

### Section I – Items for Board of Directors Action

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Board of Directors  
Meeting #5/20, Friday, June 26, 2020

**FROM:** Michael Tolensky, Chief Financial and Operating Officer

**RE:** **DOWNTOWN BRAMPTON FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**  
Update on Progress

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#### KEY ISSUE

An update on the progress for the Downtown Brampton Flood Protection Project Environmental Assessment, approval to amend the existing agreement with the City of Brampton to implement aspects of the project and delegation of approval authority for Chief Executive Officer to approve any time sensitive required procurements prior to the September 2020 Board of Directors meeting.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT the update on the Downtown Brampton Flood Protection Environmental Assessment be received;**

**THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) be authorized to amend the existing fee for service agreement with the City of Brampton should they agree to fund additional works required during the transition of the project from the planning phase to detailed design;**

**THAT the Chief Executive Officer be granted delegated authority to approve any procurements required as a result of additional works authorized by the City of Brampton, should there be a need to expedite prior to the September 2020 Board of Directors meeting;**

**AND FURTHER THAT TRCA report back to the Board of Directors in the fall of 2020 to provide an update on the status of the project and next steps.**

#### BACKGROUND

At Board of Directors Meeting #5/18, held on July 20, 2018, Resolution #A119/18 was approved as follows:

*THAT Contract #10007828 for Planning and Engineering Consulting Services for the technical planning and Environmental Assessment management of the Downtown Brampton Flood Protection Project, in the City of Brampton, be awarded to AECOM, for a total cost not to exceed \$248,870, plus contingency of 30% to be expended as authorize by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) staff, plus HST, it being the highest rank proposal for value meeting TRCA specifications;*

*THAT Contract #10008216 for the retention of a Senior Project Manager to represent TRCA in the day-to-day project management of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Downtown Brampton Flood Protection Project, in the City of Brampton, be awarded to Anneliese Grieve Strategic Environmental Planning Solutions, for a total cost not to*

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*exceed \$220,590, plus contingency of 30% to be expended as authorized by TRCA staff, plus HST, it being the only proposal meeting TRCA specifications;*

*THAT Contract #10007940 for Water Resources Engineering Consulting Services to lead the hydrologic and hydraulic modelling, flood protection design on behalf of TRCA for the Downtown Brampton Flood Protection Project, in the City of Brampton, be awarded to Matrix Solutions Inc., for a total cost not to exceed \$173,670, plus contingency of 30% to be expended as authorized by TRCA staff, plus HST, it being the highest rank proposal for value meeting TRCA specifications;*

*THAT Contract #10008102 for Geotechnical, Geoenvironmental and Hydrogeological Consulting Services on behalf of TRCA for the Downtown Brampton Flood Protection Project, in the City of Brampton, be awarded to WSP, for a total cost not to exceed \$99,983, plus contingency of 30% to be expended as authorized by TRCA staff, plus HST, it being the bidder with the highest rank proposal for value meeting TRCA specifications;*

*AND FURTHER THAT pending an authorized Master Service Agreement between TRCA and the City of Brampton, staff be authorized and directed to take all necessary actions to implement the foregoing, including the signing and execution of documents.*

The City of Brampton's downtown is subject to flooding during extreme storm events (the Regulatory Flood event). It is, therefore, subject to land use development restrictions under a Special Policy Area designation. The City of Brampton and TRCA have considered alternative ways to protect downtown Brampton from future flood events and unlock potential for revitalization through the Downtown Brampton Flood Protection Environmental Assessment (DBFP EA). The purpose of the DBFP EA is to identify a preferred alternative for providing flood protection for the City of Brampton's downtown while considering urban design and land use opportunities for the City of Brampton. Figure 1 shows the EA location and local study area.

### **RATIONALE**

A Notice of Commencement was published on August 23, 2018, which signaled the beginning of the DBFP EA project. Since then, the project team has been working through the phases of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA), Schedule C process.

Planning for a preferred alternative required continued engagement with a variety of stakeholders. This includes engaging local landowners, the Region of Peel, Metrolinx, and Canadian National Railway (CN). In addition, the project team has been, and is currently engaging with, the City of Brampton's Urban Design Master Plan team.

Through the EA process, the project team (TRCA and City of Brampton staff) engaged the public through various meetings including three community liaison committee (CLC) meetings held on October 31, 2018, May 15, 2019, and November 21, 2019 and three public information centers (PIC) held on November 7, 2018, May 30, 2019, and December 5, 2019. All PIC material is available on the project website: <https://trca.ca/dbfpea>

In consultation with the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), the following Indigenous Communities were engaged with throughout the DBFP EA project: Haudenosaunee Confederacy c/o Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI), Huron-Wendat Nation, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and Six Nations of the Grand River. The four First Nations and Indigenous Communities were provided with notifications and circulated documents when requested.

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The flood risk is caused by an upstream spill into the old creek valley north of Church Street and a downstream spill into the old creek valley south of the CN rail bridge in the vicinity of Moor Crescent (Figure 2). These two spills are distinct; therefore, unique alternative solutions were presented for each of the sections. Alternative solutions were presented at the first PIC (November 21, 2019). Based on the feedback received, and the evaluation of the alternative solutions, a preliminary preferred alternative solution was selected for both the upstream and downstream spill areas. These preliminary preferred alternative solutions were presented at the second PIC (May 30, 2019). Finally, the project team developed alternative design concepts for the preliminary preferred alternative. A preferred alternative was selected and presented at the third PIC (December 5, 2019).

The overall preferred alternative consists of the following components to improve conveyance (Figure 3):

- Upstream
  - Widening (to 50 m) and deepening (by 1.2 m) the by-pass channel
  - Re-aligning Ken Whillans Drive and re-grading Church Street and the valley north of Church Street
  - Bridge replacements at Church Street, Scott Street, and Queen Street
  - Modifications to the CN rail bridge,
  - Relocation or replacement of the pedestrian bridge in Centennial Park
- Downstream
  - Do-Nothing approach was selected as it was determined that none of the downstream alternative solutions would eliminate the downstream spill, the upstream alternative solution would have a positive impact on the downstream spill, and the limited benefit of implementing any of the downstream alternative solutions does not outweigh the impacts and cost.

To address climate change, the DBFP EA addresses the flood risk from extreme events, such as the Regulatory Flood, and provide resilience to climate change. The preferred alternative is designed to address the Regulatory Flood event plus 25% increase in flow (i.e. 25% contingency). To confirm the resiliency to future extreme weather and address any uncertainties associated with climate change, additional simulations with a 0.5 m freeboard (i.e., the minimum clearance between the bottom of a bridge and the Regulatory Flood) to account for climate change were completed.

With the implementation of the DBFP EA project, partial or full removal of the downtown SPA north of Wellington Street can be achieved. The removal of the downtown SPA is paramount to attaining the goals of Vision 2040 and Riverwalk plans and will allow for the revitalization of the downtown core by lifting the restrictions to development.

The project team released a draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) for a 30-day review period from January 30, 2020 to February 28, 2020. The draft ESR was provided to a government review team, the members of whom were provided by the MECP, consisting of both federal and provincial agencies, and was made broadly available to all members of the public. The ESR is available on the project website: <https://trca.ca/dbfpea>. Following the review period, the ESR was revised based on the feedback provided and finalized for formal submission to MECP.

On June 4, 2020, a Notice of Completion for the final ESR was published. Copies of the ESRs

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would typically be placed for public review at Brampton City Hall, a local library branch within the project location, and at TRCA Head Office. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and as a result of the closures to these locations, the project team made the decision to extend the review period from the required 30-days to 60-days. This results in a review period occurring from June 4, 2020 to August 2, 2020. Interested parties are also able to request that a hard copy be made available to them. Members of public and agencies are encouraged to access the electronic version of the ESR on the project website.

### **Relationship to Building the Living City, the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan**

This report supports the following strategies set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:

**Strategy 2 – Manage our regional water resources for current and future generations**

**Strategy 4 – Create complete communities that integrate nature and the built environment**

**Strategy 7 – Build partnerships and new business models**

### **FINANCIAL DETAILS**

Funding for the DBFP EA is available through a delivery agreement with the City of Brampton within account 193-01, the National Disaster Mitigation Program, and TRCA Region of Peel Climate Budget (2018). The preliminary cost estimate for the preferred alternative ranges from \$85,107,550 to \$106,384,450.

While the detailed design and implementation of this project is currently not funded, the City of Brampton is exploring funding opportunities. They have recently been invited to resubmit an application to the Federal National Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Fund (DMAF) program to continue work on the DBFP project. TRCA has offered to support the preparation of this application and will work closely with the City of Brampton leading up to the July 17<sup>th</sup> deadline.

### **DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE**

The project team is continuing to follow the phases of a Municipal Class EA (Schedule C) process. During this review period, members of the public can submit a Part II Order request under the *Environmental Assessment Act*. Should Part II Order request(s) be submitted, the project team will be required to address request(s). If no Part II Order request(s) are submitted, the DBFP EA project is approved and can move to the detailed design and implementation phase (pending available funds).

Upon approval of the EA, TRCA will work with the City of Brampton on future funding applications which would allow the project to continue to progress to detailed design and ultimately implementation. Should additional works be required during the projects transition between the EA planning process and detailed design, The City of Brampton has indicated that they are prepared to amend the existing fee for service agreement to allow for the transfer of additional funds to TRCA to support required works. This may include, but is not limited to, additional planning and project management support, property and legal services and other activities supporting the DBFP project.

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**Date: May 28, 2020**

**Attachments: 3**

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Attachment 1: Figure 1 – Project Location

Attachment 2: Figure 2 – Upstream and Downstream Spills

Attachment 3: Figure 3 – Preferred Alternative