




COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	December 6, 2023
SUBJECT:	Chedoke Creek Remediation Update - HW.23.11
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Cari Vanderperk Director, Watershed Management Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

On October 30, 2023, the City of Hamilton (City) was granted an extension and subsequently issued an Amendment to Director's Order No.1-PE3L3 (Order) by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to complete targeted dredging activities in Chedoke Creek by November 30, 2023, with the remaining activities in the approved Chedoke Creek Workplan, namely material management and disposal, completed by December 31, 2023.

The targeted dredging, as described in the Chedoke Creek Workplan, will remediate the impacts of the Main/King combined sewer overflow discharge that occurred between January 2014 and July 2018, which discharged 24 billion litres of combined sewage.

On November 17, 2023, the project team successfully completed the targeted dredging activities, concluding the four-month effort to remove sediment from the bottom of Chedoke Creek.

Update on Transportation and Disposal of Sediment:

The next step in the targeted dredging of Chedoke Creek is the transportation of the dried sediment from the Kay Drage Park site. The City's contractor will endeavour to remove approximately 16,000 tonnes of sediment for disposal by the Order deadline of December 31, 2023. At this point it is not clear whether the December 31, 2023 deadline is achievable. The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has been kept apprised of the disposal delays and discussions are ongoing.

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.

It is estimated that a total of 300 to 400 truckloads will be needed to transport the material to an approved landfill located in Warwick Township, County of Lambton. Transportation and disposal of the sediment to this landfill began on December 1, 2023. An additional landfill location is also being identified and will be used as a backup location, if necessary.

The Order also requires the City to submit a report to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks within one (1) month of the completion of the transportation of sediment, indicating whether the natural environment has been restored and that further impairment to the natural environment will not occur as a result of the discharge to the Chedoke Creek. This report will be posted to the City's website once completed and will include all laboratory data from the sediment samples.

Long-term Solutions to Improve Water Quality in Chedoke Creek and Cootes Paradise:

In addition to the targeted dredging of Chedoke Creek, the Order requires the City to identify and implement long term solutions to improve water quality in Chedoke Creek and Cootes Paradise. As identified in the Cootes Paradise Workplan, three (3) Master Planning Environmental Assessment studies are concurrently underway, with any identified preferred projects advancing through design and into construction over the next several years. Each study includes a detailed environmental, social and economic assessment of opportunities to improve water quality. Any alternatives identified will be evaluated through additional fieldwork, analysis (modelling) and agency, stakeholder, and indigenous engagement.

The project team appreciates the patience of the community and partners while we complete this very important work. For regular updates on project progress please reference the story map on the Chedoke Creek Remediation website at www.hamilton.ca/chedokecreekremediation.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED - N/A