

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2017
FROM:	KELLY SCHERR, P.ENG., MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES & CITY ENGINEER
SUBJECT	THAMES SYDENHAM SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PLAN RENEWAL OF RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Environmental and Engineering Services & City Engineer, the following actions be taken with respect to the Thames Sydenham Region Source Protection Plan and the Risk Management Services Agreement with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority:

- a) the update on the Thames Sydenham Region Source Water Protection program **BE RECEIVED**;
- b) the amendment to the agreement for the transfer of responsibility (Municipal Transfer Agreement) and the amendment for risk management services (Joint Risk Management Services Agreement) associated with the Source Water Protection Plan **BE APPROVED**; it being noted that these measures are necessary to fulfill a “standard of care” for our drinking water system and that all costs are able to be accommodated within existing budgets;
- c) the attached (Appendix ‘A’) proposed by-law **BE INTRODUCED** at the Municipal Council meeting of October 3, 2017 to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the amendments to the Agreements noted in b), above, on behalf of The Corporation of the City of London, in order to maintain the transfer of the responsibility of risk management to the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority and to maintain the services of staff at the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority in order to perform risk management duties; it being noted that the draft amendments will substantially form the basis for the final amendments subject to approval by the City Solicitor;

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER
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Environmental Programs Update: Thames Sydenham Region Source Water Protection (April 24, 2017 meeting of the Civic Works Committee, Item #10)

Environmental Programs Update: Thames Sydenham Region Source Water Protection (April 25, 2016 meeting of the Civic Works Committee, Item # 8)

Environmental Programs Update: Thames Sydenham Region Source Water Protection (April 20, 2015 meeting of the Civic Works Committee, Item # 12)

Thames Sydenham Region source Water Protection Plan - Risk Management Services Agreement (August 25, 2014 meeting of the CWC, Item #18)

2015 – 2019 STRATEGIC PLAN

Municipal Council has recognized the importance of environmental and sustainable programs and projects in its 2015-2019 – Strategic Plan for the City of London (2015-2019 Strategic Plan). Providing safe and clean drinking water and ensuring our environment remains health supports three of the four Areas of Focus as follows:

Building a Sustainable City

- Strong and healthy environment
- Robust infrastructure
- Responsible growth

Leading in Public Service

- Collaborative, engaged leadership
- Proactive financial management

Growing our Economy

- Strategic, collaborative partnerships
- Local, regional and global innovation

BACKGROUND**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to renew our contract with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority to provide source water protection risk management services. The service agreement renewal includes updates to both the Risk Management Service Agreement and the Enforcement Transfer Agreement.

Context

Source Water Protection Plans have been prepared across the province as a result of legislation that came into effect after the drinking water tragedy in Walkerton. The Thames-Sydenham & Region Source Protection Plan includes the majority of the City of London and is currently in effect. Since approval of this plan in December 2015 risk management services are required to safeguard drinking water resources and prevent future risks. These duties can be provided by municipal staff or contracted out to a conservation authority or health unit. The City and a number of area municipalities currently contract out these responsibilities to the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA). Funding for this program is included as an item in the current and future operating budgets.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of the Source Water Protection Plan is to safeguard and identify potential threats to drinking water resources. In London, these water resources include the groundwater aquifers that provide back-up, emergency drinking water through the operation of two well fields:

- The Hyde Park well (a single well) is located south of the intersection of Oxford and Hyde Park and
- The Fanshawe well field (six wells) are located near Sunningdale and Clarke Road.

Each well has a Well Head Protection Area (WHPA) identified that provides the geographic area where risk management will be focused. In London, the majority of these areas are zoned for residential uses.

The amended Joint Municipal Service Agreement is between the UTRCA and 6 municipalities including:

- City of London,
- City of Stratford,
- City of Chatham-Kent,
- Town of St. Mary's,
- Township of Perth East, and
- Municipality of West Perth.

The costs associated with the service agreement are distributed amongst the 6 parties to the agreement based, on the number of properties that have been identified with possible threats to drinking water. The number of properties in London is relatively low

compared to the other municipalities. London's share of the cost, \$20,000 per year for 3 years, is relatively low when compared to the other parties to the agreement. London's cost has decreased from the former agreement, previously \$32,000 per year, due to a greater number of municipalities participating in the 2017-2019 cost sharing.

Next Steps

If endorsed by Council, the final agreement will be reviewed by the City Solicitor's office. Patrick Donnelly, who currently is a member of the Source Protection Committee for the Thames-Sydenham & Region Drinking Water Source Protection since 2010 has been asked to extend his participation until June 2018. Staff will continue to represent the City's interests in the context of the Thames Sydenham Region Source Protection Plan and will liaise with UTRCA on matters pertaining to risk management.

CONCLUSIONS

Source water protection risk management services are a regulatory requirement of the province through the Clean Water Act. The renewal of this agreement with the UTRCA will provide risk management services for the City of London in an efficient and cost effective manner maintaining the appropriate standard of care for our drinking water system.

PREPARED BY:	REVIEWED & CONCURRED BY:
PATRICK DONNELLY, M.Sc., RPP MANAGER – WATERSHED PROGRAMS ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS	SCOTT MATHERS, MPA, P. ENG. DIRECTOR, WATER and WASTEWATER
RECOMMENDED BY:	
KELLY SCHERR, P. ENG., MBA, FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR - ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES & CITY ENGINEER	

Appendix 'A' By-law to approve and authorize the Amendments
 Schedule 'A' Source Protection Enforcement Transfer Agreement Amendment
 Schedule 'B' Joint Risk Management Services Agreement Amendment