

City of Hamilton Agriculture and Rural Affairs Sub-Committee AGENDA

Meeting #:	23-003
Date:	November 30, 2023
Time:	7:00 p.m.
Location:	Room 264, 2nd Floor, City Hall (hybrid) (RM)
	71 Main Street West

Carrie McIntosh, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 2729

2.	APPR	OVAL OF AGENDA	
	(Adde	d Items, if applicable, will be noted with *)	
3.	DECL	ARATIONS OF INTEREST	
4.	APPR	OVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	
	4.1	June 29, 2023	3
5.	COM	MUNICATIONS	
	5.1	Correspondence from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs	6
6.	DELEGATION REQUESTS		
7.	DELE	GATIONS	
8.	PRES	ENTATIONS	

8.1	Stormwater Fee Information & Incentive Program Consultation	8
8.2	Farm 911 Program Update	39

8.2 Farm 911 Program Update

Pages

- 8.3 Rural Zones (Farm Labour Residences and Additional Dwelling Units Detached) (no copy)
- 9. CONSENT ITEMS
- 10. PUBLIC HEARINGS
- 11. DISCUSSION ITEMS
- 12. MOTIONS
- 13. NOTICES OF MOTION
- 14. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS
- 15. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL
- 16. ADJOURNMENT



Agriculture and Rural Affairs Sub-Committee MINUTES 23-002 Thursday, June 29, 2023 7:00 p.m. Ancaster Fairgrounds, Room C 630 Trinity Road, Ancaster Virtually via Webex

Present:	Councillors J. Beattie, C. Cassar, T. McMeekin, M. Tadeson, A. Spoelstra (Chair), D. Smith (Vice-Chair), C. McMaster, A. Payne, R. Shuker, G. Smuk, and M. Switzer
Absent with	Councillors B. Clark and A. Wilson,
Regrets:	N. Mills, J. Mantel, R. Pearce, C. Roberts

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO THE PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Stormwater Funding Review (Item 8.2)

(Payne/McMaster)

- (a) That staff be directed to continue to consult with the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Sub-Committee respecting the Stormwater Funding Review; and
- (b) That staff and the new Council be reminded of the previous direction as approved by the Planning Committee on December 8, 2020 "that the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee respectfully request that no stormwater management charges be directed to any areas outside the urban boundary, given that the rural area has no direct impact on the City of Hamilton's storm water management infrastructure no additional fees be charged to rural properties".

CARRIED

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Item 2)

The Committee Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda:

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5. COMMUNICATIONS

- 5.1 Correspondence from the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance to Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, respecting proposed changes to the Provincial Policy Statement and Bill 97
- 5.2 Correspondence from Ontario's Farm Leaders respecting Bill 97 and Proposed Provincial Planning Statement

8. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

8.1 Stormwater Funding Review

(Smuk/Switzer)

That the agenda for the June 29, 2023 meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Sub-Committee, be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)

(i) April 18, 2023 (Item 4.1)

(Smith/Payne)

That the Minutes of the April 18, 2023 meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

(d) COMMUNICATIONS (Item 5)

(Switzer/Smith)

That the following Communication Items 5.1 and 5.2, be received:

- (i) Correspondence from the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance to Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, respecting proposed changes to the Provincial Policy Statement and Bill 97 (Item 5.1)
- (ii) Correspondence from Ontario's Farm Leaders respecting Bill 97 and Proposed Provincial Planning Statement (Item 5.2)

CARRIED

(e) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 8)

(i) Farm 911 Program Update (Item 8.1)

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Heather Travis, Manager, Staging of Development and Legislative Approvals, addressed the Committee respecting the Farm 911 Program Update, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

(Switzer/Smith)

That the presentation from Heather Travis, Manager, Staging of Development and Legislative Approvals, respecting the Farm 911 Program Update, be received.

CARRIED

(ii) Stormwater Funding Review (Item 8.2)

Nancy Hill, AECOM, addressed the Committee respecting the Stormwater Funding Review, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

(Smuk/Switzer)

That the presentation from Nancy Hill, AECOM, respecting the Stormwater Funding Review, be received.

CARRIED

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item 1.

(f) ADJOURNMENT (Item 16)

(Smith/Payne)

That the meeting of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Sub-Committee be adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Spoelstra, Chair Agriculture and Rural Affairs Sub-Committee

Carrie McIntosh

Legislative Coordinator Office of the City Clerk

Canada



August 28, 2023

Janette Smith City Manager City of Hamilton janette.smith@hamilton.ca

Dear Ms. Smith:

We are pleased to announce that the governments of Canada and Ontario are investing up to \$1.5 million over two years to help improve the removal, handling, and disposal of deadstock across the province. The Increasing Deadstock Capacity Initiative application intake will be open from September 21, 2023, to February 1, 2024. All approved projects must be completed by February 1, 2025. You can find additional information, including how to apply, on the Agricultural Adaptation Council Website at info@adaptcouncil.org.

This program is being offered through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP). The cost-share funding initiative will help address some of the gaps identified in a Livestock Research Innovation Corporation (LRIC) report released this year and will provide opportunities for the deadstock industry to streamline operations and improve accessibility by increasing capacities and establishing new service standards.

Please note that expenses, where applicable, must meet regulatory requirements, including <u>Ontario Regulation 105/09</u> under the Food Safety and Quality Act, 2001 (FSQA), and <u>Ontario Regulation 106/09</u> under the Nutrient Management Act, 2002 (NMA), (or any applicable requirements under the Safe Food for Canadians Act for federally registered plants), and be suitable for use. The undertaking of these activities for cost-share funding may still be subject to regulatory approvals.

Our governments are committed to supporting the agri-food sector and rural communities in Ontario.



Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership





.../2

We encourage you to take advantage of this funding opportunity and submit an application. Together, we can ensure that Ontario's agricultural communities can continue to operate sustainably and without interruption.

Sincerely,

Laurence M Julay

Lawrence MacAulay Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

Zim Mumpon

Lisa M. Thompson Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs









Stormwater Fee Information & Incentive Program Consultation

Agriculture and Rural Affairs Sub-Committee City of Hamilton November 30, 2023

Presented by: Nancy Hill

Delivering a better world



What is Stormwater?

Rain, melting snow, and ice that washes off driveways, parking lots, roads, yards, rooftops, and other surfaces.¹





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Hamilton's Stormwater System

Hamilton

to

Mexico

- 1,500 km ditches
- 1,200 km storm sewers
- 148 km watercourses
- 50,000 catch basins
- 3,500 culverts
- 4 infiltration facilities
- 126 ponds
- Value of **\$3.1 billion**





Rural & Urban Stormwater Systems = Watershed Management

⊞ ⊞

WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

How can salt impact a watershed?

Chlorides can contaminate drinking

of aquatic species.

water and negatively affect the health

An area that is drained by a river and its tributaries. Wherever you are right now, you are in a watershed.

WATERSHEDS DELIVER IMPORTANT BENEFITS

Human – provide safe drinking water and food, and help to reduce flooding and erosion.

Economic – produce energy, and supply water for agriculture, industry and homes.

Environment – promote a healthy water cycle, and provide vital habitat for wildlife and plants.

What is the Water Resource System?

Consists of groundwater and surface water features and areas, including streams, lakes, groundwater recharge areas and springs, needed to sustain healthy aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, and human water supply.

What causes flooding?

Rivers naturally flood with heavy rain or snowmelt, but flooding can become a problem when buildings and other structures are placed in floodplains. Climate change and urbanization can make flooding worse.

MID.

What is the Natural Heritage System?

Consists of natural features and areas, including wetlands, forests, meadows and valleylands, that are needed to maintain biodiversity and healthy ecosystems.

How can agriculture impact a watershed?

Agricultural areas provide valuable greenspace and reduce stormwater, since precipitation can penetrate the soil. On the other hand, agricultural fields can release harmful contaminants into waterways as excess nutrients (e.g. phosphorous) and pesticides. Soil erosion from fields can increase the amount of sediment in waterways negatively affecting aquatic ecosystems.

100 100

F

How can urbanization impact a watershed?

Since impervious surfaces (roads, buildings, parking lots) prevent water from penetrating into soil, stormwater runoff can carry contaminants into waterways and increase the likelihood of flooding. Infrastructure and land use development can degrade habitat, reducing the quality and quantity of natural systems and their connectivity.

Surface and Groundwater Interaction

Rain and melting snow penetrate the soil in permeable areas draining into an aquifer (i.e. groundwater recharge areas). That groundwater can then discharge at springs into streams, wetlands or other surface water features.



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Graphic courtesy of Toronto Region Conservation Authority

What happens when stormwater and its infrastructure isn't managed?



Erosion



Debris in Creeks



Pollutants in creeks



Road Flooding



Flooding



Infrastructure Failure



How Does Hamilton Fund Stormwater?





Stormwater Funding Breakdown

Stormwater Program Budget	2003 (pr	evious)	2023 (cu	irrent)	2025 (fu	iture)
Conservation Authorities	\$4	27%	\$9.1	21%	\$9.5	18%
Road Drainage Maintenance	\$1	7%	\$3.9	9%	\$4.0	7%
Storm Operations/Capital	\$10	67%	\$30.0	70%	\$40.5	75%
TOTAL	\$15 I	M/yr	\$43 I	M/yr	\$54 N	//yr
Funding Source						
Tax Levy						
	Water Ra	te				
	Storm Fe	e 🗌				



2023 Tax Levy Funded Stormwater Funding

- Grand River Conservation Authority
- Conservation Halton
- Hamilton Conservation Authority
- Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority
- Roads Maintenance Drainage Programs

\$1.6M \$0.8M \$4.8M \$1.9M \$3.9M \$13 M



June 2022	Council directed staff to perform a stormwater funding model review and report back by June 2024	Guiding Principles
Nov 2022	Council approved Guiding Principles	1. Fair & equitable
	for stormwater model evaluation	2. Climate resilient &
January 2023	 Council directs staff to accelerate review and report back by June 2023 	environmentally sustainable
June 2023	 Council approved the new stormwater fee 	3. Affordable & financially sustainable
	structure & directed staff to consult the public on a financial incentive program	4. Justifiable
		5. Simple
October 2023	Public consultation launched	

A stormwater fee with an associated credit program is a fairer, more transparent and sustainable funding model than the current system.

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What are more equitable stormwater funding models based on?

Impervious area

- Roof
- Asphalt
- Concrete
- Compacted gravel
- Pavers (unless designed for infiltration)

Better estimate of stormwater impact than water consumption or assessed value.





What is the New Stormwater Funding Model Approved by Council?

- \$ based on property's impervious area
- Residential < 6 units, averages
- Residential > 6 units, ICI (including Ag), actual
- Remove \$ from water utility rates
- Develop & consult the public on a financial incentive program



How Are the Stormwater Fees Calculated?

Stormwater Fee

ts X Rate for 1 billing unit





1 billing unit = 291 m^{2*}

Property Type	# Billing Units
Detached homes (urban and rural)	1
Semi-detached homes, townhomes, duplexes	0.5 per dwelling unit
Triplex to sixplex	0.3 per dwelling unit
Buildings > 6 units	Impervious area/avg home
Institutional, commercial, industrial	Impervious area/avg home
Agricultural with secondary structures/outbuildings	Impervious area/avg home

*Average impervious area for a single-family detached home was determined by measuring a statistically relevant number of homes from across the City using aerial imagery ** Estimated 2025 rate for 1 billing unit is \$170



Will an incentive program be available to reduce stormwater management fees?

- Yes it is being considered!
- Common practice (Mississauga, Kitchener, and Guelph etc.)
- Proposed subsidized programs for residential properties
- Proposed credits for agricultural properties with more than just a residence (as well as industrial, commercial, institutional and large multi-residential property owners)



Proposed Financial Incentives – Residential < 6 units

Grants/subsidies:

- Rain barrels
- Disconnect downspouts, backwater valves etc
- In-person 'how-to' advisory services
- Published 'how-to' information
- Rain gardens, permeable surfaces etc..

Reduce the quantity and improve the quality of stormwater runoff from residential properties





Proposed Financial Incentives – Agricultural, ICI & Residential > 6 units

Proposed Credit Program

Objective Maximum Credit Amount			Description	Examples	
Slow it down	40%	Total max. 50%	Percent reduction of the 100-year storm post-development flow to pre-development conditions of the site.	Detention Ponds, cisterns	
Clean it up	25%		Remove ammonia and phosphorous. Remove 60-70% sediment (based on receiving waters).	Oil-grit separators, treatment facilities	
Soak it up	40%		Percent capture of first 28 mm of rainfall during a single rainfall event.	Infiltration facilities, re-use facilities	
Prevent pollution	15%		Develop and implement a pollution prevention plan	Salt management plan, pesticide/manure management, sweeping, spill response plan, public education etc,	





Why not Provide Credits for Residential Properties < 6 units?



Low \$ payback for property owner (\$2-\$8 savings/month per unit)



Grants/subsidies provide upfront \$



Require effort and technical expertise to apply and renew credits





Why is the stormwater fee applied to rural properties ?

- City maintains rural stormwater system (ditches, culverts, watercourses etc.) that convey runoff from rural properties
- City spends > **\$2.6 million** on **rural drainage projects** + **\$11.7 million** on rural/urban initiatives
- Rural properties contribute ~ **\$1.5 million** towards stormwater (\$60 per home)
- Avg rural home impervious area = 2 x average urban home







What Stormwater Work is Done in Rural Areas?

- Monitor & address phosphorous and sediment in Spencer & Grindstone Creeks
- Repair/prevent creek erosion
- Remove/prevent debris in creeks
- Inspect, repair & replace culverts
- Clean ditches
- Invasive species control







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Example Agricultural Property 1

Property Info

- House plus outbuildings
- 104 ac
- Billing Units: 1 + 5.2
- Cistern and impervious areas discharged to green space
- Annual Stormwater Fee
- Estimated base charge: \$1,054
- Potential credit: (\$527)
- Total \$527





Property Info

- House plus outbuildings
- 48 ac
- Billing Units: 1 + 13.2
- Impervious areas discharged to green space
- Annual Stormwater Fee
- Estimated base charge: \$2,584
- Potential credit: (<u>\$1,292</u>)
- Total \$1,292





Property Info

- Houses plus outbuildings
- 135 ac
- Billing Units: 3x1 + 40.6+86.3
- Impervious areas discharged to green space

Annual Stormwater Fee

• Estimated base charge: \$22,083

(\$11,042)

\$11,041

- Potential credit:
- Total



Property Info

- House plus outbuildings
- 49 ac
- Billing Units: 1 + 55.2
- Impervious areas discharged to green space
- Annual Stormwater Fee
- Estimated base charge: \$9,554

\$4,777

- Potential credit:
- Total



🔶 aecom.com

Property Info

- House plus outbuildings
- 145 ac
- Billing Units: 1 + 33.1
- Impervious areas discharged to green space
- Annual Stormwater Fee
- Estimated base charge: \$5,797
- Potential credit: (<u>\$2,898)</u>
- Total \$2,899





Property Info

- Houses plus outbuildings
- 6 ac
- Billing Units: 2x1 + 54.3
- Impervious areas discharged to green space

Annual Stormwater Fee

- Estimated base charge: \$9,571
- Potential credit: (<u>\$4,786</u>)
- Total \$4,785





Property Info

- Outbuildings
- 158 ac
- Billing Units: 455.3
- Impervious areas discharged to green space
- Annual Stormwater Fee
- Estimated base charge: \$77,401
- Potential credit:
- Total \$3
- (<u>\$38,700)</u> \$38,701







Proposed Credit Application Process

- 1. Demonstrate that on-site infrastructure is maintained and working
- 2. Application and appeal processes to be confirmed & developed in 2024
- 3. Applications to be reviewed by Hamilton staff
- 4. Applications to open in early 2025



Stormwater Billing

- For those that receive municipal water/wastewater bills the stormwater fee will be added as a separate line item to the utility bill
- Water / wastewater rates will be restated, where applicable, when the stormwater fee is implemented
- For those that do not receive municipal water/wastewater bills the property will likely receive a 'stormwater only' utility bill
- Where water / wastewater bills are being billed to a condominium and not to individual owners, likely, the stormwater utility bill will follow suit
- Approved credits would be applied on the monthly bills



Timeline





What Have We Heard Thus Far?

- Would like a survey specific to Agricultural Properties
- Should consider good on-site stormwater practices on farms (cisterns, runoff to soils/grass etc.)
- Credit application process should be simple
- Max credits should be >50%
- Need to communicate the new stormwater fee more widely


Complete the Survey:

Visit **engage.Hamilton.ca/stormwaterincentives** by December 3, 2023.

Contact Us

Visit:

- hamilton.ca/stormwaterfunding
- engage.hamilton.ca/stormwaterincentives

Email:

stormwaterfundingreview@hamilton.ca



Questions?



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Agricultural & Rural Affairs Sub-Committee – Farm 911 Program Update #2

November 30, 2023 Presented by: Heather Travis

Background

At its meeting of January 18, 2021, the Agricultural & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee provided the following direction:

"That the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee respectfully requests that appropriate City staff be directed to develop a framework to provide emergency 911 signs to owners of unidentified farm properties in Hamilton, at their request, at no cost to the applicant."





Project Update

- Proposed Farm 911 Emergency Access Point (EAP) policy has been circulated to the ARASC
- Staff Report recommending implementation of Farm 911 Emergency Access Point (EAP) program scheduled for December 5 Planning Committee
- If approved by Council, program will launch in January 2024



Key Program Highlights

- Program will be offered free of charge to property owners

 No application fee will be applied
 No fee for signage, including installation
- Voluntary program
- Vacant rural and agricultural properties are eligible
- More than one Farm 911 Emergency Access Point number may be permitted per property if multiple existing access points exist

Key Program Highlights

Application form will include a waiver acknowledging that assigning a Farm 911 – EAP number:

- Does not permit further use or development of the property without appropriate approvals;
- Does not constitute a civic address for mail delivery purposes and is to assist in emergency situations only;
- Does not constitute the approval of the existing entrance nor does it deem the access safe for use;
- Does not guarantee that access is adequate for emergency vehicles; and,
- Requires the landowner to maintain and keep the sign and access in good repair



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Signage





Communications Plan

- City's Communications team is preparing a communications strategy with the objective to create awareness of the new program and encourage participation of the agricultural community.
- Strategy will include the following:
 - $\circ\,$ Media release promoting the new program
 - $_{\odot}$ Social media messaging and website updates
 - Targeted emails to stakeholders
 - Graphics and other materials
- Communication materials can be shared with the members of the ARASC for sharing and distribution with networks and constituents.



Next Steps

- Planning Committee December 5, 2023
- Council December 13, 2023
- Launch of program January 2024



Farm 911 – Emergency Access Point (EAP) Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish, regulate, and administer the Farm 911 – Emergency Access Point (EAP) program. This program is designed to assign EAP numbers to existing access points on vacant agricultural and rural lands to assist emergency services with locating properties during an emergency.

Eligibility

- 1. The EAP program provides property owners with an EAP number that will allow emergency services to respond to an emergency via an existing access point that does not currently have a civic address assigned to it.
- 2. Owners of vacant agricultural and vacant rural lands within the City of Hamilton's Rural Area are eligible to apply for an EAP number(s), as per #17 below.
- 3. A maximum of one EAP number shall be assigned per existing access point. For large properties with multiple access points, separate EAP numbers may be assigned to individual access points on the same property if it is deemed necessary to improve ease of identification of the access point.
- 4. The EAP program is voluntary and not a requirement for existing access points.

Submitting an EAP Application

- All applicants requesting an EAP number shall submit a Farm 911 Emergency Access Point Application Form to the Legislative Approvals / Staging of Development Section of the Growth Management Division (<u>hamilton.ca/addressing</u>). There is no application fee for the submission of a Farm 911 – Emergency Access Point Application Form.
- 6. A map, sketch, or site plan of the property shall be included with the EAP application which identifies the following:
 - i) location of the existing access point(s) for which the EAP number is requested;
 - ii) location of other existing access points on the property, if applicable, and approximate distance between those access points;
 - iii) property lines, including approximate distance between the access point for which the EAP access is requested and the property line.
 - iv) other information if requested by staff.
- 7. The applicant shall be the property owner or must otherwise include a letter from the property owner designating the applicant as the property owner's acting agent.

Reviewing the Application and Assigning EAP Address Number

8. The Legislative Approvals / Staging of Development Section of the Growth Management Division shall review the submitted application for completeness.

- 9. An EAP number will be determined for the access point location using the City's current street address range system. Staff, in consultation with the property owner, shall determine if additional EAP numbers may be required for additional existing access points on a property.
- 10. The same EAP number shall not be used at more than one (1) access point location.

EAP Address Number Notification & Signage

- 11. Once assigned, the applicant will be notified of the assigned EAP number and be directed to contact the Transportation Operations Section of the Transportation Division (<u>trafficops@hamilton.ca</u>) to initiate the sign fabrication process and confirm installation procedures. The Transportation Operations Section will fabricate the EAP sign with the assigned EAP number.
- 12. Installation of the signage may be completed by the City or the property owner, at the owner's discretion. If the property owner chooses to install the signage, Transportation Operations will provide directions for appropriate installation. If the City shall be responsible for the installation of the sign, Transportation Operations staff will install the sign at the earliest opportunity following assignment of the EAP number.
- 13. EAP sign blades will be red double-sided blades with white reflective numbering. The red and white signage will differentiate the EAP numbers from formal civic addresses that have been assigned and approved by the City.

Exceptions and Limitations

- 14. The EAP number shall not be used as a mailing address and is only intended to identify the location of an access point for emergency services.
- 15. The EAP number does not permit further use or development of the property without proper municipal and /or other approvals. Should development of the property occur in the future, the owner shall be required to submit an application for a Change / Additional Address Request Form and purchase a green and white 911 rural numbering sign.
- 16. The applicant is responsible to maintain both the access point and the EAP signage, including visibility of the signage. Should the EAP signage be removed and/or damaged, the applicant shall contact the Transportation Operations Section of the Transportation Division (trafficops@hamilton.ca) for a replacement sign and/or accompanying accessories (replacement fee may apply).
- 17. The EAP program shall only be used for vacant agricultural or vacant rural properties within the Rural Area, not including properties in the Rural Settlement Areas, as identified on <u>Schedule D to the Rural Hamilton Official Plan</u>. (Note: vacant properties are defined as those properties which do not contain a building or structure requiring a permit under the Ontario Building Code).
- 18. An EAP number that has been assigned to an access point on a seasonally maintained road may not be accessible during portions of the year.

Appendix "A" to Report PED23209 Page 3 of 3

- 19. The issuance of a number through the EAP program does not represent municipal approval of the physical entrance including, but not limited to, the construction, location, or condition of the existing access point.
- 20. The approval of the EAP application does not guarantee that the access point is adequate or safe for emergency services vehicles. Where access is not adequate or safe, emergency services vehicles may not be able to enter the property via that access point, and will make a best efforts response in emergency situations.

December, 2023