



AGENDA ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 2, 2013 at 6:15 p.m.
River Plate Room, Town Hall
Meeting No.4

Online Agenda: Anything in **blue** denotes an attachment/link. By clicking the links on the agenda page, you can jump directly to that section of the agenda. To manoeuver back to the agenda page use the **Ctrl + Home** keys simultaneously **OR** use the “*Bookmark*” icon on the navigation panel to the left of your screen.



1. **Call to Order**
2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - 3.1 **April 4, 2013**Page 2
4. **Presentation/Discussion Items**
 - 4.1 **Urban Recreational Fisheries Plan** (J. Stewart)
 - 4.2 **Trillium Grant for Pollinating Gardens** (M. Williams/J. Stewart)
5. **Standing Items**
 - 5.1 **Work Plan**Page 7
 - 5.2 **Operations & Environmental Services Update**
 - 5.3 **Durham Environmental Advisory Committee Update**
6. **Correspondence**
 - 6.1 **EAC Letter Re: Transit Planning for the GTA**Page 9
7. **Update from Council**
8. **New Business**
9. **Adjournment**

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, June 6, 2013 at 6:15 p.m., River Plate Room, Town Hall



DRAFT MINUTES
Environmental Advisory Committee
April 4, 2013
River Plate Room, Town Hall
Meeting No. 3

Committee Members: Councillor Joanne Dies
Geoff Carpentier, Co-Chair
Russ Dolan, Co-Chair
Wayne Hingston
Leisia Lapointe
Monique Micallef
Kim Sellers
Valerie Silveira

Staff: Jeff Stewart, Manager – Environmental Services
Sarah Moore, Committee Coordinator

Guests: Stev Andis, Senior Policy Planner

Regrets: Phil Jocz, Tanya Roberts, Scott Slack, Wilfred Pierre

1. Call to Order

Co-Chair Dolan called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: K. Sellers
Seconded by: G. Carpentier

That the Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting held on March 7, 2013 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

4. Presentation/Discussion

4.1 Ajax Policy for Establishing Telecommunications Tower Antenna Facilities

Ms. Stev Andis, Senior Policy Planner, discussed the Town's policy for telecommunication towers, which includes broadcast, cellular and radio towers. She provided background information relative to how towers emit signals and how the size and quantity impacts

cellular area. Common installation types include guyed towers, self-support towers, tri-poles, mono-poles and street poles. The jurisdiction for telecommunication towers falls under Industry Canada. Industry Canada provides protocol that outlines requirements for public and municipal consultation as well as compliance with federal legislation, including the Migratory Birds Convention act, Canadian Environmental Protection Act and Safety Code 6. Municipalities can adopt their own policy and protocol, however it cannot supersede the federal protocol.

Ms. Andis indicated that monopole towers are preferred in the Town of Ajax. She noted that as taller buildings are constructed, poles will be incorporated into the buildings themselves on the roof or by “stealth design”. In developing its own policies, the Town can encourage the location of towers in preferred areas of low visual impact. Ms. Andis reviewed details of the policy application as well as preferred areas and designs.

Members posed questions relative to permission agreements for telecommunication companies to install towers on private employment land, as inquired whether other municipalities have created their own policies. Ms. Andis advised that telecommunication companies enter into lease agreements with the property owner. She noted that if municipalities choose not to develop their own policies, they are required to comply with Industry Canada’s protocol.

4.2 Enbridge Line 9B Reversals and Line 9 Capacity Expansion

Ms. Andis discussed the Enbridge Pipelines Inc. (Enbridge) Line 9B Reversal and Line 9 Capacity Expansion Project. Enbridge is seeking approval from the National Energy Board to reverse the segment of Line 9 between North Westover, Ontario and Montreal, Québec, in addition to requesting an expansion of the entire Line 9 capacity from Sarnia, Ontario to Montreal and a revision to the Line 9 Rules and Regulations Tariff to allow transportation of heavy crude and tar sand oils.

To increase the capacity of flow of tar sands bitumen, otherwise known as dilbit, is mixed with volatile chemical compounds to increase flow. The exact capacity of the pipeline is unclear. Ms. Andis displayed a map of the Enbridge pipelines web. She indicated that Line 9 has experienced 13 spills in the past 40 years, with the last incident recorded in 2005.

Several examples of spills along the Enbridge pipeline system were discussed including the Enbridge Line 6B Kalamazoo River Spill that occurred in Michigan in 2010. Over 3 million liters of dilbit ruptured into the river and surrounding wetland. It took approximately 17 hours before the rupture was identified. Over 2 years later, the clean-up has not yet been resolved. A similar incident that occurred in Mayflower, Arkansas this spring was reviewed. The Enbridge pipe there (constructed in the 1940s), recently underwent flow reversal and ruptured as well.

Concerns with the Enbridge application to the National Energy Board were identified because Enbridge Line 9 runs directly through Durham Region. In Ajax, it crosses both the Caruthers and Millers Creeks. The pipeline is located within 1 km of the urban area and 13-17 km away from the shoreline of Lake Ontario. The pipe is alleged to be buried 2ft below the surface and deeper at water crossings.

Ms. Andis advised that recent changes to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act exclude pipelines, so no environmental assessment of the application is required. The National Energy Board hearing process provides constraints on the public consultation process, wherein those wishing to comment, must be directly affected by the matter and are required to apply for permission to participate. Ms. Andis noted that Ajax Council has approved the Town's request to apply as a Letter of Comment in the process.

Several environmental and public safety issues were discussed relative to the application, including impacts to drinking water should a spill occur. Risk management, emergency response, liability for pollution and the integrity of the pipeline's structure were discussed. Details were provided for an upcoming public information meeting hosted by the National Energy Board on April 9, 2013 in Council Chambers. The meeting will review the Board's process, participation opportunities and pipeline safety.

Members posed several questions relative to the corrosiveness and abrasiveness of bitumen flowing through older pipelines. It is anticipated that phase 2 of the Enbridge application will be approved regardless of public comment and concern. Members inquired how the pipeline maintenance is monitored. Ms. Andis noted that she is not aware of any specific scheduling, but that sensors run through the pipeline to measure its thickness.

Moved by: G. Carpentier
Seconded by: K. Sellers

That the Committee support the Town of Ajax's efforts in applying for Letter of Comment status in the Enbridge Pipelines Inc. (Enbridge) Line 9B Reversal and Line 9 Capacity Expansion Project

CARRIED

4.3 Butternut Update

At the Committee's request, and update on the condition of a Butternut tree located at Atherton Avenue and Williamson Drive was provided. Mr. Stewart advised that the tree had been surveyed by the Ontario Tree Council, who felt it should be nominated as a heritage tree. The tree appears to be healthy and sound. Members inquired whether interest in collecting seeds from the tree had been discussed and whether the species would be of value to add to the Town's Urban Forest Canopy. Additional resources, including funding would be required to collect seeds and nurture seedlings. Ms. Sellers, a certified seed collector, agreed to investigate funding support opportunities and report back to the Committee.

5. Standing Items

5.1 Work Plan

No substantive updates or changes were noted. Mr. Stewart encouraged the Committee to be engaged in Town events and public meetings where possible, especially those environmentally-related.

5.2 Operation & Environmental Services Update

Mr. Stewart provided a comprehensive overview of activities and events scheduled in celebration of Ajax Green Living Days, April 18-28, 2013. He acknowledged several partners and shared the event flyer and specific event details. He encouraged the committee to take part in the events and noted that volunteers were being sought to assist with a Family Nature Hike on April 22, 2013, as well as the Compost Giveaway on April 27, 2013. Ms. Moore agreed to circulate the event flyer and request for volunteers to all committees.

5.3 Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) Update

Ms. Sellers and Mr. Carpentier provided a summary of their recent DEAC meeting, which included a presentation from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters regarding Aquatic Invasive Species. A subcommittee was created to review and select recipients of the DEAC Environmental Achievement Awards.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Great Lakes Community Project Funding Opportunity

With consent of all Members present, the item of correspondence identified at the April 3 2013 Meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee was received for information.

7. Update from Council

Councillor Dies provided details of a movie screening relative to Canada Water Week. She circulated materials relative to the Enbridge Line (B Reversal and Line 9 capacity Expansion matter to go before the National Energy Board. An update on the Heritage Conservation District Study was discussed, noting that phase 1 has been completed and now staff will look at developing property standards and incentives for property owners within the District. She also noted that Council had recently approved the Lower Harwood Design Study

8. New Business

8.1 Mid-Term Report to Council

Mr. Carpentier reminded Members of his presentation to Council scheduled on April 8, 2013. Members were encouraged to provide feedback for content to be shared, as well as attend to show support.

8.2 GTA Transit Planning

Mr. Carpentier discussed his frustration with recent media coverage relative to proposed plans to charge users of the High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes. Such an alternative to enhance and improve traffic flow in the GTA is counterintuitive to encouraging carpooling.

Moved by: G. Carpentier
Seconded by: K. Sellers

That the Committee send a letter to Premier Katheen Wynne, Bruce McCuaig, President of Metrolinx, and Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, expressing its opposition with the proposed plans to enhance and improve traffic flow in the GTA.

CARRIED

Mr. Carpentier agreed to prepare a draft letter to be circulated to the Committee for comment.

8.3 Eagle Water Quality Testing

Ms. Sellers inquired whether any other Members had received a telephone call from Eagle Water Quality Testing, offering to test their water. Several others noted they had received a call and encouraged Ms. Sellers to disregard the contact. Water quality concerns can instead communicated to the Region of Durham.

9. Adjournment

Moved by: W. Hingston
Seconded by: V. Silveira

That the April 3, 2013 meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee be adjourned (9:00 p.m.).

CARRIED

EAC WORK PLAN - 2013

	ITEM	SUMMARY	TARGET DATE / STATUS
1.	Ajax Waterfront Management and Shoreline Improvement	Review and comment on the implementation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waterfront Management Plan (including naturalization planting, interpretive signage and waterfront trail improvements) • Public beach/shoreline restoration/water quality • Sign systems for natural/cultural heritage (terrestrial and aquatic features, natural processes) 	Ongoing R. Wraith - TBD J. Stewart
2.	Ajax Outreach & Stewardship	Consultation & participation in municipal/community projects and events that promote public outreach and stewardship initiatives such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ajax Green Living Days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proclamation to Council? • Durham Environmental Advisory Committee • TRCA programs & events • Yellow Fish Road Program • Ajax In Bloom • Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup • Mayor's 20 Minute Makeover/litter picks • Salt Management Plan • tree planting • community gardens • educational events/workshops • Atlantic Salmon Restoration Program 	Annual Event – April Ongoing – K. Sellers Ongoing – M. Williams Annual Event – late summer S. Brake – spring/summer ✓ March 7- C. Robinson (OFAH)
3.	Water Quality Monitoring Projects	Participate in consultation, discussion and educational presentations from staff, Region and TRCA relative to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goose management • Storm water quality • Landfill testing • Duffin WPCP EA Process 	a) Duffin Creek WPCP Outfall EA – B. Hodgins (TBD) b) Seaton Community (storm water management focus) – B. Hodgins (TBD)

4.	Greenwood Conservation Lands Management Plan	Assist in the implementation of the Greenwood Management Plan and capital projects planned for the Greenwood Conservation Area.	✓ March 7 – J. Stewart/TRCA
5.	Urban Forestry Management Plan	Review and comment on implementation of the Urban Forestry Master Plan implementation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan • Community Tree Care Kit • Urban Forest Tree Inventory 	Ongoing ✓ January 10 – T. Field
6.	Twice-Annual Planning & Development Update	Provide comments to Planning and Development Services regarding proposed developments in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • impact on wildlife and natural ecosystems systems (grassland nesting birds, shoreline nesting birds and natural heritage corridors) • sustainable development/design elements • Enbridge Pipeline Inc's Line 9B Reversal & Line 9 capacity Expansion Project 	G. Romanowski B. Scopacasa – Spring / Fall B. Hodgins - TBD
7.	Integrated Community Sustainability Plan	Review and provide comment on development of the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan and implementation.	Ongoing
8.	Corporate Sustainability	Provide comment on proposed Town of Ajax initiatives/programs including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "green"/diversion/recycling programs • energy management plan (utilities) • litter/waste management 	Ongoing R. Ford - TBD
9.	Park Naming Policy	Provide comment on proposed criteria and parameters for naming of public parks	D. Meredith - Spring

Last updated: March 1, 2013



**Environmental Advisory
Committee**

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April 5, 2013

Bruce McCuaig
President and CEO
Metrolinx

sent via email

Re: Transit Planning for the GTA

Dear Mr. McCuaig:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Town of Ajax Environmental Advisory Committee. We have been following the media coverage of the proposed plans to enhance and improve the traffic flow within and around Toronto. Clearly the implications of this initiative are far-reaching, as the Premier has indicated solutions are being sought province-wide. While we applaud the efforts of your organization, we feel compelled to state our opposition to some of the proposed alternatives offered.

The underlying premise of the options is simply to raise money, through various revenue generating concepts, without first trying to better manage the existing infrastructure. For example, nowhere in the discussions that are being released through the media, does it encourage better use of the roadways through carpooling. Nor does it encourage commuters to find cleaner ways to get to work – use of public transit, walking, biking, running, etc. It generally focuses on the obvious and easiest solution – build bigger and better roads and more rail links. This very construction generates greenhouse gasses and increases our carbon footprint, not to mention encourages the excessive use of fossil fuels as we travel to work on our faster and wider highways.

Perhaps, the most offensive proposal is the one that offers people the opportunity to buy space in the HOV lanes. This is ill-conceived and contrary to everything we as a province stand for! How can you suggest that those who truly are making an effort to be green should be punished so that those who don't (and who can afford to pay the cost) simply can travel in this environmentally friendly lane?

Efficiencies within the infrastructure and better use of the existing roadways should be your first priority, followed by encouragement of the use of non-consumptive travel modes, then public transit and finally, when all else fails, more and bigger roads.

We encourage you to be more responsible in your thinking as we move forward with this important initiative.

Yours truly,

Geoff Carpentier
Co-chair, Ajax Environmental Advisory Committee

c: Premier Kathleen Wynne
Rob Ford, Mayor, City of Toronto