Welcome to the Public Consultation Centre for the Ancaster Elevated Water Storage Facility Municipal Class Environmental Assessment

Please complete the sign-in sheet and review the display materials. Our representatives will be pleased to answer your questions and discuss any concerns.

Your input is much appreciated!
Introduction

The purpose of this Study is to identify the preferred location for an elevated water reservoir to address the long-term water storage needs in Pressure District (PD) 18 in Ancaster and PD-13, PD-14 and PD-15, and to mitigate pressure and operational issues in the system.

The proposed storage facility will improve system security and reliability, provide operations and maintenance savings, alleviate pressure issues and provide system equalization.

Purpose of this Public Information Centre

This evening’s Public Information Centre (PIC) is an opportunity for local residents, landowners, and other stakeholders to:

- Review and discuss the project with City staff and its Consultant
- Provide input for the City to consider during the planning of this project
- Voice concerns regarding the water storage project
- Discuss potential construction impacts to local residents, businesses and other stakeholders

The water storage facility project is classified as a Schedule “B” project and is being undertaken in accordance with Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) process.

As part of the Class EA process, the public is invited to provide comment for consideration in the planning and design of this project. The Class EA process ensures that the opportunity is given to Agencies and the public to provide comments and voice concerns regarding environmental, social, cultural, economic and other issues for consideration in the planning and design of the project.

The Study Area

The Study Area boundary shown below has been identified as the most suitable area to locate a water storage facility for the Ancaster PD 18 and PD-13, PD-14 and PD-15, based on ground elevations and proximity to existing infrastructure and the serviced population.
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Process

The Ancaster Water Storage Facility project corresponds to a Schedule ‘B’ undertaking, in accordance with the planning process outlined in the Municipal Engineers Association (MEA) Municipal Class Environmental Assessment document (October 2000, amended in 2007). As such, the Study requires the completion of Phases 1 and 2 of the MEA Class EA. Upon completion of the Study, a Phase 1 and 2 Class Environmental Assessment Report will be prepared and filed for comment.
It is the City’s objective to provide adequate water services to its residents, businesses and industries to meet existing community needs in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

The City is aiming to implement the Council-approved Water and Wastewater Master Plan (2006), which details infrastructure requirements to improve the water system.

Elevated storage is required in Ancaster to improve system security & reliability, provide operations and maintenance savings, and alleviate system pressure issues and provide equalization.

Due to the lack of elevated storage, the system requires continuous pumping to meet water demand variations, which increases the electricity and maintenance costs. Furthermore, without elevated storage, the system is vulnerable to emergency situations such as watermain breaks, and fire fighting.

An elevated reservoir would provide constant water pressure and supply, reducing water pressure fluctuations, reducing operating costs, and improving water quality.

As a customer, you will receive improved water supply, increased security and reliability, and overall operation and maintenance savings.

Currently all of the water for the Ancaster PD-18 is supplied by the HD018 Pumping Station and HDR18 Reservoir, located on Garner Road, and the local water distribution network. This pressure district also feeds sub-zones PD-13, PD-14 and PD-15 through pressure reducing valves, and provides a secondary feed into PD-22 through a watermain along Sulphur Springs Road.
Ancaster Water Storage Facility
Schedule ‘B’ Municipal Class EA
Panel No. 4

Elevated Tank Site Selection Criteria

- The top water level of the elevated tank must be 294 m.
- The overall height of the elevated tank pedestal should be minimized to reduce visual impact and construction costs.
- Land Use Designation (Within Urban Area and outside Greenbelt Area and Niagara Escarpment boundary)
- Proximity to John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport
- Property acquisition requirements
- Ground elevations > 233 m to minimize pedestal height
- Approx. 60 m x 100 m site area with good access
- Proximity to existing infrastructure
- Lowest aesthetic impact on existing residents and customers (Commercial or Industrial area is preferred)
- Minimum natural/heritage/environmental impacts
- Suitable geotechnical conditions for reservoir foundation
- Optimum distribution system hydraulics to provide adequate pressure and fire flows

Constraints Map

Site Selection Criteria
Site Evaluation Criteria

**SOCIAL & CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT CONSIDERATIONS**
- Proximity to heritage and areas of archaeological importance
- Aesthetic impact on existing and proposed development (Viewshed Analysis)
- Availability of Land
- Traffic impacts during construction
- Air and noise considerations

**NATURAL ENVIRONMENT CONSIDERATIONS**
- Impacts on flora and fauna
- Proximity to Environmentally Sensitive Areas (e.g. Greenbelt, Niagara Escarpment and Conservation Authority Regulated Areas)
- Groundwater/subsurface conditions

**TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS**
- Ground elevation
- Proximity to existing infrastructure
- Constructability and site access
- Soil / ground conditions
- System reliability and hydraulic performance
- Site size and compatibility
- Ability to provide fire protection

**ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS**
- Capital cost of elevated tank and watermains
- Operation and maintenance costs
- Land acquisition costs
- Proximity to service area
Ancaster Water Storage Facility
Schedule ‘B’ Municipal Class EA
Panel No. 6

Alternative Elevated Water Reservoir Locations
Ancaster Water Storage Facility
Schedule ‘B’ Municipal Class EA
Panel No. 7

Alternative Elevated Storage Locations with Representative Sites

LOCATION A
Site No. 1

LOCATION B
Ancaster Industrial Park – not considered a viable candidate area due to low ground elevations

LOCATION C
Site No. 2

LOCATION D
Site No. 3
Site No. 4

LOCATION E
Site No. 5

LOCATION F
Site No. 6
Natural Heritage Assessment

Azimuth Environmental Consulting Inc. completed a preliminary Natural Heritage Assessment of the alternative sites identified within the Study Area. The objective of the assessment was to identify potential environmental constraints and opportunities that may assist in the evaluation of alternatives from an environmental perspective.

The assessment involved a review of data from City of Hamilton, Ministry of Natural Resources, Hamilton Conservation Authority and Grand River Conservation Authority to identify Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), Environmentally Sensitive Areas, Wetlands (Locally and Provincially Significant), Woodlands, drainage courses, and occurrences of Species at Risk.

Also as part of the assessment, conducted field surveys to determine the presence of vegetation, birds, amphibians, and Species at Risk.

### Natural Heritage Assessment Findings

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SITE</th>
<th>NATURAL FEATURES ASSOCIATED WITH PROPERTY</th>
<th>SUITABILITY FOR DEVELOPMENT</th>
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| 1    | • Dundas Valley Forests Life Science ANSI on adjacent lands  
     • Within the Plan area of the Niagara Escarpment Commission  
     • No significant natural features were identified within the manicured areas | There IS potential for development within the disturbed areas, outside of mandated vegetated buffers for natural features on adjacent lands. |
| 2    | • Areas of ground water seepage were observed in a remnant woodlot – this area is identified as a PSW by the City of Hamilton  
     • Manicured areas offer no natural features of note. | There IS potential for development within the disturbed areas. |
| 3    | • No significant natural features were identified | There IS potential for development as no significant natural features were identified. |
| 4    | • Potential habitat for Barn Swallow (Threatened) on adjacent lands. No habitat for Barn Swallow was observed within the property limits | There IS potential for development as no significant natural features were identified. |
| 5    | • City of Hamilton identified SAR (American Chestnut) and Significant Woodlands within the property limits | There IS NO potential for development within the property limits. |
| 6    | • Potential habitat for Barn Swallow (Threatened) on adjacent lands. No habitat for Barn Swallow was observed within the property limits  
     • Intermittent drainage features have been identified | There IS potential for development within the property limits outside of mandated vegetated buffers for natural features. |
Archaeological Assessments

Archaeological Services Inc. completed Stage 1 archaeological assessments as part of this Class EA study. The objective of the Stage 1 assessment was to determine the presence or absence of known archaeological sites in the Study Area and in proximity to the Alternative Sites for the proposed Ancaster Elevated Water Storage Facility, and to identify the need for Stage 2 archaeological assessments for areas identified during the Stage 1 assessment as having potential archaeological planning concerns.

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment Findings

The Stage 1 archaeological assessment involved background research concerning the known and potential archaeological resources in the Study Area. The conclusions of the assessment are summarized below:

- 204 archaeological sites registered within 1 km of the alternative sites
- Geography and history of area suggest that there is potential for the recovery of Aboriginal and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources
- Site 1: Mainly disturbed with some areas of potential – Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment required
- Site 2: Previously Assessed – No further work required
- Site 3: All potential – Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment required
- Site 4: All potential – Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment Required
- Site 5: Mix of low/wet conditions and areas with potential – Stage 2 Archaeological assessment required
- Site 6: Previously Assessed – No further work required
Ancaster Water Storage Facility
Schedule ‘B’ Municipal Class EA
Panel No. 10

Next Steps

Public Consultation Centre # 1
Tuesday September 25th, 2012

Comment Sheets from Public Information Centre (due to Project Team by October 25th)
Incorporation of comments received from Public and Review Agencies

Evaluation of Alternative Solutions
Identification of Recommended Solution (Siting of Elevated Tank)

Public Consultation Centre # 2
Spring of 2013

Incorporation of Comments received from Public and Review Agencies

Selection of Preferred Site Location

Prepare Project File Report
Distribute for Agency Review

Issue Notice of Study Completion
File Class EA Report followed by a mandatory 30-day Public Review Period
(Anticipated Spring 2013)

Commence Detailed Design and Construction of Preferred Solution
Ancaster Water Storage Facility
Schedule ‘B’ Municipal Class EA
Panel No. 11

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- Please sign-in on the sheet provided.
- The Study Team is interested in receiving any comments that you may have about the Study.
- Comment Sheets are available for your input on the project.
- Should you have any questions, concerns or wish to obtain additional information, please contact one of the Study Team members.
- Additional information on the project can be found on the project website.