

**TO:** Mayor J. Lehman and Members of Council

**FROM:** J. Weston, M.A.Sc., P. Eng., PMP, Director of Engineering

**NOTED:** R. J. Forward, MBA, M.Sc., P. Eng., General Manager of Infrastructure & Growth Management  
C. Ladd, Chief Administrative Officer

**RE:** Foster Drive Area Sanitary Servicing and Stormwater Management  
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Phases 1 and 2  
Evaluation of Alternative Solutions  
(E03-FO1)

**DATE:** February 11, 2016

The Engineering Department is completing Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study to determine the potential for sanitary servicing and to assess the opportunity to implement stormwater management improvements in the Foster Drive area (including Garson Street, MacLaren Avenue, Merrett Drive and Yeates Avenue).

The public consultation process of the Class EA requires that the public, who requested to be kept informed of the Class EA process, be advised of the recommendations prior to consideration by General Committee. To advise the concerned public of the staff recommendations that will be contained in the staff report, the attached letter will be distributed. To ensure that Council has the information at the same time as the public, this memo has been provided with a copy of the letter.

The Draft Final Phase 1 and 2 Class EA Report, which contains details of the alternative solutions, will be available in the Councilors' Lounge for review on February 11, 2016. A PDF version of the Draft Final Class EA report is available on the City of Barrie web page at [www.barrie.ca/eastudies](http://www.barrie.ca/eastudies) then scrolling down to the Foster Drive Area Sanitary Servicing and Stormwater Management Class EA section.

If there are any questions, please contact Brett Gratrix at extension 5117, or e-mail [Brett.Gratrix@barrie.ca](mailto:Brett.Gratrix@barrie.ca).

  
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THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BARRIE  
Engineering Department  
"Committed to Total Service Excellence"

February 12, 2016

File: E03-FO1

To All Area Residents / Business Owners / Tenants / Agencies:

**RE: Foster Drive Area Sanitary Servicing and Stormwater Management Class EA  
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Phases 1 & 2  
Evaluation of Alternative Solutions**

The Corporation of the City of Barrie (City) is undertaking a Schedule 'B' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) to determine the potential for sanitary servicing and to assess the opportunity to implement stormwater management improvements in the Foster Drive area (including Garson Street, MacLaren Avenue, Merrett Drive and Yeates Avenue) pursuant to the approved procedures, as defined in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment dated June 2000, as amended in 2007 and 2011. This letter is to advise you of the progress that has been made on this study and upcoming activities for this Class EA.

The City of Barrie has proceeded with Phases 1 and 2 of the Schedule "B" Municipal Class EA and has developed and evaluated various alternative designs and has completed the final draft of the Class EA Phases 1 & 2 report.

The Public Information Centre (PIC) was held on Wednesday, April 29, 2015, to receive comments regarding the proposed alternatives in the draft Foster Drive Area Sanitary Servicing and Stormwater Management Class EA Phases 1 & 2 report. The following alternatives were presented at the PIC (please see Class EA document for additional information):

Sanitary Servicing Alternatives:

**Alternative 1 - "Do Nothing"**

The "Do Nothing" alternative allows for the consideration of maintaining the use of septic systems.

**Alternative 2 - Deep Sewer Alignment**

This alternative consists of sanitary servicing via deep gravity sewers on all streets within the study area with the intent to service all existing basements by gravity. This alternative includes a utility corridor for the sanitary sewer to continue beyond the current terminus of Merrett Drive to Foster Drive via 223 Foster Drive.

**Alternative 3 - Shallow Sewer Alignment**

This alternative consists of a shallower vertical alignment with the intent to service all first floors by gravity (some basements will require pumps to lift sanitary flows to the lateral). This alternative includes a utility corridor for the sanitary sewer to continue beyond the current terminus of Merrett Drive to Yonge Street via 223 Foster Drive and 357 Yonge Street (aligned along south property boundary).

Stormwater Management Alternatives:

**Alternative 1 - "Do Nothing"**

The "Do Nothing" alternative allows for the consideration of allowing stormwater runoff to continue to discharge from the study area uncontrolled and untreated.

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**Alternative 2 – Stormwater Management Wet Pond**

This alternative includes a Stormwater Management (SWM) wet pond to provide stormwater quality treatment. The optimal location for this pond is at 202 and 204 Foster Drive, requiring acquisition of these properties. A permanent easement would be required through 201 Minet's Point Road to establish an outlet for the pond.

**Alternative 3 – Low Impact Development (LID)**

This alternative includes the implementation of LID practices within the right-of-way providing stormwater quality treatment. LID is a stormwater management approach that consists of engineered elements that mimic natural hydrology by infiltrating, filtering, evaporating and detaining runoff close to the source.

**Alternative 4 – Low Impact Development (LID) and Stormwater Management Dry Pond**

This alternative includes the implementation of LID practices within the right-of-way providing stormwater quality treatment and a SWM dry pond to provide quantity (flood) and erosion control in the location identified in Alternative 2.

From the comment sheets received with a preferred ranking:

Sanitary Servicing Alternatives Ranking

Alternative	Alternative 1 - Do Nothing	Alternative 2 - Deep Sewer Alignment	Alternative 3 - Shallow Sewer Alignment
Instances Ranked No. 1	20%	68%	12%

Stormwater Management Alternatives Ranking

Alternative	Alternative 1 - Do Nothing	Alternative 2 - SWM Wet Pond	Alternative 3 - Low Impact Development (LID)	Alternative 4 - LID and SWM Dry Pond
Instances Ranked No. 1	32%	8%	36%	24%

Many of the respondents expressed concern regarding the ability to defer or amortize sanitary servicing costs; ability to defer connection to the municipal sanitary servicing system and inequities associated with the City's cost apportionment policy. For a summary of the major concerns raised from the PIC and the City's response to those concerns, please see Appendix "A".

A PDF version of the Final Draft Class EA report is available on the City of Barrie web page at [www.barrie.ca/eastudies](http://www.barrie.ca/eastudies) then scrolling down to the Foster Drive Area Sanitary Servicing and Stormwater Management Class EA section.

A paper copy of the Final Draft Class EA report is available for review at the following locations during regular business hours:

City of Barrie  
Clerk's Office  
City Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
70 Collier Street

City of Barrie  
Engineering  
City Hall, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
70 Collier Street

Barrie Public Library  
Downtown  
Information Desk  
60 Worsley Street

Barrie Public Library  
Painswick Branch  
Information Desk  
48 Dean Avenue

Comments and responses received from the PIC were considered in the development of the Preferred Alternative. The alternatives have been evaluated based on the physical, natural, social, cultural heritage and economic environments. The Engineering Department is recommending Alternative 2 – Deep Sewer Alignment and Alternative 3 – Low Impact Development as the Preferred Alternatives. The stormwater management Preferred Alternative is classified as a Schedule A+ project; a Notice of Completion is not required to be filed and the City may proceed directly to implementation. The sanitary servicing Preferred Alternative is classified as a Schedule B project as lands are required through 223 Foster Drive to route

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the sanitary sewer; this classification requires the completion of Phases 1 and 2 of the Class EA process and the filing of a Notice of Completion.

The Preferred Alternatives are recommended for the following reasons:

Sanitary Servicing:

- Addresses renewal needs associated with private septic systems in a cost effective manner;
- Reduces potential impacts to groundwater and surface water quality of Whiskey Creek as a result of aging septic systems;
- Provides basement level gravity servicing to the majority of residences;
- Minimizes impacts to future development parcels (223 Foster Drive and 357 Yonge Street) as the preferred alternative is routed through a previously proposed future ROW connecting Merrett Drive and Foster Drive (through 223 Foster Drive); and
- Facilitates the cost effective implementation of capital improvements within the study area (road urbanization, watermain replacement and active transportation).

Stormwater Management:

- Provides a cost effective solution for the provision of stormwater quality treatment to the study area;
- Provides the lowest long-term operating costs as compared to the implementation of a stormwater management wet pond;
- Supported by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority; and
- Complies with the recommendations of the Comprehensive Stormwater Management Master Plan and the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan which promotes the implementation of stormwater management retrofits within existing urban areas to address water quality treatment.

The above staff recommendations will be presented to General Committee on March 7, 2016. General Committee's recommendations may be approved by City Council on March 14, 2016. If Council endorses the Preferred Alternative, a Notice of Completion will be filed for this project. Request for deputations to Council can be made up to Wednesday March 9, 2016 9:00 a.m. If concerns are raised, which cannot be resolved in discussion with the Corporation of the City of Barrie, the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change may be requested, subsequent to the filing of a Notice of Completion by the City of Barrie, to make an order for the project to comply with Part II of the Environmental Assessment Act (referred to as a Part II Order) which addresses individual Environmental Assessments. A Part II Order must be filed within thirty (30) calendar days of the City of Barrie filing a Notice of Completion and must be done so, in writing, to the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change at the address below:

The Honourable Glen Murray  
Minister of the Environment and Climate Change  
77 Wellesley Street West, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2T5

A copy of the Part II Order should also be sent to the City of Barrie Engineering Department to the attention of the undersigned.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please feel free to contact Mr. Brett Gratrix at (705) 739-4220, extension 5117, or e-mail [Brett.Gratrix@barrie.ca](mailto:Brett.Gratrix@barrie.ca).

Yours truly,



Brett Gratrix, P. Eng.  
Infrastructure Planning Engineer

Attachments

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## APPENDIX "A"

Summary of Major Public and Review Agency Concerns

COMMENT	RESPONSE
1 Concerned with the cost implications for Sanitary Servicing.	The City allows residents to defer connection to the sanitary sewer system. This allows residents to defer the private costs associated with connecting to the sanitary system and user rate charges. The frontage costs cannot be deferred, but the City allows residents to finance the frontage costs over 10 years, resulting in a more manageable cost.
2 Concerned about being required to connect to the new sanitary sewer given the existing septic field was recently replaced.	The City allows residents to defer connection to the City's sanitary sewer system until the time your septic system requires replacement; thus eliminating the need to pay user rate charges during this period. Frontage fees must be paid at the time of construction; this includes a sanitary lateral to the property line to allow future connection. Frontage fees can be paid over 10 years.
3 Concerned about how frontage costs are calculated; in particular with respect to corner lots.	The City will further assess the cost apportionment policy during detailed design.