



PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE AGENDA

Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

55 Zina Street, Orangeville – Sutton Room (2nd Floor)

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest by Members

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Members of the public will be provided an opportunity to ask questions of the Committee during this time (limited to 10 minutes).

REPORTS

1. PUBLIC WORKS – April 26, 2018 – ITEM #1
Forest Advisory Team Meeting Minutes – March 28, 2018

Minutes from the Forest Advisory Team meeting held on March 28, 2018.

Recommendation:

THAT the minutes of the Forest Advisory Team meeting of March 28, 2018, be adopted.

2. PUBLIC WORKS – April 26, 2018 – ITEM #2
County Forest Annual Report

A report from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018, to provide the annual report for the Dufferin County Forest.

Recommendation:

THAT Report, Dufferin County Forest – Annual Report 2017, from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018 be received.

3. PUBLIC WORKS – April 26, 2018 – ITEM #3
Dufferin County Forest – Oak Wilt

A report from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018, to provide information on the anticipated arrival of an invasive pathogen known as Oak Wilt within Dufferin County and the required management measures related to the County Forests.

Recommendation:

THAT Report, Dufferin County Forest – Oak Wilt, from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018 be received.

4. PUBLIC WORKS – April 26, 2018 – ITEM #4
Dufferin County Forest – Thomson Tract Land Use Class

A report from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018, to provide information regarding the new Thomson Tract and to recommend the necessary land use class designation for the land.

Recommendation:

THAT Report, Dufferin County Forest – Thomson Tract Land Use Class, from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018 be received;

AND THAT the Thomson Tract be included within the County's Managed Forest land use class as outlined in the report;

AND THAT the necessary revisions be made to the Forest Recreational Use Policy 4-6-1 and the County Forest By-law 2017-39.

5. PUBLIC WORKS – April 26, 2018 – ITEM #5
Capital Project Update – April 2018

A report from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018, to provide Committee and Council with an update regarding the 2018 Public Works - Transportation Capital Projects.

Recommendation:

THAT Report, Capital Project Update – April 2018, from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018 be received.

6. PUBLIC WORKS – April 26, 2018 – ITEM #6
FCM Climate Change Staff Grant

A report from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018, to introduce the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) Climate Change Staff Grant. This grant is available to help fund a Climate Change Coordinator position within the Public Works Department.

Recommendation:

THAT Report, FCM Climate Change Staff Grant, dated Wednesday, April 18, 2018 from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer be received;

AND THAT staff be directed to apply for the FCM Climate Change Staff Grant;

AND THAT staff work with interested local municipalities to submit a collaborative application;

AND THAT the necessary funds for staff salary plus any other related project costs be funded through the Rate Stabilization Reserve;

AND THAT the County of Dufferin sign on to the FCM Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program.

7. PUBLIC WORKS – April 26, 2018 – ITEM #7
Island Lake Trail Funding Request - Update

A report from the Chief Administrative Officer, dated April 26, 2018, to provide an update on the previous request for financial support to Credit Valley Conservation Authority for the Island Lake Trail.

Recommendation:

THAT Report, Island Lake Trail Funding Request - Update, from the Chief Administrative Officer dated April 26, 2018, be received.

CORRESPONDENCE

8. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – April 26, 2018 – ITEM #8
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Delegation Request

Correspondence from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs regarding Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) delegation request for the 2018 Annual Conference.

Recommendation:

For the consideration of the Committee.

Next Meeting

May 24, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

55 Zina Street, Orangeville – Sutton Room (2nd Floor)



FOREST ADVISORY TEAM MINUTES

Monday, March 26, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

55 Zina Street, Orangeville – Sutton Room (2nd Floor)

The Committee met at 55 Zina Street, Orangeville at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Warden Paul Mills (Chair)
Tanya Boniakowski (Public Member) (by teleconference)
Andy Kennedy (Public Member)
Lisa Needham (Public Member)
Heather Pady (Public Member)
John Thomson (Public Member)

Staff Present: Scott Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer
Caroline Mach, County Forest Manager
Rebecca Whelan, Information Management Coordinator

Chair Mills called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest by Members – None

1. **FOREST ADVISORY TEAM – March 26, 2018 – ITEM #1**
Introductions

Chair Mills welcomed everyone to the inaugural meeting of the Forest Advisory Team. Scott Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer, explained that the management of the County Forest now falls under the umbrella of Public Works.

The members of the Committee introduced themselves and explained their interest in serving on the Forest Advisory Team.

2. **FOREST ADVISORY TEAM – March 26, 2018 – ITEM #2**
Dufferin County Forest Advisory Team Mandate

The Committee reviewed its mandate and the Terms of Reference as outlined in the Recreational Use Policy. Chair Mills stated that the overall goal of the Committee is to protect the quality and integrity of the forest ecosystem while also providing social and economic benefits to the public. The Committee will function as a think tank and each committee member is encouraged to share feedback and provide input in order to assist staff with the management of the forest.

3. FOREST ADVISORY TEAM – March 26, 2018 – ITEM #3
Thomson Tract Land Use Class

Caroline Mach, County Forest Manager, stated that the County recently received a donation of 29.58 acres of property, to be called the Thomson Tract, adjacent to the south of the Little Tract (west side of Airport Road, about 15 km north of Highway 89). Chair Mills thanked John Thomson for the donation.

Each forest tract is assigned a land use class designation in accordance with the Forest Management Plan. The land use classes are:

- Natural: these areas have a high conservation value and the only management activities would be for the maintenance of the notable features.
- Managed: these areas are managed as per regular practices
- Recreation: the focus of the area is for recreational use

She proposed that the Thomson Tract be classified as Managed Forest and that the permitted recreational use be the same as those for the adjacent Little Tract to minimize confusion and potential conflict.

The Committee discussed whether it was possible to extend the interpretive trail from the Little Tract to the Thomson Tract.

4. FOREST ADVISORY TEAM – March 26, 2018 – ITEM #4
Oak Wilt – Public Information Campaign

The Committee discussed Oak Wilt, an invasive disease which kills all species of oak trees. The disease is now about ½ km from the Canadian border, near Windsor. Infected oak trees can die in as little as 30 days. As oak is a prevalent species within the Dufferin County Forest, particularly in the Main Tract, there will be serious consequences should the disease spread.

Staff will be launching a public information campaign to have residents look for signs of the disease. The campaign will also remind residents not to move firewood, as this is one of the biggest ways of spreading disease to new areas.

5. FOREST ADVISORY TEAM – March 26, 2018 – ITEM #5
Ongoing Policy Implementation

Staff are continuing to implement the following items related to the Recreational Use Policy:

- a) Improved/increased signs at the Main Tract
- b) Implementation of property use agreements for trail maintenance
- c) Implementation of a permit process for use of the County Forest for events
- d) Increasing safety of forest users
- e) Best management practices for trail maintenance and marking

The committee members were invited to contact staff to provide their thoughts and feedback on these items. The intent is to develop an ongoing dialogue. The Committee was also invited to share their ideas for future discussions.

DISCUSSION

Staff provided an update on Emerald Ash Borer. Although it is established in the area, the impact will not be as significant as Oak Wilt since ash trees are not as prevalent within the County Forest. The federal government has implemented a biological control program to combat Emerald Ash Borer.

The Committee discussed signage within the forest, including the posting of the Recreational Use Policy. Staff stated that there are plans to install an information kiosk in the parking lot of the Main Tract within the next month.

There was a discussion on how the Committee would make recommendations for changes. Any recommendations from the Committee that require higher levels of approval will be presented to County Council through the Public Works Committee.

The Committee discussed the event permit process. Staff informed the Committee that they are currently working on making the permit process more user-friendly.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Chair Mills opened the floor to questions from members of the public.

Ron Keeler thanked staff for answering the questions he had sent.

Margo Young asked if the answers to these questions would be shared with the public on the website, as she felt they were pertinent to all the user groups. She asked if there was a way that members of the public could receive communications regarding the forest on a regular basis. She also expressed concerns regarding the makeup of the Committee as there had been no mention of equestrian interests during the introductions. Chair Mills stated that the Committee is not meant to be strictly a recreational group and that the Committee is happy to take comments from the public.

Ron Keeler suggested that staff use steel posts for signage instead of putting the signs on trees.

Carolyn Milne suggested that the County look into developing an app for identifying and reporting Oak Wilt. The Committee discussed other options for public awareness campaigns including making school visits. Staff will have an education plan prepared for the April Home and Garden Show.

There was a discussion regarding the event permit process, including the fees. All scheduled events will be posted on the County website and at the new kiosk at the Main

Tract. For events at tracts other than the Main Tract, signs will be posted as in the past. Alternative methods for posting this information were discussed.

Sandra Kendall inquired about the process for sharing information with the Committee. Staff responded that while not every piece of correspondence would be forwarded to the Committee, any issue that required their input would be included on the meeting agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Next Meeting: To be determined
55 Zina Street, Orangeville – Sutton Room

Respectfully submitted,

.....
Warden Paul Mills, Chair
Forest Advisory Team



REPORT TO COMMITTEE

To: Chair Aultman and Members of the Public Works Committee

From: Scott C. Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer

Meeting Date: April 26, 2018

Subject: **Dufferin County Forest – 2017 Annual Report**

In Support of Strategic Plan Priorities and Objectives:

Communication and Connections: 2.1 Connect with Residents

Good Governance: 3.3 Improve policies, practices and procedures

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the annual report for the Dufferin County Forest.

Background & Discussion

Following recent adjustments to the County's organizational structure, the operation of the County Forest now reports through the Public Works Department. As such, the County Forest Annual Report will be presented to the Public Works Committee moving forward.

The County Forest Annual Report is a document that is compiled each year by the County's Forest Manager. This document (attached) describes activities and initiatives occurring, or planned to occur, within and associated with the County Forests. The context of the report is framed to include details of the outgoing year as well as a general work schedule for the incoming year. The current report speaks to 2017 and moving into 2018. The report is intended to inform Council of Forest activities as they correspond to the current Forest Management Plan 2016-2036 as well as the embedded Operating Plan 2016-2021. The twenty-year Forest Management Plan will be the guiding document for the forests and each revision of the five-year Operating Plan that develops within its context.

The annual report will be distributed to each of Dufferin's local municipalities, local libraries, through the County Forest MailChimp list, and will be posted on the County Forest section of the County website once it is received by County Council.

Financial, Staffing, Legal and IT Considerations

Activities as described within the County Forest Annual Report are supported through the approved Budget.

Strategic Direction and County of Dufferin Principles

Reporting on programs within the County Forests as they relate to the approved Forest Management Plan and the embedded Operating Plan is Good Governance 3.3 that promotes Communication and Connections with residents and stakeholders 2.1. The Dufferin County principles are adhered to as follows:

1. We Manage Change - continually monitoring activities within the County Forests such that logical adjustments to operations can be performed;
2. We Deliver Quality Service – working maintain balance and relationship among the ecological, economic and social benefits within the County Forests;
3. We Communicate – ensuring that information pertaining to the County Forest properties is readily available for the public and stakeholders;
4. We Make Good Decisions – by working with public members of the Dufferin County Forest Advisory Team to make informed and thoughtful recommendations that are reflective of the needs of the County Forest and community.

Recommendation:

THAT Report, Dufferin County Forest – Annual Report 2017, from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018, be received.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Scott C. Burns, P.Eng., C.E.T.
Director of Public Works/County Engineer



Annual Report 2017 and Annual Work Schedule 2018



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Dufferin County Forest consists of thirteen tracts that in total form a 1,054 hectare (2,606 acre) forested area owned and managed by the County of Dufferin. The Forest has many important functions, including erosion and water control, natural heritage protection, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, and support of the rural economy through timber production.

From the first purchase of land in 1930 until 1991 the Forest was managed by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) through agreements made under the *Forestry Act*. In 1995, the County completed a long-term, comprehensive management plan for the Forest properties, the first County in Ontario to do so. Following completion of the plan, a County Forest Manager was hired to implement it.

On March 13, 1997, the County signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the MNR. This Memorandum, which expired in 2002, outlined the County's and the Ministry's responsibilities in the management of the Dufferin County Forest. Since the expiration of that agreement, the County has been responsible for all aspects of the management of the Dufferin County Forest.

In 2014, work began on a new twenty-year forest management plan. *Our Forest, Our Future: Dufferin County Forest Management Plan 2016-2036* was approved by County Council in March, 2016. The new management plan includes an operating plan for 2016-2021.

The following are some highlights from the past year:

Environmental Sustainability

- i. four public tenders of conifers generating a total revenue of almost \$100,000 and;
- ii. marking of 48 hectares of conifer plantations.

Economic Sustainability

- i. no property was acquired or disposed of in 2017.

Social Sustainability

- i. passage of a recreational use policy and associated by-law (2017-39) for the County Forest;
- ii. ongoing repair and replacement of gates and signs in the Forest;
- iii. twelve larger-scale recreational events and;
- iv. two forest walks (wildflower identification and tree identification).

Next year, 2018, will see the continuation of various activities. There will be signs posted, forest walks, tendered timber sales, monitoring of harvesting operations, enforcement of the County Forest by-law (2017-39), several larger-scale recreational events, and a land use agreement with the Mansfield Outdoor Centre.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Dufferin County Forest consists of thirteen tracts that in total form a 1,054 hectare (2,606 acre) forested area owned and managed by the County of Dufferin. The Forest has many important functions including erosion and water control, natural heritage protection, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, and support of the rural economy through timber production.

From the first purchase of property in 1930 until 1991, the Forest was managed on behalf of the County by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). This relationship was governed by twenty-year agreements made under the *Forestry Act*. In 1991, the most recent of these agreements expired. This fact, combined with changes to the MNR's private land forestry policy, resulted in the development of a new management plan for the Forest in which the County took the lead role, assisted by MNR. Dufferin was the first County in Ontario to take the lead in developing a management plan for its forest properties. The process to develop the plan started in earnest in July, 1994 with the hiring of a Forest Management Plan Author. Less than one year later, on June 8, 1995, Dufferin County Council approved the final draft of the plan. Throughout the process, there was participation from the MNR, a Forest Advisory Team, and the general public, all of whom provided valuable input and comments.

In 1995, the County took over the control and co-ordination of all activities having to do with the Dufferin County Forest. In order to fulfill this new role, Dufferin hired a County Forest Manager, the first County in Ontario to do so.

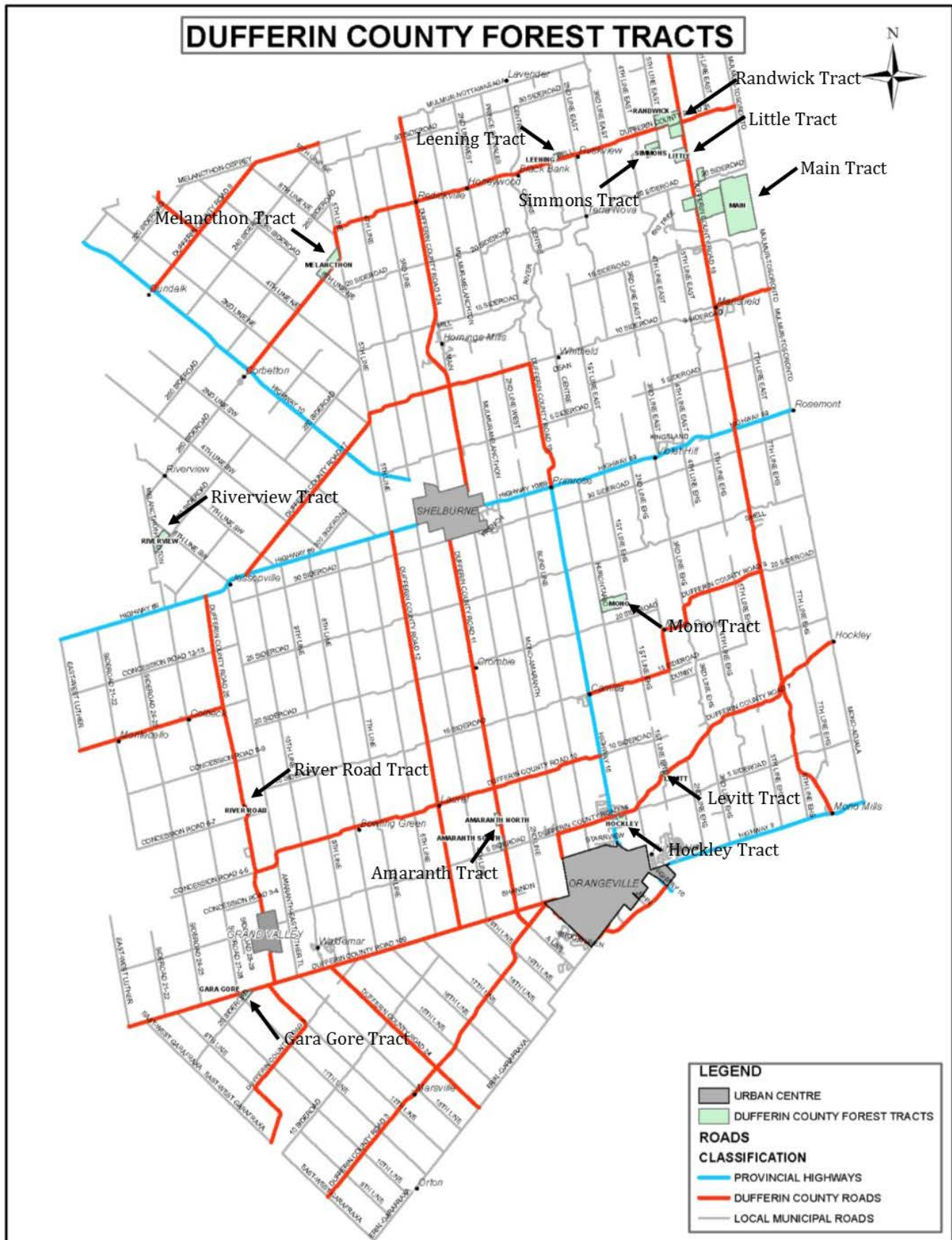
On March 13, 1997, the County signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the MNR. This Memorandum, which expired in 2002, outlined the County's and the Ministry's responsibilities in the management of the Dufferin County Forest. Since the expiration of that agreement, the County has been responsible for all aspects of the management of the Dufferin County Forest.

In 2005, the Dufferin County Forest celebrated its 75th anniversary.

In 2014, work began on a new twenty-year forest management plan. *Our Forest, Our Future: Dufferin County Forest Management Plan 2016-2036* was approved by County Council in March, 2016.

This annual report is divided into sections that correspond with those in *Our Forest, Our Future: Dufferin County Forest Management Plan 2016-2036* and the embedded operating plan (2016-2021) and coincides with the County's fiscal year, January 1 to December 31.

Figure 1: Tracts of the Dufferin County Forest



2.0 OUR FOREST, OUR FUTURE: DUFFERIN COUNTY FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN 2016-2036**2.1 Goal**

To protect the quality and integrity of ecosystems in the Dufferin County Forest, including air, water, land and biota; and, where quality and integrity have been diminished, to encourage restoration or remediation to healthy conditions; while providing a variety of social and economic benefits to the public.

2.2 Land Use

The land use classes, shown in Table 1, are unchanged from those outlined in *Our Forest, Our Future*: Dufferin County Forest Management Plan 2016-2036.

Table 1: Land Use Classes for Dufferin County Forest Tracts

Tract (Compartments)	Land Use Class	Area (ha)	Conservation Value	Standard Forest Management¹
Amaranth (42a), Laurel Wetland Complex	natural	12	provincially significant wetland	no
Amaranth (43b, 43c), Farmington Swamp	natural	10	locally significant wetland	no
Amaranth (43a)	managed	2		yes
Gara-Gore (44a)	managed	15		yes
Hockley (49), Orangeville Wetland Complex	natural	20	provincially significant wetland	no
Leening (50)	natural	8	Niagara Escarpment Rural Area; donor restrictions	no
Levitt (51)	natural	4	Niagara Escarpment Natural Area; donor restrictions	no
Little (48)	natural	47	developing old growth	no
Main (7-10, 12-19, 21a, 22, 23a, 23b, 24b, 24c, 25b, 25c)	managed	316		yes
Main (11, 20a, 21b, 23c, 24a, 25a, 26-30, 31a, 31d), Oak Ridges South Slope Forest	natural	266	life science ANSI	no
Main (31b, 31c)	natural	24	locally significant wetland	no
Melancthon (32a, 32b, 32c, 33a, 33b, 33d)	managed	12		yes
Melancthon (33a, 33c, 33d, 34a, 35a), Melancthon 1	natural	48	provincially significant wetland	no
Mono (39-40, 46)	managed	68		yes
Randwick (1-4c, 5-6)	managed	115		yes

Tract (Compartments)	Land Use Class	Area (ha)	Conservation Value	Standard Forest Management ¹
Randwick (4d), Walker's Creek Wetland	natural	2	locally significant wetland	no
River Road (45)	managed	3		yes
Riverview (36, 37b, 37c, 37d, 37e, 38a, 38b)	managed	27		yes
Riverview (37a, 38c, 38d), Melancthon 2	natural	13	locally significant wetland	no
Simmons (47)	managed	42		yes
Total		1054		

¹In areas designated as "no" removal of hazard trees and invasive species may occur, as well as forest management activities that maintain or enhance notable features.

2.3 Environmental Sustainability

Sustainable Timber Harvesting

Marking is the operation that designates the trees within a stand that are to be commercially harvested. The marking follows a silvicultural prescription written specifically for the stand. The prescription and the marking that follows it are the most important functions in determining the future structure and composition of any forest stand. The number, size, and species of trees that are removed has a significant impact on the growth and development of the remaining trees. Since all harvesting in the Dufferin County Forest is done by some variation of the selection cutting system, all stands must be marked prior to harvesting. The marking is done by a crew hired on contract.

Annually, wood is harvested on a sustainable basis from the Dufferin County Forest. The majority of the wood is sold by open public tender. Occasionally, a small amount of wood is sold to the public for personal use or as a negotiated sale. Table 2 summarizes the tendered timber sales for 2017.

Table 2: Tendered Timber Sales for the Dufferin County Forest 2017

Tender Number	Tract and Compartments	Volume (m ³)	Number of Trees	Species	Area (ha)	Value
CF 17-01	Randwick (4b)	307	1039	red pine	8.0	\$13,166.76
CF 17-02	Randwick (6b)	640	861	red pine and white pine	8.0	\$34,696.65
CF 17-03	Main (18b, 19b, 19c)	951	2353	conifers	24.0	\$49,733.56
CF 17-04	Simmons (47b)	259	2921	white pine	8.0	\$113.00
Total		2,157	7,174		48.0	\$97,709.97

In 2017 the tenders were awarded as follows: CF 17-01 and CF 17-03 to Robert Ritchie Forest Products of Elmvale, Ontario; CF 17-02 to Breen's Lumber Inc. of Coldwater, Ontario and CF 17-04

to Moggie Valley Timber of Holland Centre, Ontario. Tenders may not necessarily be awarded to the highest bidder.

Evaluation of Insect and Disease Populations

The County of Dufferin will assess insect and disease populations based on information provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's (MNR) Forest Health Technicians, County Forest staff, and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. Emerald ash borer, Asian long-horned beetle, Sirex woodwasp, gypsy moth, beech bark disease, butternut canker, and red pine decline are of primary concern. Other than Asian long-horned beetle, emerald ash borer, and Sirex woodwasp these are all known to be present in the Dufferin County Forest. Monitoring of these key insects and diseases will continue and management plans will be developed as necessary.

In 2013, the presence of emerald ash borer was confirmed in one location in Dufferin County, at the south end of Orangeville. Public education regarding this pest is ongoing through events, information at the County Forest office and on the website, and responses to inquiries. In 2012, a report describing how the borer will be dealt with in the context of the County Forest was presented to, and approved by, County Council. Since there is relatively little ash in the County Forest¹, it is anticipated that the impact of the emerald ash borer will not be significant in the County Forest itself. Dead or dying ash that are considered to be hazard trees due to their proximity to trails will be removed as soon as possible after they are identified. Stands with an ash component will be managed in accordance with the strategies outlined in *Managing Ash in Farm Woodlots; Some Suggested Prescriptions* (Williams & Schwan, 2011)².

Wildfires and Prescribed Burns

Forest fire management involves the maintenance of fire roads, trimming of brush to provide access for fire suppression, and the actual suppression of forest fires. The County is responsible for the maintenance of fire roads and the trimming of brush, while fire suppression is conducted by the local fire departments.

There were no wildfires or prescribed burns in the County Forest in 2017.

Alien Invasive Plants

During the 2017 growing season, ongoing monitoring and removal of the patch of dog-strangling vine at the Mono Tract was conducted.

Data was collected on the garlic mustard plots at the Melancthon, Mono, and Randwick Tracts.

¹ Black ash makes up 80% of the basal area in one 2 ha (5 acre) stand; white ash makes up 20% of the basal area in three stands that make up a total area of 23 ha (57 acres); and white ash makes up 10% of the basal area in eleven stands that make up a total area of 125 ha (309 acres). The total area of the Dufferin County Forest is 1,054 ha (2,606 acres). The only areas where issues with the number of dead ash would be expected to arise are in the black ash stand and in the northeast part of the Main Tract where there are several stands with a 10 or 20% ash component adjacent to each other.

² This publication is available from the County Forest Manager's office or online at: www.ontariowoodlot.com/publications/owa-publications/landowner-guides

2.4 Economic Sustainability

Financial Stability

One of the County's objectives for the Dufferin County Forest is that it generate revenue to support operations. At the same time, it is important to remember the non-monetary contributions of the Dufferin County Forest:

1. the Main Tract is one of few, large, publicly-accessible natural areas in Dufferin County;
2. the Forest contributes significant ecosystem services;
3. the Forest, and in particular the Main Tract, is important for outdoor recreation and;
4. the Dufferin County Forest properties add to the value of the areas in which they are located both in aesthetic and monetary terms.

In 2017, timber sales generated revenue of close to \$100,000. There are many factors that affect the value of the timber sold from the Dufferin County Forest, some of which are difficult to predict from year to year. These factors include the price of wood locally and regionally; the location, size and species of trees offered for sale; and the supply of wood of various species and sizes in a given year. Timber sale revenues were supplemented by land use, forest use, and recreational event permits. For details of the budget, please refer to the County of Dufferin's Budget 2017.

Besides staff, the majority of expenses in 2017 included signs, advertising and promotion, and tree marking.

Property Assessment, Acquisition and Disposition

No properties were acquired or disposed of in 2017.

2.5 Social Sustainability

Recreational Use of the County Forest Policy

The Recreational Use Policy was passed by County Council on May 11, 2017 after open houses and a public comment period in early 2017. The associated by-law (2017-39) was passed by County Council on September 14, 2017. Implementation of the policy began shortly after its passage, and will continue in 2018.

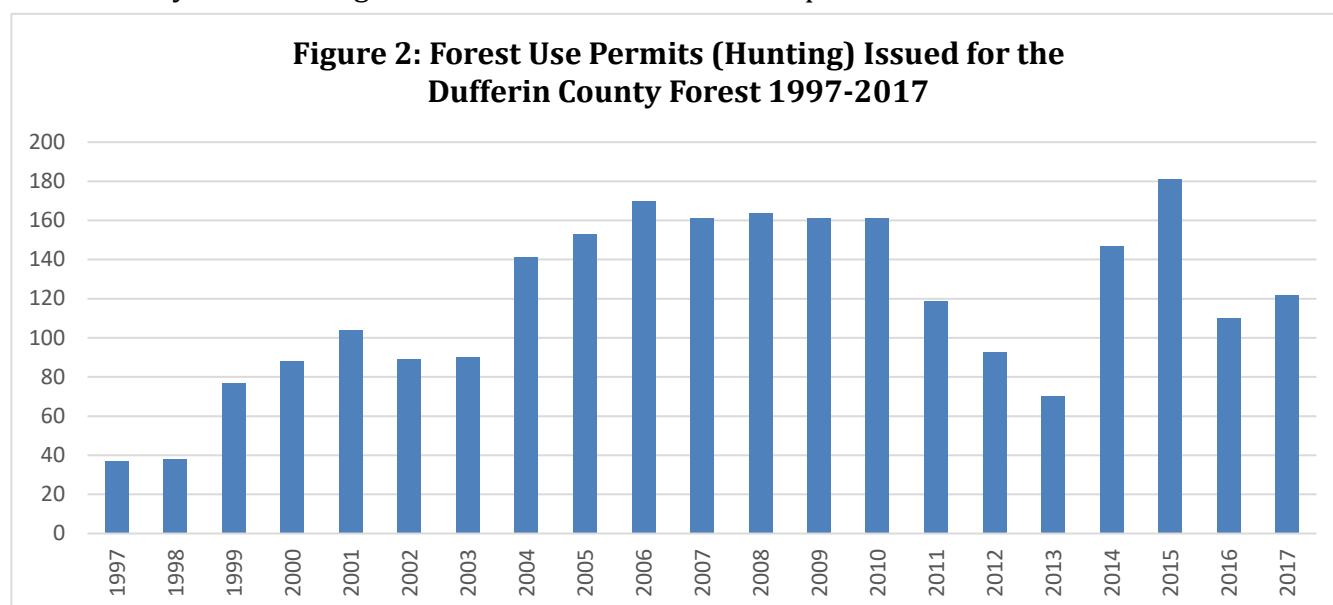
Table 3 gives details of the twelve larger-scale recreational events that took place in the Main and Mono Tracts of the County Forest in 2017. In total, the events generated revenue of just over \$3,000 for the County.

Table 3: Larger-Scale Recreational Events in the Dufferin County Forest 2017

Date of Event	Type of Event	Number of Participants
January 28	Substance Projects/Team Van Go Mountain Biking Event	68
April 15	Substance Projects/Team Van Go Mountain Biking Event	167
April 29-30	OCTRA Horseback Riding Event	95
May 18-22	Chesley Saddle Club Horseback Riding Event	50

Date of Event	Type of Event	Number of Participants
June 17-18	OCTRA Horseback Riding Event	129
August 12	Debra Moore Breast Cancer Fundraising Horseback Riding Event	90
August 18-21	Chesley Saddle Club Horseback Riding Event	25
September 9	Mono on a Bike – Mono Tract	85
September 23	Chase the Coyote Trail Run Event - Mono Tract	105
Sept. 30-Oct. 1	OCTRA Horseback Riding Event	92
October 14	Substance Projects/Team Van Go Mountain Biking Event	101
November 4	Cadet Orienteering Event	165

Figure 2 shows the number of Forest Use Permits (Hunting) that have been issued since 1997. In 2017, these permits generated revenue of over \$3,500 for the County. Monitoring of hunting will continue, particularly during the fall deer shotgun hunts, which are traditionally of most concern because they attract a large number of hunters in a short space of time.



In 2017, the Mansfield Outdoor Centre once again leased cross-country ski trails in the south portion of the Main Tract, generating revenue of \$500 for the County.

Access Restriction

One gate (at the 1st Line E (Mono) dead end south of 25 Sideroad) was replaced in 2017. New locks that are keyed alike were placed on the gates at the County Forest tracts.

Human Health

Information about west nile virus, lyme disease, and poison ivy continues to be available on the County Forest website, and in other formats by request.

Signs

In the fall of 2017, new by-law signs were installed at the Forest tracts. The installation of new signs that identify the forest tracts and that they are part of the Dufferin County Forest was started. Rural

address signs were also added to a number of entrances, particularly on the Mulmur-Tosorontio Townline (east boundary of the Main Tract).

Temporary signs were posted at a number of the tracts showing the dates of the spring wild turkey hunt, the fall wild turkey hunt and the two five-day periods of the fall deer shotgun hunt. This was done to inform users that there would be a concentration of hunters in the Forest during those periods. Additional signs urging hunters to “Exercise Extreme Caution” were posted around the southern section of the Randwick Tract prior to the spring wild turkey hunt, the fall wild turkey hunt and the two five-day periods of the deer shotgun hunt. The “No hunting” signs that were posted along the boundary between the southern section of the Randwick Tract and the private land to the west in 1999 were monitored; no new signs were necessary.

Signs were posted at the Main Tract showing the dates of the twelve larger-scale recreational events. As with the signs indicating the primary hunting seasons, this was done to alert the users of the Forest.

The local Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) member clubs (Dufferin, Orangeville, and Alliston & District) posted signs indicating the location of the OFSC trails through the Main, Randwick, Simmons, Riverview, and Mono Tracts of the Dufferin County Forest.

Information Products

In order to make non-hunting users of the Dufferin County Forest aware of the main hunting seasons, notices advising of increased hunting activity were placed in the Orangeville, Shelburne, Creemore, and Alliston newspapers as follows:

1. prior to the beginning of the spring wild turkey shotgun hunt;
2. prior to the beginning of the fall deer and wild turkey bow hunt;
3. prior to the beginning of the fall wild turkey shotgun hunt;
4. prior to the first five-day period of the deer shotgun hunt and;
5. prior to the second five-day period of the deer shotgun hunt.

These choices were made based on the fact that the two five-day periods of the deer shotgun hunt (as opposed to the bow hunt) draw more hunters in a shorter period of time.

The *Hunting in the Dufferin County Forest* brochure and information package was distributed to the 122 hunters who purchased forest use permits, as well as on a request basis. Email inquiries were first directed to the website for information.

Numerous phone and e-mail requests for information on the Dufferin County Forest and forests and forestry in general were answered. The information that was distributed consisted mostly of Dufferin County Forest pamphlets, maps of the Main Tract, and information on various insects and diseases that affect trees.

The County Forest information on www.dufferincounty.ca/residents/county-forest was updated throughout the year to provide forest users and other interested members of the public with timely information about events and activities.

County Forest promotional items were provided for Mono Winterfest, Forests Ontario Annual General Meeting, March Break Programs at the Dufferin County Museum & Archives, County booth at the Orangeville spring home show, Amaranth Canada 150 celebrations, and Debra Moore’s Ride

for Breast Cancer.

Presentations, Schools, Walks, and Tours

The County held two guided forest walks in the Little Tract in co-operation with the Dufferin Simcoe Land Stewardship Network. On May 27, a wildflower identification walk; on June 3 a tree identification walk.

On June 3, County Forest staff guided a forest tour at Fiddlehead Care Farm in conjunction with their spring festival.

Conifer Plantation Thinning Demonstration Area

A further thinning of the demonstration area at the Main Tract took place in 2017. This resulted in four blocks that have been thinned three times, three that have been thinned twice and one that has not been thinned at all. Prior to the thinning operation taking place, disks were cut from trees in all of the blocks to enable growth comparisons.

Interpretive Trails

The interpretive trail at the Main Tract was completed in the summer of 2017, in time to be featured in Nicola Ross' book, *Dufferin Hikes*, which was published in November, 2017. The interpretive trails at the Little Tract and Hockley Tract were maintained.

3.0 MONITORING

In 2017 the primary monitoring activities were inspections conducted during commercial harvesting operations, and monitoring of hunting activity (particularly during the two five-day deer shotgun hunt periods).

Cut inspections were done to ensure that the loggers complied with the terms and conditions of the tenders. There were no significant violations of tender terms and conditions in 2017.

Post-harvest inventory information was collected for stands that were commercially harvested in 2016.

Other monitoring activities included:

- i. general observation of, and communication with, users of the Forest and;
- ii. surveying signs and gates at the forest properties and arranging for replacement when and where necessary.

4.0 THE FUTURE OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

Some of the activities described in the twenty-year management plan are specific to the period of the embedded operating plan (2016-2021), most will continue over the entire period of the management plan (2016-2036). Three additional five year operating plans will be written to fulfill the management plan; for the periods 2021-2026, 2026-2031, and 2031-2036. The operating plans will be supported by Annual Reports and Annual Work Schedules.

Toward the end of the twenty-year management plan, a new twenty-year plan will be written for the period 2036-2056. This plan will include a five year operating plan for the period 2036-2041.

5.0 ANNUAL WORK SCHEDULE - 2018

The specific activities for 2018 are described in the following sections.

5.1 Environmental Sustainability

It is anticipated that there will be 29 hectares of conifer plantations marked in 2018. The breakdown of the areas is shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Areas Planned to be Marked in the Dufferin County Forest for 2018

Tract (Compartment)	Species	Area (ha)
Main (7a)	red pine and white pine	10
Main (7b)	red pine	4
Main (8d)	red pine and white pine	5
Main (14a)	red pine and white pine	5
Main (15a)	red pine and white pine	5
Total Area		29

As in the past, the number of trees and the volume to be harvested will be known once the tree marking is completed. Stands will be publicly tendered in the late summer of 2018.

Information about the emerald ash borer and how to manage trees and woodlots in its presence will continue to be distributed to the general public.

A report on how to manage oak wilt in the context of the Dufferin County Forest will be produced.

5.2 Economic Sustainability

For details of the budget, refer to the County of Dufferin's Budget 2018.

5.3 Social Sustainability

Implementation of the new recreational use policy will continue in 2018.

It is expected that the Main Tract will host a number of horseback riding events, including three Ontario Competitive Trail Riding Association rides and Debra Moore's fundraising ride for breast cancer.

In 2018, it is anticipated that the Mansfield Outdoor Centre will lease cross-country ski trails in the Main Tract.

The installation of new signs that identify the forest tracts and that they are part of the Dufferin County Forest will be completed.

The interpretive trails at the Main, Hockley, and Little Tracts will be maintained.

5.4 Monitoring

In 2018, the monitoring program will focus on four broad areas:

- i. conducting regular inspections of ongoing commercial harvesting operations;
- ii. conducting of post-harvest inventory for commercially harvested stands;
- iii. enforcing the County Forest by-law (2017-39) and;
- iv. monitoring of hunting activity, particularly during the two five-day deer shotgun hunts.

For more information:

Caroline Mach, R.P.F., County Forest Manager
c/o Dufferin County Museum & Archives
936029 Airport Road Mulmur, ON L9V 0L3
519-941-1114 ext. 4011 or 877-941-7787 ext. 4011 | fax: 705-435-9876
forestmanager@dufferinmuseum.com | www.dufferincounty.ca



REPORT TO COMMITTEE

To: Chair Aultman and Members of the Public Works Committee

From: Scott C. Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer

Meeting Date: April 26, 2018

Subject: **Dufferin County Forest – Oak Wilt**

In Support of Strategic Plan Priorities and Objectives:

Communication and Connections: 2.1 Connect with Residents

Good Governance: 3.3 Improve policies, practices and procedures

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the anticipated arrival of an invasive pathogen known as Oak Wilt within Dufferin County and the required management measures related to the County Forests.

Background and Discussion

Oak wilt is an exotic invasive disease that kills all species of oak, preferring those in the red oak group which includes red and black oak. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the lead agency in dealing with exotic invasives, is working hard to keep oak wilt out of Ontario. This said, oak wilt has been identified within 500 metres from the United States/Canada border on Belle Island in the Detroit River. Infected red oak trees can die in as little as 30 days. Additional details about the disease are provided in the attached fact sheet 'Oak Wilt An Invasive Pathogen on Canada's Doorstep!'.

In 2005, as part of the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Dufferin County Forest, red oak was declared as the official tree of Dufferin County. This particular species of deciduous tree represents a significant component of a number of stands within the Dufferin County Forest, particularly in the Main Tract. Many of these stands are also part of the Oak Ridges South Slope Area of Natural and Scientific Interest, which is recognized in part for its oak component.

According to the most recent inventory information of the total 1,054 ha (2,606 acres) of Dufferin County Forest:

- Almost half of the area of the Main Tract (278 ha) is classified as red oak working group, which means that red oak is the dominant species;

- Red oak is present as a minor component in an additional 190 ha of the Main Tract and;
- Red oak is present as a minor component in an additional 107 ha in the Randwick, Simmons, Mono, and Gara Gore Tracts.

Oak wilt disease can travel by several means, including the movement of firewood, but also through root grafts between mature trees and the spread of spores by sap-feeding insects. In an effort to mitigate and delay the presence of oak wilt within Dufferin County, the following measures will be taken:

- Public education:
 - how to identify oak wilt to assist with early detection;
 - dangers of moving firewood to help reduce the likelihood of the arrival of oak wilt as well as several species of invasive insects alike.
 - discourage private landowners from pruning or harvesting red oak between April 1 and July 31 when sap-feeding beetles are most active.
 - use of the EDDMapS smartphone apps for reporting invasive species (www.eddmaps.org/ontario).
- An immediate suspension of any harvest from stands within the County Forests containing more than 5m²/ha of red oak basal area between April 1 and July 31. As mentioned above sap-feeding beetles, which are attracted to open wounds on oak trees, are most active during this time of year.

Upon discovery of oak wilt within the Dufferin County Forest, management strategies including trenching in order to break root grafts may be required to eradicate or contain the disease. In the meantime, information noted in this report will be distributed through several avenues including;

- County Forest section of the County website
- Waste Services event days (household hazardous waste, compost giveaway)
- County booth at the Orangeville Home Show
- Brochure rack at the Dufferin County Museum & Archives
- County Forest identification walks
- Media release(s)

Updates will be provided to Committee as further information becomes available.

The information within this report was presented to the Dufferin County Forest Advisory Team at the March 26 meeting and was received with support.

Financial, Staffing, Legal and IT Considerations

As with any exercise to combat an invasive species or disease that may impact the County Forests, there will be a significant cost factor. Updates on this will be provided.

Strategic Direction and County of Dufferin Principles

Reporting on concerns pertaining to invasive pathogens and/or species within the County Forests is Good Governance 3.3 that promotes Communication and Connections with residents and stakeholders 2.1. The Dufferin County principles are adhered to as follows:

1. We Manage Change - continually monitoring potential concerns related to forest management such that logical adjustments to operations can be performed;
2. We Deliver Quality Service – working ensure sustainable ecological, economic and social benefits within the County Forests;
3. We Communicate – ensuring that information pertaining to the potential negative impacts of invasive species and pathogens is readily available to the public;
4. We Make Good Decisions – proactively pursuing information to remain informed on how best to mitigate and/or prevent the impacts of invasive species and pathogens with the Dufferin County Forests.

Recommendation

THAT Report, Dufferin County Forest – Oak Wilt, from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018 be received.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Scott C. Burns, P.Eng., C.E.T.
Director of Public Works/County Engineer

Oak Wilt

An Invasive Pathogen on Canada's Doorstep!



P. Kurzeja, Forest Health Division, Michigan D. N. R.

What is it?

Oak wilt is a vascular disease of oak trees, caused by the fungus *Ceratocystis fagacearum*. The fungus grows on the outer sapwood of oak trees restricting the flow of water and nutrients through the tree.

Trees at risk:

All oak species are susceptible and at risk. The red oak group (red, black, pin) is the most susceptible, with mortality frequently occurring within one growing season. Oaks in the white oak group (white, bur) are also affected but are more resistant.

Where is it?

Oak wilt has spread throughout the Eastern United States. In 2016, oak wilt was confirmed on Belle Isle (United States), in the middle of the Detroit River, 579 meters from the shores of Windsor, Ontario.

Signs and Symptoms:



Invasive Species Centre

- Leaves turn dull green, brown or yellow
- Discoloration of leaves progressing from the edge of the leaf to the middle
- Wilting and bronzing of foliage starting at top of the tree and moving downwards
- Premature leaf fall (including green leaves)
- White, grey or black fungal mats just under the bark that emit a fruity smell
- Vertical bark cracks in the trunk and large branches as a result of the fungal spore mats (also referred to as pressure pads) exerting outward pressure on the bark


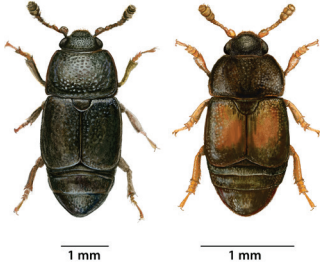

Impacts:



D.W. French, University of Minnesota, Bugwood.org

- Impacts property values and neighbourhood aesthetics
- Increased costs with tree maintenance, removal and replacement
- Loss of a valued shade tree
- Negative impacts to the forestry industry and production of high value oak products
- Reduction in food source for forest animals provided by oak trees
- Loss of habitat for some species
- Reduction of ecological services (air and water filtering)
- Safety and liability issues

How is oak wilt spread?

Roots	Insects	Humans
<p>The disease spreads from infected trees to uninfected trees of the same species through root-to-root contact.</p>  <p>James Solomon, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org</p>	<p>Insects such as sap-feeding nitidulid beetles can move spores from infected trees to healthy trees.</p>  <p>USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry</p>	<p>Movement of wood products, (particularly those with bark), such as firewood can spread the pathogen over long distances as they can harbor fungal mats.</p>  <p>Joseph OBrien, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org</p>

What can you do?

There is no cure for oak wilt infected trees. The best approach is to avoid or reduce infection in areas where disease occurs by:

- Identifying and removing diseased trees
 - Preventing the formation of, or severing existing root connections between diseased and healthy trees
 - Minimizing wounds on healthy trees during the flight period of potential insect carriers
- **DO NOT** prune oak trees from **April to July**. If pruning must occur, or if a tree is injured, apply a thin layer of wound paint immediately.
 - **DO NOT** move firewood. Oak wilt is spread by the movement of infected wood.

If you see signs and symptoms of oak wilt, report the sightings to:

- The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)
<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/about-the-cfia/contact-us/eng/1299860523723/1299860643049>
- EDDMapS Ontario
<https://www.eddmaps.org/ontario/>
- Invading Species Hotline
1-800-563-7711

For more information on oak wilt visit:

- Oak wilt species profile on the Forest Invasives Canada website
<http://forestinvasives.ca/Meet-the-Species/Pathogens/Oak-Wilt>



REPORT TO COMMITTEE

To: Chair Aultman and Members of the Public Works Committee

From: Scott C. Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer

Meeting Date: April 26, 2018

Subject: **Dufferin County Forest - Thomson Tract Land Use Class**

In Support of Strategic Plan Priorities and Objectives:

Communication and Connections: 2.1 Connect with Residents

Good Governance: 3.3 Improve policies, practices and procedures

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide information regarding the new Thomson Tract and to recommend the necessary land use class designation for the land.

Background and Discussion

The County recently received the donation of a 29.5 acres (12 ha) parcel of forested land, to be called the Thomson Tract. The tract is adjacent to the south of the Little Tract on the west side of Dufferin Road 18 (Airport Road), about 15 km north of Provincial Highway 89. As this is a newly acquired property, it is necessary to assign a land use class designation to it in accordance with *Our Forest, Our Future: Dufferin County Forest Management Plan 2016-2036*.

The land use class designations, which each correspond to the three areas of sustainability described in the management plan, are described as follows:

1. Natural Forest: These areas correspond to those identified as High Conservation Value Forests. The only forest management activities that will be conducted in these areas will be maintenance or enhancement of notable features. In particular, this applies to the Oak Ridges South Slope Forest Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) in the Main Tract, which, if left unmanaged, will succeed to a maple-beech forest and lose many of the characteristics that are the reason for the ANSI designation.
2. Managed Forest: These areas are all of those that are not designated as Natural Forest. Forest management activities that conform to the goal and actions of this forest management plan will be conducted.

3. Recreation Forest: There are currently no areas that are designated as Recreation Forest.

The existing inventory information, as well as a site visit by the County Forest Manager, indicate that there are no natural features on this property that would warrant a Natural Forest designation. As such, it is recommended that the property be included in the Managed Forest land use class.

In regard to recreational use, it is recommended that to minimize confusion and potential conflict, the permitted uses of the Thomson Tract be the same as those for the adjacent Little Tract:

Hiking/Running/Nature Appreciation: permitted
Skiing/Snowshoeing: permitted
Fat (Winter) Mountain Biking: not permitted
Mountain Biking: not permitted
Horseback Riding: not permitted
Hunting: not permitted
OFSC Trails: not permitted
Other Motorized Vehicles: not permitted

There is not a significant trail resource currently at the Thomson Tract, and there are no immediate plans to establish a trail network there.

The information within this report was presented to the Dufferin County Forest Advisory Team at the March 26 meeting and was received with support.

Financial, Staffing, Legal and IT Considerations

There are no cost implications associated with the designation.

Strategic Direction and County of Dufferin Principles

Reporting on programs within the County Forests as they relate to the approved Forest Management Plan and the embedded Operating Plan is Good Governance 3.3 that promotes Communication and Connections with residents and stakeholders 2.1. The Dufferin County principles are adhered to as follows:

1. We Manage Change – working to promote a sustainable and growing County Forest presence within Dufferin;
2. We Deliver Quality Service – ensuring that classifications of new forest tracts align with the principles of the Management Plan;
3. We Communicate – ensuring that information pertaining to the County Forest properties is readily available for the public and stakeholders;

4. We Make Good Decisions – by working with public members of the Dufferin County Forest Advisory Team to make informed and thoughtful recommendations that are reflective of the needs of the County Forest and community.

Recommendation

THAT Report, Dufferin County Forest – Thomson Tract Land Use Class, from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018, be received;

AND THAT the Thomson Tract be included within the County's Managed Forest land use class as outlined in the report;

AND THAT the necessary revisions be made to the Forest Recreational Use Policy 4-6-1 and the County Forest By-law 2017-39.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Scott C. Burns, P.Eng., C.E.T.
Director of Public Works/County Engineer



REPORT TO COMMITTEE

To: Chair Aultman and Members of Public Works Committee

From: Scott C. Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer

Meeting Date: April 26, 2018

Subject: Capital Project Update – April 2018

In Support of Strategic Plan Priorities and Objectives:

Service Excellence: 4.1 Close the infrastructure gap.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Committee and Council with an update regarding the 2018 Public Works - Transportation Capital Projects.

Background & Discussion

Where project work schedules require adjusting, additional scheduling details will be provided through future reports to Committee.

As part of the County's 2018 Capital budget, the following roadwork has been approved for completion this year (see attached location map).

Item No.	Location	Description	Length (km)	From/To	Status	Construction Start	Anticipated Completion
R1	CR11	Resurfacing & Culverts	4.4	25 SR to 2 nd Line, Amaranth	Tender Awarded	TBD	TBD
R2	CR109	Resurfacing & Culverts	3.5	16th Line to CR12, Amaranth / East Garafraxa	Tender Awarded	TBD	TBD
R3	CR17	Resurfacing & Culverts	4.1	CR124 to CR19, Mulmur / Melancthon	Tender Awarded	TBD	TBD
R4	CR9	Resurfacing & Culverts	3.6	Hwy 10 to CR2, Melancthon	Tender Awarded	TBD	TBD
R5	CR23	Resurfacing & Culverts	3.0	CR3 to East Garafraxa - Caledon TL, East Garafraxa	Tender Awarded	TBD	TBD
R6	CR21	Reconstruction	1.1	Between 4 th Line and 5 th Line Melancthon	Project Planning	TBD	TBD
Total Road Length (km)			19.7				

As part of the County's 2018 Capital budget, the following bridge/large culvert work has been approved for completion this year (see attached location map).

Item No.	Location	Structure	Action	Status	Construction Start	Anticipated Completion
S1	CR109, 0.2 km West of County Road 5	Byers Drain Culvert 004-0167	Replace	Tender Awarded	TBD	TBD
S2	CR109, 0.6 km East of County Road 25	Culvert 4-168 004-0168	Replace	Tender Awarded	TBD	TBD
S3	CR109, 0.2 km West of County Road 24	Grand River Bridge 004-0115	Rehab.	Tender Awarded	TBD	TBD
S4	CR10, 4.4 km West of Dufferin Road 12	Burnside Bridge 004-0067	Rehab.	Tender Awarded	TBD	TBD

Financial, Staffing, Legal and IT Considerations

Through project bundling, the combined value of all tenders for planned 2018 road and bridge construction work is below the total Capital Budget amount.

Strategic Direction and County of Dufferin Principles

Performing Capital road/bridge rehabilitation directly supports the strategic objective to close the infrastructure gap. The Dufferin County principles are adhered to as follows:

1. We Manage Change – addressing the infrastructure gap while being cognisant of economic conditions;
2. We Deliver Quality Service – administering high quality, cost-effective Capital projects that reflect the needs of the community;
3. We Communicate – by sharing timely and accurate project updates through Council and posting notices for the community;
4. We Make Good Decisions – by performing thorough preliminary investigations that ensure informed and thoughtful project decisions that are reflective of the needs of those affected.

Recommendation

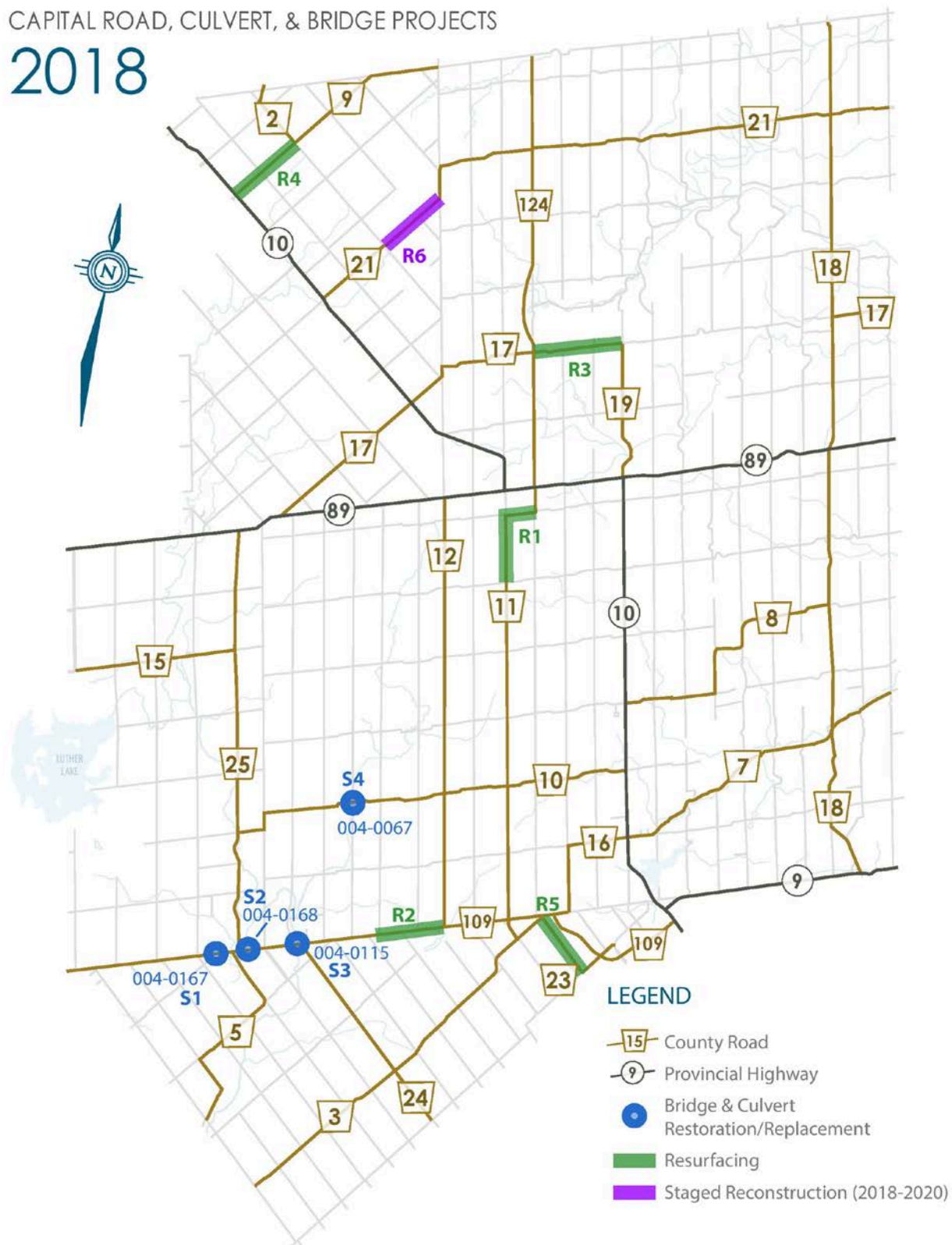
THAT Report, Capital Project Update – April 2018, from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer, dated April 26, 2018 be received.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Scott C. Burns, P.Eng., C.E.T.
Director of Public Works/County Engineer

CAPITAL ROAD, CULVERT, & BRIDGE PROJECTS

2018





(R1) Dufferin County Road 11 – Failed Asphalt Pavement



(R2) Dufferin County Road 109 - Culverts Scheduled for Replacement



(R2) Dufferin County Road 109 - Pavement Deterioration and Wheel Rutting



(R3) Dufferin County Road 17 – Failed Asphalt Pavement



(R3) Dufferin County Road 17 – Failed Asphalt Pavement



(R4) Dufferin County Road 9 - Longitudinal Cracking



(R5) Dufferin County Road 23 - Failed Asphalt Pavement



(R5) Dufferin County Road 23 - Failed Asphalt Pavement



(R6) Dufferin County Road 21 – Preconstruction Conditions



(S1) Byers Drain Culvert 004-0167 – Preconstruction Conditions



(S1) Byers Drain Culvert 004-0167 - Spalled Concrete and Exposed Rebar 08 JUN 2017



(S2) Culvert 4-0168 - Preconstruction Site Conditions PM 3:04 JUN 9/2016



(S2) Culvert 4-0168 - Preconstruction Site Conditions



(S3) Grand River Bridge 004-0115 – Preconstruction Site Conditions



(S3) Grand River Bridge 004-0115 - Preconstruction Site Conditions



(S4) Burnside Bridge 004-0067 – Preconstruction Site Conditions



(S4) Burnside Bridge 004-0067 - Cracking on Soffit



REPORT TO COMMITTEE

To: Chair Aultman and Members of Public Works Committee

From: Scott C. Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer

Meeting Date: April 26th, 2018

Subject: FCM Climate Change Staff Grant

In Support of Strategic Plan Priorities and Objectives:

Economic Vitality: 1.3 Promote conservation and environmental sustainability

Good Governance: 3.1 Promote rural/urban cohesiveness

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to introduce the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) Climate Change Staff Grant. This grant is available to help fund a Climate Change Coordinator position within the Public Works Department.

Background & Discussion

Municipalities are important partners in the fight against climate change, and are required to address this issue within their Official Plans. As Robyn Kurtes, Director, Environmental Policy Branch of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, recently wrote to municipalities, "...the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017, along with other provincial land use planning direction, requires municipalities to incorporate climate change policies into their official plans, while also encouraging municipalities to develop GHG inventories and emission reduction strategies, including targets and performance measures" (email – April 17, 2018).

Mitigating and adapting to climate change is a far-reaching and long-term initiative that will require work from the County and the local municipalities to address this issue, both corporately and within the community. As written in the Province's recently updated document *Community Emissions Reduction Planning: A Guide for Municipalities*, "Energy and emissions planning incorporates many dimensions of municipal planning, and requires the involvement of multiple city government departments, stakeholders and communities...in all phases of planning and implementation" (see Figure 1 below).

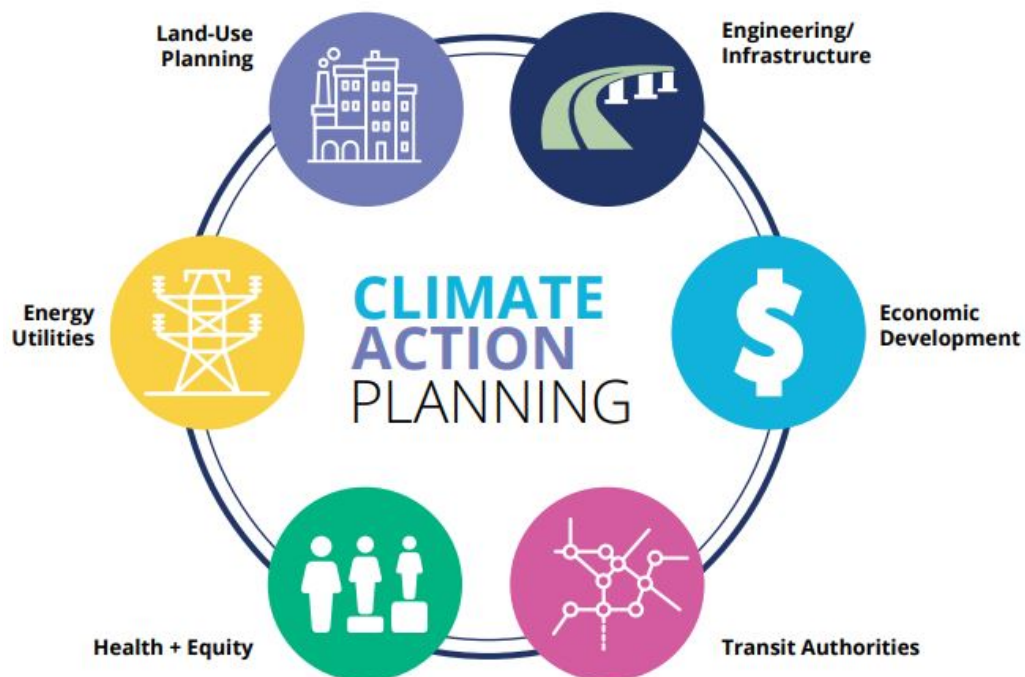


Figure 1

Source: "Community Emissions Reduction Planning: A Guide for Municipalities", April 2018, page 45.

Lack of staff resources is one of the biggest barriers for municipalities and communities looking to take action on climate change. The funding available from FCM would assist the County in hiring a Climate Change Coordinator.

The FCM's Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program (MCIP) has released Climate Change Staff Grants to help municipalities address staffing gaps, and produce lasting improvements in their operations related to climate change. The grant for \$125,000, disbursed over two years, will cover up to 80% of a dedicated staff position to complete climate mitigation activities.

The application evaluation process indicates proposals that support a group of municipalities will be assessed more favourably. All local municipalities within the County of Dufferin will be required to incorporate Climate Change Plans that comply with both provincial policy and the County Plan into their next Official Plan update. It is recommended that County staff take the lead to work with local municipalities to submit a collaborative application.

Within the County's application, the proposed deliverables for this position over the two years of funding will include:

- creation of a Dufferin Climate Change Round Table, in partnership with Dufferin County's local Municipalities;

- development of a corporate Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory for each municipality;
- setting corporate GHG reduction targets;
- development of a municipal operations action plan (emission reduction strategy); and
- the preliminary investigation of a Climate Projection Study, to lay the foundation for future corporate and community adaptation activities.

The process of undertaking climate change mitigation and adaption work is intricate and long-term (see Figure 2). The County would be starting at the bottom left of the matrix with corporate mitigation activities. Continuing work on the various climate change activities will be required beyond the (potential) two year funding from the FCM grant.

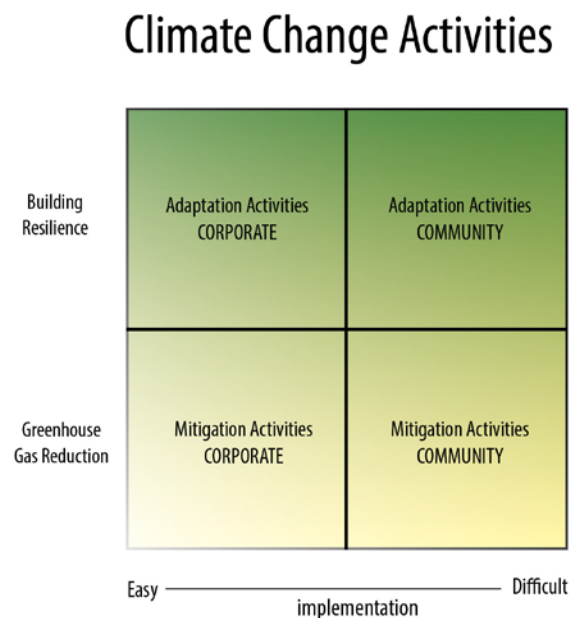


Figure 2

To aid in the work ahead, there are resources available to municipalities. For example, the FCM grant is geared towards municipalities that are part of FCM's Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program. The PCP program is a network of more than 200 Canadian municipalities that have committed to greenhouse gas reduction and climate change action. This group of municipalities recognize they have a role to play with climate change given that "up to half of Canada's greenhouse gas emissions are under the direct or indirect control or influence of municipal governments" (2010, FCM). PCP program members have access to invaluable resources like a Regional Climate Advisor, networking hubs, document templates, and greenhouse gas inventory tools. The Town of Mono recently signed on to this program, and the Town of Caledon has completed it. It is recommended that the County sign up for this program.

Financial, Staffing, Legal, or IT Considerations

The staff grant covers up to 80% of a staff position (up to \$125,000 over two years). Funds for the remaining cost of staff salary plus any related project costs will be funded through the Rate Stabilization Reserve.

Strategic Direction and County of Dufferin Principles

Hiring a dedicated staff member to address climate change is in line with the specific priorities outlined in the Corporate Strategic Plan: 1.3 Promote conservation and environmental sustainability, and 3.1 Promote rural/urban cohesiveness. The Dufferin County principles are adhered to as follows:

1. We Manage Change – addressing climate change issues in collaboration with the local municipalities, to help ensure corporate and community goals and targets are met;
2. We Deliver Quality Service – providing a high quality climate change mitigation program that reflects the needs of the community and partners;
3. We Communicate – engaging in open, timely and clearly articulated discussion around climate change program activities in a multitude of ways;
4. We Make Good Decisions – fostering an environment of collaboration that contributes to informed and thoughtful decisions around climate change mitigation corporately, and within the community.

Recommendation

THAT Report, FCM Climate Change Staff Grant, dated Wednesday, April 18, 2018 from the Director of Public Works/County Engineer be received;

AND THAT staff be directed to apply for the FCM Climate Change Staff Grant;

AND THAT staff work with interested local municipalities to submit a collaborative application;

AND THAT the necessary funds for staff salary plus any other related project costs be funded through the Rate Stabilization Reserve;

AND THAT the County of Dufferin sign on to the FCM Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Scott C. Burns, P.Eng., C.E.T.
Director of Public Works/County Engineer



REPORT TO COMMITTEE

To: Chair Aultman and Members of Public Works Committee

From: Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative officer

Meeting Date: April 26, 2018

Subject: Island Lake Trail Funding Request – Update

In Support of Strategic Plan Priorities and Objectives:

Economic Vitality: 1.3 Promote conservation and environmental sustainability

Good Governance: 3.1 Promote rural/urban cohesiveness

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the previous request for financial support to Credit Valley Conservation Authority for the Island Lake Trail.

Background & Discussion

Following the report in October 2017, staff were directed to work with Credit Valley Conservation (CVC), Mono, and Orangeville to determine the most appropriate funding structure to support ongoing trail maintenance and future capital upgrades of the Island Lake Trail system. CVC proposed a four partner funding agreement which would have seen the County join the other three parties.

Several concerns were identified with expanding this relationship:

1. The County of Dufferin does not currently provide direct support to any of the Conservation areas in the region. Changing the support structure for one would likely necessitate a review of how funding of all of the area Conservation Authorities is provided;
2. The proposed 4 party-funding model would result in a small annual saving for Mono taxpayers but an increase for Orangeville tax payers;
3. The County of Dufferin does not currently have a role in regular trail maintenance other than the County Forest (the County role with respect to trails is under review).

Staff attended a meeting with representatives from CVC, Mono, and Orangeville on March 14th to discuss the Island Lake Trail Funding model. Orangeville and Mono indicated that they are satisfied with the current three-party relationship and are in favour of maintaining it for the current term.

Financial, Staffing, Legal, or IT Considerations

There is no financial impact for the County of Dufferin if the current three-party funding agreement is maintained.

Strategic Direction and County of Dufferin Principles

Working collaboratively with local municipalities and other agencies to identify the most appropriate funding solutions for specific programs adheres to the County of Dufferin Principles as follows:

1. We Manage Change – by working with municipal partners and groups to manage changing and ongoing needs of a valuable community resource;
2. We Deliver Quality Service – by ensuring agreements are made in the most appropriate, cost-effective and equitable manner;
3. We Communicate – working with partners to provide timely and accurate information;
4. We Make Good Decisions – by fostering an environment of collaboration to ensure current and future objectives of multiple stakeholders and partners are addressed.

Recommendation

THAT Report, Island Lake Trail Funding Request - Update, from the Chief Administrative Officer dated April 26, 2018, be received.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sonya Pritchard, C.P.A, C.M.A.
Chief Administrative Officer

Michelle Hargrave

From: Michelle Hargrave
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 9:22 AM
To: Michelle Hargrave
Subject: FW: Municipal Delegations at the 2018 AMO Conference

From: Sonya Pritchard
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 8:58 AM
To: Michelle Dunne <mdunne@dufferincounty.ca>; Michelle Hargrave <mhargrave@dufferincounty.ca>
Subject: FW: Municipal Delegations at the 2018 AMO Conference

Please include this as an item on the April committee agendas.

From: Delegations (MMA) <Delegations@ontario.ca>
Sent: Friday, April 6, 2018 10:31 AM
To:
Subject: Municipal Delegations at the 2018 AMO Conference

Hello/ Bonjour,

Please be advised that the Municipal Delegation Request Form for the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) 2018 Annual Conference is available online. Information about delegations and a link to the form are available here: <http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page18759.aspx>. The deadline to submit requests is **July 3, 2018**.

Veillez noter que le Formulaire de demande d'une délégation municipale au congrès annuel 2018 de l'Association des Municipalités de l'Ontario (AMO) est disponible en ligne. Les renseignements sur les délégations et un lien vers le formulaire sont disponible ici: <http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page18763.aspx>. La date limite pour présenter votre demande est **3 juillet 2018**.

Thank you/ Merci