

City of London - Dingman Creek EA Stakeholder Committee

Handout for Group Discussion – April 8, 2016

Draft Problem Statement:

“The Dingman Creek suffers from poor water quality, a lack of wildlife habitat, loss of trees, erosion, and flooding. Growth in the Dingman Creek Subwatershed is a City of London priority. The City needs a comprehensive plan for the Dingman Creek. This plan must:

- *Be consistent with the goals and objectives established in the 1995 Dingman Creek Subwatershed Study;*
- *Meet the targets established in the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA);*
- *Create a “complete corridor” that provides “A continuous natural area for the movement of stormwater, wildlife, and people.”*

Note: The Dingman Creek Environmental Assessment will not delay construction of scheduled stormwater infrastructure recommended by previously completed Environmental Assessments.”

1995 & 2005 Dingman Creek Subwatershed Objectives:

- A. Enhance the hydrologic regime or water balance of the Subwatershed
- B. Protect the quality of surface waters in streams
- C. Establish a healthy aquatic ecosystem which supports resident, warm water fish populations
- D. Establish a healthy terrestrial ecosystem

A. Enhance the Hydrologic Regime

1. Manage surface water to minimize flood risk to existing residents
2. Manage future development from flood-prone areas
3. Protect groundwater supplies which provide drinking water and stream base flows
4. Maintain natural channel stability in all watercourses
5. Provide a flow regime suitable for the maintenance of healthy aquatic and terrestrial communities
6. Managing surface water withdrawals to protect stream base flows

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B. Surface Water Quality

1. support reasonable human uses including body contact recreation, livestock watering and aesthetics
2. Prevent eutrophication and excessive algal growths
3. Prevent contamination of groundwater which provides a source of drinking water and which supports local aquatic and terrestrial communities
4. Maintain healthy aquatic and terrestrial communities

C. Healthy Aquatic Ecosystem

1. Protect critical reaches with healthy aquatic communities
2. Restore natural streamside vegetation
3. Restore the natural morphology, sediment transport, flow characteristics of streams
4. Restore the quality of surface waters necessary to support healthy aquatic communities
5. Enhance the microhabitats such as pools and riffles, important to aquatic life
6. Maintain opportunities to provide for unrestricted movement of fish

D. Healthy Terrestrial Ecosystem

1. Protect “valued” terrestrial features and their functions (groundwater recharge/discharge, streambank stability, water/air quality, flow attenuation)
2. Provide habitats suitable for native plant and animal communities
3. Increase recovery potential for species and communities at risk (SAR)
4. Protect and enhancing overall health and ecological function of the terrestrial environment within the watershed