



**Environmental
Advisory Committee
Meeting Agenda**

Thursday, February 1, 2018

7 p.m.

**Holland Room
Aurora Town Hall**

Public Release
January 25, 2018



**Town of Aurora
Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Agenda**

Date: Thursday, February 1, 2018

Time and Location: 7 p.m., Holland Room, Aurora Town Hall

1. Approval of the Agenda

Recommended:

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services be approved.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

3. Receipt of the Minutes

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of December 4, 2017

That the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting minutes of December 4, 2017, be received for information.

4. Delegations

5. Matters for Consideration

6. Informational Items

- 1. Memorandum from Program Manager, Environmental Initiatives
Re: Vegetation Management Background**

Recommended:

1. That the memorandum regarding Vegetation Management Background be received for information.

- 2. Memorandum from Program Manager, Environmental Initiatives
Re: Wildlife Park Project Update**

Recommended:

1. That the memorandum regarding Wildlife Park Project Update be received for information.

7. New Business

8. Adjournment



**Town of Aurora
Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Date:	Monday, December 4, 2017
Time and Location:	7 p.m., Leksand Room, Aurora Town Hall
Committee Members:	Councillor Paul Pirri (Chair), Councillor Tom Mrakas (Vice Chair), Irene Clement, Larry Fedec, Melville James, Jennifer Sault, Sara Varty, and Nancee Webb
Member(s) Absent:	Kristina Zeromskiene
Other Attendees:	Councillor Wendy Gaertner, Christina Nagy-Oh, Program Manager, Environmental Initiatives, and Ishita Soneji, Council/Committee Secretary

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

**Moved by Nancee Webb
Seconded by Irene Clement**

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services be approved.

Carried

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 4, 2017

Page 2 of 4

3. Receipt of the Minutes

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of October 5, 2017

Moved by Larry Fedec

Seconded by Jennifer Sault

That the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting minutes of October 5, 2017, be received for information.

Carried

4. Delegations

None

5. Matters for Consideration

1. Memorandum from Program Manager, Environmental Initiatives Re: Corporate Environmental Action Plan (CEAP) – November 2017 Update

Staff provided background and a brief overview of the memorandum, and noted the additions recommended by the Committee at the previous meeting.

The Committee discussed various aspects of the Plan and made further suggestions to the progress indicators, and to include additional details on the correlation between the CEAP and other environmentally-related plans.

Moved by Sara Varty

Seconded by Jennifer Sault

1. That the memorandum regarding Corporate Environmental Action Plan (CEAP) – November 2017 Update be received; and
2. **That staff include a semi-annual informal update in addition to the annual progress report as part of the implementation process; and**
3. That the Environmental Advisory Committee recommend to Council:

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 4, 2017

Page 3 of 4

- (a) That the Corporate Environmental Action Plan dated November 2017 be approved **as amended**.

Carried as amended

6. Informational Items

- 2. Extract from Council Meeting of November 14, 2017
Re: Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of October 5, 2017**

**Moved by Melville James
Seconded by Larry Fedec**

1. That the Extract from Council Meeting of November 14, 2017, regarding the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting minutes of October 5, 2017, be received for information.

Carried

7. New Business

The Committee inquired about the Town's provisions regarding anti-idling and suggested that the Mayor issue letters to local organizations and transportation agencies regarding the negative impacts of idling. The Chair agreed to bring forward the suggestion at a future General Committee meeting.

The Committee inquired about the "Bring Your Own Bottle" initiative and pilot project, and staff agreed to provide an update at a future meeting.

The Committee discussed the possibility of holding another Eco Festival.

The Committee inquired about the ongoing vegetation management and protection initiatives for new subdivision development areas and natural heritage areas within the 2C development lands, and staff agreed to provide an update at a future meeting.

Councillor Mrakas noted an initiative by Tesla to allow smaller Supercharger stations, and staff agreed to investigate the possibility of installing such stations within the Town.

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 4, 2017

Page 4 of 4

The Committee requested more details on the progress of the Wildlife Park/
Nature Reserve.

The Committee discussed the possibility of installing bike repair stations and noted
that further details regarding this initiative can be found at www.bikefixation.com.

8. Adjournment

Moved by Irene Clement

Seconded by Melville James

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Carried

Committee recommendations are not binding on the Town unless adopted by Council.



100 John West Way
Box 1000
Aurora, Ontario
L4G 6J1
Phone: 905-727-3123 ext. 4382
Email: cnagy-oh@aurora.ca
www.aurora.ca

**Town of Aurora
Planning and Development
Services**

Memorandum

Date: February 1, 2018
To: Environmental Advisory Committee
From: Christina Nagy-Oh, Program Manager, Environmental Initiatives
Re: Vegetation Management Background

Recommendation

- 1. That the memorandum regarding Vegetation Management Background be received for information.**

Background

At the December 4, 2017 meeting, the Committee inquired about the ongoing vegetation management protection initiatives for new subdivision development areas and natural heritage areas within the 2C development lands. The following was provided by Gary Greidanus, one of the Town's Landscape Architects:

Vegetation Management and Protection Initiatives for New Subdivision Development

Vegetation management and protection initiatives in new development areas is a response to the Urban Forest Management Plan and associated policies, specifically Policy C – Tree Removal & Compensation, and Policy D – Tree Protection / Preservation. The Urban Forest Management Plan was established in 2015 in order to provide the Town with a comprehensive management policy for effectively managing, sustaining, and ensuring the growth of Aurora's urban forests. In relation to new development areas the concern is to protect and maintain existing vegetation and, when vegetation is significantly impacted or removed to allow for development, the concern is to provide compensation in order to replace vegetation that has been lost.

Vegetation Management Background
February 1, 2018

Page 2 of 3

To date a number of new developments (primarily in the Yonge Street South Secondary Plan area) have been vetted through the above noted policies. This has resulted in the execution of Vegetation Management (Tree Removal) Agreements whereby securities have been posted with the Town to secure the value of trees removed and conditions applied in the Agreement that require replanting in the value of trees removed, or compensation fees paid to the Town where there is insufficient space on the development lands to replant to the full value of trees removed. The Vegetation Management Agreement also addresses protection of vegetation that can remain on the development site. All new developments, subdivisions and site plans as well, will be assessed in accordance with the policies of the Urban Forest Management Plan.

Ecological Integrity Monitoring of Natural Heritage Areas within the 2C Development Lands

A requirement of the 2C Secondary Plan was to monitor key ecological indicators in order to evaluate long term changes to the ecological integrity of the Natural Heritage System over time as the 2C lands became urbanised. This requirement became a condition of Draft Plan approval for the various subdivisions within the 2C area. Originally this was the responsibility of the individual developers however, the development community requested the Town to administer these requirements, at the developer's expense. In 2014 the Town retained the firm of Morrison Hershfield to undertake a 10-year monitoring strategy and monitoring stations were set up within the natural areas and water courses in the 2C lands (see attached monitoring location map).

The monitoring strategy was set up to monitor 4 primary ecological indicators: Water Temperature; Benthic Invertebrates; Breeding Birds; and Breeding Amphibians at the following frequencies:

- Water Temperature monitoring will occur annually for 10 years (2015 – 2024)
- Benthic Invertebrates will be monitored 3 times during the 10 year monitoring period.
- Breeding Bird surveys will be conducted twice during the breeding season at 4 periods throughout the 10 year monitoring period.
- Amphibian surveys will be conducted three times during the breeding season at 4 periods throughout the 10 year monitoring period.

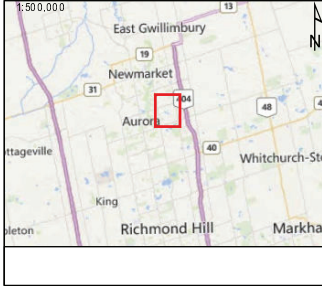
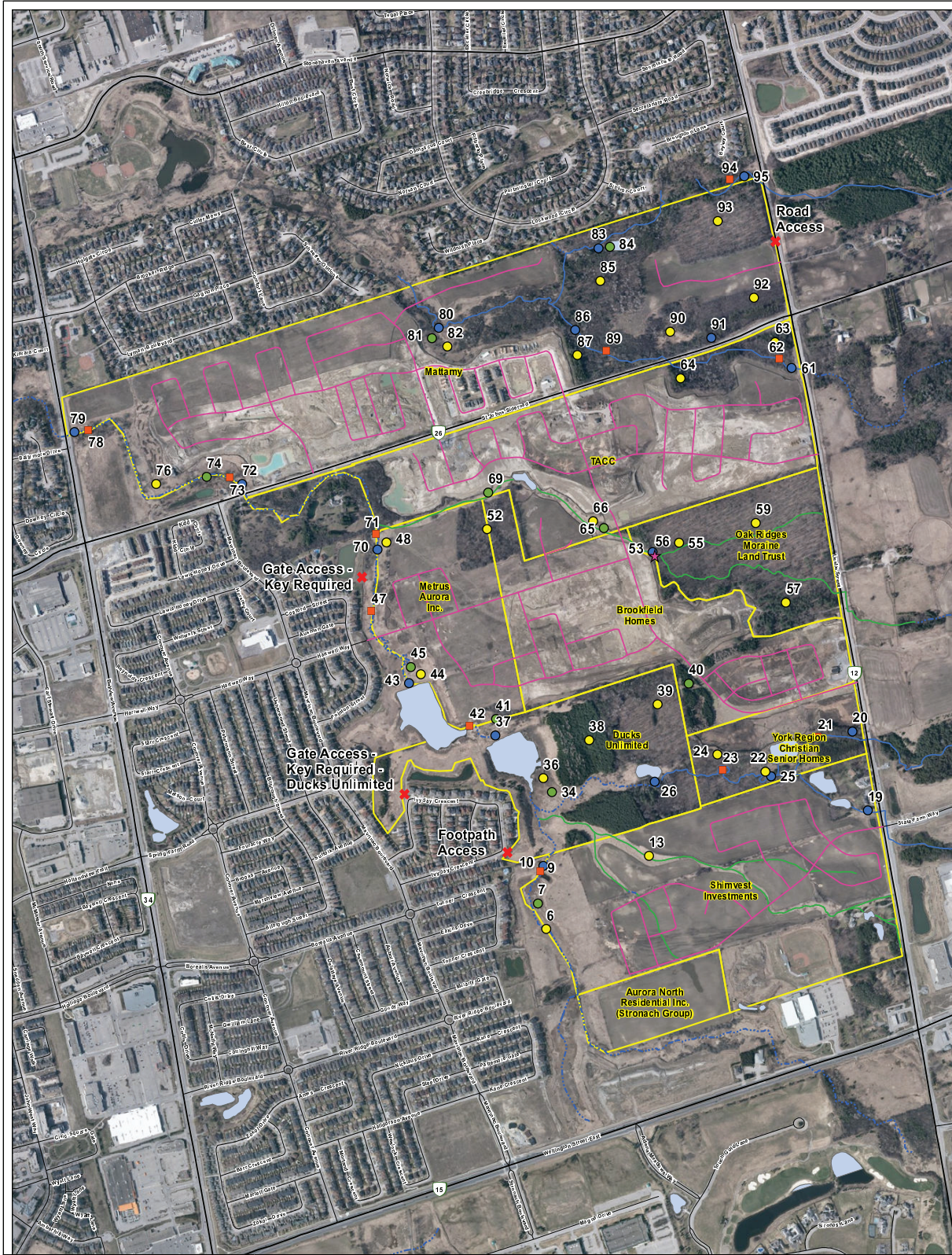
Vegetation Management Background
February 1, 2018

Page 3 of 3

Annual reports are being provided to the Town at the end of each monitoring season. The first full year of monitoring was 2015 to establish baseline data. The second year of monitoring (2016) addressed primarily monitoring of the water temperature in the watercourse and noted that there was a slight increase in water temperature over the year. This was due in part to the hot dry summer. However, increase in water temperatures in Marsh Creek and Weslie Creek was attributed to development activities that included removal of riparian vegetation and realignment of the watercourses as part of York Region's widening and reconstruction of St. John's Side road, activities that are out of control of the Town of Aurora. The 2017 monitoring report is expected to be ready early in the New Year.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Monitoring Stations Updated Locations Site Map



Legend

- ✕ Access Point
- ★ Air Temperature
- Amphibians
- Benthic Invertebrates
- Breeding Birds
- Stream Temperature
- Ephemeral River
- - - Intermittent River
- River
- Proposed Roads
- Waterbody
- Project Areas
- Arterial / Collector
- Local Roads

MORRISON HERSHFIELD

Scale: **1:10,000**

0 75 150 300 450 600 Meters

Title: **Ecological Integrity Monitoring for 2C West Lands Town of Aurora**

Project No.:	Drawing No.:
Department: Environmental Services	Date: May, 2015

© 2015 Morrison Hershfield Ltd. All Rights Reserved. Map Monitoring Stations Legend_04_15.mxd

Attachment 1



100 John West Way
Box 1000
Aurora, Ontario
L4G 6J1
Phone: 905-727-3123 ext. 4382
Email: cnagy-oh@aurora.ca
www.aurora.ca

**Town of Aurora
Planning and Development
Services**

Memorandum

Date: February 1, 2018
To: Environmental Advisory Committee
From: Christina Nagy-Oh, Program Manager, Environmental Initiatives
Re: Wildlife Park Project Update

Recommendation

- 1. That the memorandum regarding Wildlife Park Project Update be received for information.**

Background

At the October 5, 2017 meeting the Committee inquired about the status of the planned nature reserve in the 2C lands. The following was provided by Gary Greidanus, one of the Town's Landscape Architects:

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests (MNRF) has reviewed the Wildlife Park project and provided comments. The Park is currently in the middle of detailed design stage and staff have been notified by MNRF that the wetland creation component of the wildlife park will require an application under the Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act (LIRA). The wetland creation is a significant component of the Wildlife Park design and includes the creation of 3 new wetland habitat cells.

The design and preparation for the LIRA application is not in the scope of works for the Town's consultant and will require an extra to the contract. The consultant, Cole Engineering, is arranging a meeting with MNRF to determine the nature and requirements of the LIRA application. Until staff can determine the requirements and added costs of the LIRA application the wetland creation component of the wildlife park is on hold.

Staff have engaged Cole Engineering in the other aspects of the park design which is largely focused on the trail system, bridges and boardwalks. The trail system will require

Wildlife Park Project Update
February 1, 2018

Page 2 of 2

an application to the Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority and the preparation of a Trails Impact Study to be approved by the Conservation Authority in order to receive LSRCA permits. Cole has completed 60% of both the Trails Impact Study and detailed design of the trails, bridges and boardwalks. Staff hope to receive the completed detailed design later this winter. Staff plan to release a tender for construction of the trail system with construction commencing in spring or summer of 2018.

Attachments

None