



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Public Works Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	September 17, 2018
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Red Hill Valley Project Integrated Environmental Monitoring Program Final Summary (PW18087) - (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Andrea McDonald (905) 546-2424, Extension 2738
SUBMITTED BY & SIGNATURES:	Craig Murdoch, B.Sc. Director, Environmental Services Public Works Edward Soldo, P.Eng. Director, Roads and Traffic Public Works Andrew Grice Director, Hamilton Water Public Works

Council Direction

Not Applicable

Information

The Red Hill Valley Project (RHVP) included the design, construction, and commissioning of:

- an 8 km, 4 lanes, controlled access freeway
- Re-alignment of over 7 km of Red Hill Creek

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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- 14 Storm water Quality Management (SWM) Facilities
- 3 Flood Control Facilities
- 2.9 km combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) pipe
- Landscape Management Plan.

Construction commenced on the North-South section in 2003 and the roadway, storm water management system, creek re-alignment, and combined sewer overflow pipe were completed in 2007.

Following the completion of the construction in 2007, the City began a multi-year environmental monitoring plan, developed as a condition of approvals from the regulating agencies, to confirm the effectiveness of the new infrastructure and associated environmental management system. This report provides a summary of the major findings and outcomes from the 5-year Red Hill Valley Project Integrated Monitoring Plan (RHVP IMP) as outlined in Appendix A attached to report PW18087.

The background to the project and associated environmental compliance monitoring requirements for the Red Hill Valley Project has been documented, and summarized in the following:

- Ministry of the Environment Exemption Order, 1997
- Red Hill Creek Watershed Plan, 1998
- Impact Assessment Design Process, 2003
- Master Permit Application, 2004
- Various Permitting Compliance Reports, 2004-2011
- Individual permits and authorizations specific to the respective construction contract phases (both Federal and Provincial)

At the outset of the RHVP IMP project, a Government Agency Committee (GAC) was formed, comprised of various members of the original approval agencies. Annual monitoring reports were prepared, first following the 2008 monitoring year, up to the final annual monitoring report for the 2013 monitoring year.

Following the completion of the annual monitoring reports, a draft comprehensive 5-year updated Summary Report was prepared May 2015 and presented to the Joint Stewardship Board (JSB) in June 2015.

As the timing of the summary report was protracted due to delays with components of the RHVP scoped projects, staff recirculated the draft summary report to the GAC to ensure that all parties supported the summary. In Q2 2018, the final Comprehensive 5-Year Summary Report was circulated to GAC members and produced few comments, concluding that the report is deemed to be acceptable by the subject agencies. This circulation included the following agencies:

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- Public Works-Policy & Programs
- Joint Stewardship Board (JSB)
- Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA)
- Ministry of Transportation (MTO)
- Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC)
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)
- Environment Canada
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)

The Wood consulting team (formerly Amec Foster Wheeler) completed the Red Hill Valley Project Integrated Environmental Monitoring Plan 5 Year Summary which resulted in 22 recommendations for the various areas of environmental study. The recommendations are organized by discipline groups of groundwater, surface water and flood control facilities, water quality and sediment quality/quantity, creek morphology, fisheries and terrestrial ecology. As well, through engagement, the Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI) also commented with an additional 7 recommendations.

These final 29 recommendations were reviewed by Public Works staff (Roads & Traffic, Hamilton Water, Environmental Services) and Planning staff (Development Planning). Where recommendation alignment and expertise was available, recommendations were identified for staff to maintain and absorb into the work unit. Of the recommendations, 14 currently fall within the scope of work of various City divisions. In addition, 2 recommendations from the Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI) have been identified as aligning with City of Hamilton work units.

However, 13 recommendations from both Wood and HDI are not currently in staff portfolios or program work plans, and identified as out of scope. These recommendations include work that is not part of any City of Hamilton work group or project scope and budget. Notwithstanding, there may be opportunity for other levels of government, educational institutions and partners to champion these recommendations. It is possible for the City to work with agencies and institutions to investigate partnerships to implement the out of scope study recommendations. Finally, 2 recommendations were identified as items to be further reviewed and a future determination of the scope and actions that may be required. A summary of the recommendations from both the consulting team and the Joint Stewardship Board outlined in Appendix B attached to report PW18087.

Appendices and Schedules Attached

Appendix "A": Red Hill Valley Project Integrated Environmental Monitoring Plan 5-Year Summary (RHVP IMP)

Appendix "B": RHVP IMP Recommendation Summary Table