



May 31, 2017

Via email only c/o Clerks Office @ dawn.mcalpine@barrie.ca

Mayor Jeff Lehman and Members of Council
City of Barrie
70 Collier Street
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

Dear Mayor Lehman and members of Council:

Re: Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Offset Program

I am writing to you today to seek your municipality's support for the implementation of a Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Offset Program (LSPOP). The LSPOP is a joint initiative of LSRCA, all our member municipalities, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), and the Building and Land Development (BILD) Industry. A number of your staff members have been involved in the program development over the last number of years. The program is to be administered by LSRCA, with our member municipalities benefitting by being provided financial resources to undertake stormwater upgrades and retrofits.

In the initial phase of LSPOP, the program will be exclusively focused on mitigating urban stormwater phosphorus loads from new development and redevelopment by providing incentives to enhance stormwater load reduction in existing development. The Lake Simcoe Protection Plan (LSPP) through its policies and procedures has set the minimum requirements for stormwater management and hence phosphorus offsetting in the Lake Simcoe watershed. The policies and procedures for the LSPOP Phase 1 are based on meeting and in some cases exceeding these minimum requirements.

In the future, LSRCA will be required to ensure that no phosphorus load will be exported from a newly developed or redeveloped parcel within the Lake Simcoe watershed. **This is the so-called Zero Export policy**, which would go beyond the current requirements of the LSPP to meet the Phosphorus Reduction Strategy target with respect to urban stormwater management. The Zero Export policy will provide the basis for achieving a net reduction in phosphorus loading to local watercourses and the lake and will provide strong incentive for innovation in the design of new urban development projects.

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Under the proposed Zero Export policy, if it is not feasible by technological means (e.g. LID practices or retention ponds) to eliminate phosphorus loads from new development or redevelopment sites, phosphorus offsets may be obtained through the Urban Stormwater Retrofit Projects. Offsets are simply phosphorus reductions achieved by stormwater retrofit projects in areas of existing development within the watershed and usually on public lands. The rules governing the use of offsets are further described in a detailed report available on our website of by clicking the following link: [Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Offset Program](#).

Please let me know if there is anything else you need at this time. Attached is a sample letter of support, should you find it useful. I would be pleased to provide a presentation to Council at any time.

Sincerely,



Mike Walters
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment: Sample letter of support

On letterhead of Municipality

Date:

Mr. Michael Walters
Chief Administrative Officer
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
120 Bayview Parkway
Newmarket, ON
L3Y 3W3

Dear Mike:

Re: Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Offset Program

It is our understanding that the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority is seeking the support of ***“insert municipality”*** for the purposes of implementing the Lake Simcoe Phosphorus Offset Program (LSPOP).

The program, which is designed to reduce phosphorus loading from urban run-off, will improve the health and quality of local rivers and streams and most importantly Lake Simcoe. In addition, the proposed works will have other benefits ranging from reducing flooding to job creation.

Please accept this letter as ***“insert municipality”*** support for the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority to undertake this initiative.

Sincerely,