TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS
	CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE
	MEETING ON FEBRUARY 4, 2020
FROM:	KELLY SCHERR, P.ENG., MBA, FEC
	MANAGING DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL
	& ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CITY ENGINEER
SUBJECT:	DINGMAN CREEK SUBWATERSHED: STORMWATER SERVICING
	STRATEGY FOR STAGE 1 LANDS
	MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:
	NOTICE OF COMPLETION

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director Environmental & Engineering Services and City Engineer, the following actions **BE TAKEN** with respect to the Dingman Creek Subwatershed: Stormwater Servicing Strategy Municipal Class Environmental Assessment:

- (a) The Dingman Creek Subwatershed Municipal Class Assessment Executive Summary <u>attached</u> as Appendix 'A', **BE ACCEPTED**;
- (b) A Notice of Completion **BE FILED** with the Municipal Clerk; and,
- (c) The Project File for the Dingman Creek Subwatershed: Stormwater Servicing Strategy Municipal Class Environmental Assessment **BE PLACED** on public record for a 30-day review period.

### PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

CWC – March 18, 2019 – Appointment of Services for Dingman Creek Surface Water Monitoring Program (ES2452)

PEC – March 18, 2019 – Upper Thames Conservation Authority Dingman Creek Subwatershed Screening Area Mapping – Update

PEC – November 12, 2018 – Upper Thames River Conservation Authority Dingman Creek Subwatershed Screening Area Mapping

CWC – October 6, 2015 – Dingman Creek Subwatershed Stormwater Servicing Strategy Schedule C Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

CWC – February 3, 2014 – Contract Award T13-89 Dingman Creek Stormwater Management Erosion Control Wetland (ES2682)

CWC – November 20, 2012 – A by-law to amend the Official Plan for the City of London, 1989 relating to lands located in the southwest quadrant of the City, generally bounded by Southdale Road West, White Oak Road, Exeter Road, Wellington Road South, Green Valley Road, and the Urban Growth Boundary.

### **2019 - 2023 STRATEGIC PLAN**

This report supports the Strategic Plan in the following areas:

 Building a Sustainable City: Improve London's resiliency to respond to potential future challenges; Build infrastructure to support future development and protect

- the environment; Maintain or increase current levels of service; manage the infrastructure gap for all assets.
- Leading in Public Service: Increase opportunities for residents to be informed and participate in local government; improve public accountability and transparency in decision making.

### **BACKGROUND**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to identify the preferred alternative for the Dingman Creek Subwatershed: Stormwater Servicing Strategy Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Dingman EA), and recommend filing the Notice of Completion for the study to initiate the statutory 30-day public review period.

### Context

The Dingman Creek subwatershed (17,200 hectares) includes 74% of its drainage area within the City of London and the entire planning area of the Southwest Area Secondary Plan (SWAP). In October 2015, the City initiated the Dingman EA to review previously recommended stormwater management strategy in the context of current stormwater management practices, including Low Impact Development (LID), and natural channel design.

The purpose of the Dingman EA is to consolidate previously completed studies, fill in data gaps, and recommend an innovative stormwater strategy for the Dingman Creek Subwatershed that addresses development needs and integrates stormwater management objectives with continuous corridors for the movement of people, water, and wildlife. The EA followed a comprehensive, environmentally sound planning process with public and stakeholder participation to balance the requirements of stormwater servicing relative to the natural and built environment.

### **Problem Statement**

The following problem statement was developed in coordination with project stakeholders through the public engagement process:

"The Dingman Creek Subwatershed (DCS) suffers from poor water quality, a lack of wildlife habitat, loss of trees and vegetation, as well as flooding and erosion issues. Sustainable growth within the Urban Growth Boundary of the DCS is a City of London priority. To maintain, enhance and restore the DCS the City needs a comprehensive plan to support both environmental and development goals. This plan must:

- Build on the 1995 and 2005 Dingman Creek Subwatershed Studies and be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Official Plan and Southwest Area Secondary Plan;
- Meet the targets established in the Environmental Compliance Approval; and
- Create a "complete corridor" that provides a continuous natural area for the movement of water, wildlife and people."

## **DISCUSSION**

In 2015, the City of London appointed Aquafor Beech Ltd. to complete the Dingman EA with the intent to undertake a study for the entire Dingman Creek Subwatershed area

and to carry out the EA following a Schedule "C" Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process.

# Regulatory Floodplain Update

In parallel with the Dingman EA, the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) undertook a comprehensive review of the Dingman Creek floodplain and associated regulatory limit throughout the subwatershed. The interim findings of the UTRCA identified the Dingman Creek Regulatory Floodplain to be significantly higher than previously defined in the City's Official Plan. The UTRCA's Regulatory Floodplain remains under peer review at the time of the EA filing. The UTRCA presented a Screening Area to Planning and Environment Committee on November 12, 2018 and City staff provided an update on March 18, 2019.

# Staging of the Dingman EA

In light of the potential changes to the Dingman Creek Regulatory Floodplain, the scope of the Dingman EA was revised to allow areas less impacted by the potential updated floodplain to proceed with the majority of development that is scheduled within the Southwest Area over the next ten years (see Appendix 'A' for map of Stage 1 Lands). Note that development lands with draft approval prior to commencement of the Dingman EA in November 2015, have proceeded with development under the Planning Act using recommendations from previous EAs and are not subject to the Dingman EA.

The revised scope identified Stage 2 lands to include areas susceptible to potential flooding under the UTRCA's floodplain update. A separate study to will be initiated by the City, in coordination with the UTRCA's floodline update that will explore opportunities to mitigate and accommodate new development in response to updates in the Regulatory Floodplain.

# **Public/Stakeholder Consultation**

# Public Meetings

As part of the study, two Public Information Centres (PIC) were conducted. Notifications for the meetings were published in the two weeks preceding the PIC as well as on the City's webpage. Both PIC's were an open house format with display boards for the public to review and staff available to answer any questions. Comment sheets were available for the public to submit comments to the project team. PIC #1 was held on May 31, 2017 at the Lambeth Community Centre and was attended by 13 members of the public. PIC #2 was held on June 19, 2019 at the Bostwick Community Centre and was attended by 17 members of the public.

### Notifications

Notifications of the project were also sent to applicable federal, provincial, and municipal stakeholders, and local First Nations communities.

### First Nations Engagement

The City distributed all EA notices, including Notice of Commencement, PIC-1 and PIC-2, to all area First Nations communities. The First Nations were also invited to participate in the Stakeholder Group.

The City met with First Nation representatives at the Chippewa of the Thames First Nation (COTTFN) on two occasions to discuss the Dingman EA. Meetings were held on February 6, 2018 and August 21, 2019 to review Stormwater Engineering led projects

and processes as well as to go over the scope of the Dingman project and proposed works. The February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting was attended by representatives of Chippewa of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Aamjiwnaang First Nation and the second meeting was by representatives from Chippewa of the Thames First Nation.

The purpose of the February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting was to give an overview of the EA process and requirements. Discussion followed the presentation with a focus of on-going EA studies, including the Dingman EA. COTTFN expressed support of making system-wide improvements to the water quality and erosion within Dingman Creek, which flows to the Thames River.

A second meeting held in Chippewa of the Thames First Nation on August 21, 2019, was attended by staff from the City of London's Stormwater Engineering, Sewer Engineering, and City Planning Divisions attended the meeting. A presentation from Stormwater Engineering gave an overview of the City's approach to Stormwater Management and current Stormwater led EA's underway including the Dingman EA and the planned master plan approach with smaller EA's to focus on lands outside of the screening area and with planned future development.

### Stakeholder Group

The Stakeholder Group was initiated to provide an open forum to discuss the scope and strategy of the Dingman Creek as it related to Stormwater Management, ecological concerns, and development pressures. This allowed for preliminary input and engagement to assist with recommending the proposed comprehensive SWM strategy contained within this EA document. The City of London hosted eight Stakeholder Meetings between April 8, 2016 and June 8, 2019.

At the onset of the Dingman Creek EA process, invitations to the Stakeholder Group were sent to municipal staff, advisory committees, Council members, developers, provincial agencies and First Nations Communities. More specifically, representatives were requested from the following:

- Chippewa of the Thames, Munsee-Delaware, and Oneida First Nations,
- City Council,
- Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee (EEPAC),
- Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC),
- Reforest London,
- · Lambeth Community Association,
- London Development Institute,
- York Developments,
- Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Innovations Branch,
- Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Local Office,
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), and
- Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA).

Note: One representative and one alternate participated from each of the above groups except for the First Nations who did not send a representative to the Stakeholder meetings.

# **MECP Pilot Project**

The City of London and the UTRCA have also partnered with the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) to develop a comprehensive Environment Compliance Approval (ECA) for the entire Dingman Creek Subwatershed.

This Pilot Project ECA consolidates all existing and proposed stormwater infrastructure approvals in Dingman Creek into one approval. The intent of the consolidated ECA is to streamline the Province's approval process and to focus the approval on the performance of the City's overall stormwater management infrastructure. The proposed ECA is established based upon a framework of information sharing between agencies, a monitoring and adaptive management program, and established program for preauthorized works and reporting requirements. The ECA has been developed through the partnership of the MECP, UTRCA and City. The ECA is anticipated to be approved by the MECP following the completion of this EA.

## **Agency Comments**

The MECP provided comments at the time of the Notice of Commencement to indicate that Source Water Protection and Climate Change should be considered during the EA. The UTRCA, MECP, and Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) provided preliminary comments and feedback as part of participating in the Stakeholder Group. The draft EA document will be circulated to all agencies with the Notice of Completion for final comments.

## **Dingman EA Evaluation and Preferred Alternative**

The preferred alternative evaluation process developed criteria and an associated ranking system. The evaluation considers alternative stormwater solutions and the associated impact on flooding, erosion, water quality, and water balance. Through the EA process, consideration was given with respect to:

- · stormwater management controls,
- natural heritage and stream systems,
- flood susceptible reaches, and
- complete corridors to integrate stormwater management, recreational opportunities, and wildlife connections.

The evaluation of alternative solutions was completed with consideration to social, environmental, and other technical factors and included the following options:

- 1. Do Nothing Approach.
- 2. Traditional Stormwater Management (i.e. ponds only).
- 3. Low Impact Development (LID) Approach (i.e. LIDs only).
- 4. Combined Approach Traditional and Low Impact Development.

The preferred alternative for the Dingman Creek Subwatershed study area is combined approach of traditional 'end-of-pipe' in combination with LID stormwater management controls. This alternative ranks highly under the natural environment criteria and social criteria; and relatively well under the economic criteria.

The recommended municipal stormwater infrastructure to service the Stage 1 lands includes 13 stormwater facilities, two complete corridors, and three channel restoration projects. Overall, the Dingman EA presents a different approach to stormwater management. The 13 recommended ponds will be "dry ponds", whereas the previously contemplated facilities were "wet ponds". Dry ponds are essentially depressed topographic areas for storage versus a wet pond that has permanent standing water. Wet ponds are much larger as they are sized to settle out sediment particles from the developed lands.

This EA recommends that all new development utilize LID measures to infiltrate or filtrate the first 25mm of rainfall. The LIDs will act in place of the wet ponds to meet water quality targets with the added benefits of reducing runoff volumes and recharging groundwater. This will result in reduced erosion in the tributaries as well as climate

change resiliency as the first 25mm will be filtered through the ground. For more details, please see Appendix 'A' for the Executive Summary.

## **Financial Implications**

The total estimated cost for stormwater servicing for the Stage 1 Lands is estimated at \$65.4M, including 20% engineering and 20% contingency. The majority of these works will be funded by the Development Charges with the non-growth budget being funded by Storm Sewer Rates. The implications to Development Charges will be evaluated and reviewed with Development Finance and incorporated into future Development Charge Studies.

The additional benefits that this strategy provides include additional erosion control storage than previously contemplated, which should result in healthier watercourses as well as lower long-term maintenance costs. In a typical wet pond, the cost to remove sediment is \$300-\$500k per pond, at least every 10 years. Dry pond facilities do not require to be cleaned out as they are not designed to collect sediment. The proposed low maintenance LIDs and pretreatment systems would be able to be flushed and pretreatment devices cleaned out in parallel with the sewer maintenance program, representing an incremental increase to long-term maintenance costs.

### **Next Steps**

The following steps will be taken to finalize the Dingman EA:

- Upon Acceptance by Council, publish a "Notice of Completion" and commence the 30-day review period.
- Stakeholders 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.
- The preliminary design for stormwater infrastructure to support new development within the Stage 1 Lands will be initiated in 2020. The study work will include completing the archeological assessments and cultural heritage reports, and Environmental Impact Study (EIS).
- In coordination with UTRCA's finalization of the regulatory floodline for the Dingman Creek Subwatershed, the City will initiate a study to review mitigation requirements and requirements for future development.
- As part of the 2020 GMIS update, confirm the timing of the design and construction of the recommended municipal facilities.
- Update the City's budgets to reflect the revised strategy.

# CONCLUSIONS

The Dingman Creek Subwatershed: Stormwater Servicing Strategy Municipal Class Environmental Assessment was undertaken to identify a stormwater management strategy for the Dingman Creek Subwatershed with consideration for new approaches to stormwater management (including LID controls) and integration with natural heritage, stream systems, and recreational opportunities.

The EA followed a comprehensive, environmentally sound planning process with public and stakeholder participation to balance the requirements of stormwater servicing relative to the natural and built environment. The preferred alternative provides a strong technical solution that supports future 10-year development needs and also integrates environmental impacts. Staff recommend that the preferred servicing alternative identified in the EA be posted for the 30-day public review period.

SUBMITTED BY:	REVIEWED AND CONCURRED BY:	
CHAMMA CHAMBERO D ENG. DDA	COOTT MATUEDO MDA D ENO	
SHAWNA CHAMBERS, P. ENG., DPA DIVISION MANAGER STORMWATER ENGINEERING	SCOTT MATHERS, MPA, P. ENG. DIRECTOR, WATER AND WASTEWATER	
RECOMMENDED BY:		
KELLY SCHERR, P. ENG., FEC MANAGING DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING SERVICES & CITY ENGINEER		

January 27, 2020

Attach: Appendix 'A' – Executive Summary

Cc. Dave Maunder, Aquafor Beech Paul Yeoman, City of London Gregg Barrett, City of London Alan Dunbar, City of London Jason Davies, City of London

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

In 2015, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) were in the process of preparing a new document titled Low Impact Development (LID) Stormwater Management Guidance Manual (Aquafor, 2018). This document, which will be a companion document to the 2003 Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual, places an emphasis on the requirement of future development to mimic pre development conditions from the perspective of managing peak flows and increases to runoff volume. This will lead to the use of a wider range of stormwater measures including Low Impact Development measures to infiltrate flow that otherwise would become runoff. LID practices include perforated third pipe systems, rainwater harvesting, water reuse, bioretention units and permeable materials which naturally infiltrate, evaporate or reuse stormwater runoff.

In February 2015, the MECP issued a bulletin stating "The natural hydrologic cycle should be maintained to the greatest extent possible. Going forward, the Ministry expects that stormwater management plans will reflect the findings of watershed, subwatershed, and environmental management plans, and will employ LID in order to maintain the natural hydrologic cycle to the greatest extent possible". The City of London recognized that imminent future development pressures within the Dingman Creek Subwatershed would require the construction of up to 12 new stormwater management facilities. Knowing the Ministry expected future stormwater approaches to consider the natural hydrologic cycle, the City identified the need to update the Stormwater Management Servicing Strategy for Dingman Creek to consider LIDs and initiated this study.

### **STUDY AREA**

The study area is the entire Dingman Creek within the City of London's boundary, although as noted later, the level of analysis will vary depending on which tributary is being considered. The Dingman creek subwatershed (see **Figure ES 1**) is approximately 17,200 ha in size and is located in Middlesex County with 74% within the City of London. The watershed extends from Highway 73 in the east to Delaware at the Thames River in the west. The main watercourse extends a distance of approximately 45 km. The subwatershed encompasses approximately 30 tributaries, the majority of which have been altered from their natural state as a result of agricultural practices or urbanization.

The dominant land use is rural; with approximately 47 percent of the lands being used for agricultural purposes. Urban land uses account for approximately 30 percent of the land. The remaining uses include transportation corridors (Highways 401 and 402), floodplains and Environmentally Significant Areas. The majority of the subwatershed lies within the City of London, roughly 10 percent of the lands lie within the Municipalities of Thames Centre and Middlesex Centre.

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#### STUDY PURPOSE AND APPROACH

The study purpose may be defined as follows:

"To develop an innovative stormwater servicing strategy with consideration for current and potential flooding, erosion concerns, groundwater as well as wildlife/aquatic habitat and natural corridor development"

The objectives of this study are summarized below, according to the three study phases.

- Phase 1: Subwatershed Characterization
- Phase 2: Subwatershed Management Strategies
- Phase 3: Implementation and Monitoring Plans

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT APPROACH**

The original intent was to undertake the study for the entire Dingman Creek and to carry out the study in accordance with Schedule "C" of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. In parallel with the City's EA study, the UTRCA is currently undertaking an update to the Regulatory Floodplain throughout the subwatershed. The interim findings of the UTRCA study identified flows and associated floodplains that were significantly higher than previously defined in the City's Official Plan. The UTRCA Regulatory Floodplain remains under review at the time that this EA is being filed. For this reason, the scope of this study was revised and streamlined to allow areas that were less impacted by the updated floodplain to proceed with development in a timely fashion. **Figure ES 1** illustrates the location of the four tributaries as well as the extents for the Stage 1 and Stage 2 lands

The four tributaries that will be considered in this study include:

- White Oaks Drain;
- Pincombe Drain;
- North Lambeth (Thornicroft Drain); and
- North Lambeth (Tributary 12)

Stage 1 lands coincide with lands planned for development within the 10-year development period as defined in the City's Growth Management Implementation Strategy for works identified for Growth in the 2019 Development Charges Study. It should be noted that development lands with Draft Plans approved prior to the beginning of this study in November 2015 already have Stormwater Management infrastructure that are being implemented under previously completed EAs.

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Stage 2 lands generally include lands adjacent to the main branch of Dingman Creek, generally located south of Exeter Road and east of Wonderland Road South. These lands will be assessed under an upcoming Schedule C EA process and may include options to mitigate the increase in Regulatory Floodplain that is being developed by the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA). It is important to note that the Regulatory Floodplain Update is being done by the UTRCA in parallel to the City's Master Plan EA process but does not form part of this EA study.

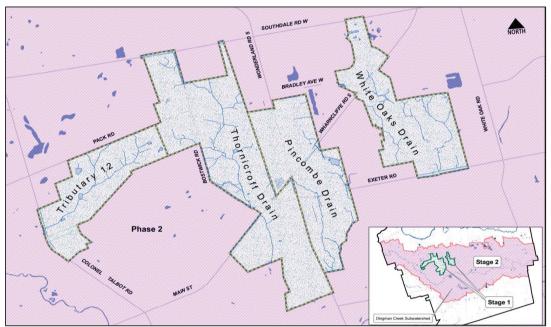


Figure ES 1: Study Area; Stage 1 and Stage 2 Lands

As a result of the changes as noted above, the study will now follow Approach #2 of the Class EA process. This study will, therefore, satisfy the requirements for Schedule A, A+ and B projects. Additional studies will be required for any project which falls under Schedules "C".

### **PROBLEM STATEMENT**

The following problem statement was developed with the members of the Dingman Creek Stakeholder Group:

"The original problem statement for the Dingman Creek Subwatershed (DCS) was defined as the DCS suffers from poor water quality, a lack of wildlife habitat, loss of trees and vegetation, as well as flooding and erosion issues. Sustainable growth within the Urban Growth Boundary of the DCS is a City of London priority. To maintain, enhance and restore the DCS the City needs a comprehensive plan to support both environmental and development goals. This plan must:

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- Build on the 1995 and 2005 Dingman Creek Subwatershed Studies and be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Official Plan and Southwest Area Secondary Plan;
- Meet the targets established in the Environmental Compliance Approval; and
- Create a "complete corridor" that provides a continuous natural area for the movement of water, wildlife and people.

Note: It should also be noted that the intent of the Dingman EA is not to delay construction of approved site plans or D subdivisions."

### **EXISTING SUBWATERSHED CONDITIONS**

A variety of information was collected, reviewed and assessed in order to define existing conditions. The type of assessments that were undertaken include:

- Hydrology and Hydraulics (Surface Water Resources) including headwater drainage features, fluvial geomorphic resources, and hydrology/hydraulics and floodplain modelling;
- Water Quality;
- Groundwater Resources; and
- Ecological resources and the natural heritage system.

## **EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVES**

The evaluation process involved the development of criteria and an associated ranking system for the criteria. A general approach was used to assess the impact on water quality. The focus of the evaluation will consider alternative stormwater solutions and the associated impact on flooding, erosion, water quality and water balance.

Chapter 6 of the report identified alternative stormwater strategies together with the selection of the preferred alternative. Four (4) alternative stormwater management strategies were identified:

- Option 1: Do Nothing Approach
- Option 2: Traditional (Conventional) Stormwater Management
- Option 3: Low Impact Development (LID) Approach
- Option 4: Traditional plus Low Impact Development

The preferred alternative for the Dingman Creek Subwatershed study area is Option 4, which consists of LID source controls and conveyance controls combined with end-of-pipe facility controls. This alternative ranks highly under the natural environment criteria and social criteria. It also ranks relatively well under the economic criteria. Summaries of evaluation scoring results for each criterion are summarized below with **Table ES 1** provided as an overall reference. A

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schematic of a perforated pipe system which represents one type of LID measure is presented in **Figure ES 2**.

**Table ES 1: Evaluation Results** 

Evaluation Criteria	Do Nothing	Conventional SWM Strategy (end-of-pipe only)	Low Impact Development (LID) Strategy	Combined Conventional & LID		
1. Natural Environment						
Potential to improve water quality based on existing water quality conditions and ability to provide required water quality as per the MECP requirements	0	3	3	4		
Potential Impact on Flooding	0	3	2	4		
Potential Impact on Erosion	0	2	3	4		
Potential Impact on Aquatic Habitat	0	2	3	4		
Potential Impact on Water Balance	0	0	3	3		
Total Natural Environment Score	0	10	14	19		
2. Social						
Aesthetics/Recreation	1	3	3	4		
Integration with other City/Agency plans, policies and initiatives (programs)	0	2	2	4		
Compatibility with adjacent land uses	0	2	2	4		
Potential to increase private property values	0	2	2	3		
Total Social Score	1	9	9	15		
3. Economic						
Construction Costs	4	2	3	1		

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Evaluation Criteria	Do Nothing	Conventional SWM Strategy (end-of-pipe only)	Low Impact Development (LID) Strategy	Combined Conventional & LID
Long Term Operation and Maintenance Costs	4	3	2	1
Infrastructure Protection	0	3	1	4
Total Economic Score	8	8	6	6
Total Normalized Score for Stormwater Management Alternative	24.3	54.9	61.5	79.6

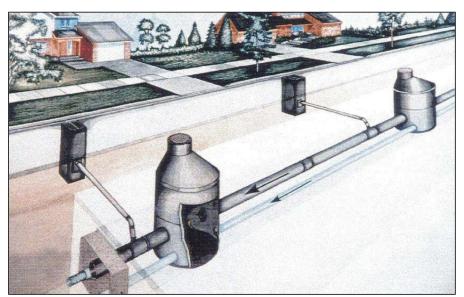


Figure ES 2: Schematic of a Perforated Pipe System DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Chapter 7 of the report provides a description of the Preferred Alternative. This chapter summarizes the overall Management Strategy for the Stage 1 lands. The discussion focuses on targets related to:

- stormwater management (surface water) including water quality, water balance, flooding and erosion control targets;
- natural heritage plans; and
- groundwater.

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### **Stormwater Management (Surface Water)**

In order to mitigate the impact of urbanization of the Dingman Creek Subwatershed, stormwater management in the form of source, conveyance and end-of-pipe facilities will need to provide:

- Water quality treatment consistent MECP "enhanced" level quality control;
- Infiltration opportunities to maintain pre-development water balance characteristics and Support Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas (SGRAs);
- Detention of peak flows to mitigate flooding in tributaries and critical reaches of Dingman Creek; and
- Erosion controls to ensure critical erosion thresholds are not exceeded.

The control hierarchy is shown in Figure 7.1 of the report.

In terms of stormwater management objectives, the use of LID source controls as part of this strategy would provide water balance, water quality, and erosion benefits. The end-of-pipe controls would provide flood control benefits.

### **Water Quality Target**

Following the approach outlined in Section 7.1 and Figure 7.1 of the report, new development areas within the Dingman Creek Subwatershed are recommended to follow the following stormwater control strategy:

The water quality target will not vary and will remain as control of the runoff generated from a 25 mm event. Where new development areas are designed to meet the pre-development water balance and the water balance target meets or exceeds an event capture depth corresponding to the runoff generated from a 25 mm event, additional end-of-pipe water quality measures will not be required unless intended to address a project specific water quality concern identified by the City or regulatory agency. SWM quantity controls to control peak flows will still be required at the end-of-pipe.

#### **Water Balance Target**

Two methods; the Thornthwaite and Mather model as well as the PCSWMM model were used For the Dingman Creek subwatershed to estimate the water balance components.

A basic water budget was prepared for the existing land use condition using monthly values of precipitation and temperature for the London Airport meteorological station (Environment Canada). The two methods provide an annual infiltration rate of between 97 and 103 mm/year on a watershed basis. Given that there are approximately 40 rainfall events per year the

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average infiltration rate per event is relatively modest (2-3 mm per event). The actual values on a site by site basis will vary depending on soil type, slopes, vegetation cover and depth to water table.

The above recharge targets can be achieved by incorporating appropriate LID source and conveyance control measures as outlined in Section 5 of the report together with the requirements to meet the Water Quality targets as noted above. Collectively the LID measures should ensure that post development infiltration rates equal or exceed pre development levels.

#### **Erosion Control Target**

As shown in Section 8.2.5 implementation of LID measures on a tributary basis will maintain or reduce runoff volumes on a seasonal basis. Given the balancing of flow volumes as presented in Section 6.2.5 and based on the LID measures which are required to meet water quality and water balance targets, the recommended preferred alternative for SWM is expected to meet the erosion control requirements

#### **Flood Control Target**

This section will address the flood control strategy to ensure that proposed development does not increase flows within the Stage 1 tributaries or the lands downstream the Stage 1 lands (the main branch of Dingman Creek). The PCSWMM model was used to estimate flow rates within the four tributaries of interest. The results are provided in Error! Reference source not found. of the report. It was also applied to estimate storage requirements for future stormwater detention facilities.

A total of 14 future municipal dry ponds are recommended across the study area. Medium and high density residential lands as well as employment/commercial lands will be expected to implement controls (see **Figure ES 3**) in accordance with the City's Permanent Private Systems Policy.

# **KEY IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS**

Section 8 of the report summarizes the investigations, inventories and analyses used to better define existing environmental conditions, future impacts, and recommended management measures which comprise the Stage 1 study area lands. The subsequent studies would be required once development patterns, transportation and servicing requirements are better known and would fit into the overall stormwater development process as identified in The City of London Design Specifications & Requirements Manual — Chapter 6 Stormwater Management (August 2019). The recommended measures include actions to address stormwater management requirements, protection of the natural heritage system and associated ecological features, as well as restoration and enhancement works for two corridors along North Lambeth - Tributary 12 and the White Oaks Drain.

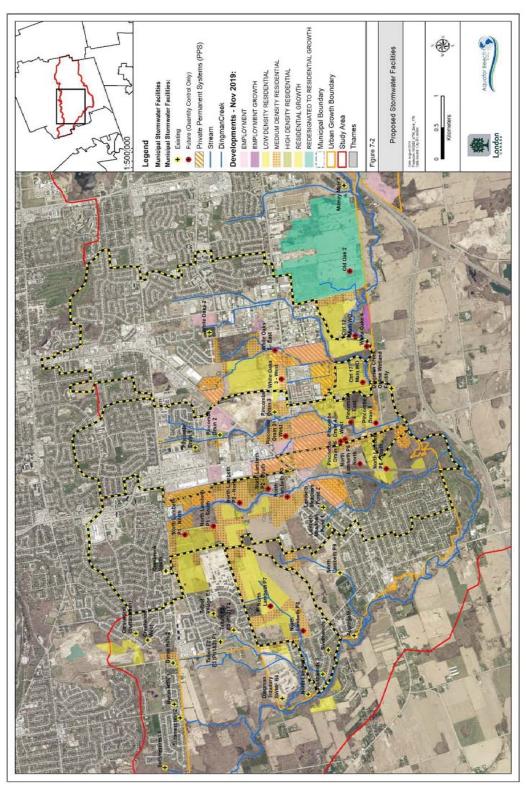


Figure ES 3: Proposed Stormwater Facilities and Control Facilities within the Four Tributaries of Interest

Aquafor Beech Limited

Ref. 65827

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In terms of the land development and environmental planning process, the role of the Subwatershed-wide Dingman SWM EA is to provide a framework and broad-scale guidance to the next level of planning and design study as urban development proceeds. As such, the focus of this chapter is to provide guidance for the future work required to implement the Dingman SWM EA recommendations. This includes direction with respect to future studies, timing/phasing of the works, policy/design guidance, and approvals.

### **Stormwater Management Controls**

Stormwater management controls consist of the recommended works required to mitigate the impacts from proposed future development. This includes:

- End-of-pipe stormwater ponds for flood control; and
- Low Impact Development (LID) source control techniques to meet water quality, water balance and erosion requirements.

The PCSWMM model was used to define flows for existing and proposed development conditions. Table 7.4 of the report summarizes the names, type, drainage area and flood storage requirements for each of the proposed facilities. The location of the proposed facilities is shown in **Figure ES 3**.

Meeting the  $(RVC_T)$  requirement will, subject to confirmation via field investigations, meet all of the water quality, water balance and erosion control targets.

The City of London Design Specifications & Requirements Manual – Chapter 6 Stormwater Management (August 2019) provides direction with respect to a number of items that are required to undertake conceptual and detail design of stormwater measures. An overview of each of the major sections within the design document together with cross-referencing to this study is provided in Section 8 of the report. Additional requirements from this study which are generally complimentary to the City of London requirements have also been provided.

# Natural Heritage System (NHS)

Identification of the City of London's NHS was completed as part of this process to ensure significant natural features and areas are protected. Opportunities for restoration and maintenance/enhancement of linkages between components of the NHS were also considered a priority for this study. An overview of natural heritage in the study area, with focus on the focus areas associated with the four tributaries of interest and the proposed SWM facility locations, was provided in Section 3.4 of the report. Section 7.1.6 provided the basis for the protection of the NHS in the City.

The requirements for site investigation and impact assessment for the identified SWM facility locations together with overall NHS requirements are presented in Table 8.1 of the report.

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An overview of natural heritage in the study area, with focus on the four tributaries of interest and the proposed SWM facility locations, was provided in Section 3.4 of the report. Section 7.1.6 provided the basis for the protection of the Natural Heritage System in the City.

The requirements for site investigation and impact assessment for the identified SWM facility locations together with overall NHS requirements are presented in Table 8.1 of the report.

#### **Stream Systems**

Characterization and assessment of the stream systems are to be carried out to confirm fluvial geomorphic conditions, headwater drainage feature (HDF) protection classes, and stream corridor erosion hazards, and to direct stream restoration objectives. Much of the available information for stream systems in the study area has been summarized from previous studies in Section 3.2 (e.g., Parish, 2014); however, it is recommended that this previous work is to be updated. Select field work completed by Aquafor in 2019 includes a fluvial geomorphic assessment of one tributary (i.e., Thornicroft) and HDF assessments for two tributaries according to standard procedures developed by CVC and TRCA (2014) (i.e., North Lambeth Tributary 12 and a portion of Pincombe Drain). HDF investigations were limited in scope due to private landowner considerations and should be completed in greater detail during future stages. It is also recommended that HDF considerations be incorporated into UTRCA development policy as originally discussed.

While critical discharge erosion control targets have been recommended in previous studies, it is expected for this study area that LID approaches and water balance targets will address SWM erosion control requirements (Section 7.1.4), so further detailed erosion threshold analyses will not likely be necessary.

The detailed stream system assessment requirements for each of the four tributaries are explained in Section 8.5 of the report. It is also expected, based on discussions with the City, that one consultant will be responsible for completing all of the necessary investigations and assessments for the entire area so that a consistent approach may be applied throughout. That consultant will be responsible for confirming the appropriate scope of work via pre-consultation with the City (and other stakeholders as appropriate) at project initiation. The required study tasks to be completed for the stream systems prior to project implementation are outlined generally below, and then specifically for each tributary in Table 8.2 and the following subsections:

### **Flood Susceptible Reaches**

The stormwater requirements as provided in Chapter 6 are suitable to meet agency requirements for proposed development with respect to flood control, erosion, water quality and water balance. Implementation of these measures, from a flooding perspective, will result in 2 to 100-year flows which do not exceed existing values.

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Current MNRF policy (see section 7.1.5 of the report) does not consider the benefit of storm water management facilities in reducing peak flows for regulatory storm (250-year). Therefore, assessments were undertaken to define stream reaches where problems currently exist or future development would result in adverse conditions (as the storage value of the proposed facilities is not considered by MNRF). Measures such as flood proofing, structural measures or constructing the proposed SWM Facilities to meet MNRF criteria will likely be required to alleviate problems within these reaches. The proposed Environment Assessment for the Stage 2 studies will address this topic in further detail. However, a map showing preliminary areas where flooding problems occurs is provided in **Figure ES 4**.

Discussions will need to be undertaken between the City, UTRCA and development groups to further refine the flood susceptible reaches (once the UTRCA mapping becomes available) and to develop an approach which allows development to proceed while protecting potential flood susceptible areas.

### **Complete Corridor Initiatives**

As part of this study the opportunity to provide flood storage for North Lambeth P7 and P8 as well as the tributaries to White Oaks Drain (WTC3 and WTC5) within a stream corridor was identified. The City is choosing to name these areas as "complete corridors" to convey water, people and wildlife. As a result, the more detailed objectives of the proposed complete corridors would be to:

- Water: Provide the necessary flood control requirements within a stream corridor with a minimum width to be defined by ecologic and water resources (regulatory flood control) requirements;
- People: Create associated recreational amenities;
- Wildlife: Provide terrestrial and aquatic habitat enhancement and restoration improvements, including potential ecological linkages between existing NHS features.

The alteration and interference of valley and stream corridors, including modifications to watercourses, flood hazards, and lands within valley and stream corridors will require approval by the City, UTRCA and potentially MNRF. Alterations and modifications may be supported where it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the City, UTRCA and appropriate agencies that modifications will meet the above noted objectives.

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### **Restoration Efforts**

Restoration efforts within and outside the corridor are intended to meet some environmental and engineering objectives which are listed in Section 8.4. The conceptual sizing identified through the EA Study will need to be confirmed and/or refined through preliminary and detailed design during the future planning stages. Consideration for Stream Corridor Width Requirements are presented in Table 8-3. For example, further hydraulic modelling, grading plans, and technical analyses will need to be completed to ensure that the proposed corridor will convey the complete range of flood flows, and preserve existing flood storage volumes. Further details will be coordinated with the stormwater management and grading plans for the adjacent development lands. Restoration, grading, planting and landscaping plans will also need to confirm that the overall NHS coverage targets are met, including woodland, meadow and wetland targets.

### **Future Study Requirements**

Chapter 8 of the report provides direction for the functional and detail design studies that are required. Preliminary design of the Dingman Creek corridor restoration works should be completed at the functional design stage and should demonstrate how the proposed design will meet all of the targets identified in this study (Section 7.1).

#### **Potential Flood Related Item**

As part of the public consultation process it was brought forward that a landowner within the Pincombe Drain study area experience flooding that may be attributable to a number of factors including private property issues, the capacity of the existing storm sewer system, or the receiving stream.

As a result, the City agreed to assess the hydraulics of the Pincombe Drain channel and the storm sewer system on Southdale Road as part of the functional and detailed design for channel improvements/restoration to the Pincombe Drain, noting that final water surface elevations within the Pincombe Drain would be provided by UTRCA upon completion of the floodplain update within the Dingman Creek.

#### **Summary Mapping**

A series of maps have been provided for each of the four tributaries which are subject to further study. Each of the maps include features such as location of existing and proposed stormwater management facilities, the location of various features within the NHS, and general restoration areas (**Figure ES 5** to **Figure ES 9**). The maps, together with a description of the types and extent of the studies that are required as development proceeds may be used as a basis for undertaking the subsequent studies as development proceeds.

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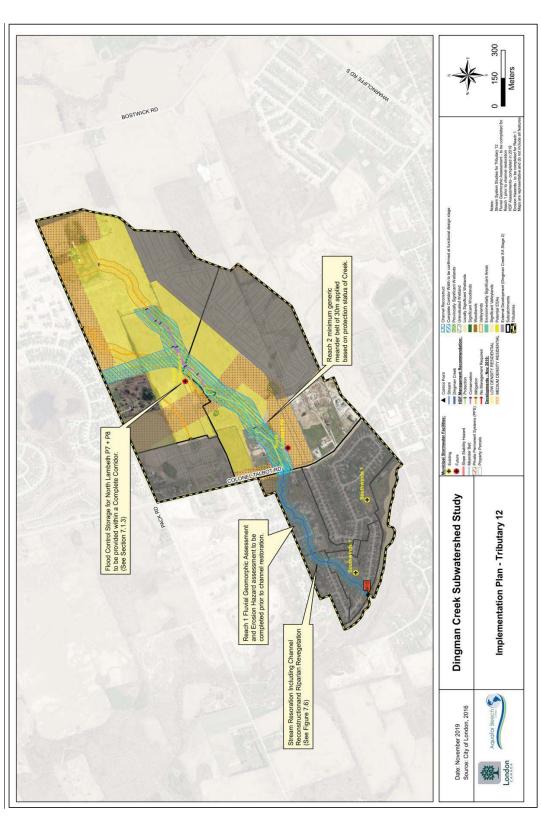


Figure ES 5: Implementation Plan – Tributary 12

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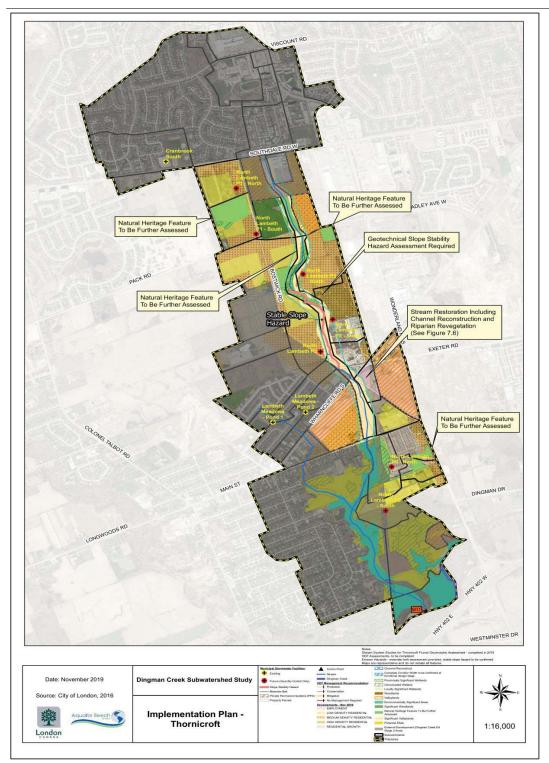


Figure ES 6: Implementation Plan – Thornicroft

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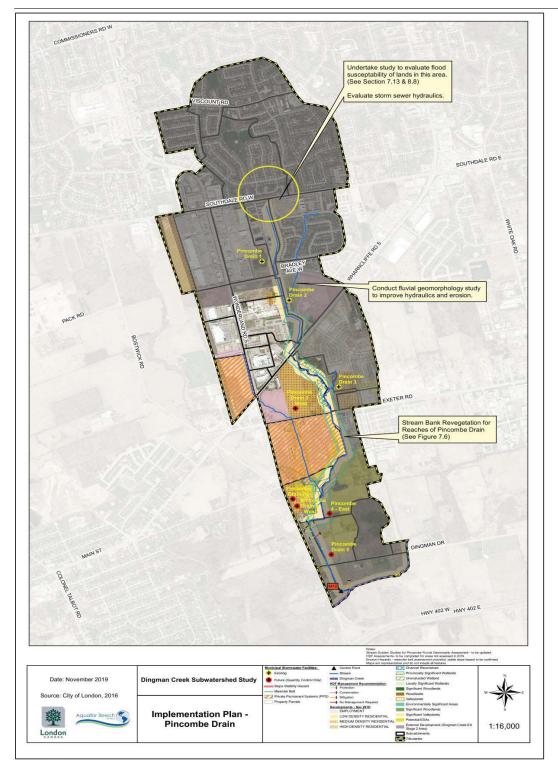


Figure ES 7: Implementation Plan – Pincombe

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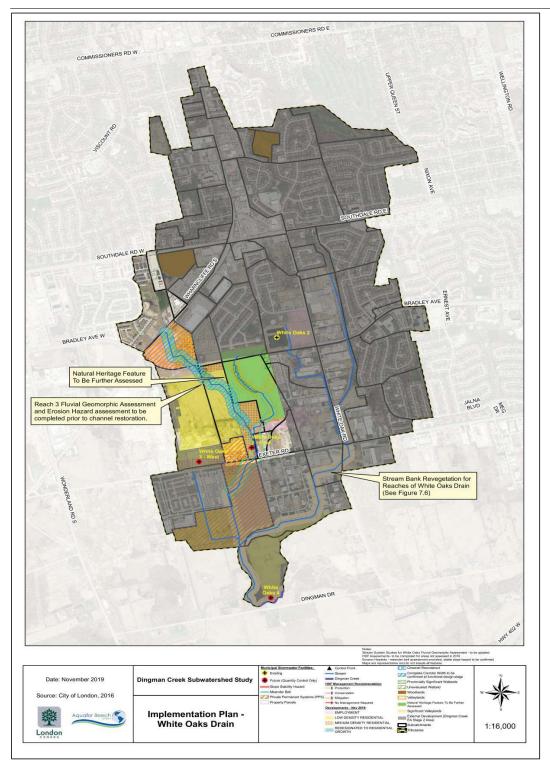


Figure ES 8: Implementation Plan – White Oaks

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Figure ES 9: Implementation Plan – Overview

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#### **COST ESTIMATES/ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT UNDERTAKINGS**

#### **Costs Estimate**

The planning level cost estimates for the preferred alternative in the "Dingman Subwatershed: Stormwater Servicing Study" include the following items:

- SWMF facilities in Stage 1 lands (14 municipal facilities),
- Complete Corridors and Stream Restoration Works; and
- Other SWM Programs including Low Impact Development Measures.

The costs are calculated based on the information obtained from the 2019 Development Charge (DC) Update Study (City of London 2019). The costs for the SWMF facilities include construction, inlet/outlet sewer costs, land as well as 20% engineering and 20% contingency. For the Complete Corridors and Stream Restoration Works the costs include construction, land, engineering and contingency.

The total estimated cost for implementing the recommended solution is approximately \$65.4M, including Engineering and Contingency.

### **EA Undertakings**

**Table ES 2** summarizes the EA Schedule for all undertakings associated with the Preferred Alternatives.

**Table ES 2: Summary of EA Undertakings** 

Description	Municipal Class EA Schedule	
SWMF Facilities	Schedule B	
Complete Corridors and Stream Restoration Works	Schedule B	
Low Impact Development with Local Storm Sewer Servicing (DC Subsidy)	Not Applicable	
Pincombe Drain/Storm Sewer Upgrade	Schedule A <sup>+</sup>	

### **Implementation Schedule**

In accordance with the City's 2019 Growth Management Implementation Strategy (GMIS) timing, the general order of tributary works would proceed approximately as follows. This timing is subject to the ability to obtain all necessary permits to complete the work:

- 2021: North Lambeth (Tributary 12) and Pincombe Drain Improvements
- 2022: White Oaks Drain
- 2026: Thornicroft Drain: East side of Bostwick Road
- 2033: Thornicroft Drain: West side of Bostwick Road

The timing of specific facilities will be confirmed during the upcoming 2020 GMIS process, which will be initiated in February 2020.