



– JULY AND AUGUST 2014 –

ONGOING INITIATIVES

1. Green Speaker Series Potentials

Micro plastics in the Great Lakes

Upon request from WECEC, I contacted Hugh McDiarmid from the International Joint Commission about being a WECEC Green Speaker. He referred me to Paul Helm, of the Ministry of the Environment who has been widely cited in the media on the topic of micro plastics in the Great Lakes. I've contacted Paul and am awaiting his response.

Low Impact Development

There may be a possibility to partner with the City of Windsor to bring a Low Impact Development Green Speaker to Windsor. City administration is looking to bring experts in the subject to Windsor to conduct workshops with staff. The same experts may be available for a Green Speaker presentation to the public. This would likely be in November.

2. Reports to Council

Report No. 83 of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee:

That the WECEC Coordinator **BE DIRECTED** to send a letter on behalf of WECEC to the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) with a copy to the Citizens for an Accountable Megahospital Planning Process (CAMPP) reflecting the following principles for the new megahospital:

- Focus should be on access for the greatest number of users, not geographic centre;
- Challenge the 50-60 acre assumption;
- Greenfield only if no suitable redevelopment (brownfield) options exist;
- Must understand the locations effect on neighbourhoods and sprawl/blight;
- Ensure urban planning experts are heard and their concerns addressed.

This report was received for information at the August 27th Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting.

Report No. 84 of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee:

That the YQG Board of Directors **BE REQUESTED** to consider waiving the \$50 monthly fee for the meeting room rental at the Windsor Airport for the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee's monthly meetings.

This report was received for information at the July 16th Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting and at the August 25th City Council meeting.

Report No. 85 of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee:

That the *Revised Terms of Reference* for the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee relating to the amendment to the "Composition and Selection of Members" **BE APPROVED**.

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This report was received for information forward at the August 27th Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting.

Report No. 86 of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee:

Whereas in February of 2014 the International Joint Commission released the Lake Erie Ecosystem Priority (LEEP) report providing policy advice on solving the algae bloom issue in Lake Erie;
Whereas the LEEP report concludes that the Maumee and Detroit River are the largest contributors to the phosphorus loading in Lake Erie, and that 66% of the bloom is from agriculture/rural nonpoint sources, mostly from Ohio. In addition, at least half of the annual load occurs in the spring (March 1 – June 30) but 90% of the annual load is deposited in select rain events; and

Whereas the recommendations of the LEEP report include, but are not limited to:

- Setting Loading Targets:
 - Proposed 37% reduction in total phosphorus (TP) and 41% reduction in dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP) for the Maumee River and Lake Erie west basin tributaries
 - Proposed 46% reduction in TP and 78% reduction in DRP from the Lake Erie west basin and central basin tributaries
- Developing Agriculture & Non-point Solutions – provide incentive and regulatory interventions focused on:
 - the critical March-June period
 - priority watersheds
 - mandatory certification standards for fertilizer applicators
 - linking insurance with conservation performance
 - ban fertilizer applications on frozen ground
 - mandatory septic inspections
- Urban Areas
 - improve adoption of green infrastructure
 - prohibit sales and use of phosphorous fertilizers for lawn care (with some exceptions)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City and County Council **RECEIVE** the Lake Erie Ecosystem Priority report and its recommendations and strive to implement them where possible;

And further **BE IT RESOLVED** that City and County Council send letters to the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture inquiring as to how the proposed recommendations will be implemented in Ontario.

This report was received for information at the August 27th Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting.

Report No. 87 of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee:

Whereas rain gardens are designed to absorb runoff from impervious urban areas diverting it from storm drains or combined sewers therefore recharging groundwater, diverting stormwater from municipal infrastructure and reducing polluted runoff into the local water bodies;

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Whereas rain gardens constructed with native plants improve biodiversity and provide food for pollinators;

Whereas the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) has already begun working with member municipalities to create rain gardens at various locations including Harrow, Leamington, and Windsor;

Whereas ERCA staff will provide expertise to design and build a rain garden and help monitor its effectiveness;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that every Windsor and Essex County member municipality strive to complete a demonstration rain garden by the end of 2015 in partnership with the Essex Region Conservation Authority.

This report was received for information at the August 27th Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting.

Report No. 88 of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee:

That City Council **BE REQUESTED** to endorse segregated bike lanes on Cabana Road as identified in the report of the Transportation Planning Engineer dated June 25 2014, entitles “Cabana Road Active Transportation Facilities for the Windsor Loop and CQ28-2013 Feasibility of Constructing a Pilot Segregated Cycle Lane”.

This report was received for information at the August 27th Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting.

WECEC BUDGET – SUMMARY

2014 Budget			
Expense	Credit	Expenditure	Status
2013 Budget	\$8,000.00		
Website domain renewal		\$28.67	Committed
Website hosting fee		\$427.10	Committed
Earth Day		\$35.00	Paid
Provincial EAC Symposium		\$368.33	Paid
June meeting at Ojibway		\$108.00	Paid
Pat on the Back		\$2,298.69	Paid
Green Speaker - Sue Chan		\$890.09	Paid
Green Speaker #2 - ?		\$1,000.00	Committed
Green Speaker #3 - ?		\$1,000.00	
Airport meetings (July-Dec)		\$282.50	Committed
LID video		\$1,000.00	Committed
Totals	\$8,000.00	\$7,302.61	
TOTAL REMAINING		\$697.39	