



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Public Works Department
COMMITTEE DATE:	December 2, 2019
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Red Hill Valley Project Integrated Environmental Monitoring Program Final Summary Update (PW18087(a)) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Andrea McDonald (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2738
SUBMITTED BY:	Craig Murdoch Director, Environmental Services Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

Public Works Committee at its meeting of September 17, 2018 approved that staff be directed to report back to the Public Works Committee on a regular basis, with respect to recommendations relating to the Red Hill Valley Project Integrated Environmental Monitoring Plan, and the cost of resources that would be required to fulfil these recommendations which are not currently funded through the Public Works Department's Operating or Capital Budgets.

INFORMATION

The Red Hill Valley Project (RHVP) included design, construction and commissioning of an 8 km controlled access freeway which was completed in 2007. As part of this work, the Red Hill Creek was realigned and additional storm water facilities, flood controls and other infrastructure was constructed. An integrated environmental monitoring plan was implemented to support this project beyond construction.

In 2018, staff presented the final Red Hill Valley Project Integrated Environmental Monitoring Plan (RHVP IEMP), that included information related to ground water quantity/quality, surface water quantity/quality, creek morphology, fisheries and terrestrial ecology. This report provided 29 recommendations for further monitoring beyond what was legislated due to the ecological significance of the Red Hill Valley

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.

**SUBJECT: Red Hill Valley Project Integrated Environmental Monitoring Program
Final Summary Update (PW18087(a)) (City Wide) - Page 2 of 3**

system. These recommendations were made by both the consultant team led by Wood Consulting (formerly Amec Foster Wheeler), who conducted the monitoring from 2008 to 2013 and the Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI) in conjunction with the Joint Stewardship Board.

Of the 29 recommendations, the majority of work was already on work plans of various Divisions within the Public Works and Planning and Economic Development Departments. Further, 15 recommendations were deemed out of scope for City of Hamilton Departments/Divisions as the recommended work was outside of the typical program mandate or had budget constraints. These recommendations are all voluntary and non-regulatory. If performed, they provide additional data and ecological restoration that is beyond impacts that could have been caused by the construction of the Red Hill Valley Parkway.

As directed by the Public Works Committee (PWC), staff investigated the recommendations that were identified as unfunded (out of scope) in the 2018 PWC staff Report PW18087 and consulted with staff and external partner organizations to determine possible alignment and estimated costs for implementation. The following groups were consulted through this process:

- Hamilton Water - Source Water Protection, Water&Wastewater Planning
- Healthy and Safe Communities - Air Quality and Climate Change
- Hamilton Conservation Authority (HCA)

These consultations and, where available, estimated costs have been summarized in Appendix "A" attached to Report PW18087(a), and confirmed that:

- Hamilton Water - Source Water Protection can conduct Recommendation 1, related to ground water monitoring wells, with further assessment required to determine financial impact.
- Healthy and Safe Communities - Air Quality and Climate Change can address Recommendation 4, related to assessing climate change related vulnerabilities along the Red Hill Valley Parkway through proposed city-wide climate change vulnerability and risk assessments. With the condition that this future work and budget is approved by Council.
- Should funding become available, Hamilton Conservation Authority can undertake Recommendations 15, 18, 19, 20 and H6, related to water quality and terrestrial ecology, for a fee to cover staff time, administration and equipment requirements.

Next Steps

Any remaining out of scope recommendations that could possibly be performed by agencies or regulatory bodies will be forwarded to them for their information and voluntary action.

Recommendations 1 and 4 that are associated with Hamilton Water and Healthy and Safe Communities above will be coordinated and reported on by those divisional leads.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" attached to Report PW18087(a) - 2019 Update: Red Hill Valley Project Integrated Environmental Monitoring Plan Final Report Recommendations (2015)