

REPORT NO. 86
of the
WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (WECEC)
of its meeting held
July 10, 2014
at 5:30 o'clock p.m.
Board Room, Windsor International Airport

Members present at the July 10, 2014 meeting:

Councillor Alan Halberstadt, Co-Chair
Charlie Wright, Co-Chair
Frank Butler (alternate)
Derek Coronado
Rick Coronado
Roger Dzugan
Jesse Gardner Costa
Paul Henshaw
Mike Nelson
Phil Roberts (alternate non-voting)
Tamara Stomp
Radwan Tamr

Your Committee submits the following recommendation:

Moved by T. Stomp, seconded by M. Nelson,

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; and

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 (includes the Detroit River);
 - 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.

Carried.

Note: The Executive Summary of the document entitled "A Balanced Diet for Lake Erie Reducing Phosphorus Loadings and Harmful Algal Blooms – A Report of the Lake Erie Ecosystem Priority (LEEP) February 2014" – is attached.

COUNCILLOR HALBERSTADT , CO-CHAIR

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

| NOTIFICATION: | |
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| NAME | CONTACT INFORMATION |
| WECEC Committee including resource personnel | On file |
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