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| <b>TO:</b>      | <b>CHAIR AND MEMBERS<br/>CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE<br/>MEETING ON MARCH 18, 2019</b>                                       |
| <b>FROM:</b>    | <b>KELLY SCHERR, P.ENG.<br/>MANAGING DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL<br/>&amp; ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER</b>       |
| <b>SUBJECT:</b> | <b>MORNINGTON AREA STORM DRAINAGE SERVICING<br/>MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:<br/>NOTICE OF COMPLETION</b> |

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| <b>RECOMMENDATION</b> |
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That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director Environmental & Engineering Services and City Engineer, the following actions **BE TAKEN** with respect to the Mornington Area Storm Drainage Servicing Environmental Assessment:

- (a) The preferred stormwater management alternative, executive summary attached as Appendix 'A', **BE ACCEPTED** in accordance with the Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process requirements;
- (b) A Notice of Completion **BE FILED** with the Municipal Clerk; and,
- (c) The Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Schedule B Project File for the Mornington Area Storm Drainage Servicing **BE PLACED** on public record for a 30-day review period.

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| <b>PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER</b> |
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Civic Works Committee, October 24, 2017 – Appointment of Consulting Engineer – Mornington Area Storm Drainage Servicing Environmental Assessment

Civic Works Committee, October 4, 2016 – Infrastructure Canada Phase 1 Project Requests Clean Water and Wastewater Fund, Agenda Item # 8.

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| <b>2015 – 2019 STRATEGIC PLAN</b> |
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The following report supports the 2015 – 2019 Strategic Plan through the strategic focus area of Building a Sustainable City including:

- Robust Infrastructure 1B – Manage and improve water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure.

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| <b>BACKGROUND</b> |
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**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to identify the preferred alternative for the Mornington Area Storm Drainage Servicing Schedule 'B' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA), and recommend filing the Notice of Completion for the study to initiate the statutory 30-day public review period.

**Context**

The existing storm drainage and sanitary servicing infrastructure within the study area (location map attached as Appendix 'B') is approaching or exceeds 100 years of age, has capacity constraints, and requires improvements. The Mornington Area Storm

Drainage Servicing Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) reviewed alternative solutions to address the capacity concerns within the existing storm drainage infrastructure and included the development of a sanitary servicing strategy. The preferred storm drainage and sanitary solution addresses existing capacity deficiencies, infrastructure condition, and will mitigate flooding impacts within the neighbourhood. In addition, future combined sewer separation on Oxford Street and Sterling Street will be able to occur once infrastructure is renewed along Quebec Street.

A combined sewer is a type of sewage collection system that is designed to collect and convey both sanitary sewage and surface runoff in a single pipe. Separating these combined sewers will provide a significant environmental benefit by removing stormwater from the sanitary sewer system; reducing the amount of stormwater treated at the City's sewage treatment plants, and reducing the number of overflows to the Thames River.

## DISCUSSION

Storm and sanitary sewer infrastructure along Quebec Street is in poor condition, under capacity and approaching 100 years of age. This infrastructure is at the end of its service life and requires renewal. Additionally, combined sewers exist upstream of Quebec Street on Sterling Street and along Oxford Street. A storm relief sewer, constructed in the late 1950s, also exists along Quebec Street. The relief sewer was constructed to relieve stress on the sanitary sewer network and reduce the risk of sewer backups into basements.

A Schedule B Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) was initiated to identify a suitable storm outlet to accommodate infrastructure renewal along Quebec Street and to allow for combined sewer separation to occur along Oxford Street and Sterling Street. In October 2017, the City of London appointed Stantec Consulting (Stantec) to complete engineering services for the Class EA. The evaluation of alternative solutions was completed with consideration to socio-economic, environmental and technical factors.

The implementation of the preferred alternative will facilitate the following:

- infrastructure renewal on Quebec Street with a suitable storm outlet;
- combined sewer separation along Oxford Street and Sterling Street;
- elimination of the stormwater contributions to the relief sewer, to alleviate existing sewer capacity concerns;
- reduction in sanitary sewer overflows to the Thames River; and
- reduction of the potential for surface flooding.

### **Public/Stakeholder Consultation**

As part of the study, one Public Information Centre (PIC) was conducted. Notifications for the meeting were published two weeks preceding the PIC as well as on the City's webpage. The meeting was held on October 24, 2018 at the Boyle Community Centre located at 530 Charlotte Street. The meeting was attended by the public and affected property owners. Notifications of the project were also sent to applicable federal, provincial, and municipal stakeholders, and local First Nations communities.

### **Preferred Alternative**

The preferred stormwater management alternative includes both a storage component and sewer network upgrades. The storage component includes an expansion of the existing stormwater management pond (Morningson Pond) within McCormick Park and the sewer work required to direct stormwater flows from Quebec Street to the proposed expanded facility.

A stormwater management pond/facility (SWMF) is an engineered structure constructed to gather rainfall and surface water runoff. The pond temporarily stores water and then

releases it at a controlled rate. Controlling the flow of stormwater protects downstream lands from erosion and flooding. In addition, stormwater ponds are constructed to be an attractive feature with an environmental benefit. Stormwater management facilities are designed to be surrounded by natural vegetation and to provide a habitat for birds and animals.

The proposed SWMF expansion was sized to retain stormwater from contributing drainage area along Oxford Street and Quebec Street and release it at a controlled rate that does not cause downstream flooding. The Mornington Pond and proposed expansion will share an existing outlet that ultimately discharges into the Burbrook Place trunk storm sewer system. The preliminary pond configuration is presented as Appendix 'C'. Pedestrian pathways are to be reinstated throughout the project area to ensure that existing trail connections are maintained. Although construction will cause temporary disruption to the property, the project provides the potential opportunity to improve the landscaping and trail connections for the local community.

The proposed sewer network upgrades include infrastructure renewal along Quebec Street along with the separation of combined sewers along Oxford Street from Curry Street to Mornington Street and Sterling Street from Mornington Avenue to Salisbury Street to remove storm flows from the sanitary system. The infrastructure renewal will redirect all storm catchments which currently discharge into the relief sewer to help reduce stress on the downstream system and reduce the risk of basement flooding.

### **Agency Comments**

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has reviewed the EA and had no specific concerns for the study area.

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) had no specific comments. The MTCS Criteria for Evaluating Potential for Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscape Checklist was completed and did not identify any impact on the cultural heritage resources.

### **Environmental Assessment Next Steps**

The following steps will be taken to finalize the Mornington Area Storm Drainage Servicing EA:

1. Upon Acceptance by Council, commence the 30-day review period:
  - A “Notice of Completion” will be published identifying that the study report is available for public review for the mandatory 30 calendar days at City Hall – 9<sup>th</sup> Floor and online at: [www.london.ca/MorningtonEA](http://www.london.ca/MorningtonEA)
  - Stakeholders are encouraged to provide input and comments regarding this study during this time period. Should stakeholders feel that issues have not been adequately addressed, they can provide written notification within the 30-day review period to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks requesting further consideration. This process is termed a “Part II Order”. Subject to no requests for a Part II Order being received, the project file will be finalized.
2. Construct the Preferred Alternative
  - It is estimated that the construction of the project will take place within the next five years. Permits and approvals for the proposed works will be obtained at the detailed design stage from the appropriate regulatory authorities.

## CONCLUSIONS

The Mornington Area Storm Drainage Servicing Environmental Assessment was undertaken to determine a suitable storm outlet to provide for infrastructure renewal along Quebec Street and to allow for combined sewer separation on Sterling Street and Oxford Street. Moving ahead with this project will assist in reaching the Canada-Ontario Lake Erie Domestic Action Plan target of separating 80 percent (17 km) of the City of London's combined sewer system by 2025. The preferred alternative provides a strong technical solution that also mitigates environmental impacts and alleviates the possibility of basement flooding in the Quebec Street area. Staff recommend that the preferred servicing alternative identified in the EA be posted for the 30-day public review period.

### Acknowledgements

This document has been prepared with assistance from Paul Yanchuk, EIT, in the Wastewater and Drainage Engineering Division.

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| <b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>  | <b>REVIEWED AND CONCURRED BY:</b>   |
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| <b>TOM COPELAND, P. ENG.<br/>DIVISION MANAGER<br/>WASTEWATER AND DRAINAGE<br/>ENGINEERING</b>                                 | <b>SCOTT MATHERS, MPA, P. ENG.<br/>DIRECTOR, WATER AND<br/>WASTEWATER</b> |
| <b>RECOMMENDED BY:</b>  |   |
| <br>  |   |
| <b>KELLY SCHERR, P. ENG., FEC<br/>MANAGING DIRECTOR,<br/>ENVIRONMENTAL &amp; ENGINEERING<br/>SERVICES &amp; CITY ENGINEER</b> |   |

Attach: Appendix 'A' – Executive Summary  
Appendix 'B' – Location Map  
Appendix 'C' – Preferred Alternative

cc. Nelson Oliveira, Stantec  
Alan Dunbar, City of London  
Jason Davies, City of London