

**Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee
No 1 - 25**

AGENDA

**Wednesday, January 22, 2025
Second Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 50 Dickson Street
7:00 p.m.**

Meeting Called to Order

Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for 2025

Disclosure of Interest

Presentations

Paul Willms, Sustainability Planner, City of Cambridge and Kim Ireland, Project Manager, Stantec on the City of Cambridge Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan

Delegations

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting PP. 003

Wednesday, November 27, 2024

Recommendation:

THAT the decisions contained in the November 27, 2024 minutes be considered for errors or omissions and adopted.

Reports

Subcommittee Reports

1. City Green Subcommittee
 - a) Appointments

THAT the Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) appoints the following members to the CEAC City Green Subcommittee (minimum 1, maximum 5):

AND FURTHER THAT CEAC appoints the following volunteers to the CEAC City Green Subcommittee in addition to the CEAC members: Linda Simpson, Kelly Pritchard, Laura Pritchard, Sandy Forsyth, Diane Day, and Moira Gilderson.

2. Region of Waterloo Water Supply Strategy Update Subcommittee PP. 006

Recommendation:

THAT the Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) forward Report No. CEAC-01-25 to the Project Manager as its comments on the Region of Waterloo Water Supply Strategy Update as presented at Public Meeting No. 1 on December 4, 2024.

Information Items

Other Business

Next Meeting

Date and Time: Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Secord Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 50 Dickson Street

Close of Meeting

THAT the CEAC meeting does now adjourn at __ p.m.

Distribution:

Alison Fraser, Cynthia Brown, Danielle Lindamood, David Campbell, Derrick Roy, Jonas Duarte, Linda Foster, Lisa Grbinicek, Nelson Cecilia, Nichole Daniels, Ryleigh McDermid and Councillor Hamilton



MINUTES

Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee

No. 3-24

Wednesday, November 27, 2024

City Hall, Second Room, 2nd Floor

Committee Members in Attendance: Alison Fraser, Cynthia Brown, Danielle Lindamood, Jonas Duarte, Lisa Grbinicek, Nichole Daniels and Ryleigh McDermid

Regrets: David Campbell, Derek Roy, Linda Foster, Nelson Cecilia and Councillor Hamilton

Staff in Attendance: Kathy Padgett, Senior Planner – Environment, Karin Stieg-Drobig, Recording Secretary

Meeting Called to Order

The regular meeting of the Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) was held in the Second Room, 50 Dickson Street, Cambridge, Ontario. Jonas Duarte welcomed everyone to the meeting and the meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Disclosure of Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Presentations

NIL

Delegations

NIL

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Moved by: Lisa Grbinicek

Seconded by: Cynthia Brown

THAT the decisions contained in the May 22, 2024 minutes be adopted as written.

CARRIED

Reports

Subcommittee Reports

1. City Green Subcommittee Meeting Notes

Nichole Daniels shared an update on key projects and events for City Green. The Victoria Park Forest Management Plan is awaiting further guidance from City Forestry, but it is anticipated the

project will proceed in Spring 2025. The group walked through Victoria Park in June to review possible projects.

City Green is currently looking at providing supply kits for the Community Clean Up that will be available for pickup at Idea Exchanges/Libraries 2-3 weeks before the event so that community members can be prepared for the day as well as helping to reduce the need for volunteers to give out supplies on the day of the event. Bee City Seedy Saturday is again scheduled for early March and City Green will be participating.

Moved by: Cynthia Brown

Seconded by: Jonas Duarte

THAT the Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) receives the meeting notes from the September 9, October 7 and November 4, 2024 meetings of City Green;

AND FURTHER THAT they be appended to the November 27, 2024 CEAC minutes for distribution.

CARRIED

2. Region of Waterloo Water Supply Strategy Update

THAT the Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) appoints the following members to the Region of Waterloo Water Supply Strategy Update:

Linda Foster, Jonas Duarte, Alison Fraser, and Danielle Lindamood

Moved by: Cynthia Brown

Seconded by: Lisa Grbinicek

CARRIED

Correspondence

NIL

Information Items

3. The High-Performance Development Standards (HPDS) Subcommittee provided an update on their review of the draft HPDS. The HPDS Discussion Draft is being released for public consultation in December 2024 and the subcommittee will review and provide further comments at that time.

4. CEAC 2023/2024 Annual Report and 2025 Workplan were shared for information. Kathy Padgett reviewed the projects the Committee has been involved with during the 2023-2024 reporting period and the projects expected for 2025.

5. The Region of Waterloo Water Supply Strategy Update was shared for information. Public Meeting No. 1 is taking place on December 4, 2024.

6. CEAC 2025 Meeting Dates were shared for information.

Other Business

Kathy Padgett advised that an update report on Riverside Dam is on the December 3, 2024 Council agenda. The Riverside Dam Replacement construction project is now budgeted for 2029 and will be reviewed again at that time. In the meantime, repair work on the existing dam has been included in the proposed 2025 budget. Kathy will circulate the report to the Committee.

Kathy advised that as of January 1, 2025, planning responsibilities will be transferred from the Region of Waterloo to the Area Municipalities. The Region will no longer be responsible for the Regional Official Plan. The Region will still play an important role on key infrastructure and service delivery including water and wastewater, transit, regionally-owned lands and affordable housing, etc.

The Committee discussed the potential to work on a DarkSky-related education project. The Committee will discuss this further at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of CEAC is scheduled for Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Second Room.

Close of Meeting

Moved by: Lisa Grbinicek
Seconded by: Cynthia Brown

THAT the CEAC meeting does now adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

CARRIED

Jonas Duarte
Chairperson

Karin Stieg-Drobig
Recording Secretary

Meeting Date: 01/22/2025

Report #: CEAC-01-2025

To: Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee
(CEAC)

Report Date: 01/08/2025

Report Author: Kathy Padgett, Senior Planner – Environment

Department: Community Development

Division: Planning Services

Report Title: Region of Waterloo Water Supply Strategy Update

File No: N/A

Ward No: All Wards

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) forward Report No. CEAC-01-25 to the Project Manager as its comments on the Region of Waterloo Water Supply Strategy Update as presented at Public Meeting No. 1 on December 4, 2024.

SUMMARY

- The Region of Waterloo is updating its Water Supply Strategy to ensure a safe, secure, and sustainable water supply through to 2051.
- This study is being completed as a Master Plan under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Process, Phases 1 and 2.
- The Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee is providing comments to the Project Manager on the information presented at Public Meeting No. 1 held on December 4, 2024.

BACKGROUND

The Region is undertaking a Water Supply Strategy Update which builds on previous master plans and will review current water supply sources, assess future water demands, and investigate possible new water sources to accommodate the Region's population and employment growth projections to 2051.

The project will focus on the Integrated Urban System that supplies drinking water to Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo, and some communities in North Dumfries, Wilmot, and Woolwich.

The project will consider a range of technical, environmental, social, and economic factors to evaluate potential options and identify a preferred approach for an updated strategy.

ANALYSIS

Existing Policy/By-Law:

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Master Plans.

Financial Impact:

The Region of Waterloo is funding the project.

Public Input:

Public Meeting No. 1 was held on December 4, 2024 to introduce the project, share project background information, and receive initial feedback from the public.

Internal/External Consultation:

The Planning and Technical Advisory Committee includes representatives from the cities of Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo, the townships of North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich, Grand River Conservation Authority, Region of Waterloo and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. The Region has hired a consultant, CIMA+ to provide engineering services for this project.

Comments/Analysis:

The Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) has reviewed the information presented at Public Meeting No. 1 and offer the following comments:

1. Evaluation criteria

- a) It is CEACs opinion that the Evaluation Criteria be ranked as follows:
 - (1) Environmental, (2) Technical, (3) Financial and (4) Social
- b) For the Environmental criteria, clarify what 'environmental features' includes. We note that streams and rivers are listed separately and assume that wetlands would be considered under environmental features.
- c) For the Environmental criteria, consider expanding on the second bullet to include the bold text: "Protects wildlife, species at risk, **and species of cultural importance to affected Indigenous Nations.**"

- d) For the Social criteria, consider expanding on the last bullet to include the bold text: “considers what water means to the community and **affected Indigenous Nations.**”

2. Important strategy considerations

- a) As a community that relies heavily on groundwater for its water supply, it is of utmost importance that the strategy ensures that growth/development is balanced with environmental protection and sustainability.
- b) The strategy needs to ensure we are protecting both water quantity and quality in the Region. In terms of quality, what are the biggest threats in our Region? In terms of quantity, who are the largest water uses in Cambridge and the Region?
- c) Will the strategy include an assessment of: the water distribution system, aging of the system (e.g., water leaks), and impacts of climate change on infrastructure?
- d) What initiatives are currently in place to conserve water and how will these be adapted as demand increases? What new initiatives are planned and how do we ensure buy-in?

3. Timelines and public consultation

- a) The strategy is intended to ensure a safe, secure, and sustainable water supply through to 2051. When is this strategy expected to be implemented?
- b) Are affected Indigenous Nations being consulted?

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Prepared by:

Alison Fraser (CEAC Member)

Danielle Lindamood (CEAC Member)

Jonas Duarte (CEAC Chairperson)

Linda Foster (CEAC Member)

ATTACHMENTS

N/A