be serviced by Project W20. These lands are needed to fulfill Markham's employment needs to 2031 and therefore will need servicing prior to the noted completion dates for Project W20. We therefore request that the schedule for Project W20 – North Markham Water Servicing be advanced to permit the servicing of the employment lands to accommodate planned growth prior to 2031.</p>	<p>Specific details and timing on the water servicing strategy for North Markham will be subject to the outcome of an Environmental Assessment. This project is not currently in the Region's ten year capital plan. Inclusion of this project in the ten year capital plan including timing of delivery requires Council approval.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>First Nations and Métis</b></p>	<p>Please accept this letter as confirmation that Wasauksing First Nation has received your email sent July 22, 2016 in regards to the York Region Water and Wastewater Master Plan Notice of Completion and Comment Period. Thank you for extending for engagement with Wasauksing First Nation. Your correspondence will be reviewed and processed in a timely manner.</p>	<p>Correspondence noted.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p><b>Agencies</b></p>	<p>One of the key items mentioned in the Master Plan is that the Lake Simcoe Servicing Strategy will minimize the intra-basin transfer, and return water taken from Lake Simcoe to its watershed. Could the Region please describe how the numbers in the Master Plan are consistent with what is provided for in the intra-basin transfer agreements and the enabling Permits to Take Water, and whether there is any change in the return flow? How does the proposed Upper York Sewage Solutions Project fit within existing intra-basin transfer agreements?</p>	<p>In 2010, York Region successfully completed the Prior Notice and Consultation process and received permission to increase the intra-basin transfer of drinking water from Lake Ontario watershed to Lake Simcoe watershed, with return flow, up to a maximum daily transfer of 105 MLD.</p> <p>The completion of the water reclamation center enables the improvement of water balance between the Lake Ontario watershed and Lake Huron watershed. The recommended Lake Simcoe Servicing Strategy in the Master Plan provides further capability for the Region to manage and improve water balance in 2041 and beyond.</p> <p>Within the Master Plan planning period (2016 to 2041), estimated intra-basin transfer from Lake Ontario watershed and Lake Simcoe watershed will be below the maximum permitted transfer of 105 MLD, and water from Lake Ontario will be returned back to Lake Ontario less consumptive use.</p>	<p>A new paragraph on how the preferred alternative will benefit intra-basin transfer has been included in the final version of the Master Plan Update.</p>
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