

ONE RIVER MASTER PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. ONE RIVER PROJECT OVERVIEW

At its meeting on May 17, 2016, Council considered a staff report regarding the “One River” Master Plan Environmental Assessment (EA) approach. Council passed a resolution that included the following direction:

“That the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to develop a Terms of Reference and budget for a consultant to complete a “One River” Master Plan Environmental Assessment (EA) Study that would encompass an area from the Boler Road bridge to the Forks of the Thames and Harris Park, having regard to the Thames Valley Corridor Plan, the City of London’s Official Plan, Species at Risk and any other relevant data and report back to the Civic Works Committee with the draft Terms of Reference, including time lines and decision making points for the Study for approval; it being understood that proceeding with this EA would not preclude a decision to decommission the Springbank Dam should the Municipal Council choose to do so.”

Various meetings held from July to September of 2016 with agencies and First Nations communities contributed to the formation of the project’s Terms of Reference. Feedback received during the Public Information Meeting held March 8, 2016 has also been incorporated. The study area for the One River Master Plan Environmental Assessment has been delineated to include the “Forks Area” as outlined in the Back to the River initiative as well as the area where the water level was historically influenced by the use of the Springbank Dam.



Figure 1 Forks of the Thames River.

This study is being completed in the context of many other ongoing efforts to improve the health of the Thames River and its social role in central London. It can also serve as a First Nations relationship building opportunity. The Thames River Clear Water Revival, Pollution Prevention and Control Plan, The London Plan, and the previously completed Thames River Valley Corridor Plan will all have a role in improving the social benefits and water quality of the Thames

River. The One River Master Plan Environmental Assessment will have regard for these plans and their future impact on the study area.

The goal of the Terms of Reference is to provide a high-level road map for the One River Master Plan Environmental Assessment process built upon regulatory authority requirements. The following

document provides an outline of the overall project timeline and provides a list of key Council decision points and project milestones.

Following adoption of the Terms of Reference, a two stage Request for Qualification and Request for Proposal process will be undertaken to select the project consultant team. These documents will build upon the Terms of Reference, outline the technical requirements of the process, and provide a comprehensive description of all required environmental inventory work; key project tasks and deliverables; and a comprehensive project schedule.

2. ONTARIO'S ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT

The purpose of the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act is to provide for:

“the betterment of the people of the whole or any part of Ontario by providing for the protection, conservation and wise management in Ontario of the environment.” *Environmental Assessment Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.18, s 2.*

The Act applies to all municipal “undertakings” which includes a broad spectrum of work:

“an enterprise or activity or a proposal, plan or program in respect of an enterprise or activity”
Environmental Assessment Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.18, s 3(c)

The provincial Environmental Assessment Act determines the context in which municipalities undertake infrastructure projects. The Act allows for either “Individual” EAs or approved categories of “Class” EAs to meet the requirements of the Act. Almost all City EAs are completed as “Municipal Class Environmental Assessments”. These Class EAs are completed based on a manual titled “Municipal Class Environmental Assessments” (MEA, 2015) that outlines the process to meet the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act. The One River EA will be completed as a Master Plan Environmental Assessment as outlined in the “Municipal Class Environmental Assessments” document.

A Master Plan approach allows for long-range planning that integrates infrastructure requirements for existing and future public needs. These plans examine an infrastructure system or group of related projects in order to outline a framework for planning multiple, future projects. This overarching planning approach recognizes that there are real benefits to the process when comprehensive plans are undertaken for projects that have some common elements such as geography, function or environmental impact.

The approach recommended for this process involves the preparation of a Master Plan document at the conclusion of Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class EA process. The Master Plan document would be made available for public comment

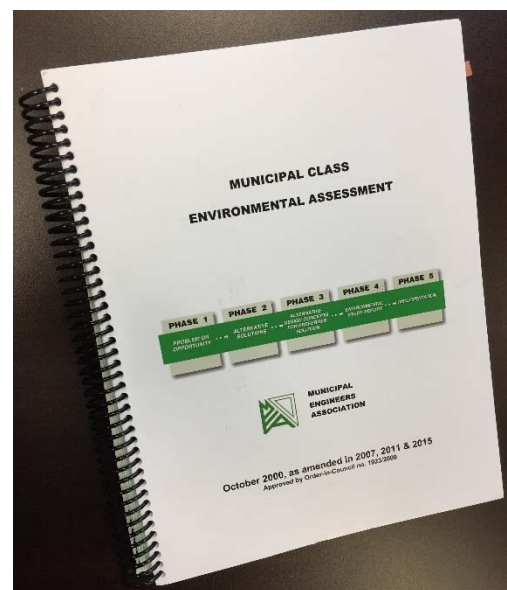


Figure 2 Municipal Class Environmental Assessment document.

prior to being approved by the municipality. The preferred Master Plan alternative would recommend a variety of projects.

For all projects that trigger the criteria of a Schedule B and C project, further documentation will be required at the project-specific level to fulfil the Municipal Class EA requirements. Appendix 'A' includes a list of various examples of types of projects that could be considered during the One River EA Process and provides a list of the "Schedule" triggered by these projects.

The Class EA process defines consultation as a two-way communication process between the municipality and interested stakeholders that provides opportunities for information exchange to influence decision-making. The degree to which decision-making can be influenced will depend on the nature of the problem or opportunity being addressed, the alternatives and their environmental effects, the nature of any concerns which are identified, and the responsibilities of the municipality. These environmental effects must be equally considered whether they occur within or outside the borders of the municipality.

The "Municipal Class Environmental Assessments" (MEA, 2015) manual also notes the need to consult with First Nations communities as part of all Environmental Assessment projects:

"First Nations and Aboriginal peoples are an important stakeholder group for municipal consultation. Municipalities are directed to contact the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, the Ontario Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs for direction on consultation" (Section A.3, paragraph A.3.7 MEA, 2015)

The Crown has a constitutional duty to consult and accommodate First Nations communities on decisions that may potentially impact the community's asserted Aboriginal and Treaty rights. If at any time during the Class EA process the municipality learns that a project may adversely affect an Aboriginal or Treaty right, the municipality must inform the Director of the Environmental Approvals Branch. The Director will review the project information and based on the review may require that Consultation with the Aboriginal community be carried out by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change. In this eventuality, the municipality may still be required to undertake some of the procedural aspects of the Duty to Consult.

3. PROJECT BACKGROUND

After a series of reports in early 2016, the Municipal Council directed that due to the broader social, economic and natural environment issues associated with the Springbank Dam and Back to the River and other projects, both projects be studied together through a "One River" Master Plan Environmental Assessment. The approach allows the various project components, including the Back to the River Inaugural project, Springbank Dam and any other project related to the river downtown, to progress independently following the first two phases of the Master Plan EA Process. The following sections provide a brief discussion of the Thames Valley Corridor Plan and a description of the major projects to be considered as part of the One River EA.

3.1. THAMES VALLEY CORRIDOR PLAN

Council considers the Thames River Valley Corridor as London's most important natural, cultural, recreational and aesthetic resource. To this end, the City undertook a comprehensive study of the river corridor leading to the creation of the Thames Valley Corridor Plan approved by Council in 2012. The Thames Valley Corridor Plan forms part of the City's new Official Plan, confirmed by the ReThink Consultation Process. The Corridor Plan is a long-range vision document that addresses key land planning and management issues throughout the corridor, including:

- Continued management of the floodplain and other hazards;
- Improved protection, preservation and rehabilitation of the natural heritage system i.e. aquatic habitats, riparian and floodplain habitats, valley slope habitats;
- Enhanced public access and recreation opportunities;
- Management of urban development and infrastructure works in and along the corridor;
- Role of the corridor in support of urban water cycles (stormwater, wastewater, drinking water); and,
- The connection with other natural areas.



Figure 3 Forks of the Thames looking east.

The adopted plan provides recommendations for future works; however, does not provide full and specific project details. The One River EA will build upon the plan by suggesting specific projects within the study area that align with the plans recommendations. Including these works within the One River EA process will satisfy the requirements of Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act and provide the legislative authorization to allow these projects to proceed.

3.2. BACK TO THE RIVER

In June of 2014, the London Community Foundation (LCF) proposed a community-led design competition for the City of London's riverfront. The competition covered the lands in three directions from the Forks of the Thames River: (1) from the Forks north to Oxford Street; (2) from the Forks west to Wharnccliffe Road; and (3) from the Forks east to Adelaide Street. The project was given the name "Back to the River Design Competition".

The high-level objectives for the Back to the River Design Competition were identified as follows:



Figure 4 Back to the River Ribbon of the Thames-Forks View.

- Mobilize and engage the London community in a collaborative discussion about improving our riverfront;
- Create a riverfront design to improve London’s image, economy and environment by substantially improving our riverfront;
- Establish a design for the riverfront that is bold and visionary, inspiring the community to improve our river as the heart of our city and increase community pride in our river, and;
- Create a more beautiful, cleaner and attractive riverfront that will enhance our goals for downtown regeneration, residential development, labour force attraction and retention, tourism, and economic improvement.

Council endorsed the design competition, confirmed the City’s participation in the project, and provided \$50,000 in financial support. The competition received 19 submissions that were short-listed to five teams to participate in the competition. The winner of the competition was Civitas + Stantec with their “The Ribbon of the Thames Design” Concept. Council further endorsed “The Ribbon of the Thames” submission as the long-range concept plan for further enhancement of the Thames Valley Corridor between Oxford Street, Wharncliffe Road and Adelaide Street South. The One River EA will consider all aspects proposed in “The Ribbon of the Thames” plan in the areas described as “Harris Park”, “Bridgetown Banks” and “The Forks”. The “SOHO Neighbourhood” concept and the associated inaugural project will not be included as part of the One River EA and would need to be considered through a future Environmental Assessment Process.

3.3. SPRINGBANK DAM

In London, there has been a dam in the Thames River at Springbank Park for over 130 years (1870s through to 2006). The present dam had provided consistent higher water levels and allowed for recreational use including canoeing and boating during the summer months.

On July 9, 2000 a severe flood occurred which damaged the Springbank Dam. An Environmental Assessment process was undertaken on how to repair the dam; it was finalized in 2003. At the time of the Springbank Dam EA, consultation with First Nations was not mandated by the province. As such, the previous Municipal Class EA for the Springbank Dam did not include engagement or consultation with the surrounding First Nations communities. The EA preferred alternative was to replace the gates. Following completion of the EA, a rehabilitation project was undertaken that included repairing the erosion damage, installing a steel gate system, and other minor repairs.

In 2008, during testing of the new gate system, one of the gates failed to function properly. In April 2009, the City of London issued a Statement of Claim in the Superior Court of Justice; the river has been without a functioning dam since then. In late 2015, the City reached an out of court settlement of the litigation related to the Springbank Dam Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$3,775,000.

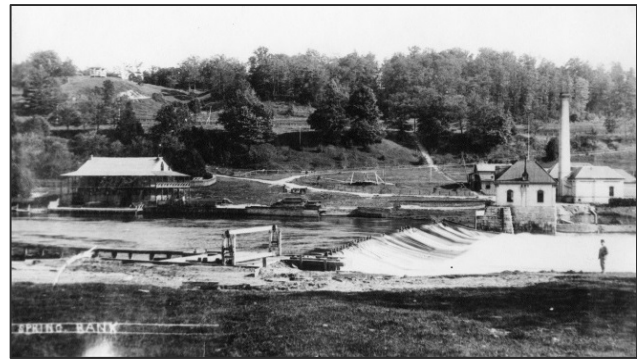


Figure 5 Waterworks Dam and Pumphouse at Springbank Park, Cairncross Collection (ca. 1880)

The One River EA will evaluate the purpose and use of the Springbank Dam in the current and future environmental context and determine the associated next steps for the dam including, but not limited to repair, removal, or repurposing.

3.4. OTHER THAMES RIVER PROJECTS

The One River EA will coordinate other major watershed initiatives including the Thames River Clear Water Revival and the Pollution Prevention Control Plan. The Thames River Clear Water Revival is a long-term partnership initiative that is committed to a healthy and vital Thames River. The partnership brings together all levels of government, Conservation Authorities, First Nations and the local community to achieve a common goal of improving water quality in the Thames River, Lake St. Clair, and Lake Erie. The Pollution Prevention Control Plan Master Plan Environmental Assessment will produce a long-term strategy to identify, investigate, and reduce sewer system overflows in the City of London. The One River EA will recognize the beneficial impacts of these important initiatives.

There are a number of other Thames River related projects that will be recognized in the One River EA. These projects can be broadly described as infrastructure renewal projects or flood protection project. They include future dyke improvements and water and sewer infrastructure renewal within the One River Study Area. Brief descriptions of these projects are provided in Appendix 'A'. The Study may generate additional projects consistent with solving identified problems or advancing opportunities consistent with a preferred alternative approach.



Figure 6 Coordinate with reconstruction of West London Dyke.

4. PURPOSE

The purpose of the One River EA is to develop a comprehensive plan for implementing the various projects being considered within the One River study area. The process will consider various approaches and select preferred options on the basis of their cumulative or related social, environmental, technical and economic impacts. The final One River Master Plan will act as a

framework and foundation for completing separate, design level project environmental assessments in the future. Additionally, the framework and foundation will guide the relationship-building work with all surrounding First Nations communities.

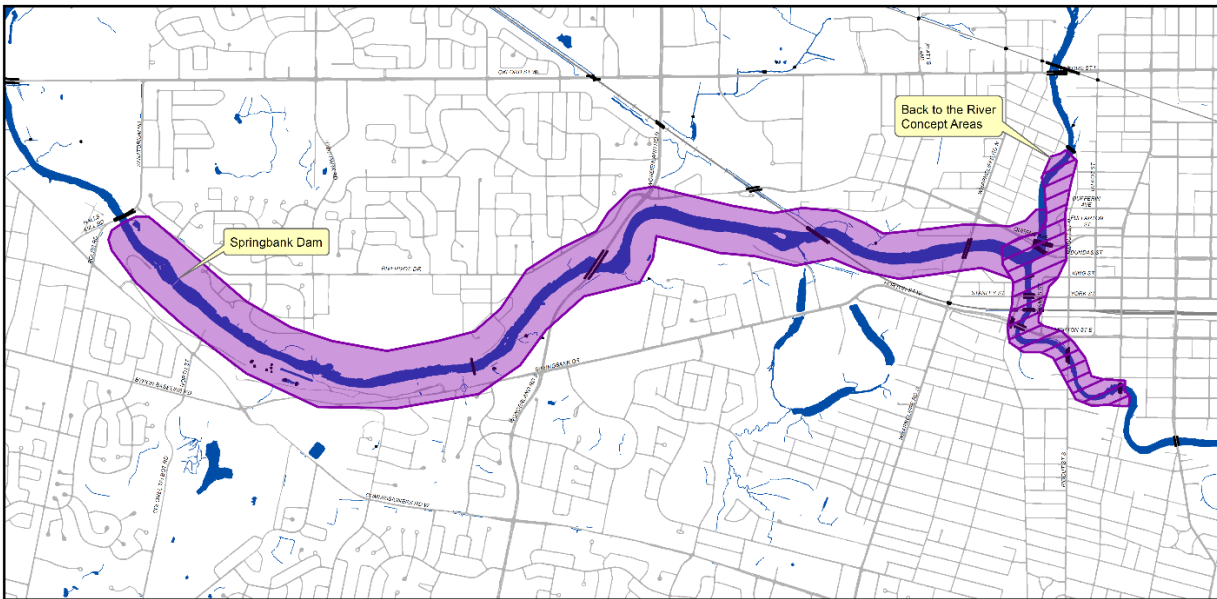


Figure 7 One River EA Draft Study Area

4.1. DRAFT OBJECTIVES

The following categories of draft objectives have been developed for the One River EA based on the public, agency, and First Nations comments provided to date:

- Maintain and enhance a healthy terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem within the study area in the context of an urbanized setting for future generations while considering the impacts on communities downstream;
- Provide opportunities for people of all abilities to connect with the Thames River within the Study Area;
- Initiate the *Environmental Assessment Act* requirements to implement the vision outlined in Back to the River's "The Ribbon of the Thames" long-range concept plan;
- Evaluate the purpose and use of the Springbank Dam in the current and future environmental context and determine the associated next steps for the dam including, but not limited to, repair, removal, or repurposing.
- Plan for the benefits arising from other programs and for coordination with other infrastructure projects (for example: Shift, Pollution Prevention and Control Plan, Dyke Rehabilitation, Annual Infrastructure Renewal Program)
- Maintain the current flood risk level within the Thames River floodway with no increase flooding risk or increase in downstream erosion, while maintaining slope stability throughout the study area;
- Identify and evaluate any other opportunities consistent with the London Plan, the Thames Valley Corridor Plan and those resulting from public consultation.

- Consult with all interested stakeholders and First Nations communities with the focus on mutual understanding and meaningful engagement.

In addition, all objectives require an understanding of the impacts of works on species at risk, and/or endangered species. The objectives of the One River EA will be further confirmed throughout the public engagement process.

4.2. DRAFT PROBLEM/OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

The Problem/Opportunity Statement is a clear, concise description of the issues that need to be considered as part of an Environmental Assessment Process. It is used to center and focus everyone at the beginning, keep us on track during the effort, and is used to validate the effort and deliver an outcome that resolves the problem statement.

Based on a review of the information provided during the various stakeholder engagement sessions and the background information, study objectives, and March 8th, 2016 public meeting, the following draft EA Problem/ Opportunity Statement has been prepared:

"The river that flows through London's downtown has many names:

- *Deshkan Ziibiing (known to the Anishnaabeg and Lenape of the Great Lakes);*
- *Kahwy^hatati (ONYOTA:KA); and,*
- *The Thames (John Graves Simcoe)*

This river is both our inheritance and our living legacy. It is our collective responsibility to maintain and enhance this shared natural, cultural recreational and aesthetic resource. The One River Master Plan Environmental Assessment will consider the area historically influenced by the Springbank Dam and will provide a plan that coordinates critical infrastructure projects in ways that improve the overall health of the river, identifies and creates an understanding of potential impacts these projects may have on downstream communities, species at risk and/or endangered species and where possible avoids them and respects the vision of Back to the River's "The Ribbon of the Thames" concept plan. This study, in the context of many other ongoing initiatives, will preserve for future generations this valuable resource and allow people of all abilities to enjoy and access this designated Canadian Heritage River."

The final EA Problem/Opportunity Statement will be confirmed as part of the first phase of the EA master plan process.

5. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The One River EA study will require a diverse team of professionals and agency representatives to complete this technically and socially complex initiative. The team will need to include professionals who can facilitate communications which encourage listening and feedback, provide mediation support that is sensitive to each interest, and provide clear and concise reporting back to stakeholders, the public, and Municipal Council, particularly at key decision points.

The overall management of the study will be conducted by a Lead Project Management Consultant that will manage various engineering and environmental sub-consultants, with consideration given to those that have particular knowledge upon which the Municipal Council has already relied. In addition, the team will include communication experts, a lead independent mediator, the winning Back to the River design team of Civitas+Stantec and experts who have firsthand knowledge of Springbank Dam. The award of the Project Management assignment will proceed through a two-stage procurement process as required by the Council approved Procurement of Goods and Services Policy.

The study team will receive direction from the City's project manager and feedback from various subcommittees that will be determined throughout the process. At a minimum, an Internal Steering Committee and Agency Advisory Committee will be created to provide information and direction to the Project Team. The ultimate direction for the project will be provided by City Council through the Civic Works Committee.

During ongoing conversations with the First Nations communities, the creation of a committee to provide feedback and comment on the One River EA and possibly other Thames River initiatives is currently being discussed. It is anticipated that this group will be established prior to the consultant appointment for the One River EA.

5.1. AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Due to the complex nature of the Thames River environmental system and the various levels of overlapping legislation and approvals required for work in and around the river corridor, it is recommended that an Agency Advisory Committee be created to provide environmental and technical feedback to the project team. This team will study the environmental and technical aspects of the various alternatives and provide recommendations to both the study team and Council on the applicable permitting and legislative requirements of the proposed options. The following agencies will be invited to participate in the advisory committee:

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
- Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
- Upper Thames River Conservation Authority
- Lower Thames River Conservation Authority
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans

6. MASTER PLAN EA STUDY WORK PLAN

A key component of the Terms of Reference is a conceptual work plan that outlines the major phases of the One River EA. The proposed work plan includes two phases based on the Municipal Engineers Association's Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process. As the One River EA will proceed as a Master Plan Approach #1, the One River EA will include the first two phases of the Class EA process. This approach concludes with a Master Plan document completed at the end of Phase 2 of the Municipal Class EA process. The Master Plan would become the basis for, and be used to support the

advancement of specific Schedule A, B and C projects. The following sections describe the two phases of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process in further detail.

6.1. PHASE ONE – PROBLEM / OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

The first phase of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process is to both identify and describe the problem or opportunity. Municipalities generally undertake projects in response to certain identified problems or deficiencies. On the other hand, there may be opportunities that need to be addressed. The first step of this phase will include a detailed review of background information by the project consultant. This phase should lead to the development of a clear statement of the problem or opportunity being addressed.

A draft version of the Problem/Opportunity Statement has been proposed in Section 4.2. As this project has generated considerable public interest, it is recommended that the One River EA include an enhanced public consultation process including an opportunity for the public to participate in formulating the Problem/Opportunity Statement to ensure all issues are being heard. Phase 1 will also include a review of all relevant background information, environmental monitoring, and collection of field data.

6.2. PHASE TWO- ASSESS ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

Phase 2 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process includes identifying alternative solutions to address the problem or opportunity by taking into consideration the existing environment, and establishes the preferred solution taking into account public, Council and agency input. The planning process in Phase 2 involves six steps:

1. Identifying alternative solutions to the problem or opportunity – these are different approaches to addressing the identified issues.
2. Understanding the benefits and impacts of the alternative solutions on the natural, social and economic environments – involves inventories and assessments of various topics.
3. Identifying the magnitude of the net positive and negative effects of each alternative solution identified in Step 1, with respect to the environmental factors identified in Step 2 – evaluating how each alternative performs.
4. Evaluating all reasonable alternative solutions, identified in Step 1, taking into account factors identified in Steps 2 and 3 – usually done in a weighted or un-weighted matrix format to assess the positive and negative impacts of each alternative solution.
5. Engaging with the public, First Nations, and agencies to solicit comment and input.
6. Select a preferred solution to the problem or opportunity.

Public engagement, First Nations consultation and the role of the Municipal Council in Phase 2 are further described in the following sections.

7. ENGAGEMENT

A broad and inclusive public engagement effort is essential to the overall success of the One River EA process. The One River EA will include various opportunities for public consultation including a series of Public Information Centres and Public Participation Meetings. The following is a tentative list of opportunities for public participation:

- Public consultation to gather input to the Problem/Opportunity Statement;
- Bring results of public consultation back to the Civic Works Committee to consider and approve the project's Problem/Opportunity Statement;
- Report to Civic Works Committee recommending various alternatives for public review;
- Public Information Centre to present a list of various alternatives and to receive comments;
- First Nations Public Information Centre to be held in the First Nations community to present the list of alternatives and to receive comment;
- Public Information Centre at the end of Phase Two proposing a preferred master plan alternative; and
- Public Participation Meeting before the Civic Works Committee to finalize the One River EA.



Figure 8 London Plan Public Meeting.

Written comments will also be welcomed throughout the study process as paper submissions or through a web-based engagement portal. A final public engagement plan will be developed by the Lead Project Management Consultant as part of the project's Communication Plan.

The Agency Advisory Committee will be engaged prior to most of these activities in order to gain their insights before advancing the study.

8. FIRST NATIONS CONSULTATION

First Nations community consultation is essential to the One River EA process, and has already begun. The perspectives and stories of First Nations with respect to their history, knowledge and identity through Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge, as it relates to the Thames River, are important contributions to the One River EA. First Nations peoples have a unique perspective and relationship with the lands and waters within the watershed that include assertions of Aboriginal title, Treaty rights and Aboriginal rights. First Nations have expressed concern about actions they



Figure 9 Chippewas of the Thames First Nation youth built 'Big Canoe'.

perceive may influence title claims, as well as the health and economic wellbeing through impacts to drinking water, hunting, fishing, recreation and tourism. Oneida Nation of the Thames, Munsee-Delaware and Chippewas of the Thames First Nation rely on the Thames River as an indirect source of drinking water, sustenance in the way of fish, gathering and harvesting of ceremonial and medicinal plants and recreation. The watershed is an important hunting ground and is essential to archival and oral traditions, history, knowledge and identity. Careful consideration of the First Nations communities' thoughts and beliefs into the impacts of the overall Master Plan will ensure a meaningful engagement process. During ongoing conversations with the First Nations communities, the creation of a committee to provide feedback and comment on the One River EA and possibly other Thames River initiatives is currently being discussed.

8.1. ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

Through a series of pre-consultation meetings, the conversation with the First Nations has started with several of the First Nations communities already expressing interest in the One River EA projects, particularly the Springbank Dam. Several of the First Nations communities are in the process of developing formalized consultation and accommodation processes. Once finalized, the One River EA will align with these processes. In addition, the creation of a committee to provide feedback and comment on the One River EA and possibly other Thames River initiatives is currently being discussed. It is anticipated that this group will be established prior to the consultant appointment for the One River EA. The Project team will meet early and as required with the interested communities to discuss and consult on the various aspects of the One River EA project.

8.2. CHIPPEWAS OF THE THAMES FIRST NATIONS (COTTFN)

During the pre-consultation discussions, insight was provided by the Chippewas of the Thames First Nations on a number of important issues. COTTFN presented their understanding of the treaty relationship and the spirit and intent of the treaty with respect to their Aboriginal and Treaty rights. A further description of this understanding is presented in COTTFN's letter received January 25, 2016. COTTFN also noted during these discussions that there is no record of consultation with Chippewas of the Thames First Nation over the Springbank Dam Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment (2003), the Thames Valley Corridor Plan (2012), or the Back to the River (2015) project. In the opinion of COTTFN, all three projects trigger the duty to consult as the potential outcome could affect Aboriginal and Treaty rights.

It is the intent of the engagement portion of the One River EA to satisfy the project consultation requirements for all three of the previously completed studies. As noted above, the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation was not consulted on the previous Springbank Dam Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment (2003) as this was not a requirement of the Province at the time of the study. Both the Thames Valley Corridor Plan (2012), and the Back to the River (2015) initiative were not Environmental Assessments; therefore, neither process included a formal consultation component. It is the intent of the One River EA to develop specific projects based on the recommendations presented in the Thames Valley Corridor Plan (2012) and the Back to the River

(2015) initiative and satisfy the First Nations engagement and consultation requirements for these projects.

9. MUNICIPAL COUNCIL KEY DECISION POINTS

Council will have many opportunities to provide direction to the study throughout the One River EA process. Listed below are the primary opportunities to provide direction:

- **Terms of Reference:** As directed on May 17, 2016, a Terms of Reference has been prepared and will be brought to Council for further direction.
- **Consultant Appointment:** Following a two stage procurement process, a report will be submitted to the Civic Works Committee recommending a consultant be appointed to undertake the One River EA.
- **Setting the Problem/Opportunity Statement:** A report will be submitted to the Civic Works Committee recommending a Problem/ Opportunity Statement for the One River EA requesting comment. The agenda would also include a Public Meeting component to receive comments from the various public and stakeholders.
- **Alternative Selection:** A report will be submitted to Civic Works Committee that will summarize the alternative options being considered. This report will be submitted in coordination with the first Public Information Center.
- **Preferred Alternative Selection:** A report will be submitted to committee that will include a recommendation of a Preferred Alternative and requesting direction to undertake final public consultation to finalize the One River EA process.

10. TIMELINE

The completion of the One River EA is intended to be a thorough process that addresses a number of planned and potential projects within and around the Thames River. The proposed, draft timeline for the completion of each proposed phase and a list of key decision points are listed below:

- Approval of the Terms of Reference by Civic Works Committee –November 1, 2016
- Approval of One River EA Consultant Appointment by Civic Works Committee – Q1 to Q2 2017
- Completion of Phase One Problem/Opportunity Statement – May 2017
- Completion of Phase Two Assess Alternative Solutions – February 2018
- Finalize One River EA and seek Council endorsement May 2018.

As the One River EA includes a large number of highly technical and regulatory complex initiatives, and natural environment data collection over multiple seasons, the actual completion date may change during the course of the study. Updated timelines and schedules will be provided to Council as part of each One River EA committee report.

11. CONCLUSION

The One River Master Plan Environmental Assessment is an opportunity to redefine how we connect with our river and how we connect to each other. Undertaking a process that includes a broad and inclusive public engagement effort is essential. Respecting the First Nations communities and their unique connection to the river will allow us to better understand our neighbours and continue to foster and build a positive relationship. Working closely with key approval agencies will ensure that the EA Master

Plan's recommended outcomes are both practical and attainable. Assembling the shared experience and interest of all parties will ensure a well-informed and fair process. The Thames River is our living legacy and only together can we protect and enhance this natural inheritance.



Figure 10 Forks of the Thames.

APPENDIX 'A'

ONE RIVER EA:

MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TRIGGERS

| Possible Project List for EA Alternative Analysis | Possible EA Schedule | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|---|---------|
| | A/A+ | B | C | TBD (1) |
| 1. BACK TO THE RIVER | | | | |
| Shoreline improvements, terraces, and expansion of forks area (Forks Cove, Fish Tail, Bridgetown Banks, Blackfriars Mill Race and the Simcoe Sneak) | | X | | |
| Erosion Control Works, Gabion Replacement (Harris Park) | | X | | |
| Recreational Bridge Construction (Becher Bridge) | | | | X |
| The Ribbon Lookout/Raised Walkway | | | | X |
| Pathway construction and improvements | X | | | |
| 2. SPRINGBANK DAM | | | | |
| Erosion improvements | | X | | |
| Existing Stormwater Outlet Retrofits | | X | | |
| Remove/Decommission Dam | | X | | |
| Reconstruct or Repair Existing Dam | | X | X | |
| Repurpose Existing Dam | | X | | |
| Construct Fish Ladder | | X | | |
| 3. DYKE PROJECTS | | | | |
| North Thames Scour Pool | | X | | |
| Riverview-Evergreen and Coves Dyke | | X | | |

(1) TBD (To Be Determined) through master planning process. Final schedule to be based on proposed project scope.

| Possible Project List for EA Alternative Analysis | Possible EA Schedule | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|---|---------|
| | A/A+ | B | C | TBD (1) |
| 4. LINEAR INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL PROJECTS | | | | |
| Replace Labatt Sanitary Siphon | | X | | |
| 5. HUNT DAM/WEIR (AND SANITARY SEWER) DOWNSTREAM INFLUENCE | | | | |
| Decommission Dam | | X | | |
| Modify or Retrofit the Dam/Weir | | X | | |
| Construct Fish Ladder | | X | | |
| 6. INCREASED WATER DEPTH NATURAL ENHANCEMENT FEATURES | | | | |
| Construction of Vortex weir or Riffle pools | | X | | |
| 7. THAMES VALLEY CORRIDOR PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS | | | | |
| Natural Heritage, Stewardship and Protection Projects | | | | X |
| Assess and identify Canoe and Kayak launch locations | | X | | |
| Make recommendations with respect to existing lookout locations | | X | | |

(1) TBD (To Be Determined) through master planning process. Final schedule to be based on proposed project scope.