Sub-watershed Plan and/or update to an existing Sub-watershed Plan

PURPOSE:

This document provides guidance for the completion of a Sub-watershed Plan and/or update to an existing Sub-watershed Plan, which may be required for the submission of an application under the *Planning Act*. All Sub-Watershed Plans shall follow the requirements referenced in this document.

A Sub-Watershed Plan provides information required for a Planning Application where proposed land use changes have the potential to impact natural hazards, the natural environment, or the water resource system. This can include, but is not limited to, local drainage issues within a Watershed Plan area that require detailed assessment.

A Sub-Watershed Plan addresses local issues for drainage areas within a Watershed Plan. It generally includes:

- An outline of existing and proposed land uses;
- Detailed description of existing natural heritage, natural hazards, and hydrologic features;
- Potential impact of proposed land use change;
- Approaches to protecting natural features and the quality and quantity of water in the sub watershed; and,
- Management strategies for water and wastewater servicing, stormwater management, natural hazards, severe weather, and ecology.

PREPARED BY:

A Sub-Watershed Plan must be prepared by a consultant registered as a Professional Engineer (P.Eng.) in the province of Ontario. The consultant must affix their stamp and

seal and specifically identify the engineer who prepared the work. The larger team must include an ecologist with demonstrated experience and training in the location and identification of target species and habitat types/features.

CONTENTS:

A Terms of Reference specific to the proposed development shall be approved by City and the relevant Conservation Authorities prior to preparation of a Sub-Watershed Plan.

In general, Sub-Watershed Plans include the following:

- Background;
- Purpose and Objectives;
- Sub-Watershed Characterization;
- Opportunities and Constraints to Development (including constraint mapping);
- Sub-Watershed Management Strategies; and,
- Implementation and Monitoring Plan.

The Sub-Watershed characterization, management strategies, and monitoring plan may include issues, not limited to:

- Hydrology and hydrogeology;
- Stream morphology;
- Erosion;
- Hydraulics and floodplain mapping;
- Aquatic and terrestrial environment;
- Surface water quality; and,
- Stormwater management.

OTHER INFORMATION:

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks draft Subwatershed Planning Guide (January 2022)

Subwatershed Planning Guide - DRAFT

Hamilton Conservation Authority Watershed Action Plan:

Healthy Hamilton Watersheds Action Plans - Hamilton Conservation Authority (conservationhamilton.ca)

Conservation Halton Watersheds:

Watersheds - Conservation Halton

Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Watersheds:

Conservation | Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (npca.ca)

Grand River Conservation Authority Watershed Planning:

Watershed planning - Grand River Conservation Authority

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

Natural Heritage, Planning and Economic Development Department

Development Engineering, Planning and Economic Development Department

Source Water Protection, Public Works

The Conservation Authority with regulatory authority over the subject lands, namely:

- Hamilton Conservation Authority
- Conservation Halton
- Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority
- Grand River Conservation Authority

CONTACT:

Natural Heritage, Planning and Economic Development Department

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Development Approvals, Planning and Economic Development Department

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*Please note that the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks is considering consolidating Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities, creating nine Regional Conservation Authorities (RCAs), targeted to occur in early 2027. The RCAs which will cover Hamilton include the Western Lake Ontario RCA and the Eastern Lake Erie RCA. It is anticipated that CA contact information will change at this time.