

**9TH REPORT OF THE**  
**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

Meeting held on October 4, 2017, commencing at 12:16 PM, in Committee Room #4, Second Floor, London City Hall.

**PRESENT:** S. Ratz (Chair), M. Bloxam, S. Brooks, S. Hall, R. Harvey, M. Hodge, J. Howell, L. Langdon, G. Sass, T. Stoiber, D. Szoller and A. Tipping and J. Bunn (Secretary).

**ABSENT:** K. Birchall and N. St. Amour.

**ALSO PRESENT:** A. Rammeloo and C. Warring.

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

**II. SCHEDULED ITEMS**

2. One River Master Plan Environmental Assessment Study

That the Acting Division Manager, Stormwater Engineering BE ADVISED that the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) strongly recommends that the Springbank Dam not be reinstated based on information the ACE received in the attached presentation with respect to the One River Master Plan Environmental Assessment Study from A. Rammeloo, Acting Division Manager, Stormwater Engineering.

**III. CONSENT ITEMS**

3. 8th Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment

That it BE NOTED that the 8th Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment, from its meeting held on September 6, 2017, was received.

4. Municipal Council Resolution

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Council resolution from its meeting held on September 19, 2017, with respect to the 8th Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment, was received.

**IV. SUB-COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS**

None.

**V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

5. Request for Representative for Municipal Advisory Group

That J. Ramsay, Project Manager, Rapid Transit, BE ADVISED that Robyn Harvey will represent the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) on the Municipal Advisory Group related to Rapid Transit; it being noted that M. Bloxam will act as an alternate representative for the ACE on the Advisory Group.

6. Animal Welfare Advisory Committee on Draft Urban Agriculture Strategy

That it BE NOTED that the recommendations from the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) regarding the Draft London Urban Agriculture Strategy document, appended to the agenda, were considered and received; it being noted that the Advisory Committee on the Environment reiterated its support for a backyard chickens pilot project notwithstanding the comments made by the AWAC with respect to this matter.

7. 2017 ACE Work Plan for Review

That it BE NOTED that the Advisory Committee on the Environment held a general discussion with respect to its 2017 Work Plan.

8. Current ACE Budget

That it BE NOTED that the Advisory Committee on the Environment held a general discussion with respect to its current budget.

9. Support from the Transportation Advisory Committee for the Resilient Cities Conference

That it BE NOTED that the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) received a verbal update from S. Brooks indicating that the Transportation Advisory Committee will be contributing \$150.00 to the ACE for the Resilient Cities Conference.

10. Resilient Cities Conference - Funding

That the proposed contribution from the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) to the Resilient Cities Conference BE INCREASED from \$1000.00 to up to \$1500.00; it being noted that there are sufficient funds within the 2017 ACE budget to accommodate this.

11. Advisory Committee on the Environment Event Volunteering

That it BE NOTED that the Advisory Committee on the Environment held a general discussion with respect to volunteers for the workshop rooms during the Resilient Cities Conference.

**VI. DEFERRED MATTERS/ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

None.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: November 1, 2017**

# One River Master Plan Environmental Assessment

Ashley M. Rammeloo, P.Eng.

Share your vision for the future and learn more:

[getinvolved.london.ca/OneRiver](http://getinvolved.london.ca/OneRiver)



## One River Master Plan: Update



- Problem/Opportunity Statement
- Work to date
- Agency Advisory Committee
- Evaluation Criteria
- Schedule of Next Steps



## Work to Date

- Public engagement via GetInvolved and community events
- Stakeholder meetings
- Fisheries field surveys
- Geomorphology study in progress
- Analysis of water quality data in progress
- Completion of Agency Advisory Committee Report
- Development of evaluation criteria for Springbank Dam alternatives

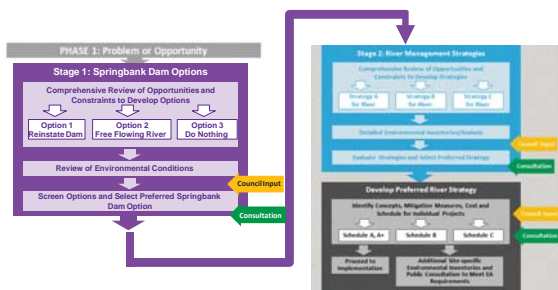


## One River EA Process

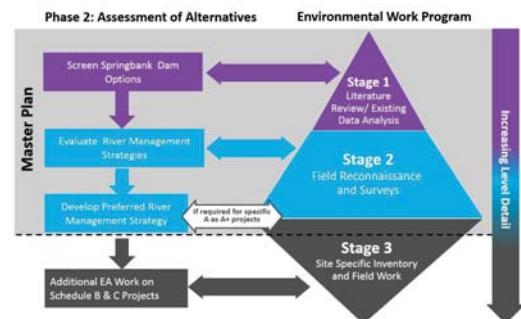
- Phase 1: review of background information and determination of opportunity/problem statement
- Phase 2, Stage 1: Springbank Dam Alternatives
- Phase 2, Stage 2: River Management Strategies



## One River EA Process



## One River EA Process



## Problem/Opportunity Statement

"The river that flows through London's downtown has many names:

- Deshkan Zibiing (known to the Anishnaabeg and Lenape of the Great Lakes);
- Kahwy'hatati (ONYOTA:KA); and,
- The Thames (John Graves Simcoe)

This river is both our inheritance and our living legacy. It is our collective responsibility to maintain and enhance this shared natural, cultural recreational and aesthetic resource. The One River Master Plan Environmental Assessment will consider the area historically influenced by the Springbank Dam and will provide a plan that coordinates critical infrastructure projects in ways that improve the overall health of the river, identifies and creates an understanding of potential impacts these projects may have on downstream communities, species at risk and/or endangered species and where possible avoids them and respects the vision of Back to the River's "The Ribbon of the Thames" concept plan. This study, in the context of many other ongoing initiatives, will preserve for future generations this valuable resource and allow people of all abilities to enjoy and access this designated Canadian Heritage River."



## Springbank Dam Alternatives

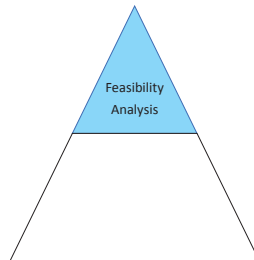
- Do Nothing  
Dam is left as-is
- Free-Flowing River  
Dam is decommissioned and no longer provides water retention but may be repurposed
- Reinstate the Dam  
Dam is reinstated to provide a water retention function



## Environmental Work Program Staged Approach

### Feasibility Analysis:

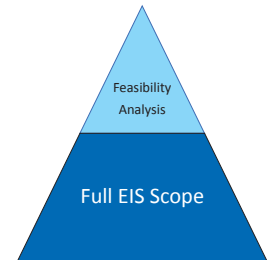
- Undertake literature review of impact of dams and barriers.
- Water Quality Statistical Analysis of +30 year dataset.
- Review previously completed environmental studies (over 20).
- Assemble Species at Risk data from MNRF, DFO, and UTRCA.
- Seek advice from subject matter experts on key species.



## EIS Work Program Staged Approach

### Full Scope:

- Undertake full extent of work outlined through EIS scoping meeting.
- Examples include:
  - Migratory and shoreline birds,
  - Amphibian surveys ,
  - Reptile coverboard surveys,
  - Mussels surveys,
  - Mammal sightings,
  - Butterfly sightings,
  - Odonata sightings,
  - Bats - sightings and habitat,
  - Wildlife habitat mapping,
  - Fish communities – 2 spring, summer and fall,
  - Benthic inventory,
  - and more.



## Agency Advisory Committee

- Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
- Upper Thames River Conservation Authority
- Lower Thames River Conservation Authority
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans



## Agency Advisory Committee Report

- Species At Risk Act and Endangered Species Act
- Planning and Permitting Approvals Framework
- Permitting Considerations Related to Dam Alternatives
- Complexity of Approvals Anticipated



## Species Identified in Study Area

- Eastern Spiny Softshell
- Northern Map Turtle
- Snapping Turtle
- Eastern Milksnake
- Queensnake
- 7 mussel species
- 5 fish species including silver shiners



## Relevant Legislation Considered

Table 4.1. Relevant Legislation Considered  
Legislation Relevant to One River EA Springbank Dam Alternatives

Policy or Act	Administrative Body
Conservation Authorities Act	UTRCA
Provincial Policy Statement	MMA
Environmental Protection Act	MOECC
Ontario Water Resources Act	MOECC
Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act	MNRF
Public Lands Act	MNRF
Endangered Species Act	MNRF
Species at Risk Act	DFO
Fisheries Act	DFO
Navigation Protection Act	Transport Canada (TC)

## Complexity of Approvals Anticipated

SECTION 4

Table 4.2. Complexity of Approvals Anticipated

Act	Administrative Body	Permit Required	Dam Alternatives														
			Do Nothing				Free-flowing River				Retain the Dam						
			*Cost	**Time	**Tech	*Complexity	Cost	Time	Tech	Complexity	Cost	Time	Tech	Complexity			
EA	UTRCA	Permit under section 28			N/A		S	Short	Medium	Medium				SSS	long	Medium	High
OWRA	MOECC	Permit To Take Water			N/A				N/A					S	Short	Medium	Medium
LRIS	MNRF	MNRF Dam Construction Regulation Permit	S	long	Low	Medium				SS	long	High	High				
ESA	MNRF	Overall Benefit Permit			N/A		S	Short	Medium	Medium				SSS	long	Extreme	Extreme
SARA	DFO	Permit	S	long	Low	Low	S	long	Low	Low				SSS	long	High	High
NPA	TC	Navigable Water's Permit			N/A		S	long	Low	Low				S	long	Medium	Medium

Table Notes:  
 \*Cost to implement solutions to meet permit requirements based on SSS scale (S- Low Cost, SS- Medium Cost, SSS- High Cost)  
 \*\*Time Considerations for permitting (Short or Long)  
 \*Technical Consideration level (Low, Medium, High, Extreme)  
 \*Total Complexity based on cost, time and technical considerations (Low, Medium, High, Extreme)

## MNRF Permits under ESA

- Permits are considered under five categories: health and safety, protection or recovery, social or economic benefit to Ontario, Aboriginal, and overall benefit
- Two permits were of note when discussing the repair of Springbank Dam: D-permit for social or economic benefit, and C-permit for overall benefit
- Only two D-permits have been issued to date
- C-permits typically require a mitigation plan that provides compensation at a ratio of 5:1 for lost habitat

## Evaluation Criteria

- Natural Environment
  - Water quality, geomorphology, Species at Risk, terrestrial habitat, aquatic habitat, groundwater and surface water interactions
- Social/Cultural Environment
  - Cultural heritage, archaeological resources, public health & safety, water-based recreation, land-based recreation, shoreline accessibility, aesthetics, First Nations interests, urban revitalization
- Technical Environment
  - Flood hazard impact, carbon footprint, infrastructure protection, constructability, approvability, operations & maintenance, compatibility with existing and planned infrastructure projects, capital cost

## Schedule of Next Steps

- October 18 & 19, 2017: Public Information Centre to present alternatives for Springbank Dam and receive public input
- Evaluation of Alternatives
- Q4 2017: Present preferred alternative for Springbank Dam to CWC



Questions?

