

C.A. wants dispersed growth plan for Simcoe

by Bruce Haire

The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) wants to see a dispersed growth plan for Simcoe County.

In an update on the Assimilative Capacity Study (ACS), Mike Walters, director of watershed management, told the Authority that they must maintain the 75 metric tonne target of phosphorus entering Lake Simcoe annually and even at that level "the Lake will still be under stress."

Assimilative Capacity is the amount of pollution that a stream or lake can receive

without suffering impairment of water quality.

The LSRCA along with the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority spent 18 months in 2005 and 2006 developing the ACS for the Lake Simcoe and Nottawasaga River watersheds.

The problem is growth which could see a significant increase in phosphorus.

Two of the hot spots for phosphorus are the East Holland River and the City of Barrie.

"We can have future growth if we do Best Management Practices (BMPs)

throughout the watershed," said Walters.

But the cost of that is "extremely expensive" estimated at \$163 million with most of the work to be done in older urban areas with storm water management.

Right now they are not sure the C.A. has the jurisdiction to demand BMPs in new subdivisions.

Walters and CAO Gayle Wood aimed directly at the growth proposed in south Barrie and north Innisfil under the provincial IGAP plan.

"We can't support growth in an area that is already

severely impacted" referring to Barrie and Lover's Creek, stated Walters.

CAO Gayle Wood said it would be a year and a half and \$1.5 million wasted on the study which has been endorsed by the Ministry of the Environment if the province moves forward with the Barrie centred option.

"Sixteen years of work that we have done on Lake Simcoe could be in jeopardy," she added.

Meanwhile even the current development that is taking place with no BMPs puts the phosphorus target in jeopardy.

Simcoe County must now develop its own growth management plan.

While developments continue to occur within approved settlement areas, there are proposals outside of the settlement areas.

Walters said the staff recommendation to the board would label all these developments as "premature".

Walters said they were not saying that everything outside of settlement areas

fell into this category but there must be no impact on the Lake.

Walters also said that the Big Bay Point and the Keswick Business Park developments were prior to the ACS study but their understanding is that the environmental controls are in place in Big Bay Point so that it will not have a negative impact.

However, they want developments submitted for review outside of approved settlement areas should be considered premature until conformity to the Greater Golden Horseshoe Growth Plan and the Places to Grow Act have been demonstrated.

All new developments must assess the impact of the development in relation to the sub watershed target and implement BMPs.

Also the C.A. should develop funding models and options for initiation of BMPs and the C.A. should continue to promote the need for a new growth management framework as well as improved monitoring, enforcement and reporting

mechanisms.

Innisfil Councillor Lynn Dollin noted the IGAP growth recommendation was "contradictory" to the targets set.

Walters said that with the additional impacts of such growth in south Barrie and the impact on Lover's Creek and Innisfil Creek there is "no way" to fix it.

He said the additional phosphorous would have an enormous impact on Kempenfelt Bay which is the important area of the cold water fishery in Lake Simcoe.

While from servicing and cost points of view, putting growth in Barrie make sense, the environment is saying "no", said Walters.

Putting 3.1 to 5.5 metric tonnes of phosphorus would "essentially irradiate the (Kempenfelt) Bay as a rearing area for cold water species and would change the characteristics of the Bay," Walter said.

"We need a diffuse growth plan that diffuses the impact," he added.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #2 Highway 89 from Rosemont to Highway 400 Study Design and Detail Design W.O. 04-20018

THE STUDY

Study Design

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has retained McCormick Rankin Corporation to undertake a Study Design to examine improvements to the Highway 89 corridor from Rosemont to Highway 400. The study limits extend approximately 28.7 kilometres along Highway 89 within Simcoe County including the communities of Rosemont, Alliston, and Cookstown.

The purpose of this study is to determine the nature of corridor improvements required and to address traffic operations, capacity and safety needs on this section of the Highway 89 corridor.

Detail Design

MTO has also retained McCormick Rankin Corporation to undertake a Detail Design Study for repair and widening of the Nottawasaga River Bridge.



THE PROCESS

Study Design

Undertaking a Study Design represents the first step in the planning process for Group "A" projects and a report will be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for Provincial Transportation Facilities* (1999, as amended 2000). External agency and public consultation has taken place throughout the study. The Study Design Report will outline the planning process and range and types of alternatives that will be considered during subsequent Class EA studies.

Detail Design

The Nottawasaga River Bridge study will follow the approved environmental planning process for Group "B" projects under the *Class EA*, with the opportunity for public input throughout the study. Upon completion of the Detail Design, a Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) will be completed and made available for public review. The preferred alternative will be identified in the TESR.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #2

The first round of PICs, held in September 2006, introduced the study and presented the overall study process to the residents and other members of the public.

The purpose of this round of PICs is to present the preferred alternative for the repair and widening of the Nottawasaga River Bridge and to outline the further studies that are being recommended as part of the Study Design.

You are encouraged to attend and to provide us with your views and comments so they can be addressed as the project progresses. Specific information to be discussed includes existing transportation problems, possible alternatives, existing study area conditions, and future EA requirements. The PICs will be held at:

Laestadian Lutheran Church
5579 King Street (County Road 27)
Cookstown, Ontario, L0L 1L0
Tuesday, May 15, 2007
3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Nelson Banquet and Conference Centre
497 Victoria Street East (Highway 89)
Alliston, Ontario, L9K 1J8
Thursday, May 17, 2007
3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

COMMENTS

Information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record. If you have any further questions, comments or wish to be added to the project mailing list, please contact:

Martin Scott, P. Eng.
Consultant Project Manager
McCormick Rankin Corporation
2655 North Sheridan Way
Mississauga, Ontario, L5K 2P8
Phone: 905-823-8500
Fax: 905-823-8503
E-mail: mwsccott@mrc.ca

Rebecca Palys, P. Eng.
Project Engineer
Ministry of Transportation
Highway Engineering York Simcoe
1201 Wilson Avenue, Building D
Downsview, Ontario, M3M 1J8
Phone: 416-235-5566
Fax: 416-235-4002
E-mail: rebecca.palys@ontario.ca



Agreement on issues at LSAMI OMB hearing

by Michelle Minnoch

The Town and LSAMI (Lefroy settlement Area Management Inc.) have agreed on all issues, except those regarding zoning and site applications for developments.

"We have reached a comprehensive settlement we are in the process of signing," said Quinten Annabel, lawyer representing the town.

The settlement agreement was signed by the Town of Innisfil, LSAMI and the

County. The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, and the Simcoe County District School Board, although in agreement, did not have council on-hand to sign the agreements.

Paul Lowes, of Sorenson Gravely Lowes, went through each point with Judge Seaborn, explaining where the sides settled.

For single detached residential lots, Residential Low Density 1 (RLD1), the frontage will stay at 15 metres. RLD1 will not exceed 12.6 units per residential hectare.

Regarding Residential Low Density 2 (RLD2), single detached and duplex dwellings will remain with a 12 metres minimum frontage, while semi-detached units will have a 9 metre frontage. The frontage was originally proposed to

be 10 metres. RLD2 will not exceed 23 units per net residential hectare.

Residential Medium Density remains with the proposed 40 units per hectare. Regarding clustering in this area, the townhouses will not exceed 24 per townhouse unit. "In certain locations there will be larger clusters in certain areas," said Lowes. The agreed lot frontage is seven metres for townhouses and 10 metres for single detached homes. Following RLD2, there will be no more than 23 units per net residential hectare.


Added to the Lefroy Settlement Area blended plan was "a range and variety of dwelling unit types shall accommodate the various household types expected in the Lefroy Secondary Plan area".

continued on page 3



Mr. & Mrs. Harold Redmond of Thornton, are pleased to announce the forth coming wedding of their daughter Cynthia Louise to Chad Curtis, son of Mr. & Mrs. Barry Poulton of Barrie. The wedding will take place at Horseshoe Resort on Sat. June 16, 2007.





PETER VAN LOAN MP
YORK-SIMCOE

Tel: 905-898-1600
Fax: 905-898-4600
Toll Free: 1-877-Peter-4-U
Email: vanlop1@parlgc.ca

45 Grist Mill Road, Unit 10,
Holland Landing, Ontario, L9N 1M7