

TECHNICAL MEMO

The purpose of this memo is to summarize the public and agency feedback obtained in the first phase of the Master Servicing Plan. This feedback is integral to the understanding of the changes to the environment since the completion of the 2017 Master Servicing Plan, and to help guide the direction of the 2023 Master Servicing Plan.

1. STUDY COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

1.1 Notice of Study Commencement and Virtual Public Information Centre (PIC No.1)

The Notice of Study Commencement was published and distributed on February 14th, 2024, with a joint Notice of Public Information Centre (PIC) No.1. The Notice of Commencement informed the public of the initiation of the study, the overall goals of the Master Servicing Plan, the Class EA process and provided the details for the date, time, and location for PIC No. 1. In addition, the Notice invited interested people to review the background information provided on the Project Website, respond to a questionnaire, and provided the opportunity to be added to a mailing list for future Master Servicing Plan consultations.

PIC No.1 was held Tuesday February 27th, 2024, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Flesherton Kinplex Community Hall located at 102 Highland Drive in Flesherton. A presentation to the public began at 7:30, with time for questions and discussion following.

A copy of the Notice is provided in **Appendix A** and a copy of the background information, questionnaire, and presentation provided at PIC No.1 is provided in **Appendix F**. The Notice was advertised in the Flesherton Advance on February 14th and February 21st, 2024.

2. CONSULTATION (FEBRUARY 2024)

With the circulation of the Notice of Study Commencement and provided background information, the public, stakeholders, agencies, interested Indigenous Communities and Indigenous rights-holders were encouraged to provide comments regarding the priority of expansion of services to specific areas in accordance with the phasing plan that was developed in the 2017 Master Servicing Plan. The full list of contacted agencies, Indigenous Communities and Indigenous rights-holders are included in **Appendix A**. The public and stakeholder comments received (recorded sic erat scriptum) and feedback from agencies and Indigenous Communities, is included in **Appendix G** and **Appendix H**, and is summarized in the following section.

2.1 Public and Stakeholder Consultation

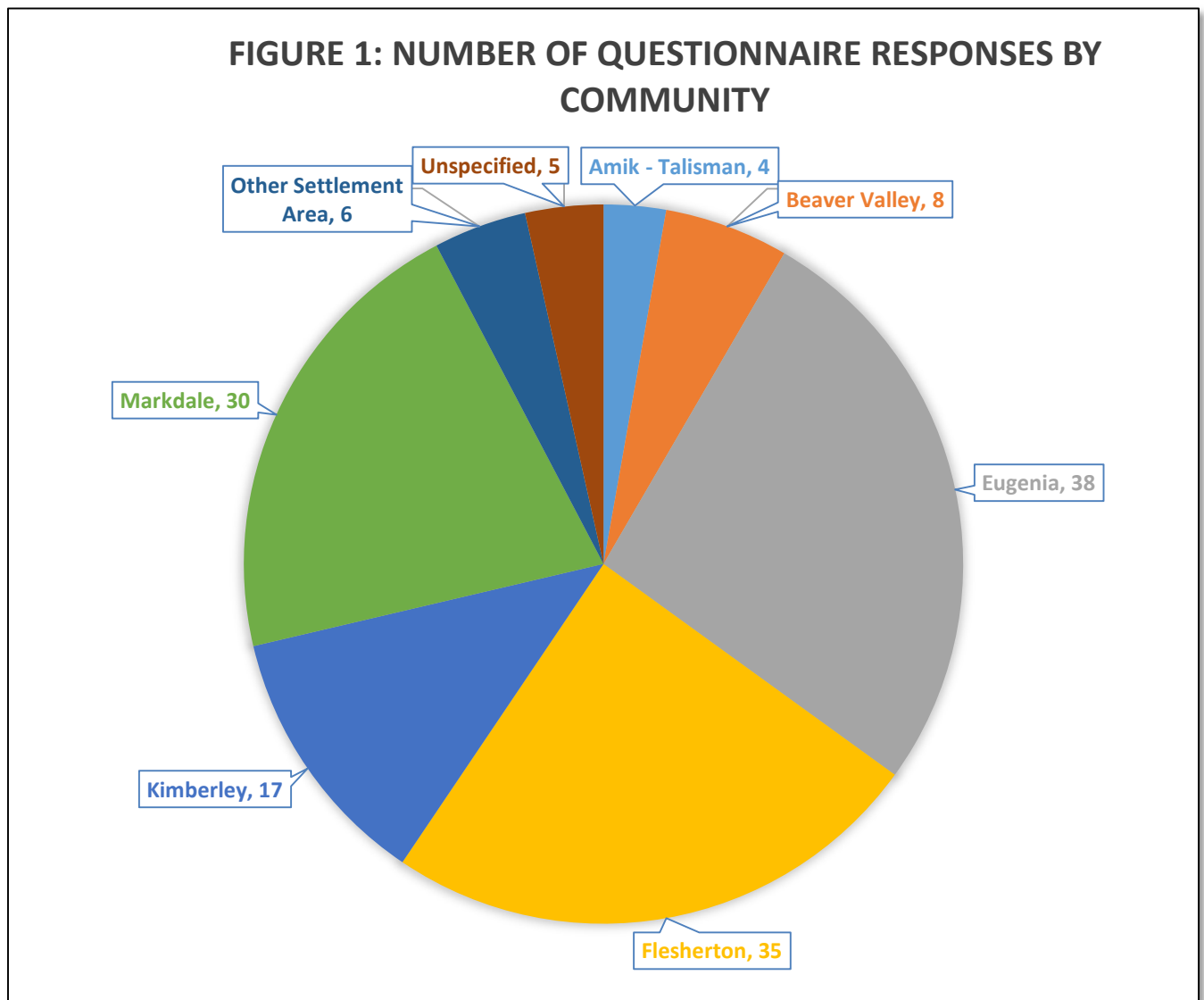
With the circulation of the Notice, and associated project information, the public were invited to provide comments regarding the expansion of services to specific areas in accordance with the phasing plan in the 2017 Master Servicing Plan, as well as to participate in an online questionnaire that was hosted on the Project Website. A total of 20 comments were received via email or through the Project Website, and 143 responses to the questionnaire were submitted. Comments and feedback pertaining to the Master Servicing Plan are provided in **Appendix G**. An analysis of the questionnaire responses is

provided below. A summary of the feedback from this preliminary public and stakeholder consultation is provided, including how this feedback will be incorporated into the Master Servicing Plan.

2.1.1 Questionnaire and Responses

A copy of the background information and questionnaire provided on the Project Website and at PIC No.1 is provided in **Appendix F**. The questionnaire included 3 questions about residency and current servicing levels, followed by two questions asking respondents to rank the importance of services, followed by two questions asking respondents to identify concerns, and then one free-text response allowing any other comments.

There were 143 total responses to the questionnaire. The distribution of the responses by stated community of residence is shown in Figure 1 below.



The stated community of residence was categorized for reporting purposes. “Unspecified” was used for responses of “Grey Highlands” or similar non-specific locations. Some responses were from

residents in settlement areas outside the study area, including responses from residents in Priceville, Proton Station and Maxwell, and are included in the “Other Settlement Area” grouping.

The total number of responses from Amik and Talisman were low, at two (2) each, so the communities were grouped together. Approximately four (4) respondents identified Lake Eugenia as their community of residence, and those responses were grouped with Eugenia. Three respondents identified that they lived “near Eugenia” or between Flesherton and Eugenia, and were also grouped with Eugenia.

Of the total 143 responses, 110 responses had comments in any of the three open text fields. 32 had no comments. The distribution of comments by community is shown in Figure 2 below.

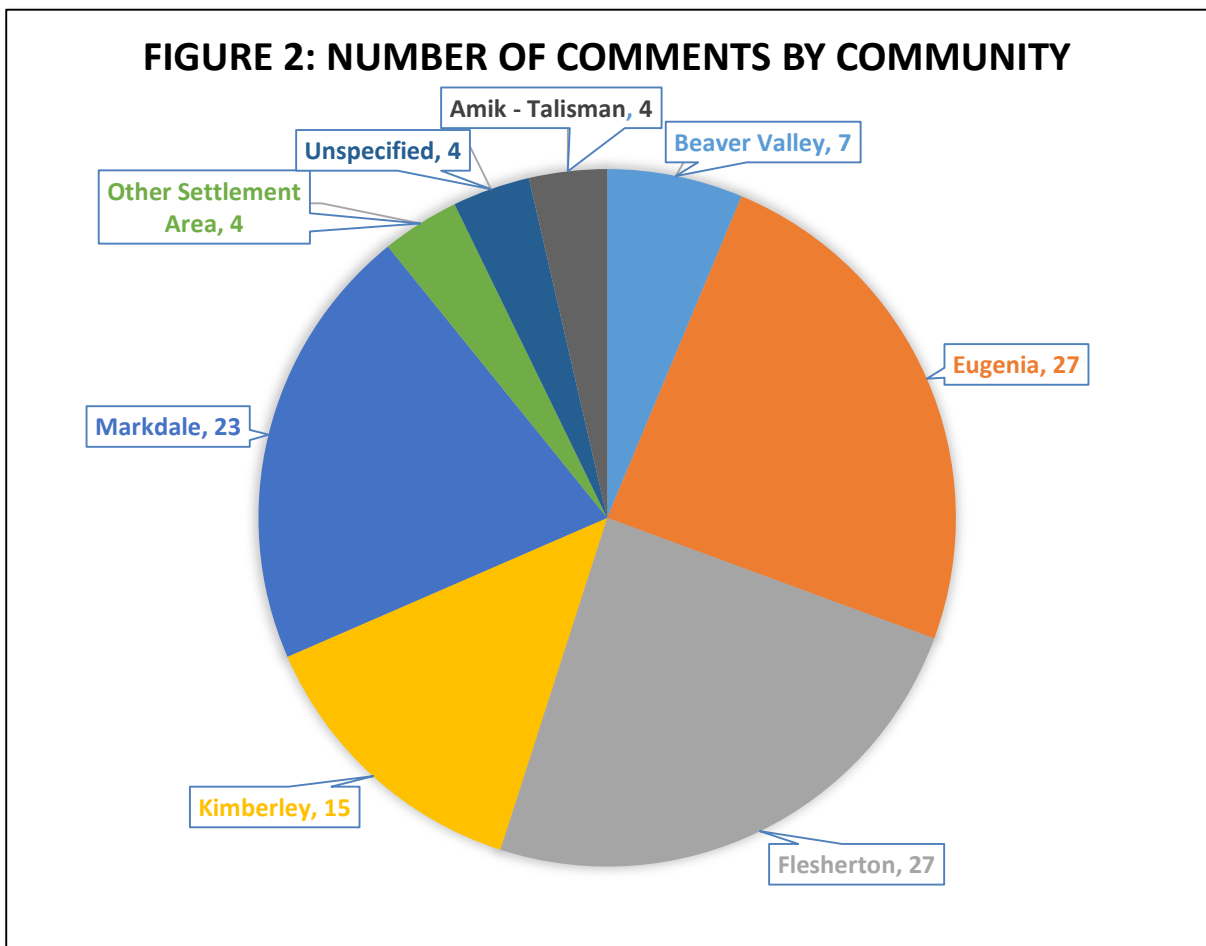


Figure 3 below shows the answers to the municipal drinking water importance ranking question broken down by community. In the survey, 1 is representative of very low importance, and 5 is very high importance.

The average priority rating for drinking water shows that Kimberley – Amik – Talisman community values their drinking water.

Responses from Eugenia, Flesherton and Beaver Valley averaged around 1, which indicates a very large majority of the responses were that drinking water was the lowest importance it was possible to assign.

Figure 3: Community Evaluation of On a Scale of 1 to 5, How Important is Having Municipally Provided Drinking Water For You?

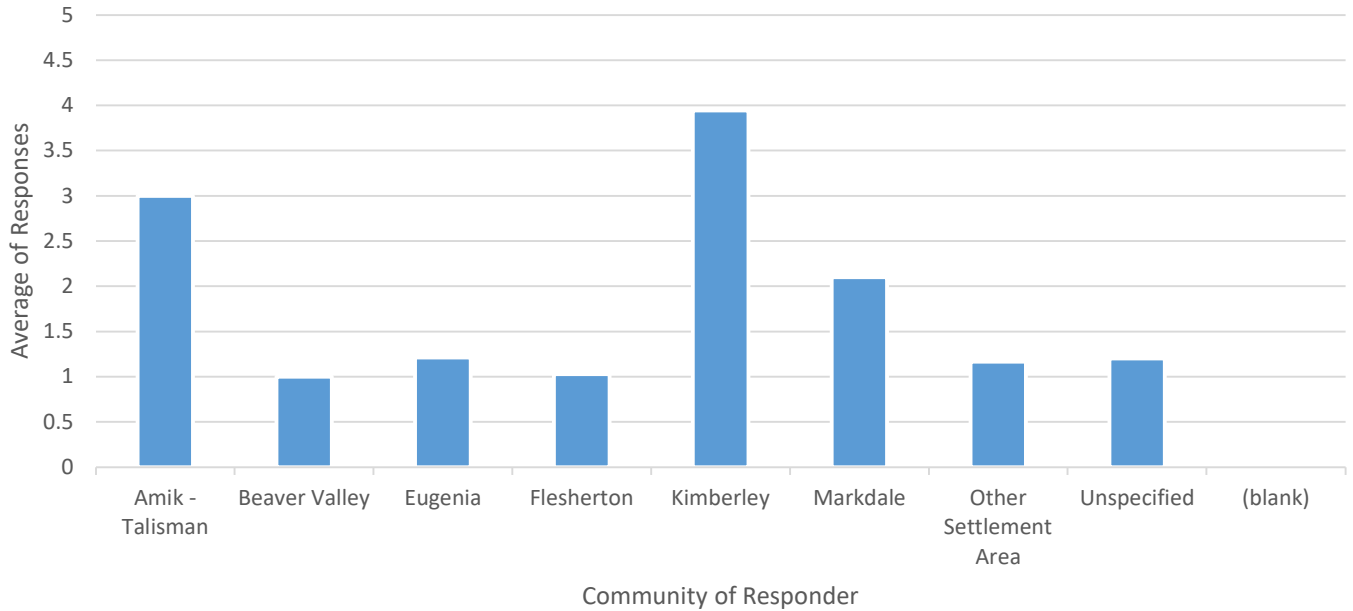


Figure 4: Community Evaluation of On a Scale of 1 to 5, How Important is Having Municipally Provided Wastewater Treatment For You?

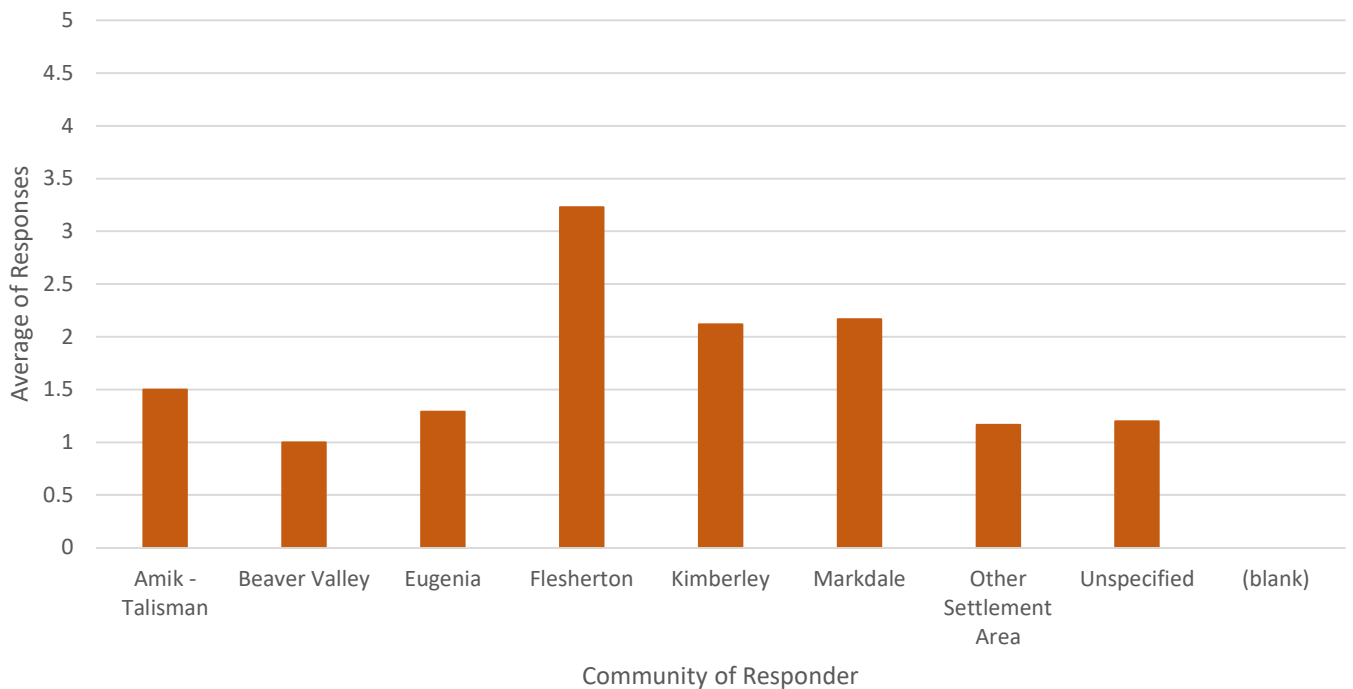


Figure 4 above shows the answers to the municipal wastewater treatment importance ranking question broken down by community.

The average importance for municipal wastewater treatment shows that the Flesherton community values their wastewater treatment. The other major communities ranked wastewater treatment as a slight importance. Interestingly, the priority to Kimberley residents is about the same as the importance to the serviced community of Markdale.

The comments were reviewed for similarity and grouped by topics identified. Approximately 10 comments were unique, with the rest following general themes of:

- Concerns about costs.
- Concerns about increasing growth and development.
- Concerns about environmental impact.
- Considers municipal services / municipal water undesirable.
- Wants to see servicing in growth areas only.
- Wants to see more planning and management of growth.
- Concerns about outreach (thought there should have been more community engagement).

Table 1 below identifies the number of comments by theme from each community, or a brief summary of the more unique comments.

Approximately one third of the comments included multiple topics. Several comments from communities other than Flesherton identified Flesherton as an area of growth that should be serviced. There were overall mixed opinions as to whether Amik, Talisman, Kimberley or Eugenia should be serviced, with some comments not specifying but generally supporting servicing for all communities.

Comments along the general themes were identified in each community, although there were some differences in the frequency of certain themes. Markdale had a significant number of comments relating to concerns about costs. Flesherton had a significant number of comments relating to increased growth and development as well as not desiring municipal water. Kimberley also had a significant number of comments relating to increased growth and development. Eugenia and Beaver Valley had a significant number of responses not desiring municipal services / municipal water.

The comments, as submitted, are included in **Appendix G**, including the comments received by email.

Next Steps:

The feedback from agencies and the public are included in the evaluation of the alternatives. In general, the response and actions required to the received comments includes the following:

1. Environments Assessment

As required by the Municipal Class EA Process, as part of Phase 2 of the process and included in this MSP an important step is the evaluation of the alternatives including a comparison of technical constructability, financial feasibility and costs, and environmental, social, and cultural impacts. A "Do Nothing" alternative is required to be evaluated to identify the impacts of not proceeding in comparison with the costs and impacts of proceeding. The Provincial Policy Statement identifies that municipalities are not expected to proceed with servicing beyond their financial means. Cost estimates for various alternatives will be prepared as part of the analysis

and will be considered in the evaluation of alternatives. Feedback regarding the environmental, social, and cultural impacts will also be considered in the evaluation of alternatives.

2. Outreach and comments related to 2017 MSP

This was the first public consultation for this project and occurred at the beginning of the process with only background information provided. The background information included the previous MSP, prepared in 2017, and residents may have been unaware of its existence. This project is to review and update the MSP so feedback regarding the conclusions of the previous MSP is timely and will be considered in the development and review of alternatives. Further consultation with the public will occur at the required public consultation point near the end of Phase 2 of the Class EA process, including the Draft Report, and the Master Servicing Plan Report will also be made available for public comment prior to project completion and finalization.

3. Private versus Public Services:

This is included within the alternatives to be evaluated, and public support is one factor in the Evaluation matrix.

2.1.2 Agency, Indigenous Community, and Staff Comments

Acknowledgement, indication that no concerns were identified at this time, and requests for future notifications were received from the SVCA and Grey County. Acknowledgement, generic guidance comments, and requests for future notifications were received from the MNRF and the MECP.

The Municipality of West Grey passed a resolution letter to investigate the potential for service agreements between West Grey and Grey Highlands in regards to servicing a small residential area adjacent to the Village of Markdale.

No comments from the Indigenous Community were received.

Table 1: Count of Comment Type by Community

Comment Summary	Amik - Talisman	Beaver Valley	Eugenia	Flesherton	Kimberley	Markdale	Other Settlement Area	Unspecified	Grand Total
A potential benefit of municipal water would be the ability to have recreational facilities.				1					1
Concerned about costs.	2	2	5	1		14	1		25
Concerned about costs. Concerned about environmental impacts.				1					1
Concerned about costs. Concerned about environmental impacts. Considers municipal services / municipal water undesirable.			4						4
Concerned about costs. Concerned about increasing growth and development.				4	2	1			7
Concerned about costs. Concerned about outreach.			1						1
Concerned about costs. Concerned about outreach. Considers municipal services / municipal water undesirable.		1							1
Concerned about costs. Concerned about outreach. Wants to see servicing in growth areas only.			1						1
Concerned about costs. Concerns about increasing growth and development. Wants to see servicing in growth areas only.					1				1
Concerned about costs. Considers municipal services / municipal water undesirable.		3	2	6		1			12
Concerned about costs. Considers municipal services / municipal water undesirable. Fire flow would be a benefit.				1					1
Concerned about costs. Noted that Eugenia Lake may benefit from municipal wastewater.			1						1
Concerned about costs. Wants to see servicing in growth areas only						1			1
Concerned about costs. Wants to see servicing in growth areas only.								1	1
Concerned about costs. Wants to see servicing in growth areas only. Wants to see more planning and management of growth.					1				1
Concerned about environmental impact of more private waste water.					1				1
Concerned about environmental impacts.			1						1
Concerned about environmental impacts. Considers municipal services / municipal water undesirable.			1						1
Concerned about increasing growth and development.	1			7	5	2	1		16
Concerned about increasing growth and development. Concerned about environmental impacts.						1			1
Concerned about increasing growth and development. Considers municipal services / municipal water undesirable.				1				1	2
Concerned about increasing growth and development. Wants to see more planning and management of growth.				1					1
Concerned about outreach.				1					1
Concerned about outreach. Considers municipal services / municipal water undesirable.				1					1
Considers municipal services / municipal water undesirable.		1	6	2		2	1	1	13
Considers municipal services / municipal water undesirable. Wants to see servicing in growth areas only.			1						1
Context and history of MSP.				1					1
Context and history of MSP. Recommends a more realistic and cost-conscious plan.			1						1
Happy with current services in Flesherton but could see expansion of WWTP beneficial and water treatment in the future.				1					1
No comments.		1	9	5	2	6	2	1	26
Wants to see more planning and management of growth.			1	1		1		1	4
Wants to see servicing in growth areas only.	1		4		5	1	1		12
Grand Total	4	8	38	35	17	30	6	5	143

APPENDIX A1 - AGENCIES CIRCULATION LIST
2401500 - 223286 MASTER SERVICING PLAN UPDATE
MUNICIPALITY OF GREY HIGHLANDS

AGENCY	CONTACT INFORMATION		ADDRESS	INFORMATION SENT										COMMENTS/RESPONSE RECEIVED (DESCRIPTION)	
				DATE SENT or RECEIVED	VIA			DOCUMENT							
					E-mail	Mail	Phone	Notice of Project Commencement	Master Plan (V.1)	Master Plan (V.2)	Notice of Master Plan	Master Plan (FINAL)	Other		
MUNICIPAL AGENCIES															
County of Grey	Contact	Scott Taylor, Director of Planning	County of Grey Owen Sound Office 595 9th Avenue East Owen Sound ON N4K 3E3	14-Feb-24	S			X							
		Director of Planning		13-Mar-24	R								No Concerns, requests notice of any decisions.		
	Telephone	548 877 0856													
	E-mail	Scott.Taylor@grey.ca													
	Contact	Kim Wingrove, Chief Administrative Officer		14-Feb-24	S			X							
		Chief Administrative Officer													
	Telephone	519 370 0704													
	E-mail	Kim.Wingrove@grey.ca													
	Contact	Pat Hoy, Director of Transportation		14-Feb-24	S			X							
		Director of Transportation													
	Telephone	519 370 0704													
	E-mail	Pat.Hoy@grey.ca													
Municipality of Grey Highlands	Contact	Shawn Moyer, Director of Environmental Services	Municipality of Grey Highlands 206 Toronto Street South Markdale, ON N0C 1H0	14-Feb-24	S			X							
		Director of Environmental Services													
	Telephone	519-986-1216 Ext. 234													
	E-mail	moyers@greyhighlands.ca													
	Contact	Jenn Eagan		14-Feb-24	S			X							
		Environmental Compliance Specialist													
	Telephone	519-986-1216 Ext. 239													
	E-mail	eganj@greyhighlands.ca													
Municipality of West Grey	Contact	David Smith	Municipality of West Grey 402813 Grey Road 4 RR2 Durham, ON N0G 1R0	14-Feb-24	S			X							
		Manager, Planning and Development		6-Mar-24	R								Resolution for considering a servicing agreement		
	Telephone	519-369-2200 Ext. 236													
	E-mail	info@westgrey.com													
Township of Chatsworth	Contact	Ron Davidson	Chatsworth Municipal Office 316837 6 HWY Chatsworth, On, N0H 1G0	14-Feb-24	S			X							
		Planner													
	Telephone	519-794-3232 ext 129													
	E-mail	ron.davidson@chatsworth.ca													
Town of The Blue Mountains	Contact	Adam Smith	Town of The Blue Mountains 32 Mill Street Thornbury, ON N0H 2P)	14-Feb-24	S			X							
		Director of Planning & Development Services													
	Telephone	519 - 599 - 3131 ext 246													
	E-mail	directorplanningdevelopment@thebluemountains.ca													
Township of Southgate	Contact		Township of Southgate 185667 Grey County Road 9 Dundalk Ontario, Canada N0C 1B0	14-Feb-24	S			X							
		Manager of Planning and Economic Development													
	Telephone	519-923-2110													
	E-mail	planning@southgate.ca													

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Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA)	Contact	Erik Downing	Saugeen Conservation 1078 Bruce Road 12 P.O. Box 150 Formosa, ON N0G 1W0	14-Feb-24	S			X							
		Manager, Environmental Planning & Reg.		26-Feb-24	R										Thank you, no specific comment
	Telephone	(519) 364-1255 (Ext. 241)													
	Fax	(519) 367-3041													
	E-mail	e.downing@svca.on.ca													
Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA)	Contact	MacLean (Mac) Plewes, Manager of Environmental Plan	Grey Sauble Conservation Authority 237897 Inglis Falls Road, RR 4 Owen Sound, ON N4K 5N6	14-Feb-24	S			X							
		Manager of Environmental Planning													
	Telephone	1 548 877 0500													
	E-mail	planningpermits@greysauble.on.ca													
Source Water Protection	Contact	Carl Seider, Project Manager	Drinking Water Source Protection c/o Grey Sauble Conservation Authority R.R.#4; 237897 Inglis Falls Road Owen Sound, ON N4K 5N6	14-Feb-24	S			X							
	Telephone	(519) 470-3000 (ext.201)													
	Fax	(519) 470-3005													
	E-mail	c.seider@waterprotection.ca													
	E-mail	mail@waterprotection.ca													
Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC)	Contact	NEC Owen Sound	NEC Owen Sound 1450 7th Avenue Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 2Z1	14-Feb-24	S			X							
	Telephone	519-371-1001													
	E-mail	necowensound@ontario.ca													

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PROVINCIAL AGENCIES															
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Owen Sound Area Office	Contact	John Ritchie	MECP	14-Feb-24	S				X						
		Owen Sound District Manager	Owen Sound Area Office												
	Telephone	(519) 377-1058	101 17th Street East, 3rd Floor												
	Fax	(519) 371-2905	Owen Sound, ON N4K 0A5												
	E-mail	john.s.ritchie@ontario.ca													
	Contact	Scott Gass		14-Feb-24	S				X						
		Supervisor (Acting)													
	Telephone	(519) 377-1058													
	Fax	(519) 373-9853													
	E-mail	scott.gass@ontario.ca													
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Southwestern Region	Contact	Mark Badali, Senior Project Evaluator	MECP - Environmental Assessment Branch	14-Feb-24	S				X						Project Information Form included.
		Environmental Assessment Program Support	Project Review												
			8th Flr, 135 St Clair Ave W												
	Telephone	(416) 457-2155	Toronto, ON M4V 1P5												
	Email	mark.badali1@ontario.ca													
	Contact	MECP Southwest Region	MECP - Southwest Region	14-Feb-24	S				X						Project Information Form included.
	Telephone	(519) 873-5000	Technical Support Section	7-Mar-24	R										Acknowledgement and general comments
	Fax	(519) 873-5020	733 Exeter Road												
	Email	eanotification.swregion@ontario.ca	London, ON N6E 1L3												
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch	Contact	Director	MECP	14-Feb-24	S				X						NOC = Notice of Completion Only
	Telephone	(416) 314-7288	Environmental Approvals Branch												
	Fax	(416) 314-8452	135 St.Clair Ave W, 1st Floor												
	E-mail	EAASIBgen@ontario.ca	Toronto, ON M4V 1P5												
		mea.notices.eaab@ontario.ca													
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Land and Water Division Species at Risk Branch	Contact	Susan Ecclestone (Director)	MECP - Land and Water Division	14-Feb-24	S				X						Project Information Form included.
		Species at Risk Branch	Species at Risk Branch												
			Foster Bldg. 14th Floor												
	Telephone	(416) 274-8864	40 St. Clair Ave W												
	Email	SAROntario@ontario.ca	Toronto, ON M4V 1M2												
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	Contact	Ken Mott, District Planner	Ministry on Natural Resources and Forestry	14-Feb-24	S				X						Services Grey, Bruce, Simcoe and Dufferin
	Telephone	(705) 725-7546	Midhurst District	27-Feb-24	R										Thanks. Attached general comments.
	Fax	(705) 725-7584	2284 Nursery Road												
	E-mail	ken.mott@ontario.ca	Midhurst, ON L9X 1N8												
Ministry of Transportation, West Region	Contact		West Region Office	14-Feb-24	S				X						Southwestern Ontario Division
	Telephone	519-873-4203	Highway Corridor Management Section												
	Fax	519-873-4228	659 Exeter Rd												
	E-mail	mtinfo@ontario.ca	London, ON N6E 1L3												

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FEDERAL AGENCIES															
Transport Canada	Contact	Regional Manager	Transport Canada	14-Feb-24	S				X						
		Navigation Protection Program	Navigation Protection Program												
	Telephone	(519) 383-1863	Transport Canada, Marine Office												
	Fax	(519) 383-1989	100 S Front Street, 1st Floor												
	E-mail	EnviroOnt@tc.gc.ca	Sarnia, ON N7T 2M4												
Environment and Climate Change Canada	Contact	Environmental Assessment Coordinator	Environment and Climate Change Canada	14-Feb-24	S				X						
	Telephone	(416) 739-4734	Ontario Region												
	Fax	(416) 739-4776	4905 Dufferin Street												
	E-mail	ec.ecoactionon.ec@canada.ca	Toronto, Ontario M3H 5T4												

APPENDIX A2 - INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES CIRCULATION LIST
2401500 - 223286 MASTER SERVICING PLAN UPDATE
MUNICIPALITY OF GREY HIGHLANDS

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					E-mail	Mail	Phone\Fax	Notice of Project Commencement	Master Plan (V.1)	Master Plan (V.2)	Notice of Master Plan	Master Plan (FINAL)	Other		
INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES - COMMUNICATION MANAGED BY MGH															
Indian & Northern Affairs Canada			Indigenous Services Canada	14-Feb-24	S			X							
	Telephone	1-855-504-6760	Assessment and Investigation Services Branch	5-Mar-24	S			X							
			10 rue Wellington												
	E-mail	aadnc.cnap-nacc.aandc@canada.ca	Gatineau, QC, K1A 0H4												
Métis Nation of Ontario			Suite 1100, 11th Floor	14-Feb-24	S			X							
	Telephone	613-798-1488	66 Slater Street	5-Mar-24	S			X							
	Toll-Free	1-800-263-4889	Ottawa, ON, K1P 5H1												
	E-mail	contactus@metisnation.org													
Historic Saugeen Métis				14-Feb-24	S			X							
	Telephone	519-483-4000	204 High Street	5-Mar-24	S			X							
			Southampton, ON, N0H 2L0												
	E-mail	saugeenmetis@bmts.com													
Great Lakes Métis Council				14-Feb-24	S			X							
	Telephone	519-370-0435	1198 2nd Ave E	5-Mar-24	S			X							
			Owen Sound, ON, N4K 2HP												
	E-mail	GreatLakesMetis@gmail.com													
Chippewas of Rama First Nation				14-Feb-24	S			X							
	Telephone	705-325-3611 ext 1633	5884 Rama Road, Suite 200	5-Mar-24	S			X							
			Rama, ON, L3V 6H6												
	E-mail	consultation@ramafirstnation.ca													
Beausoleil First Nation				14-Feb-24	S			X							
	Telephone	705-247-2051	11 O’Gemaa Miikaan	5-Mar-24	S			X							
			Christian Island, ON, L9M 0A9												
	E-mail	info@chimnissing.ca													
Chippewas of Georgiana Island				14-Feb-24	S		S	X							
	Telephone	705-437-1337	RR #2 Box N-13	5-Mar-24			S	X							
	Fax	705-437-4597	Sutton West, ON, L0E 1R0												
	E-mail	lmooney@georginaisland.com													
Saugeen First Nation			Saugeen Band Office	14-Feb-24	S			X							
	Telephone	519-797-2781	6493 Highway 21	5-Mar-24	S			X							
			Southampton, ON, N0H 2L0												
	E-mail	sfn@saugeen.org													
Saugeen Ojibway Nation				14-Feb-24	S			X							
	Telephone	519-534-5507	10129 Highway 6	5-Mar-24	S			X							
			Georgian Bluffs, ON N0H 2T0												
	E-mail	environmentoffice@saugeenojibwaynation.ca													

Appendix G1 – Notice of Commencement and PIC No. 1 Responses
Master Servicing Plan Update - Municipality of Grey Highlands

No.	Identifying Details	COMMENTS (recorded sic erat scriptum)	GENERAL RESPONSE
6.	Connect Grey Highland – March 6, 2024 C.W	What can we do as a community to stop this?	Shawn Moyer: Thank you for your question. This project is looking to update the last MSP and get feedback from the community on what they want servicing to look like in the future. If you feel your community won't benefit from future servicing or have an idea on what servicing should look like for your area, please submit comments to moyers@greyhighlands.ca or jen.swiger@gmbblueplan.ca . The consultants are taking all the comments and feedback received through the survey and emails into consideration before making changes to the plan and presenting it back to the community and Council.
5.	Connect Grey Highlands – March 13, 2024 S.	Taxes & Greenspaces? How is this going to affect our green spaces and farmland?	Shawn Moyer: Thank you for your question. At this stage of the project, we are looking to update the existing plan after receiving feedback from the community and considering environmental protection. The previous plan looked at transmission mains connecting the communities, but that might not be the same outcome from the update. In the previous plan, Council was very clear that farmland and green spaces were a priority to maintain, and no mandatory connections would be required along the transmission mains.
4.	Connect Grey Highlands – March 16, 2024 G	All ghis talk . But what is the cost. Does anyone have a figure	Shawn Moyer: Thank you for your question. At this stage of the project, we are looking for feedback to know what direction to update the plan. As the project moves forward and new alternatives are considered, cost estimates will be presented for the scenarios, and following another public consultation and Council meeting, the plan will be updated. The preferred solutions will be used for long term financial planning, and no costs will be incurred until stages of the servicing plan move forward.
1.	Connect Grey Highlands – March17, 2024	What is the reason for wanting pipes to connect the four settlement areas?	Shawn Moyer:

Appendix G1 – Notice of Commencement and PIC No. 1 Responses
Master Servicing Plan Update - Municipality of Grey Highlands

No.	Identifying Details	COMMENTS (recorded sic erat scriptum)	GENERAL RESPONSE
	R.D.	Is it the potential for saving money on building separate wells and treatment plants? Or is it to encourage land development between the four settlement areas?	Thank you for your question. This project initiated following feedback throughout the last term of Council that the 2017 plan was not realistic for the community, the update was not initiated by potential development. The last plan did look at both transmission mains connecting the communities or individual systems to look at reducing individual wells and septic systems that pose a contamination risk to the aquifers and natural environment. Following the results of the last plan, the preferred options with the finalized document was the transmission mains. With this update, different scenarios will be considered again, including individual water and wastewater systems to service current built-up settlement areas will be considered.
2.	Connect Grey Highlands – March 17, 2024 F.G	Why am I finding out about this on Facebook the day consultation closes? Municipality never forgets my mailing address when it's taxes.	Shawn Moyer: The Municipality doesn't mail out our newsletters. We do advertise in the newspaper, social media, and our website. Alternatively, you can subscribe to different updates through our website that are emailed out. This was just the first comment period of the project, as things progress there will be more opportunities to get involved.
3.	Connect Grey Highlands – March 17, 2024 F.G	Will I be required to pay more property taxes despite also having a well that works fine?	Shawn Moyer: Thank you for your Question. At this time, we are updating the plan to see what options are available to expand water and wastewater servicing for environmental protection, including timelines for expansions. With water and wastewater servicing being a user pay system, the results of this updated plan will be taken into consideration for long term financial planning There is no anticipated property tax increase proposed at this time.
7.	Email – February 23, 2024 S.E	I have reviewed the materials sent out to us as a landowner of Area 4 on the map showing where Brockton is looking into future servicing requirements for town growth. First let me say I commend council and	

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		employees of Brockton on being proactive in this matter and looking forward to have a plan for future growth. As a landowner involved I am fully supportive of our land being included in this process. I do however have a few questions I'm hoping you can answer. Area 4 stops approximately half way across our property, why not look all the way to side road 5? The property is bordered by Bruce road 2, sideroad 5 and the Silver Creek and the old Rail line. All very natural boundaries for a subdivision. Would it not make sense to encompass the entire property in this study as it would probably require new roads to the west (Sideroad 5) to be built to service the part you have already indicated as Area 4? My other question is if there is anything as a landowner I can be of assistance with in regards to this study. Walkerton has seen wonderful growth in the recent years which is positively impacting the community as a whole and as landowners and residents of Brockton we wish to aid that growth in anyway we can. I can be reached by email or phone at 519-881-8854 should you wish to discuss this further.	
8.	Email – February 28, 2024 M.W	Nice to meet you last night at the Kinplex . I will attempt to put in writing my ideas from last night I think that each area within Grey Highlands should be developed separately , With each area serviced with water and sewer It is very expensive to run water and sewer lines to all small towns within the region This will allow each area to develop their own identity , the residents of each area should have the input as to where the new homes and business will go Flesherton and surrounding area as one growth area and will be our arts and cultural destination Lake Eugenia , Beaver Valley and Kimberley-Amik- Talisman as one growth area Will be the main playground for seasonal sports Markdale as another , this will be the resource center as it will be the largest development in terms of housing and community needs and health care	

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		I think the biggest thing to change will be water and sewer for residents on septic and wells , A lot of these homes systems are aging out and it would be a lot cheaper for them to hook up to new water and sewer lines than to replace their own systems Hope this helps	
9.	Email – March 6, 2024 D.C	I have reviewed all the notes and paid particular attention to the Amik Talisman Kimberley documents. ➤ I have seen many of these studies over the years since the water system was extended from Talisman to Kimberley. It is by far the best laid out program I have seen. Clear, concise, easy to read. Well done and when I get a chance to talk to councillors or the mayor, will absolutely extend this to them. ➤ As referenced above, I have seen many of these – my only wish from it is that there is some consistency in the approach to charges and the chargeback based on water usage. We have seen significant swings in charges over the years of master plans. ➤ On the Amik-Talisman info sheet it references 60 residential units to be built? I am not aware of any plans or proposals. As an adjoining property owner, I have also not been notified of any plans so interested in understanding where these are and what the timing is ? ➤ The % utilization of water and sewage seems reasonable based on what I have read before. Not addressed here is what would happen if Talisman Resort buildings were to open as a spa/ resort/ meeting space – do they have pre-committed water and sewage volumes, are they funding that etc ? Not sure what the utilization would be if Talisman opened and the 60 units were developed ? Finally, a general comment. We all know that are thoughts to add significant development to the upper and lower lands of the Talisman property by the Beaver Valley Dev Group. I want to request that any future planning may keep this in mind, no resources of time or money, or capital projects are undertaken until these plans are clarified.	Shawn Moyer: Thanks again for reviewing the project and sending in your comments, the 60 Units that are mentioned here are the current units that the existing Talisman building’s still have for allocation, on the new side of things we do not have a complete application so we are not able to comment on the numbers for that yet. What ever the BVDG decides to do will be reviewed by staff and peer reviewed following the regular planning process before anything will be approved by council to move forward.

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		I look forward to following this and attending future meetings as they become published.	
10.	Email – March 7, 2024 C.S Email – March 12, 2024 C.S	I managed to find the questionnaire and have filled it out. Please let me know when there will be a community meeting about this. It's very concerning for me in Flesherton. I see the growth in Dundalk and Markdale and would be devastated should that happen to Flesherton and Kimberly. These are little gems in southern Ontario, great for tourism. To destroy these communities by way of the potential for growth would be disheartening to say the least, not to mention the loss of farmland that would result. I look forward to hearing from you on this matter. I have filled out the form and hope that my negative reaction to the thought of water mains is well registered. I feel this would bring the potential for unbridled growth which would be devastating to the small communities of Flesherton Kimberly and Eugenia. these charming small towns. It makes sense to build up the infil in Markdale and I see that Dundalk is under tremendous suburban building. Let's not rip up more farmland while destroying the charm of the small towns.	
12.	Email – March 9, 2024 J.M	This is ridiculous we are already paying way too much for our water services....to expand will only cost the residents of markdale more. Our water bill has doubled in the last few years and it is all service fees. We use about 14\$ worth of water per 2 month cycle and the rest of my 290\$ bill is all service fees....you plan on expanding our water system and who is going to pay for it...markdale residents. Its not fair and is absolutely ridiculous	
11.	Email – March 9, 2024 C.W Email – March 15, 2024 C.S	I am writing to express my concern and opposition to expanding municipal water in Grey Highlands. I understand that what is being considered is construction of a water system that would take water from the existing system in Markdale and pipe it to other smaller communities such as Flesherton, Eugenia and the Beaver Valley. This would open the door to a level of development that would have a negative impact on these	Jen Swiger: Thank you very much for your feedback. Although this first consultation period is ending on March 15th, there is one more major public consultation point planned, which will again be a PIC and 30 day comment period, in late spring or summer. The

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		communities. What's more, it would be disruptive and expensive. If our municipality needs to allow for the kind of intense development that municipal water affords, it makes sense to focus it in one place, in Markdale where municipal water already exists. The strength and future of Flesherton lies in its small town charm. The Beaver Valley with some of the most spectacular natural beauty would be compromised by widespread development. I have been living and running my business, Local Colour, in Flesherton for 35 years. There are ways that we can grow and prosper without destroying what we have. There is still room for infilling within the existing village boundaries that could be serviced by well water as we now have. I have been on well water since 1989 with no problems and I have no interest in paying for or drinking municipal treated water. The document states that the consultation period runs until March 15, 24. I ask that you extend this period as it's a huge undertaking with enormous implications for our community and I don't believe that anyone knows what might be coming. I only heard about this last week. I'm alarmed that not one person that I've mentioned this to had heard anything about it. I suggest that an issue with such profound implications needs to be more publicly discussed and the community must be informed. Let's not spend a fortune of taxpayers money on studies if this plan needs to be radically changed or rejected In the short time since I became aware of this project I talked to as many neighbours and businesses as I could. To aperson, EVERYONE is opposed to this project. And more importantly, almost noone had any idea of it's existence. Aproject with this impact and expense to our community cannot be permitted to proceed without more extensivecommunity engagement. 6 people attending a public meeting and a small window of opportunity to provide feedbackonline to this proposal do not constitute community consultation. Please consider extending the March 15 deadline andkeep the portal open online so that more citizens can provide feedback to your questionnaire. You need to hear fromthe	focus of the second public consultation will be a review of alternatives – including the do-nothing alternative – to determine the recommended alternative. Some more explanation and details can be found in the “What is a Master Servicing Plan” information sheet available on the project website: Master Servicing Plan Update Connect Grey Highlands. If you would like to be directly notified of any future updates on this project, we are maintaining a list of interested residents and I would be happy to add your name and email to the list if you would like.

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		community before you move to the next stage with this project and we need time to let people know what is beingplanned.	
13.	Email – March 11, 2024 J.O	I have grave concerns about this project. I have been living just outside of Eugenia for over 7 years and while I appreciate times change and development and growth is inevitable, it is crucial that the development that we allow and promote is thoughtful. I agree that we need to ensure the infrastructure in the settlement areas are maintained and aligned with the needs of the town, but this should be considered in each of the towns as required over time, not as a whole at a great expense to the taxpayers. I don't agree that individual wells and septic pose a material health issue. These individual systems have been in place for a very long time and I can't see the issues that would necessitate the need for municipal infrastructure at such a huge cost. I don't believe that is the actual intent of this project. It is not a good idea to connect these areas with a pipe. The cost would be huge and then would require suburban like development in order to pay for the investment and ongoing maintenance. My vision of future growth for Beaver Valley and Grey Highland is to create density in the existing communities, namely Markdale, and create walkable neighbourhoods, supporting local businesses using or building on existing infrastructure. I don't want to see the small towns of Grey Highlands turn into a Shelburne or Orangeville with large suburban like development and big box stores surrounded by parking lots.	
14.	Email – March 11, 2024 H.R Email – March 16, 2024 H.R	I do not agree with this plan. I am a resident of Eugenia, and for the 12 years I have lived here, the water and septic system we use is perfect. There is no need to expand the project beyond Markdale and the new development there. I am firmly opposed to this plan. Do not proceed with this wasteful project. Please do not expand the municipal water and waste system beyond Markdale. It's a complete waste of money, upheaval to all communities, roadways, individual home owners, businesses, not to mention the exorbitant cost associated with this project. What we have is working	

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		and has been working for years. You won't taste water like well water from any municipal water source. I am a firm NO to this project.	
15.	Email – March 14, 2024 C.V.W	We're grateful for the services of Grey Highlands as a municipality, though it is the sense of community here in Flesherton for which we are most grateful. It is the small town life that is the charm. Amidst the farmers' fields, at the crossroads of highways, we are one of the few villages and small towns left that charms both the locals and the travelling visitors. Having come across the Master Servicing Plan, though there were only minimal notifications, some of us in town got the word out to our neighbours. To be sure very, very few had heard of it. Certainly this is a project that ought to involve direct communication to each and every community member. Though we all know that infrastructure development is always on the horizon and the responsible work of our municipality, the particular plan in place is by no means of interest to or helpful to those of us living in Flesherton. Our private well water service is fabulous; it has for a long time served us very well, thank you. The natural limestone of the area is the best filter there is! We prefer the taste of our well water and do NOT want municipally serviced water. To a household, every single Fleshertonian that we spoke to said, "No thanks!". We ask that you look at alternatives to the plan of bringing drinking water service to our town. Send the pipeline elsewhere. We do not want the water, costs and increases in taxes, the resulting development sprawl and certainly not the construction and environmental damage. We look forward to full and direct communication from Grey Highlands, delivered to each and every household, with opportunities for dialogue and to have our community voice heard.	
16.	Email – March 15, 2024 B.O	I have just been advised about the plan to install water pipes to the village. The Council didn't communicate this to the tax payers as evidenced by the turnout at the Flesherton meeting. Perhaps they can do	

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		another meeting and invite everyone using the mailing list from the tax department (!!!!). Scope creep is inevitable.	
17.	Email – March 18, 2024 L.C	As a resident of Grey Highlands, I am writing to express my opposition to the Municipality of Grey Highlands Master Servicing Plan of 2017 and I suggest an alternative plan is developed that focuses only on new infrastructure spending in Markdale, our primary settlement area. Other lands should be limited to minor in-fill growth using existing infrastructure or private systems. An alternative plan should acknowledge and build on the Beaver Valley Corridor Visioning Report (attached), initiated by the Municipality of Grey Highlands in 2021. In this report the municipality recognizes the importance of the Beaver Valley as one of Ontario's iconic natural splendours on the Niagara Escarpment, and acknowledges its shared responsibility to leave a legacy of a clean and nourishing natural environment while respecting the community's heritage. The purpose of the Niagara Escarpment Plan is to provide for the maintenance of the Niagara Escarpment and land in its vicinity substantially as a continuous natural environment, and to ensure only such development occurs as is compatible with that natural environment. The extensive infrastructure proposed in the 2017 plan can only lead to inappropriate development on the Niagara Escarpment, loss of biodiversity and natural heritage, a staggering amount of debt for taxpayers and a loss of community character. This is a special place, please consider an alternate plan that does not put unnecessary pressure on the environment, the Beaver Valley, the Niagara Escarpment and our secondary communities. There are better ways to grow and prosper without destroying the very thing that drew us here in the first place.	
20.	Email – March 18, 2024 C.H	I have recently been notified of the master service plan for water and waste water within Markdale. I am a resident that lives within the 2017 phase 1 shaded area. We are on 5 acres, a few kilometers from town center. We previously lived in a bigger city with municipal supplied water and water treatment. However, we felt it was important to raise our young children in an independent, affordable and sustainable lifestyle.	

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		(Much the same as we experienced) With that said, we do not support this plan and do not wish to connect to municipal supplied water or water treatment. Is there any other way I can voice my opinion on this matter ? Who else can I speak to with our concerns?	
18.	Email – March 19, 2024 P.S	I have been out of the country all winter and just received the notification of meetings etc re water/sewage. My principal residence is the Beaver Valley. I believe this is the first I've heard of this plan. I would appreciate more information and the opportunity to participate in the process. Perhaps my long experience as a tropical medicine physician who has counselled hundreds of people who have moved to third world countries and having myself lived in urban, rural and semi rural settings with public water, well water, spring and gravity feed water and lake water supplies and various waste water and disposal systems would be a potential source of positive criticism for the unification scheme. Thank you for your attention.	
19.	Email – March 19, 2024 B.S	Hi I live on westback line near the rail trail. I paid A LOT! Of money to put a well on my property. I was told "they" worse never run water lines out here. I don't need them; thank you for letting me have my say :).	Shawn Moyer: Thank you for your comment regarding the Master Servicing Plan, we will add you comment to the project file. The current plan update is not anticipating the need to run water or sewer lines down the Westback line.

Appendix G2 - Questionnaire No. 1 Responses
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Identifying Info	Comments from Other Benefits, Other Concerns, or Any Other Comments fields	GMBP Summary	In which community do you reside?
Questionnaire ID: 1068 Community: Flesherton, ON	Benefits Comment: development of recreational facilities i.e. parks, splash pads, pools	A potential benefit of municipal water would be the ability to have recreational facilities.	Flesherton, ON
Questionnaire ID: 1083 Community: Beaver supply	Any other Comments: Very, very concerned about the cost to the home owners as we are at the top of the valley and currently have septic and drinking water	Concerned about costs.	Beaver supply
Questionnaire ID: 1081 Community: Bowles Hill	Benefits Comment: None Any other Comments: We are only up occasionally and we absolutely do not want to pay for this. You should have a public vote and allow each community to speak for what they want.	Concerned about costs.	Bowles Hill
Questionnaire ID: 1094 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: Nothing. Extremely satisfied with my current well Concerns Comment: Years of upheaval and cost overruns. Tax payer's on the hook for this bad choice. Keep it in Markdale please. Do not extend to the smaller centre's Any other Comments: Leave it alone. Expand the service in Markdale only!!!	Concerned about costs.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1108 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: Rural properties expect to have to provide their own septic and water and have invested thousands (likely 10's of thousands) of dollars to do so already. Being forced to pay for municipal infrastucture and ongoing service as well is unwelcome.	Concerned about costs.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1012 Community: Flesherton Eugenia area	Benefits Comment: There are few outside the urban areas. Any other Comments: Very few people want to give up their private services in order to pay for chlorinated water. Why are we even considering this project?	Concerned about costs.	Flesherton Eugenia area
Questionnaire ID: 999 Community: Markdale	Any other Comments: Growth of the municipal services should be reflected in costs associated with those that chose to develop their land through development fees. These costs should not be paid forward by the current tax payers who are either private or already serviced as they would see no benefit.	Concerned about costs.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 997 Community: Markdale	Any other Comments: Water bills are out of control. \$150.00 + /month is ridiculous With all the development I would've thought bills would go down	Concerned about costs.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1066 Community: Proton Station	Any other Comments: The municipality is so focused on 'growth' but yet there is nothing to sustain it. People are struggling already with the cost of living and yet we are one of the municipalities with the highest tax increase. Little to no high-paying jobs available, you have to commute to make a decent wage. People who live here aren't looking for growth, more sustainability / affordability for where they chose to make their home.	Concerned about costs.	Proton Station
Questionnaire ID: 1017 Community: Talisman	Any other Comments: We are happy with our level of service. Any changes for growth should be paid for by developers. Which we don't want anyways! Please don't cut down trees for this.	Concerned about costs.	Talisman

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Questionnaire ID: 1004 Community: Village of Eugenia	Benefits Comment: For common public use areas I see advantages; for private self-servicing families, not much. Any other Comments: I'm a professional construction estimator, your estimates of the total costs are already WRONG! These are prepared by engineers based on optimal design, optimal construction timing and an optimal economy....these NEVER exist in combination. You can add 30 to 50% to the cost of those 'estimates'. Also, how do you propose to pay for this infrastructure? How much are you going to 'force' onto your ratepayers? I for one cannot afford another fee/cost/tax on being able to live in our community. Have you not noticed the cost of living? Other than the cost of electricity to run my water pump and relatively low maintenance costs for both sewage and water supply to my home; I AM VERY HAPPY WITH MY WATER SUPPLY! Leave well (pardon the pun) enough alone!	Concerned about costs.	Village of Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 982 Community: Eugenua	Benefits Comment: None, more costs to homeowners Concerns Comment: Local business will not be hired for servicing wells, taking work away from them Any other Comments: Residents should be able to choose, this is not a cost I need to endure. This will deter others from having a property in GH. GH Taxes are extremely higher than that of my former City residence with a lot less amenities and services. unpaved and pot hole roads, less Police Presence, less enforcement of ridding residents of environmental harming contents on their property and this is not an inclusive list.	Concerned about costs.	Eugenua
Questionnaire ID: 1035 Community: Kimberley/Amik/Talisman	Any other Comments: Please be intentionally mindful of the cost/benefit of these services. When and as you do your research remember to keep in mind who these services are for and the impact on the land/environment in the name of development (which includes taxes and economic uptick - again, for who?)	Concerned about costs.	Kimberley/Amik/Talisman
Questionnaire ID: 998 Community: Lake Eugenia	Benefits Comment: None Any other Comments: Please stop trying to make Grey Highlands become Orangeville. We like our communities the way they are. This appears to be another exercise to spend money unnecessarily in order to change Grey Highlands for the people that do not live here. Growth does not equal prosperity. If any water or waste water expansion is to happen, it should be solely paid for with development charges not tax dollars	Concerned about costs.	Lake Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1107 Community: Markdale	Any other Comments: In an area where taxes are already ridiculous, as it is the Municipality already wastes enough tax dollars... so why now this??	Concerned about costs.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1103 Community: Markdale	Any other Comments: We don't want to pay for this upgrade. This is a rural community and we are already taxed enough. Also regarding municipal treated drinking water; the water in Markdale tastes and smells of chemicals and is unfit for drinking.	Concerned about costs.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1102 Community: Markdale	Benefits Comment: These questions are leading and useless. Any other Comments: There is no need to be in a hurry to get bigger. It's very disappointing that the direction to go big will ultimately cost an aging community more in taxes with no return that is favorable. If Markdale wants to be the next Dundalk, no thanks!	Concerned about costs.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1101 Community: Markdale	Benefits Comment: No benefits at all Concerns Comment: Having a monthly bill, government controlled water, treatment in the water that some may not want or agree with, water rationing	Concerned about costs.	Markdale

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Questionnaire ID: 1097 Community: Markdale	Concerns Comment: In a town or city's . These services are the best way. But for rural areas it ridiculous. And cost way to much. Any other Comments: To provide waste and water to rural areas in going to be a really high stupid cost. . It would force me to sell my property. The cost would be way to high. This is city thinking brought up here. Everyone chill out. Don't be stupid. And new development should cover the cost . If that who is drive this ridiculous idea.	Concerned about costs.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1096 Community: Markdale	Concerns Comment: Our service costs are high enough!!! I can only imagine what our cost will be when these developments don't happen. I've heard the council say it won't be passed on to the residents, but that is exactly what happened with our water bills!!! Any other Comments: Have we not learned anything from the failed Talisman developments? What if we invest in all this infrastructure, and the economy collapses again, just like it did with Talisman, and these proposed developments never come to fruition? The residents of Grey Highlands will be left to bear the cost, just like we have for the failed water system installed in Kimberly/Beaver Valley. The residents are outraged at the expense of our water bills. Looking at the current capacity usage, it is clear that a premature system was put in place, and there are no guarantees that these developments will happen. This is outrageous - an urban plan for a rural area.	Concerned about costs.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1080 Community: Markdale	Any other Comments: The town water tastes horrible. Instead of expanding and eliminating water wells, work on lowering the cost of a mediocre product.	Concerned about costs.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1067 Community: MARKDALE	Any other Comments: We can't keep paying these outrageous costs. Anyone moving here don't stay as these costs are unaffordable along with the other expenses it incurs. Right now you combined Markdale with Kimberley and Markdale residents are paying for Kimberley's expensive plant. Why? Just because Talisman is gone and losing that revenue? Not fair and you can you can't even drink this water as it is horrible.	Concerned about costs.	MARKDALE
Questionnaire ID: 1064 Community: Markdale	Any other Comments: Regardless of what sort of benefits this might bring, there will be a high cost to our landscape, small businesses and our overall character as a rural nature based community.	Concerned about costs.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1055 Community: Markdale	Benefits Comment: No benefit to our area Any other Comments: Leave our rural community as is We do not want “city” life Not opposed to small growth but don’t get out of hand Costs would be unreal (not acceptable) and environmental impact needs avoided	Concerned about costs.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1046 Community: markdale	Any other Comments: the fact that everyone pays for this cost but no everyone is receiving and better service than currently if anything service may go down with cost increasing largely.	Concerned about costs.	markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1022 Community: Markdale	Any other Comments: Does the community want these services? Are those on wells and septic in Flesherton / Eugenia happy with their current situations? We are a rural area, not an urban area. Millions of dollars to implement this. Is it worth it to current residents?	Concerned about costs.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1028 Community: Markdale	Any other Comments: The concerns of myself and my community will always be rising costs(taxes) and rapid growth without proper consultation.	Concerned about costs. Concerned about development.	Markdale

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Questionnaire ID: 1013 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: I do not want to see change to Flesherton's community small village character (nor Markdale for that matter although too late for that community) and extending water and wastewater services will likely promote developer's interest in our communities and then a community seems to lose control of what growth they want (i.e. Dundalk). It seems unfathomable that we are more than doubling the housing capacity of Markdale in a short time frame. Restricting the water and wastewater services seems to be (I may be wrong though) our only way of controlling growth. In addition, a household cannot increase its spending 8+% in a year when the revenue is only increasing, say 1 1/2%, yet the municipality feels it is okay to impose that on its residents. Not okay. If Southgate is an example increased growth, and therefore an increased tax base, it has NOT reduced property taxes for its residents. Adding the incredible expense of these proposed infrastructure projects seems a bit ludicrous when as a municipality we cannot in 2024 live within our current sources of revenue.	Concerned about costs. Concerned about development.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 980 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: A project of this magnitude would be expensive and unwanted by all community members I have spoken to. The biggest concern is the urbanization of a rural community, fundamentally changing the character of a unique region.	Concerned about costs. Concerned about development.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 977 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: Flesherton is a small community that is charming and because of this benefits for tourism. Infill in the town makes sense, but water services will lead to unbridled growth. It makes sense for Markdale to have this with the hospital services in that community, but not in Flesherton. I'm strongly opposed to this. Not to mention the high cost that will need to be shouldered by the taxpayer.	Concerned about costs. Concerned about development.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1030 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: Is the intention of building new infrastructure to protect river quality or is it to create new developments? The current residents of the Valley already have infrastructure; new servicing is specifically for new development, and the scale of that new development would most likely parallel the scope of this massive infrastructure project. That scale of new development would have deleterious effects on the environment (disconnecting wildlife corridors, decreased ground absorption areas, deforestation) as well as have effects on tourism as an economic generator (reduction of incredible views, loss of rural character, and reduced wildlife-- an important tourism asset). If MGH is seeking to benefit local communities, the current community needs to be carefully consulted as to what benefits them the most, and not just looking to potential future built housing to justify the infrastructure. As a current tax-payer, I am extremely concerned about the cost of the plan, which provides no increased benefit to me, only massive cost.	Concerned about costs. Concerned about development.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 984 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: Yes. The cost to homeowners for municipal waste water ie sewers will be prohibitive and beyond what many fixed income homeowners will be able to manage. What plans are in place to help people with limited financial means? I am also very concerned about expansion of both water and waste infrastructures in Kimberley where we are already extremely concerned about the impact of the Talisman development and the impact of their plans on our environment, ground water systems, aquifers, flora and fauna. Excessive development will destroy the natural attributes of our Valley that draw the tourism Council is so eager to attract.	Concerned about costs. Concerned about development.	Kimberley

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	Benefits Comment: I have no interest in paying for or consuming municipal drinking water. Any other Comments: As a resident of Grey Highlands, I am writing to express my opposition to the Municipality of Grey Highlands Master Servicing Plan of 2017 and I suggest an alternative plan is developed that focuses only on new infrastructure spending in Markdale, our primary settlement area. Other lands should be limited to minor in-fill growth using existing infrastructure or private systems. An alternative plan should acknowledge and build on the Beaver Valley Corridor Visioning Report , initiated by the Municipality of Grey Highlands in 2021. In this report the municipality recognizes the importance of the Beaver Valley as one of Ontario’s iconic natural splendours on the Niagara Escarpment, and acknowledges its shared responsibility to leave a legacy of a clean and nourishing natural environment while respecting the community’s heritage. The purpose of the Niagara Escarpment Plan is to provide for the maintenance of the Niagara Escarpment and land in its vicinity substantially as a continuous natural environment, and to ensure only such development occurs as is compatible with that natural environment. The extensive infrastructure proposed in the 2017 plan can only lead to inappropriate development on the Niagara Escarpment, loss of biodiversity and natural heritage, a staggering amount of debt for taxpayers and a loss of community character.		
Questionnaire ID: 1116 Community: Flesherton	This is a special place, please consider an alternate plan that does not put unnecessary pressure on the environment, the Beaver Valley, the Niagara Escarpment and our secondary communities. There are better ways to grow and prosper without destroying the very thing that drew us here in the first place.	Concerned about costs. Concerned about environmental impacts.	Flesherton
	Benefits Comment: NONE Concerns Comment: ALL Any other Comments: My name is Emily Hartmann and I am strongly opposed to your plan to force members of this community to switch to a municipal water and sewage system. I am a single, professional woman living in beautiful Eugenia, Ontario. After carefully saving my money while living with my parents and working full-time, I was able to have my passive solar home in Eugenia built in 2020. I have a brand new well and enjoy clean, delicious water. I regularly test my water and have never had a problem with contaminated/unsafe drinking water. Similarly, my septic system is brand new and functioning optimally. Here are some of my concerns with your proposed plan: - Costs of implementing municipal water system will be prohibitive to many community members, leaving those who are already struggling even more vulnerable/marginalized - Many community members have recently had brand new wells and septic systems put in; it is a waste of resources (and not environmentally-sound) to trash them in favour of a municipal water/sewage system - Your plan assumes all community members are in favour of exponential development. Many of us are not. During Covid, we saw problems in Eugenia and surrounding areas resulting from increased tourist presence in our green spaces. While some development is good economically and socially, it is not in anyone’s best interest to stretch our green spaces and natural ecosystems beyond their capacity. We want to keep our green spaces pristine and can do so by limiting development to a sustainable degree. - Many of those with private wells have access to clean, safe, delicious water. Switching over to a municipal system will require the addition of chemicals to the water during the water treatment process. I like my water chemical-free, please! Further, we all remember the tragedy that occurred in Walkerton due to improper municipal water quality control. Those of us with private wells can regularly test our own water through Public Health to ensure it is safe to drink. I want to maintain control of my drinking water! - Environmental impacts. How will this plan impact our natural ecosystems and watersheds? I have not seen convincing evidence from the municipality that the proposed system will not negatively impact the environment.		
Questionnaire ID: 988 Community: Eugenia	I urge you to extend the deadline for community input into the proposed plan. Further, community meetings should be offered to further discuss the proposed plan and gain feedback from community members.	Concerned about costs. Concerned about environmental impacts. Doesn't want municipal services.	Eugenia

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Questionnaire ID: 985 Community: Eugenia	Any other Comments: In Eugenia we all have our own wells and septic tanks which are serving our community really well. There is no advantage for us to switch to municipal water and sewers. There are several disadvantages however, including cost to put in the infrastructure (that we don't need), ongoing cost to maintain and access water and sewers, rapid growth and development to the area, which is already feeling the impact of overwhelming tourism, especially in the summer months. There are many people living in the area who would find this unaffordable, including young single people, elderly seniors and young families. Some may not be able to afford to stay in the area. Is that fair? I also have environmental concerns. The Beaver Valley has karst landscapes which are important for storing water. (Karst and Water https://www.nps.gov/subjects/caves/karst-landscapes.htm#:~:text=Karst%20is%20a%20type%20of,limestone%2C%20marble%2C%20and%20gypsum. Karst is ideal for storing water as an aquifer and provides vast amounts of clean drinking water to people, plants, and animals. Because of the porous (Swiss cheese-like) nature of karst, water flows quickly through it and receives little filtration. Therefore, contaminants that enter a karst aquifer are rapidly transported creating water quality problems. About 20% of the United States is underlain by karst landscapes and 40% of groundwater used for drinking comes from karst aquifers. It is imperative for our health and safety to protect karst landscapes. We love our clean fresh, chemical free water in Eugenia and we want to protect it.	Concerned about costs. Concerned about environmental impacts. Doesn't want municipal services.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 983 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: None Concerns Comment: Unnecessary use of tax dollars in a small community. I paid a lot of money for my well, my water treatment and prefer to choose how I take care of my water supply. Any other Comments: This is a wasteful, costly project for a super small municipality. Stop trying to push urban sprawl!!!! Leave our community alone	Concerned about costs. Concerned about environmental impacts. Doesn't want municipal services.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1074 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: there are no benefits to this expense Any other Comments: This major impact to the village was poorly communicated by council. You have a mailing list for my taxes. Perhaps an invitation to another PIC by mail and you will get a better turnout.	Concerned about costs. Concerned about outreach.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1099 Community: Eugenia	Concerns Comment: Providing unnecessary services is a waste of resources, and this idea will cost an absolute fortune compared to the population Any other Comments: I am disappointed to only have heard of this yesterday (from a neighbour). If it's true that only 6 people came to the Public Open House, then your methods of reaching residents of the Municipality of Grey Highlands is seriously flawed. In general I disagree with there being a need to service Eugenia or Kimberley in any capacity.	Concerned about costs. Concerned about outreach. Doesn't want services in Eugenia or Kimberley.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 970 Community: Lake Eugenia	Benefits Comment: No benefit at all Any other Comments: We have a functioning well and good septic service through Wilton so it would be a not needed gesture to even consider bringing town water to shoreline residents of Lake Eugenia. This would be a waste of time and municipal dollars.	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal services.	Lake Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1075 Community: Markdale	Benefits Comment: None Any other Comments: Pleased and happy with private well and septic Don't waste money and change out rural environment and setting	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal services.	Markdale

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Questionnaire ID: 1023 Community: Eugenia	Concerns Comment: We do not want to have Municipal water/ wastewater servicing. We are very content with our well water/ septic system. We test our water" health" on a regular basis and have no concerns. Why fix something (that will cost taxpayers a lot of money on property tax increases and additional " set-up" connections when it is not necessary? Any other Comments: I would suggest that other concerns in Eugenia need to be addressed (which I have been repeatedly told on a yearly basis is not on the budget) road conditions/ increased traffic and speed/ safe practices of property management, etc. It appears that the municipality is catering to the 'future' possible residents rather than the longterm permanent locals.	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal services.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1082 Community: Beaver Valley	Benefits Comment: THERE IS NO BENEFIT Any other Comments: If we wanted town water, we would move to town. This is the countryside, we are not paying for your town water and sewer. You have enough development in Markdale to pay for this without pawning costs off onto rural owners.	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal water.	Beaver Valley
Questionnaire ID: 1079 Community: Beaver valley	Benefits Comment: NA Concerns Comment: Water quality Any other Comments: This is too expensive, and we'll then have to start purchasing water filters to remove the chlorine. We don't want town water, we have a perfectly good well.	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal water.	Beaver valley
Questionnaire ID: 1078 Community: Beaver Valley	Benefits Comment: There are no benefits Concerns Comment: We don't need it. Any other Comments: We have already incurred the costs of installing and maintaining a well and septic system. We do not want or need municipal services. We will not accept the cost and we do not want town water.	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal water.	Beaver Valley
Questionnaire ID: 1104 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: We choose to live rurally because we love to live rurally. This includes having access to our well water, which we can test if we feel the need for it, that is clean and fresh and untreated in any way. As tax payers, we definitely do not want to incur the cost of this ridiculous undertaking. Who exactly are you trying to please with this expensive and unnecessary endeavor? We all know it's not the people who elected you. This is very much a ploy to bring more residents into the area, who require this type of 'amenity'. We already lack the infrastructure for vast majorities of people heading here. I can not understand this rush to rapidly expand the population in an area where land is so valuable. This is a great place to live because we have beautiful fresh water, lots of wild life and nature, lots of land to grow food and raise livestock on. Please, reconsider this idea that seems to voters and locals as a push to disrupt the way of life we all choose to live here for and invites in such a brutal and squandering way of life that paves and builds over everything until nothing is left but buildings and people.	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal water.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1095 Community: Flesherton	Benefits Comment: Other Any other Comments: Why should we pay to get water when we already have a well? People are barely surviving and this would be very costly for people who can barely make ends meet.	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal water.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1093 Community: Flesherton	Concerns Comment: Keeping our well water Any other Comments: I am 100% against town water. First of all it's disgusting, second of all you pay out the butt and in today's accompany there is enough we are paying for. Families are barely getting by with everything else being raised let alone paying for water that is ESSENTIAL.	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal water.	Flesherton

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Questionnaire ID: 1092 Community: Flesherton	Benefits Comment: We don't want municipal water since our well works fine. Any other Comments: There are too much costs associated with transitioning and we already paid to have our well and don't want to pay any upfront or monthly/years fees for water.	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal water.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1070 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: Stay out of Flesherton. Fleshertonians love their well water. OK to extend waste water to Fleshertonians still on septic. Previous Council's mismanagement of Talisman makes me suspicious of MGH both staff and elected members' judgement, though I like the new Chief Planner. Why spend money on unnecessary when our 4 arenas are sucking up money? You don't provide infrastructure for the development that exists, how're you going to manage more? We don't want a Dundalk Flato development in Flesherton. We need the Recreation Master Plan implemented. We need affordable housing in Markdale. Fix something that ain't broke. Jeeeee what a dopey idea.	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal water.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1045 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: I am retired the main reason I oppose the proposed city water plan is the cost to the customer. I could not afford the additional I am on a well and provide water to 3 additional properties I have my water checked often and never have a problem I would never agree to city water	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal water.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 976 Community: Flesherton	Concerns Comment: Water quality. The quality and purity of the water in my well is exceptional. One of the main reasons I continue to live here is because I have private access to pure, healthy water. I will fight like hell to maintain this right. I haven't any interest in paying the municipality for treated water. Any other Comments: Yes. Leave Flesherton alone. Don't fix what isn't broken. We could definitely benefit from fire hydrants, but our drinking water is fine. Flesherton doesn't need to grow or be over managed. You will have a fight on your hands if this moves forward, guaranteed.	Concerned about costs. Doesn't want municipal water. Fire flow would be a benefit.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1038 Community: Eugenia	Any other Comments: The cost of being on municipal water could be extremely high every month. I am not a fan of municipal water especially after the Ford Government has come to power with budget cuts and relaxing environmental rules. I am hearing of Markdale residents complaining about how high the costs are. That is very concerning. I think the cottages around the lake would benefit most from having a municipal sewer system. Possibly this would help with some of the lake quality concerns.	Concerned about costs. Noted that Eugenia Lake may benefit most from municipal wastewater.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1072 Community: Grey Highlands	Any other Comments: From my perspective as a taxpayer in Grey Highlands, I question the need for interconnected water and wastewater systems between the various urban communities in Grey Highlands. From an engineering and finance perspective, I think individual systems for each community, built as the need requires, would give the taxpayer more value for the cost, and be more resilient in emergency situations. (Thinking of Johnny B's fire in Meaford and how it compromised the water system for the entire town for a few days). I am opposed to including an interconnected pipeline system in the Master Servicing Plan. Let's pivot away from the mega project, and plan for incremental upgrades that we can actually afford.	Concerned about costs. Opposed to connected pipes system. Supports community systems.	Grey Highlands
Questionnaire ID: 1024 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: Updating water and wastewater infrastructure is very important, but the proposal to connect Kimberley, Eugenia, Flesherton and Markdale with huge sewer and water pipes is a terrible idea. Not only will it be tremendously costly, it'll also promote sprawl and development where it isn't appropriate in relation to the environment or municipal finances. These towns all have issues that need to be solved, but these should be dealt with separately. This will, admittedly, be more complicated, but ultimately a whole lot less costly to the taxpayer, and much more environmentally sound. Connecting all of these towns' water systems ignores the geographic reality. It's akin to solving a traffic problem by building a massive highway: it'll cost way too much and only encourage more degradation of the local ecology.	Concerned about costs. Opposed to connected pipes system. Supports community systems.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 1007 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: From my understanding there is movement to connect the services throughout the area rather than keeping them focussed on particular communities. Providing water services along the main roads does not make any sense for three reasons: 1. excessive costs that would need to be carried by all taxpayer 2. opening up the major transportation routes to a significant increase in development 3. we would lose farmland, visual beauty and focused development in existing settlement leading to urban sprawl - this flies in the face of current planning approaches	Concerned about costs. Opposed to connected pipes system. Supports community systems.	Kimberley

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Questionnaire ID: 993 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: I agree that it is desirable to upgrade the individual infrastructures in each settlement area. This can be done in each of Markdale, Flesherton and Kimberley as required over time-- at a fraction of the cost of this proposed mega project. I think it is a TERRIBLE idea to connect these areas with a big pipe. It would be a huge cost and tax burden to construct and then would encourage suburban sprawl along its length to justify the massive investment. It is like building an irrigation line to grow suburbs. If we want to manage future growth in a sustainable way we should be encouraging the intensification of existing communities to create walkable neighbourhoods, support local businesses and use existing infrastructure wisely and efficiently. Construction of a "big pipe" network will work against those goals and lead to unchecked sprawl along its path.	Concerned about costs. Opposed to connected pipes system. Supports community systems.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 1057 Community: Markdale	Any other Comments: The homes/businesses without access to municipal water and waste already have solutions in place (which I understand from friends are lower cost than service areas). New village developments should absorb the cost of any increase capacity required and rural development should find their own solutions.	Concerned about costs. Opposed to connected pipes system. Supports community systems.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1090 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: Please do not let Flesherton become the next Markdale . Enough is enough.	Concerned about development.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1015 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: It feels like our natural spaces are being swallowed up and laying the groundwork for this massive growth is unwanted due to all of the concerns above.	Concerned about development.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1008 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: The addition of municipality provided drinking water will open the village to large scale development which in turn will lead to a loss of surrounding farmland, natural habitat, small scale businesses, and the small town character of our village.	Concerned about development.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 986 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: The proposal to make drinking water and waste water treatment throughout the Municipality will benefit Developers only and put the cost on the residents. One of the best things about this municipality is the large expanses of wild areas. With hiking trails mountain biking and lots of nature. Over development will make this just another rural town like any other in Ontario.	Concerned about development.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 981 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: Flesherton is a small , quiet community which we enjoy living in. I believe a change to municipal water will bring unchecked growth, and with it a negative effect on the environment. Flesherton and Kimberly do not need town water, and bringing this to the area offers a potential for large growth to the Talisman area. Loss of farmland is a big issue in our province, so we need to protect that. As well, the area is well known for hiking and outdoor recreation. This is also an asset that needs protection and promotion as well. There are jobs in this sector: farming and recreation, plus all the supporting businesses around that.	Concerned about development.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 975 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: The village of Flesherton has unique character and a real small town feel. Our well water is part of that charm, and we don't need opportunistic growth when it is already happening all around us.	Concerned about development.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 971 Community: Flesherton	Benefits Comment: I see NO BENEFIT to this plan. Concerns Comment: Urban engineers driving rural growth - this will destroy our community! Any other Comments: This plan has been a pie-in-the-sky make-work project for engineers and future planning without care or consideration of proper visioning of what Grey Highlands may be in the future. This constant pressure to grow, build, provide infrastructure only reflects the constant chasing after tax revenues at the expensive cost to our quality of life, natural environment and community values. You are promoting benefits without looking at the benefits we have now. Stop trying to turn us into one big city and keep our rural values and attitudes in mind.	Concerned about development.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1117 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: I am very concerned that this exercise is being driven by developers and not by the community. I am opposed to the proposed Talisman development as it now stands and do not want to see GH municipal resources utilized to support the servicing of that development if that is what this exercise is about.	Concerned about development.	Kimberley

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Questionnaire ID: 1062 Community: Kimberley	Benefits Comment: No benefit...benefits the Municipality only in terms of preparing for furthur development Any other Comments: All of the above are concerns. This plan will change the whole dynamic of The Beaver Valley especially the community of Kimberley. And of course we know the costs will be very high for individuals living here. We paid for a septic 10 years ago which is serving us well and we paid for water connection of \$5000.00 which is also serving us well. Taxes are high as it is without putting this on top of it. It seems to me, that it is a plan to make Future Development easier for the Municipality without enough feedback or regards from and for the community and people who live in the area. Once the Infrastructure is there, then future development will be out of our hands. We are not in favor of this plan whatsoever.	Concerned about development.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 1048 Community: Kimberley	Benefits Comment: There is no value Any other Comments: There is absolutely no rationale for planning for any of this at all. This is a rural area and not an area that should be developed. It would at best be a bedroom community should any development take place and taking up once again the rural natural spaces for urban sprawl. Sprawl is the most inefficient way to tackle climate change and trampling on natural green spaces and resources.	Concerned about development.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 1043 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: I would ask we have more deatil of the proposed 60 units of development within the Talisman resort. Where are they considering this development within the resort?	Concerned about development.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 1036 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: If the plan is only considering 60 residences in Talisman, how does the “proposed “ 500 homes factor into this?	Concerned about development.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 1040 Community: Markdale	Any other Comments: My Wife and I chose this area to raise a family because it has no industry. We really thought grey highlands would continue to pride themselves on small local shops where everybody knows each other and hiking trails, skiing , river fishing and farming.	Concerned about development.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1060 Community: Priceville	Any other Comments: I am concerned of our community becoming like shelburne and losing our character. Expanding water services to other communities, I feel will encourage the rapid growth that Markdale is experiencing. I have lived off well water in Flesherton and Priceville with no issues as well as using septic tanks.	Concerned about development.	Priceville
Questionnaire ID: 1052 Community: Wodehouse	Benefits Comment: No benefit Any other Comments: This is not based on a planning need. That this is being dusted off for discussion with no real planning rationale is very problematic. If we are concerned about protecting the rural character of this area and encouraging resilient communities - actively planning for and encouraging sprawl is not the way to go. This is going to be a very expensive undertaking that is only designed for an increase in development and not for the benefit of residents at all. A resounding NO to this ill-conceived plan.	Concerned about development.	Wodehouse

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Questionnaire ID: 1002 Community: Markdale	Benefits Comment: I am not commenting on who much I like services, but the urban planning. Concerns Comment: If sprawl happens (basically connecting all the small towns which are surrounded by important nature) people and wildlife will have a very 'unnatural' experience among the mecca of bruce trail hiking that is currently offered here. I picture suburban sprawl overlooking these natural areas if we don't plan properly. People come to this area from far and wide to experience nature of a big 'protected' corridor, and visit natural environment destinations. There is a move to want the environment to considered, more sensitively than the municipality is currently...by limiting the suburban sprawl hopefully to closer to Markdale. So that we keep what makes the other areas special- natural features intact with little hamlets not developed much. If Markdale and close surrounding areas already built up can be developed, instead of sprawling out to these more natural areas where people look to important natural amenities, we will maintain both the environmental tourism health, the flavour of the area, and the healthy intact environment. Any other Comments: Now is no longer time to be sprawling right next to 1000 acres of protected crown land, niagara escarpment, corridors of protection side by side. Please take seriously 9/10 protected status land planning regulations, such as NEC is currently and keep the flavour of this surrounding all natural features in this area, not have them overlooked by suburbia, but farmland. We need to keep thinking of putting nature next to nature, and keeping wildlife corridors. Nature is not coming back, it is a truly dire situation which everyone should be extremely aware of. Stop looking away, don't reinvent the wheel, look at other positive initiatives in land use planning along the escarpment, ex. Orangeville to Hockley Valley and Mono...and provide effective environmental solutions to urban sprawl.	Concerned about development. Concerned about environmental impacts.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1051 Community: CLARKSBURG	Any other Comments: In my estimation, this project is not beneficial to the constituents, only developers. Why can we not slowly grow our communities responsibly and use the huge budget needed for the pipeline to keep our quaint country towns quaint? I am very happy with my present well and the quality of water it gives me and treated water tastes horrible.	Concerned about development. Doesn't want municipal water.	CLARKSBURG
Questionnaire ID: 996 Community: Flesherton	Benefits Comment: There are no benefits to municipal water service; we like the well water. Any other Comments: We in Flesherton are proud to be a close and small community of families and individuals who value small town life. Not every community needs development, new infrastructure and incoming suburbs. Bypass Flesherton and the small villages in the valley. Focus the development where it's already happening in Markdale and Dundalk.	Concerned about development. Doesn't want municipal water.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1014 Community: Flesherton	Benefits Comment: Not sure there are any. Any other Comments: I want to caution against this project. If we want to develop the area we need to do so in a new way, not the conventional - cookie cutter subdivisions and similar box stores. I urge everyone involved at the municipality and beyond to have a rethink on their entire approach to growth. Please investigate and put some funding into researching "transition towns", "strong towns", walkable and bikeable communities (yes people bike in winter if they have the infrastructure!) , multifamily housing, community gardens, sustainable housing, passive houses, etc. We could be at the forefront leading instead of following in well worn out paths that don't serve us in this day and age.	Concerned about development. Recommends a comprehensive planning process.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1029 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: growth - more private waste water into the Beaver River	Concerned about environmental impact of more private waste water.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 979 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: Where does nec stand on this?	Concerned about environmental impacts.	Eugenia

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Questionnaire ID: 1027 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: I don't see any benefits Any other Comments: All my visitors cannot get over how clean and good the water tastes from my well. I usually take a couple of water jugs when visiting because I cannot tolerate the chlorine like smell and taste of treated water. Even my clothes smell of chlorine when I wash with treated water. I chose to move here from the city so that I could enjoy a rural environment and lifestyle close to nature and live as natural as possible. That includes using a well and septic system. Water and wastewater servicing will take away much of why I love living here. I no longer get daily headaches or need calcium supplements since moving here. I believe that is partially due to the clean well water as I have sensitivities to many synthetics and additives. If possible I would reject service hook ups to my property and continue to use the well and septic system. I am also concerned about the impact on plant and wildlife during construction.	Concerned about environmental impacts. Doesn't want municipal services.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1063 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: We moved here two years ago BECAUSE we were hemmed in by a ridiculous number of badly planned subdivisions in Cambridge-no infrastructure to support the growth,gridlock,badly maintained water and sewer system,no thanks!	Concerned about infrastructure planning.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1050 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: This is VERY concerning! Apparently, there was a meeting at the end of February. How many people even know about this? It directly affects me and I have heard NOTHING about it! We need a meeting about this “plan” and invite all that it impacts to be there.	Concerned about outreach.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1106 Community: Hutchison Corner	Benefits Comment: I do absolutely do not want any municipal infrastructure. I do not want to pay when I have a good well and septic. Concerns Comment: I have been on my property for 22 years on my property and don't need municipal infrastructure. Any other Comments: I just found out about this on Facebook. There needs to be a way to contact residents about projects. Ive submitted my email a few times to receive notices and don't get any. I don't want municipal water and wastewater services, I do not want to pay for them, it is ridiculous when our private home systems have never failed us in over 2 decades.	Concerned about costs. Concerned about outreach. Doesn't want municipal services.	Hutchison Corner
Questionnaire ID: 1032 Community: Flesherton	Benefits Comment: It's not broken, why break it? Concerns Comment: I don't want chlorine or chemicals added to my drinking water. Any other Comments: 1- I really don't understand how this is happening and no one knows about it! There was a meeting in February and why did we know nothing about it! 2- sadly, this stinks of something our corrupt premier would do, 1st red flag! Flesherton has a great water supply I haven't heard of anyone running out and I prefer well water.	Concerned about outreach. Doesn't want municipal water.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1020 Community: Grey Highlands	Any other Comments: You have failed to identify what future growth you are anticipating and in what specific sectors. Is it housing, industrial, commercial etc. Please put this project on hold until the future targets are identified.	Concerned that future growth is not identified.	Grey Highlands

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Questionnaire ID: 1069 Community: Eugenia Lake	Benefits Comment: There are no direct advantages. The purity of my well water is excellent . Fire protection for rural areas is now upgraded. Concerns Comment: The rural population is now paying taxes for replacement and upgrades in Markdale. We can accept this in moderation but we also face the cost of bridge replacements and road upgrades .. Any other Comments: Having been a member of Council 2006-18 I can attest that the main reason for the MSP was to get a plan in place in order to be able to receive Provincial grant funding . The MOECC was pushing the Beaver Valley Ski Club to get off septic and move to a municipal waste water system. The Mayor and CAO at the time pushed for a MSP in order to show the feasibility of a plan that would solve the BVSC issue and also prepare for a 50 year vision to provide water and waste water services to a broad area of the Beaver Valley. The BVSC was able to remain with septic by upgrading its septic system. The pressure was off to formalize a MSP for the Beaver Valley area. The 2017 updated MSP refocused the plan to set the Talisman, Amik , Kimberley aside. The WSP plan suggested a new water tower in Markdale with a 3,450 cubic meter sizing but this was reduced to 2,900 cubic meter sizing when the valley expansion was eliminated. The revised focus was Markdale and then Flesherton. A cost benefit analysis was never done for the revised plan. Expansion of services into West Grey was never discussed with the Council of West Grey and it has just became another possibility. The current focus on expanding services in the Markdale area makes sense. Building out this area will probably take at least 20 years. It is being done methodically and this approach makes sense. Looking at creating a water system for Flesherton can wait. There may be water sources available other than taking water from the Markdale water tower. There still is time to explore options. Since the sewage plant in Flesherton is only utilized at 40% it might make sense to explore over the next 10 years waste water expansion to the balance this system. My conclusion is that we are moving carefully but steadily forward and that is OK. Keeping the cost of water and wastewater rates realistic is important. Today the rates are at the high end and some of the theory to arrive at these rates is questionable. I believe that the theory of a MSP was an interesting exercise but that now has to put on hold as we work to manage the expansion of Markdale. Let's not get distracted by having to spend money to keep an outdated MSP alive. Move forward strategically and don't force high tax rates on to the taxpayer to keep an outdated plan alive. A realistic and well thought out approach is needed.	Context and history of MSP. Recommends a more realistic and cost-conscious plan.	Eugenia Lake
Questionnaire ID: 974 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: I was on council when we voted and installed sewers in town . At that time it was hoped to add streets on to the system Year after Year until the whole town was on them . This obviously never happened . Flesherton sits on an amazing aquafur which was saved by the installation of sewers in the hotspot service areas . If anything needs to be done to Flesherton it's expand the service area of our sewage plant and this will keep our beautiful clean well water just that . Just my opinion	Context and history of MSP. Recommends a more realistic and cost-conscious plan.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1019 Community: Butternut court	Concerns Comment: Mandatory hook up and the expense to have water and sewage when I don't want or need either Any other Comments: Don't want it or need it!	Doesn't want municipal services.	Butternut court
Questionnaire ID: 1076 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: I don't want municipal servicing Concerns Comment: Municipally treated water. Infrastructure.	Doesn't want municipal services.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1061 Community: Eugenia	Any other Comments: We have paid for a well and septic and are happy with the quality of our water. We are not in support of large scale sewer systems and water treatment.	Doesn't want municipal services.	Eugenia

Appendix G2 - Questionnaire No. 1 Responses
Master Servicing Plan Update - Municipality of Grey Highlands

Questionnaire ID: 1009 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: none Any other Comments: This is a costly service that is not needed in our community. We currently have a great well and properly maintained septic system.	Doesn't want municipal services.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1000 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: None Concerns Comment: I love my clean well water and don't want to be forced into yucky town water. Also just spend like 50,000 building a new house with septic...why would I get rid of that? Any other Comments: No need for this in a small community.	Doesn't want municipal services.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 991 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: I don't see the benefit in our area. IM not for this project. Any other Comments: I do not see the benefit of this proposed project. The cost, environmental impact of this development, the increase in opportunity for development in the area, which only increases more environmental impact over time and cost to tax payers. This is a Quite rural area, with quaint, family oriented towns, and that is what has drawn many people to the area. I feel the potential benefits of this project could be addressed in a more cost effective manner. Having municipal staff out to inspect septic systems over a certain age, having mandatory water testing conducted on well water. Could identify where the problems are and having people who have defective septic systems fix or replace those systems seems like a much better route to solve any problems that could arise.	Doesn't want municipal services.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1087 Community: Proton Station	Benefits Comment: None. Concerns Comment: Our well water is higher quality than city water. We do not want it. Any other Comments: Stop infringing on rural living, from people who moved to rural areas for a reason. No one is asking for this.	Doesn't want municipal services.	Proton Station
Questionnaire ID: 1088 Community: Grey Highlands	Benefits Comment: We don't need servicing. Concerns Comment: This is unnecessary. Any other Comments: Can we please focus on real issues, and not create new ones?	Doesn't want municipal services.	Grey Highlands
Questionnaire ID: 1089 Community: Eugenia	Any other Comments: We are happy with well water and our private treatment system. We do not wish to be part of any municipal water servicing.	Doesn't want municipal water.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1086 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: I do not want this servide Any other Comments: This is a ridiculous project to undertake. Well water is safe and delicious.	Doesn't want municipal water.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1056 Community: Flesherton	Benefits Comment: No benefit	Doesn't want municipal water.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1037 Community: flesherton	Benefits Comment: none at this time	Doesn't want municipal water.	flesherton

Appendix G2 - Questionnaire No. 1 Responses
Master Servicing Plan Update - Municipality of Grey Highlands

Questionnaire ID: 1100 Community: Markdale	Benefits Comment: I wish to always keep our well in rural markdale Concerns Comment: Health, our well water is amazing quality. Any other Comments: Hopefully wth municipal water expansion there always remains the option to keep your well and not have to pay and use muncipaly treated water	Doesn't want municipal water.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1091 Community: Markdale	Any other Comments: We have wonderful well water. We control it and have for decades. Don't change that for anything.	Doesn't want municipal water.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1003 Community: Eugenia	Any other Comments: I love my well water and wouldn't want to trade it for anything! I'm also very concerned about poorly planned urban sprawl instead of building up already developed areas.	Doesn't want municipal water. Wants to see development in growth areas only.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1113 Community: Flesherton	Any other Comments: Many of us in Flesherton are happy with the current split of municipal wastewater and private drinking wells. However, I can see the possible need for municipal supply of drinking/ hydrant water in the long-term. I also wonder why some of Flesherton's largest buildings are not connected to our WTP (arena, Kinplex, GHSS) when there is clearly the capacity there.	Happy with current services in Flesherton but could see expansion of WWTP beneficial and water treatment in the future.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1026 Community: Beaver Valley		No comments.	Beaver Valley
Questionnaire ID: 1077 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: none Concerns Comment: All of the above pretty much covers it!	No comments.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1059 Community: Eugenia		No comments.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1058 Community: Eugenia		No comments.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1034 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: Absolutely none	No comments.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1016 Community: Eugenia		No comments.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1006 Community: Eugenia		No comments.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 990 Community: Eugenia		No comments.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 972 Community: Eugenia		No comments.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 994 Community: Eugenia area		No comments.	Eugenia area
Questionnaire ID: 1110 Community: Flesherton	Benefits Comment: n/a	No comments.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1073 Community: Flesherton		No comments.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1021 Community: Flesherton		No comments.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 987 Community: Flesherton		No comments.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 978 Community: Flesherton		No comments.	Flesherton
Questionnaire ID: 1085 Community: Greybruse		No comments.	Greybruse

Appendix G2 - Questionnaire No. 1 Responses
Master Servicing Plan Update - Municipality of Grey Highlands

Questionnaire ID: 1041 Community: Kimberley		No comments.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 1031 Community: Kimberley		No comments.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 1109 Community: Markdale		No comments.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1071 Community: Markdale		No comments.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1065 Community: Markdale		No comments.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1049 Community: Markdale		No comments.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1042 Community: Markdale		No comments.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1001 Community: Markdale		No comments.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1115 Community: Maxwell		No comments.	Maxwell
Questionnaire ID: 992 Community: Priceville		No comments.	Priceville
Questionnaire ID: 1084 Community: Markdale	Benefits Comment: Nothing Any other Comments: I do not support the idea of pipelines sending water to other local towns. Please abandon this idea.	Opposed to connected pipes system.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 1018 Community: Markdale	Concerns Comment: All of the above this is BS Any other Comments: Water for each municipality makes way more sense than giant tubes all along Highway 10 etc. You will ruin the area no one will want to come and visit seriously we need to do contain development or we're going to wreck the place. Do you want this place to look like Mississauga or Brampton or Shelburne? Nobody wants that nobody.	Opposed to connected pipes system. Supports community systems.	Markdale
Questionnaire ID: 968 Community: Markdale	Any other Comments: Hello Jenn and Shawn First in any master plan in our many rural small communities of Grey Highlands .You must decide what these smaller communities will look like .(resident involvement). We have rural growth within rural growth ,Instead of bringing water to each area from another area. Put in a water system and sewage system in each community . If there is already existing equipment assess the age and replace if needed , The septic systems in Lake Eugenia and Flesherton are ageing out . Makes sense to sell this to the residents . New water and sewer pipes to the lot line at a certain cost or have to put in a new septic system. I think first is draw up a plan for each community involved . What should each area have , Each one should have something , the other does not Decide growth areas within each community for new housing development For Flesherton and Lake Eugenia bring in smaller homes or tiny homes You must maintain the quaintness of each area.Markdale will be the hub for all other parts of Grey Highlands You must decide what the area will look like and how it will flow to bring in more people to the area	Opposed to connected pipes system. Supports community systems.	Markdale

Appendix G2 - Questionnaire No. 1 Responses
Master Servicing Plan Update - Municipality of Grey Highlands

Questionnaire ID: 1005 Community: near Eugenia	Any other Comments: I have grave concerns about this project. I have been living just outside of Eugenia for over 7 years and while I appreciate times change and development and growth is inevitable, it is crucial that the development that we allow and promote is thoughtful. I agree that we need to ensure the infrastructure in the settlement areas are maintained and aligned with the needs of the town, but this should be considered in each of the towns as required over time, not as a whole at a great expense to the tax payers. I don't agree that individual wells and septic systems pose a material health issue. These individual systems have been in place for a very long time and I can't see the issues that would necessitate the need for municipal infrastructure at such a huge cost. I don't believe that is the actual intent of this project. It is not a good idea to connect these areas with a pipe. The cost would be huge and then would require suburban like development in order to pay for the investment and ongoing maintenance. My vision of future growth for Beaver Valley and Grey Highland is to create density in the existing communities and create walkable neighbourhoods, supporting local businesses using or building on existing infrastructure. I don't want to see the small towns Grey Highlands turn into a Shelburne or Orangeville. Kind regards, Johanna O'Reilly 466410 12th Concession B	Opposed to connected pipes system. Supports community systems.	near Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 995 Community: Priceville	Concerns Comment: I'm not opposed Any other Comments: The idea of piping water from Markdale to Flesherton, Eugenia and beyond is shortsighted. Each community needs its own wells and treatment.	Opposed to connected pipes system. Supports community systems.	Priceville
Questionnaire ID: 1044 Community: Eugenia	Any other Comments: Having witnessed years of poorly planned municipal construction projects in the GTA, I would strongly recommend that a full strategy and thoughtful scheduling and planning process be undertaken in collaboration with all stakeholders, so that if a large scale infrastructure expansion is approved; the impact to local business and residents is minimized while the work is completed.	Recommends a comprehensive planning process.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1010 Community: Amik	Any other Comments: Investments in water and sewage infrastructure should support growth. The County Official Plan identifies defines Markdale as the Primary Settlement Area. Primary Settlement Areas "will be the focus of the majority of growth within the county". Flesherton, Eugenia, Kimberley, Priceville, Feversham etc are all "secondary settlement areas" with "limited opportunities for growth". Therefore investments should be focussed in Markdale as this is where the growth should be focussed according to the County Official Plan. I do think it reasonable to consider Flesherton as a focus of growth in the future as there are significant public services in Flesherton (high school, arena, kinplex, library, market, shops) and its favourable location on highway 10. The Official Plans of Grey Highlands and the County would need to be adjusted to make Flesherton a Primary Settlement Area, if desired. Otherwise, rural settlements should not be serviced as this is highly inefficient, very expensive and will lead to sprawl and spiralling municipal costs. Similarly, the municipality should not focus its resources on developing water and sewage infrastructure for secondary settlement areas for the same reasons.	Wants to see development and municipal services in growth areas only.	Amik
Questionnaire ID: 1054 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: Please consider the importance of rural character and environmental protection. With climate change and ecosystem change, it is very important for new construction to be limited to Markdale and Flesherton. Because of this, I don't support big infrastructure projects that we will have to pay for for many years to come, and that will require more building of subdivisions and housing in the countryside. Keep the towns in the towns, and keep the countryside as countryside. We don't need more water and wastewater capacity outside of the towns.	Wants to see development and municipal services in growth areas only.	Kimberley

Appendix G2 - Questionnaire No. 1 Responses
Master Servicing Plan Update - Municipality of Grey Highlands

Questionnaire ID: 1053 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: It is my opinion that the water and wastewater services should be provided to serve the communities as they currently are, and with increased densification and walkability of Flesherton and Markdale. I believe that farmland should remain farmland and protected areas should remain protected to provide the asset of greenspace to all Grey Highlanders and visitors. Preventing sprawl beyond our urban boundaries is necessary to maintain the character of where we live, and its appeal as a tourist destination. The planning presented does not take into account the needs of local tourism infrastructure that is centred on preserving and maintaining all our natural areas. As such, I do not believe that extensive investment in expanding and connecting our wastewater and water infrastructure is to the benefit of our communities, and in fact having large lines that need to be built and maintained come at an excessive economic cost, while also positioning us to have increasing environmental costs. In sum, the current plan seems like a lose lose scenario - current taxpayers will lose financially, and we will lose both the character and natural environment that define the place we live. What may be gained in terms of more houses spread throughout the jurisdiction, will never make up for what is lost. Increasing density in the urban centres can and should be pursued without the significant changes proposed by this plan. I strongly urge planners and council to re-imagine water and waste water services to conserve finances, conserve green spaces, and conserve carbon emissions now and in the future. Bigger is not better - sometimes it is just more costly, in every sense of cost. Sincerely, E Ferguson MD, MSc (Rural Planning)	Wants to see development and municipal services in growth areas only.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 1025 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: Costly infrastructure should be focused in significant growth areas - Markdale and possibly Flesherton where there is already public services. Do not encourage sprawl and impacts on the environment with extension of water and wastewater services we can not afford to build OR maintain.	Wants to see development and municipal services in growth areas only.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 969 Community: Kimberley	Any other Comments: I am in favour of providing infrastructure for existing built-up areas. In the long-term, it saves money. I am against any development at Talisman so I don't want expensive, taxpayer-funded infrastructure planned to accommodate growth in that area.	Wants to see development and municipal services in growth areas only.	Kimberley
Questionnaire ID: 1105 Community: Lake Eugenia	Any other Comments: Development will come to this area whether we want it or not. The only hope to preserve the natural areas is to ensure densification in existing villages/towns. By providing services, lots can be smaller and development can be concentrated within the boundaries rather than taking up precious farmland and spectacular natural areas.	Wants to see development and municipal services in growth areas only.	Lake Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1039 Community: Eugenia	Any other Comments: I'd like to see development focused in targeted growth areas, around our existing towns. So the idea of connecting villages together with a "Big Pipe" approach is concerning to me.	Wants to see development and municipal services in growth areas only.	Eugenia
Questionnaire ID: 1011 Community: Eugenia	Benefits Comment: Jobs Any other Comments: If kept local to Markdale and Flesherton and highway 10 it may work, Eugenia and Kimberly is too ambitious.	Wants to see development and municipal services in growth areas only.	Eugenia

Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan

From: Michael Oberle <m.oberle@SVCA.ON.CA>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 3:39 PM
To: Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan
Cc: moyers@greyhighlands.ca
Subject: [EXT] SVCA comment -Master Servicing Plan Update for Municipality of Grey Highlands

EXTERNAL EMAIL

Good afternoon Ms. Swiger,

Further to the email of below, thank you for including the Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority (SVCA) in your circulation.

The SVCA does not have any specific comment to provide at this time, and the SVCA looks forward to working together with our municipal partners, where required, as this proposal progresses.

I trust that the above is helpful at this time. Any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Kind regards,
Mike
Michael Oberle
Environmental Planning Coordinator
Cell: 519-373-4175
1078 Bruce Road 12, PO Box 150, Formosa, ON N0G 1W0
m.oberle@svca.on.ca
www.saugeenconservation.ca

From: Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan <Jen.Swiger@gmblueplan.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 2:10 PM
To: Shawn Moyer <MoyerS@greyhighlands.ca>
Cc: Jenn Eagan <eaganj@greyhighlands.ca>
Subject: 223286 - Notice of Study Commencement - Master Servicing Plan Update for Municipality of Grey Highlands

****[CAUTION]: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Good Afternoon,

The Municipality of Grey Highlands is undertaking a Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan Update to review and revise their 2017 Master Servicing Plan following the completion of three capital projects in the past five years and in consideration of projected growth and development in Grey Highlands. The Master Servicing Plan is being prepared following Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) process as outlined in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Manual prepared by the Municipal Engineers Association (2023). The

Master Plan is intended to follow Approach #1 of the Master Planning process (Appendix 4, MCEA Manual 2023), which involves the completion of a Master Plan document. The overall intent of the Plan is to complete a broad level of assessment that identifies projects that are exempt (or eligible for exemption) from the Environmental Assessment Act and can be used as support for projects that require more detailed project-specific investigations to fulfill the requirements for Schedule B or Schedule C projects. The study area of the Master Plan includes Markdale, Flesherton, Beaver Valley, Kimberley-Amik-Talisman, and the Eugenia & Eugenia Lake areas within the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

The Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre (PIC No. 1) is attached. This first PIC is intended to review the opportunities and constraints of communities in Grey Highlands, including reviewing the Problem or Opportunity Statement, and to solicit residents' feedback at an early stage of the study. More project information and summary documents are available on the Municipality's project website at <https://ConnectGreyHighlands.ca/MSP>

With the circulation of the *Notice of Study Commencement*, the public, stakeholders, agencies and Indigenous Communities are invited to provide comments for incorporation into the Plan. We request that you provide comments by **March 15th, 2024**.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this project, please contact Shawn Moyer, Director of Environmental Services, Municipality of Grey Highlands and/or Jen Swiger at GM BluePlan Engineering. Contact information is provided in the attached Notice.

Best Regards,
Jen Swiger

Jen Swiger, P.Eng.
Project Engineer & GIS Specialist

GM BluePlan Engineering Limited
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t: 519.376.1805 ext. 2231 | c: 519.373.6084
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Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan

From: O'Connor, Karen (She/Her) (MNRF) <Karen.OConnor@ontario.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 11:12 AM
To: Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan
Subject: [EXT] RE: 223286 - Notice of Study Commencement - Master Servicing Plan Update for Municipality of Grey Highlands
Attachments: MNRFCommentLetter_GreyHighlandsWWMSP.pdf

EXTERNAL EMAIL

Hi Jen,

Thank you for sharing the Notice of Study Commencement and PIC 1 for the Municipality of Grey Highlands Master Servicing Plan Update with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. Please find our comments attached.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Karen O'Connor
Regional Planner
Land Use Planning and Strategic Issues Section | Southern Region
Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry (MNRF)
(705) 772 3096
karen.oconnor@ontario.ca

-----Original Message-----

From: Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan <Jen.Swiger@gmblueplan.ca>
Sent: February 14, 2024 2:10 PM
To: Shawn Moyer <MoyerS@greyhighlands.ca>
Cc: Jenn Eagan <eaganj@greyhighlands.ca>
Subject: 223286 - Notice of Study Commencement - Master Servicing Plan Update for Municipality of Grey Highlands

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identifies projects that are exempt (or eligible for exemption) from the Environmental Assessment Act and can be used as support for projects that require more detailed project-specific investigations to fulfill the requirements for Schedule B or Schedule C projects. The study area of the Master Plan includes Markdale, Flesherton, Beaver Valley, Kimberley-Amik-Talisman, and the Eugenia & Eugenia Lake areas within the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

The Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre (PIC No. 1) is attached. This first PIC is intended to review the opportunities and constraints of communities in Grey Highlands, including reviewing the Problem or Opportunity Statement, and to solicit residents' feedback at an early stage of the study. More project information and summary documents are available on the Municipality's project website at <https://ConnectGreyHighlands.ca/MSP> <<https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fconnectgreyhighlands.ca%2FMSP&data=05%7C02%7Cken.mott%40ontario.ca%7C5b98b479581a4b499ecb08dc2d90a384%7Cdddc1229ac2a4b97b78a0e5cacb5865c%7C0%7C0%7C638435347613936279%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C20000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=36943k9of2utVMdteRbber51sygWPgwCtG7NciJyISw%3D&reserved=0>>

With the circulation of the Notice of Study Commencement, the public, stakeholders, agencies and Indigenous Communities are invited to provide comments for incorporation into the Plan. We request that you provide comments by March 15th, 2024.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this project, please contact Shawn Moyer, Director of Environmental Services, Municipality of Grey Highlands and/or Jen Swiger at GM BluePlan Engineering. Contact information is provided in the attached Notice.

Best Regards,

Jen Swiger

Jen Swiger, P.Eng.

Project Engineer & GIS Specialist

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February 27th, 2024

Dear Jen Swiger,

SUBJECT: Master Plan Update, Municipality of Grey Highlands, Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre 1

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) received the Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre 1 for the Water and Wastewater Master servicing Plan update on February 20th, 2024. Thank you for circulating this to our office. Please note that we have not completed a screening of natural heritage or other resource values for the project at this time. This response, however, does provide information to guide you in identifying and assessing natural features and resources as required by applicable policies and legislation, as well as engaging with the Ministry for advice as needed.

Please also note that it is the proponent's responsibility to be aware of, and comply with, all relevant federal or provincial legislation, municipal by-laws or other agency approvals.

Natural Heritage

MNRF's natural heritage and natural resources GIS data layers can be obtained through the Ministry's [Land Information Ontario \(LIO\)](#) website. You may also view natural heritage information online (e.g., Provincially Significant Wetlands, ANSI's, woodlands, etc.) using the [Make a Map: Natural Heritage Areas](#) tool.

We recommend that you use the above-noted sources of information during the review of your project proposal.

Provincial Plans

The proposed project lies within the boundary of one or more Provincial Plans. Provincial plans build upon the policy foundation for regulating land use and development established by the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS). Many provincial plans contain policies specific to infrastructure projects undergoing an Environmental Assessment. A summary of some of these provisions within MNRF's mandated interests can be found below. The provincial plans themselves should be consulted for the full policies and to understand how they apply to your specific project.

Niagara Escarpment Plan (NEP), 2017

The NEP is administered by the Niagara Escarpment Commission, as the government agency mandated to develop, interpret and apply NEP policies that maintain and enhance the Niagara Escarpment's unique environmental and landscape features.

Mapping of NEP Escarpment Natural Areas and Escarpment Protection Areas can be obtained from your local municipality, the [Niagara Escarpment Commission](#) or from [GeoHub](#).

Natural Hazards

A series of natural hazard technical guides developed by MNRF are available to support municipalities and conservation authorities implement the natural hazard policies in the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS). For example, standards to address flood risks and the potential impacts and costs from riverine flooding are addressed in the *Technical Guide River and Stream Systems: Flooding Hazard Limit (2002)*. We recommend that you consider these technical guides as you assess specific improvement projects that can be undertaken to reduce the risk of flooding.

Petroleum Wells & Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Act

There may be petroleum wells within the proposed project area. Please consult the Ontario Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Library website (www.ogsrlibrary.com) or [GeoHub](#) for the best-known data on any wells recorded by MNRF. Please reference the 'Definitions and Terminology Guide' listed in the publications on the library website to better understand the well information available. Any oil and gas wells in your project area are regulated by the *Oil, Gas and Salt Resource Act*, and the supporting regulations and operating standards. If any unanticipated wells are encountered during development of the project, or if the proponent has questions regarding petroleum operations, the proponent should contact the Petroleum Operations Section at POSRecords@ontario.ca or 519-873-4634.

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act

Please note, that should the project require:

- The relocation of fish outside of the work area, a Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* will be required.
- The relocation of wildlife outside of the work area (including amphibians, reptiles, and small mammals), a Wildlife Collector's Authorization under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* will be required.

Public Lands Act & Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act

Some Project may be subject to the provisions of the *Public Lands Act* or *Lakes and River Improvement Act*. Please review the information on MNRF's web pages provided below regarding when an approval is, or is not, required. Please note, *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act* approval from the Ministry is not required for certain activities within the area of jurisdiction of a Conservation Authority. Please see the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act* administrative guide for more information and contact your local Conservation Authority where unsure if work is subject to regulation under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

- For more information about the *Public Lands Act*: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/crown-land-work-permits>
- For more information about the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act*: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/lakes-and-rivers-improvement-act-administrative-guide>

After reviewing the information provided, if you have not identified any of MNRF's interests stated above, there is no need to circulate any subsequent notices to our office. If you have identified any of MNRF's interests and/or may require permit(s) or further technical advice, please direct your specific questions to karen.oconnor@ontario.ca.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Best Regards,

[original signed by]

Karen O'Connor
Regional Planner
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)
(705) 772 3096
karen.oconnor@ontario.ca

Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan

From: Jenn Eagan <eaganj@greyhighlands.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2024 2:55 PM
To: Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan
Subject: [EXT] FW: 2024-03-05 Resolution Letter Re investigate the potential for service agreements between West Grey and Grey Highlands
Attachments: 2024-03-05 Resolution Letter Re investigate the potential for service agreements between West Grey and Grey Highlands.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

EXTERNAL EMAIL

Good afternoon Jen,

Just to keep you in the loop, West Grey's council passed the attached resolution in response to the notice of commencement.

Thanks,

Jenn Eagan
Environmental Compliance Specialist



eaganj@greyhighlands.ca
519-986-1216 Ext 239

In accordance with Ontario's Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), the Corporation of the Municipality of Grey Highlands wishes to inform the public that all information, including opinions, presentations, reports and documentation received by this office MAY be posted on the Municipality's website, included on a public agenda and/or made available to the public upon request.

If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately by return e-mail and permanently delete the copy you have received so we may ensure the integrity of the principles of MFIPPA are maintained

 Please consider the environment before printing this email or its attachments.



Subscribe [here](#) to receive Grey Highlands updates

From: Geoff Aitken <publicworks@westgrey.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 11:39 AM

To: Shawn Moyer <MoyerS@greyhighlands.ca>

Subject: FW: 2024-03-05 Resolution Letter Re investigate the potential for service agreements between West Grey and Grey Highlands

Hey Shawn,

See attached letter drafted by the Clerks department.

YT,

**Geoff Aitken, CET
Manager of Public Works**

Municipality of West Grey
402813 Grey Road 4
RR 2 Durham, ON N0G 1R0
519-369-2200 ext. 227
www.westgrey.com || @OurWestGrey

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From: Jodi Ward <records@westgrey.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 10:44 AM

To: Geoff Aitken <publicworks@westgrey.com>

Subject: 2024-03-05 Resolution Letter Re investigate the potential for service agreements between West Grey and Grey Highlands

Good morning Geoff,

Please find attached the Resolution Letter Re: investigate the potential for service agreements between West Grey and Grey Highlands.

Thank you.

**Jodi Ward
Legislative Services Coordinator**

Municipality of West Grey
402813 Grey Road 4
RR 2 Durham, ON N0G 1R0
519-369-2200 ext. 243
www.westgrey.com || @OurWestGrey

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**Corporation of the
Municipality of West Grey**

402813 Grey Road 4, RR 2 Durham, ON N0G 1R0
519 369 2200

March 5, 2024

Geoff Aitken
Manager of Public Works
The Municipality of West Grey
402813 Grey Road 4,
RR 2 Durham, ON N0G 1R0
publicworks@westgrey.com

RE: Investigate the Potential for Service Agreements Between West Grey and Grey Highlands for the provision of water and sewer services in West Grey.

Dear Mr. Aitken

Please be advised that at its meeting held on March 5, 2024, the council of the Municipality of West Grey considered the above-noted matter and passed Resolution No. R-240305-003 as follows:

"THAT in consideration of correspondence received on February 14, 2024 from the Municipality of Grey Highlands respecting a master servicing plan update, council directs staff to investigate the potential for service agreements between West Grey and Grey Highlands for the provision of water and sewer services in West Grey.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jamie Eckenswiller".

Jamie Eckenswiller, AMP (he/him)
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
Municipality of West Grey

Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan

From: planning@grey.ca
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 11:41 AM
To: Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan
Subject: [EXT] County comments for Master Servicing Plan Update (Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

EXTERNAL EMAIL

County comments for Master Servicing Plan Update (Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre)



Hello Jen Swiger,

Please see link(s) below for the County comments for Other application Master Servicing Plan Update (Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre) - Municipality of Grey Highlands.

- [County Comments Master Servicing Plan Update \(Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre\).pdf](#)

Please note, a paper copy will not be provided unless requested.

Let us know if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Derek McMurdie

County of Grey, Owen Sound, ON



Planning and Development

595 9th Avenue East, Owen Sound Ontario N4K 3E3
519-372-0219 / 1-800-567-GREY / Fax: 519-376-7970

March 13th, 2024

Shawn Moyer
Director of Environmental Services
Municipality of Grey Highlands
206 Toronto Street South
Markdale, ON
N0C 1H0

Jen Swiger
Project Engineer and GIS Specialist
GM BluePlan Engineering Limited
1260 2nd Avenue East, Unit 1
Owen Sound, ON,
N4K 2J3

**RE: Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment
Master Servicing Plan Update
Municipality of Grey Highlands**

Dear Mr. Moyer and Ms. Swiger,

This correspondence is in response to the above noted notice of study commencement and public information centre for a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. We have had an opportunity to review the application in relation to the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) and the County of Grey Official Plan (OP). We offer the following comments.

County Transportation Services have reviewed the subject application and have no concerns.

County Planning staff have no concerns with the proposed Municipal Class Environmental Assessment.

The County requests notice of any decision rendered with respect to this file.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact me.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Derek McMurdie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Derek McMurdie
Planner
(548) 877 0857
Derek.McMurdie@grey.ca
www.grey.ca

Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan

From: Macki, Monika (MECP) <Monika.Macki@ontario.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2024 10:50 AM
To: Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan
Cc: Shawn Moyer; Jenn Eagan
Subject: [EXT] RE: 223286 - RESUBMISSION of Notice of Study Commencement - Master Servicing Plan Update for Municipality of Grey Highlands
Attachments: MECP Acknowledgement of NOC - MEA Class EA - Grey HighlandsWaste Water Master Plan Name.pdf; Supporting Attachment - Species at Risk Proponents Guide to Preliminary Screening (May 2019).pdf; Supporting Attachment - Proponent's Intro to Delegation of Procedural Aspects of Consultation with Aboriginal Communities.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

EXTERNAL EMAIL

Please find the attached letter of acknowledgement and supporting attachments in response to the Notice of Commencement of the Water and Wastewater Servicing Master Plan being undertaken by the Municipality of Grey Highlands in accordance with the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Masterplan, Approach 1).

Monika Macki

Environmental Resource Planner/Environmental Assessment Coordinator
Environmental Assessment Branch
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
monika.macki@ontario.ca

From: Jen Swiger - GM BluePlan <Jen.Swiger@gmblueplan.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 4:02 PM
To: EA Notices to SWRegion (MECP) <eanotification.swregion@ontario.ca>
Cc: Shawn Moyer <MoyerS@greyhighlands.ca>; Jenn Eagan <eaganj@greyhighlands.ca>
Subject: 223286 - RESUBMISSION of Notice of Study Commencement - Master Servicing Plan Update for Municipality of Grey Highlands

CAUTION -- EXTERNAL E-MAIL - Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender.

Good Afternoon,

The attached is a Resubmission of the project Notice of Commencement and Project Information form as per email instructions from Ms Macki received Friday February 17th.

The Municipality of Grey Highlands is undertaking a Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan Update to review and revise their 2017 Master Servicing Plan following the completion of three capital projects in the past five years and in consideration of projected growth and development in Grey Highlands. The Master Servicing Plan is being prepared

following Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) process as outlined in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Manual prepared by the Municipal Engineers Association (2023). The Master Plan is intended to follow Approach #1 of the Master Planning process (Appendix 4, MCEA Manual 2023), which involves the completion of a Master Plan document. The overall intent of the Plan is to complete a broad level of assessment that identifies projects that are exempt (or eligible for exemption) from the Environmental Assessment Act and can be used as support for projects that require more detailed project-specific investigations to fulfill the requirements for Schedule B or Schedule C projects. The study area of the Master Plan includes Markdale, Flesherton, Beaver Valley, Kimberley-Amik-Talisman, and the Eugenia & Eugenia Lake areas within the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

The Notice of Study Commencement and Public Information Centre (PIC No. 1) is attached. This first PIC is intended to review the opportunities and constraints of communities in Grey Highlands, including reviewing the Problem or Opportunity Statement, and to solicit residents' feedback at an early stage of the study. More project information and summary documents are available on the Municipality's project website at <https://ConnectGreyHighlands.ca/MSP>

With the circulation of the *Notice of Study Commencement*, the public, stakeholders, agencies and Indigenous Communities are invited to provide comments for incorporation into the Plan. We request that you provide comments by **March 15th, 2024**.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this project, please contact Shawn Moyer, Director of Environmental Services, Municipality of Grey Highlands and/or Jen Swiger at GM BluePlan Engineering. Contact information is provided in the attached Notice.

Best Regards,
Jen Swiger

Jen Swiger, P.Eng.
Project Engineer & GIS Specialist

GM BluePlan Engineering Limited
1260-2nd Avenue East | Owen Sound ON N4K 2J3
t: 519.376.1805 ext. ext. 2231 | c: 519.373.6084
jen.swiger@gmblueplan.ca | www.gmblueplan.ca



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**Ministry of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks**

**Ministère de l'Environnement,
de la Protection de la nature
et des Parcs**

Environmental Assessment
Branch

Direction des évaluations
environnementales

1st Floor
135 St. Clair Avenue W
Toronto ON M4V 1P5
Tel.: 416 314-8001
Fax.: 416 314-8452

Rez-de-chaussée
135, avenue St. Clair Ouest
Toronto ON M4V 1P5
Tél. : 416 314-8001
Télec. : 416 314-8452

March 7, 2024

Jen Swiger P.Eng.
Project Engineer & GIS Specialist
GM BluePlan Engineering Limited
jen.swiger@gmblueplan.ca

BY EMAIL ONLY

**Re: Master Servicing Plan Update
Municipality of Grey Highlands
Municipal Class Environmental Assessment, Master Plan (Phases 1-2/)
Acknowledgement of Notice of Commencement**

Dear Jen Swiger,

This letter is in response to the Notice of Commencement for the above noted Master Plan. The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) acknowledges that the Municipality of Grey Highlands (proponent) has indicated that the study is following the approved environmental planning process for a Master Plan following Phases 1-2 under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA).

The **updated (August 2022)** attached "Areas of Interest" document provides guidance regarding the ministry's interests with respect to the Class EA process. Please address all areas of interest in the EA documentation at an appropriate level for the EA study. Proponents who address all the applicable areas of interest can minimize potential delays to the project schedule. **Further information is provided at the end of the Areas of Interest document**

relating to recent changes to the Environmental Assessment Act through Bill 197, Covid-19 Economic Recovery Act 2020.

The Crown has a legal duty to consult Aboriginal communities when it has knowledge, real or constructive, of the existence or potential existence of an Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that may adversely impact that right. Before authorizing the projects identified in this Master Plan, the Crown must ensure that its duty to consult has been fulfilled, where such a duty is triggered. Although the duty to consult with Aboriginal peoples is a duty of the Crown, the Crown may delegate procedural aspects of this duty to project proponents while retaining oversight of the consultation process.

The proposed Master Plan projects may have the potential to affect Aboriginal or treaty rights protected under Section 35 of Canada's *Constitution Act* 1982. Where the Crown's duty to consult is triggered in relation to the proposed projects, **the MECP is delegating the procedural aspects of rights-based consultation to the proponent through this letter.** The Crown intends to rely on the delegated consultation process in discharging its duty to consult and maintains the right to participate in the consultation process as it sees fit.

Based on information provided to date and the Crown's preliminary assessment the proponent is required to consult with the following communities who have been identified as potentially affected by the proposed Master Plan projects:

- Saugeen First Nation and the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation - these communities work together on consultation issues and are known collectively as the Saugeen Ojibway Nation. They have requested notices be sent to the Saugeen Ojibway Nation Environment Office with a copy to the Chief and Council of Saugeen First Nation and Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation.
- Métis Nation of Ontario- Lands and Resources Dept, Region 7
 - MNO Georgian Bay Métis Council (please cc Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Lands, Resources and Consultations Branch)
- Huron-Wendat- if the proponent is contemplating construction that may require an archaeological assessment, then the Huron-Wendat should be notified

Steps that the proponent may need to take in relation to Aboriginal consultation for the proposed projects are outlined in the "[Code of Practice for Consultation in Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process](#)". Additional information related to Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act is available online at: www.ontario.ca/environmentalassessments.

Please also refer to the attached document "A Proponent's Introduction to the Delegation of Procedural Aspects of consultation with Aboriginal Communities" for further information, including the MECP's expectations for EA report documentation related to consultation with communities.

The proponent must contact the Director of Environmental Assessment Branch (EABDirector@ontario.ca) under the following circumstances after initial discussions with the communities identified by the MECP:

- Aboriginal or treaty rights impacts are identified to you by the communities;
- You have reason to believe that your proposed projects may adversely affect an Aboriginal or treaty right;
- Consultation with Indigenous communities or other stakeholders has reached an impasse; or
- A Section 16 Order request is expected based on impacts to Aboriginal or treaty rights

The MECP will then assess the extent of any Crown duty to consult for the circumstances and will consider whether additional steps should be taken, including what role you will be asked to play should additional steps and activities be required.

Please ensure a copy of the final notice is sent to the ministry's SWR region EA notification account (eanotification.swregion@ontario.ca).

Should you or any members of your project team have any questions regarding the material above, please contact me at Monika.Macki@ontario.ca

Sincerely,

Monika Macki

Monika Macki
Regional Environmental Planner / Environmental Assessment Coordinator – South West Region
Project Review Unit, Environmental Assessment Branch

Enclosed: Areas of Interest

Attached: Client's Guide to Preliminary Screening for Species at Risk

A Proponent's Introduction to the Delegation of Procedural Aspects of Consultation
with Aboriginal Communities

AREAS OF INTEREST (v. August 2022)

It is suggested that you check off each section after you have considered / addressed it.

Planning and Policy

- Applicable plans and policies should be identified in the report, and the proponent should describe how the proposed Master Plan projects adhere to the relevant policies in these plans.
 - Projects located in MECP Central, Eastern or West Central Region may be subject to [A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe \(2020\)](#).
 - Projects located in MECP Central or Eastern Region may be subject to the [Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan \(2017\)](#) or the [Lake Simcoe Protection Plan \(2014\)](#).
 - Projects located in MECP Central, Southwest or West Central Region may be subject to the [Niagara Escarpment Plan \(2017\)](#).
 - Projects located in MECP Central, Eastern, Southwest or West Central Region may be subject to the [Greenbelt Plan \(2017\)](#).
 - Projects located in MECP Northern Region may be subject to the [Growth Plan for Northern Ontario \(2011\)](#).
- The [Provincial Policy Statement \(2020\)](#) contains policies that protect Ontario's natural heritage and water resources. Applicable policies should be referenced in the report, and the proponent should describe how the proposed projects are consistent with these policies.
- In addition to the provincial planning and policy level, the report should also discuss the planning context at the municipal and federal levels, as appropriate.

Source Water Protection

The *Clean Water Act*, 2006 (CWA) aims to protect existing and future sources of drinking water. To achieve this, several types of vulnerable areas have been delineated around surface water intakes and wellheads for every municipal residential drinking water system that is located in a source protection area. These vulnerable areas are known as a Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPAs) and surface water Intake Protection Zones (IPZs). Other vulnerable areas that have been delineated under the CWA include Highly Vulnerable Aquifers (HVAs), Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas (SGRAs), Event-based modelling areas (EBAs), and Issues Contributing Areas (ICAs). Source protection plans have been developed that include policies to address existing and future risks to sources of municipal drinking water within these vulnerable areas.

Projects that are subject to the Environmental Assessment Act that fall under a Class EA, or one of the Regulations, have the potential to impact sources of drinking water if they occur in designated vulnerable areas or in the vicinity of other at-risk drinking water systems (i.e.

systems that are not municipal residential systems). MEA Class EA projects may include activities that, if located in a vulnerable area, could be a threat to sources of drinking water (i.e. have the potential to adversely affect the quality or quantity of drinking water sources) and the activity could therefore be subject to policies in a source protection plan. Where an activity poses a risk to drinking water, policies in the local source protection plan may impact how or where that activity is undertaken. Policies may prohibit certain activities, or they may require risk management measures for these activities. Municipal Official Plans, planning decisions, Class EA projects (where the project includes an activity that is a threat to drinking water) and prescribed instruments must conform with policies that address significant risks to drinking water and must have regard for policies that address moderate or low risks.

- In October 2015, the MEA Parent Class EA document was amended to include reference to the Clean Water Act (Section A.2.10.6) and indicates that proponents undertaking a Municipal Class EA project must identify early in their process whether a project is or could potentially be occurring with a vulnerable area. **Given this requirement, please include a section in the report on source water protection.**
 - The proponent should identify the source protection area and should clearly document how the proximity of the project to sources of drinking water (municipal or other) and any delineated vulnerable areas was considered and assessed. Specifically, the report should discuss whether or not the project is located in a vulnerable area and provide applicable details about the area.
 - If located in a vulnerable area, proponents should document whether any project activities are prescribed drinking water threats and thus pose a risk to drinking water (this should be consulted on with the appropriate Source Protection Authority). Where an activity poses a risk to drinking water, the proponent must document and discuss in the report how the project adheres to or has regard to applicable policies in the local source protection plan. This section should then be used to inform and be reflected in other sections of the report, such as the identification of net positive/negative effects of alternatives, mitigation measures, evaluation of alternatives etc.
- While most source protection plans focused on including policies for significant drinking water threats in the WHPAs and IPZs it should be noted that even though source protection plan policies may not apply in HVAs, these are areas where aquifers are sensitive and at risk to impacts and within these areas, activities may impact the quality of sources of drinking water for systems other than municipal residential systems.
- In order to determine if these Master Plan projects are occurring within a vulnerable area, proponents can use [Source Protection Information Atlas](#), which is an online mapping tool available to the public. Note that various layers (including WHPAs, WHPA-Q1 and WHPA-Q2, IPZs, HVAs, SGRAs, EBAs, ICAs) can be turned on through the “Map Legend” bar on the left.

The mapping tool will also provide a link to the appropriate source protection plan in order to identify what policies may be applicable in the vulnerable area.

- For further information on the maps or source protection plan policies which may relate to their project, proponents must contact the appropriate source protection authority. **Please consult with the local source protection authority to discuss potential impacts on drinking water. Please document the results of that consultation within the report and include all communication documents/correspondence.**

More Information

For more information on the *Clean Water Act*, source protection areas and plans, including specific information on the vulnerable areas and drinking water threats, please refer to [Conservation Ontario's website](#) where you will also find links to the local source protection plan/assessment report.

A list of the prescribed drinking water threats can be found in [section 1.1 of Ontario Regulation 287/07](#) made under the *Clean Water Act*. In addition to prescribed drinking water threats, some source protection plans may include policies to address additional "local" threat activities, as approved by the MECP.

Climate Change

The document "[Considering Climate Change in the Environmental Assessment Process](#)" (Guide) is now a part of the Environmental Assessment program's Guides and Codes of Practice. The Guide sets out the MECP's expectation for considering climate change in the preparation, execution and documentation of environmental assessment studies and processes. The guide provides examples, approaches, resources, and references to assist proponents with consideration of climate change in EA. Proponents should review this Guide in detail.

- **The MECP expects proponents of Class EA projects to:**
 1. Consider during the assessment of alternative solutions and alternative designs, the following:
 - a. the project's expected production of greenhouse gas emissions and impacts on carbon sinks (climate change mitigation); and
 - b. resilience or vulnerability of the undertaking to changing climatic conditions (climate change adaptation).
 2. Include a discrete section in the report detailing how climate change was considered in the EA.

How climate change is considered can be qualitative or quantitative in nature and should be scaled to the project's level of environmental effect. In all instances, both a project's impacts on climate change (mitigation) and impacts of climate change on a project (adaptation) should be considered.

- The MECP has also prepared another guide to support provincial land use planning direction related to the completion of energy and emission plans. The "[Community Emissions Reduction Planning: A Guide for Municipalities](#)" document is designed to educate stakeholders on the municipal opportunities to reduce energy and greenhouse gas emissions, and to provide guidance on methods and techniques to incorporate consideration of energy and greenhouse gas emissions into municipal activities of all types. We encourage you to review the Guide for information.

Air Quality, Dust and Noise

- If there are sensitive receptors in the surrounding area of these Master Plan projects, a quantitative air quality/odour impact assessment will be useful to evaluate alternatives, determine impacts and identify appropriate mitigation measures. The scope of the assessment can be determined based on the potential effects of the proposed alternatives, and typically includes source and receptor characterization and a quantification of local air quality impacts on the sensitive receptors and the environment in the study area. The assessment will compare to all applicable standards or guidelines for all contaminants of concern. **Please contact this office for further consultation on the level of Air Quality Impact Assessment required for these projects if not already advised.**
- If a quantitative Air Quality Impact Assessment is not required for a project, the MECP expects that the report contain a qualitative assessment which includes:
 - A discussion of local air quality including existing activities/sources that significantly impact local air quality and how the project may impact existing conditions;
 - A discussion of the nearby sensitive receptors and the project's potential air quality impacts on present and future sensitive receptors;
 - A discussion of local air quality impacts that could arise from this project during both construction and operation; and
 - A discussion of potential mitigation measures.
- As a common practice, "air quality" should be used as an evaluation criterion for all road projects.
- Dust and noise control measures should be addressed and included in the construction plans to ensure that nearby residential and other sensitive land uses within the study area are not adversely affected during construction activities.
- The MECP recommends that non-chloride dust-suppressants be applied. For a comprehensive list of fugitive dust prevention and control measures that could be applied, refer to [Cheminfo Services Inc. Best Practices for the Reduction of Air Emissions from](#)

[Construction and Demolition Activities](#) report prepared for Environment Canada. March 2005.

- The report should consider the potential impacts of increased noise levels during the operation of the completed project. The proponent should explore all potential measures to mitigate significant noise impacts during the assessment of alternatives.

Ecosystem Protection and Restoration

- Any impacts to ecosystem form and function must be avoided where possible. The report should describe any proposed mitigation measures and how project planning will protect and enhance the local ecosystem.
- Natural heritage and hydrologic features should be identified and described in detail to assess potential impacts and to develop appropriate mitigation measures. The following sensitive environmental features may be located within or adjacent to the study area:
 - Key Natural Heritage Features: Habitat of endangered species and threatened species, fish habitat, wetlands, areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSIs), significant valleylands, significant woodlands; significant wildlife habitat (including habitat of special concern species); sand barrens, savannahs, and tallgrass prairies; and alvars.
 - Key Hydrologic Features: Permanent streams, intermittent streams, inland lakes and their littoral zones, seepage areas and springs, and wetlands.
 - Other natural heritage features and areas such as: vegetation communities, rare species of flora or fauna, Environmentally Sensitive Areas, Environmentally Sensitive Policy Areas, federal and provincial parks and conservation reserves, Greenland systems etc.

We recommend consulting with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) and your local conservation authority to determine if special measures or additional studies will be necessary to preserve and protect these sensitive features. In addition, for projects located in Central Region you may consider the provisions of the Rouge Park Management Plan if applicable.

Species at Risk

- The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has now assumed responsibility of Ontario's Species at Risk program. Information, standards, guidelines, reference materials and technical resources to assist you are found at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/species-risk>.
- The Client's Guide to Preliminary Screening for Species at Risk (Draft May 2019) has been attached to the covering email for your reference and use. Please review this document for next steps.

- For any questions related to subsequent permit requirements, please contact SAROntario@ontario.ca.

Surface Water

- The report must include enough information to demonstrate that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or ecological functions of any watercourses within the study area. Measures should be included in the planning and design process to ensure that any impacts to watercourses from construction or operational activities (e.g. spills, erosion, pollution) are mitigated as part of the proposed undertaking.
- Additional stormwater runoff from new pavement can impact receiving watercourses and flood conditions. Quality and quantity control measures to treat stormwater runoff should be considered for all new impervious areas and, where possible, existing surfaces. The ministry's [Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual \(2003\)](#) should be referenced in the report and utilized when designing stormwater control methods. **A Stormwater Management Plan should be prepared as part of the Class EA process** that includes:
 - Strategies to address potential water quantity and erosion impacts related to stormwater draining into streams or other sensitive environmental features, and to ensure that adequate (enhanced) water quality is maintained
 - Watershed information, drainage conditions, and other relevant background information
 - Future drainage conditions, stormwater management options, information on erosion and sediment control during construction, and other details of the proposed works
 - Information on maintenance and monitoring commitments.
- Ontario Regulation 60/08 under the *Ontario Water Resources Act* (OWRA) applies to the Lake Simcoe Basin, which encompasses Lake Simcoe and the lands from which surface water drains into Lake Simcoe. If the proposed sewage treatment plant is listed in Table 1 of the regulation, the report should describe how the proposed Master Plan projects and its mitigation measures are consistent with the requirements of this regulation and the OWRA.
- Any potential approval requirements for surface water taking or discharge should be identified in the report. A Permit to Take Water (PTTW) under the OWRA will be required for any water takings that exceed 50,000 L/day, except for certain water taking activities that have been prescribed by the Water Taking EASR Regulation – *O. Reg. 63/16*. These prescribed water-taking activities require registration in the EASR instead of a PTTW. Please review the [Water Taking User Guide for EASR](#) for more information. Additionally, an

Environmental Compliance Approval under the OWRA is required for municipal stormwater management works.

Groundwater

- The status of, and potential impacts to any well water supplies should be addressed. If the Master Plan projects involve groundwater takings or changes to drainage patterns, the quantity and quality of groundwater may be affected due to drawdown effects or the redirection of existing contamination flows. In addition, project activities may infringe on existing wells such that they must be reconstructed or sealed and abandoned. Appropriate information to define existing groundwater conditions should be included in the report.
- If the potential construction or decommissioning of water wells is identified as an issue, the report should refer to Ontario Regulation 903, Wells, under the OWRA.
- Potential impacts to groundwater-dependent natural features should be addressed. Any changes to groundwater flow or quality from groundwater taking may interfere with the ecological processes of streams, wetlands or other surficial features. In addition, discharging contaminated or high volumes of groundwater to these features may have direct impacts on their function. Any potential effects should be identified, and appropriate mitigation measures should be recommended. The level of detail required will be dependent on the significance of the potential impacts.
- Any potential approval requirements for groundwater taking or discharge should be identified in the report. A Permit to Take Water (PTTW) under the OWRA will be required for any water takings that exceed 50,000 L/day, with the exception of certain water taking activities that have been prescribed by the Water Taking EASR Regulation – *O. Reg. 63/16*. These prescribed water-taking activities require registration in the EASR instead of a PTTW. Please review the [Water Taking User Guide for EASR](#) for more information.
- Consultation with the railroad authorities is necessary wherever there is a plan to use construction dewatering in the vicinity of railroad lines or where the zone of influence of the construction dewatering potentially intercepts railroad lines.

Excess Materials Management

- In December 2019, MECP released a new regulation under the Environmental Protection Act, titled “On-Site and Excess Soil Management” (O. Reg. 406/19) to support improved management of excess construction soil. This regulation is a key step to support proper management of excess soils, ensuring valuable resources don’t go to waste and to provide clear rules on managing and reusing excess soil. New risk-based standards referenced by

this regulation help to facilitate local beneficial reuse which in turn will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from soil transportation, while ensuring strong protection of human health and the environment. The new regulation is being phased in over time, with the first phase in effect on January 1, 2021. For more information, please visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/handling-excess-soil>.

- The report should reference that activities involving the management of excess soil should be completed in accordance with O. Reg. 406/19 and the MECP's current guidance document titled "[Management of Excess Soil – A Guide for Best Management Practices](#)" (2014).
- All waste generated during construction must be disposed of in accordance with ministry requirements.

Contaminated Sites

- Any current or historical waste disposal sites should be identified in the report. The status of these sites should be determined to confirm whether approval pursuant to Section 46 of the EPA may be required for land uses on former disposal sites. We recommend referring to the [MECP's D-4 guideline](#) for land use considerations near landfills and dumps.
 - Resources available may include regional/local municipal official plans and data; provincial data on [large landfill sites](#) and [small landfill sites](#); Environmental Compliance Approval information for waste disposal sites on [Access Environment](#).
- Other known contaminated sites (local, provincial, federal) in the study area should also be identified in the report (Note – information on federal contaminated sites is found on the Government of Canada's [website](#)).
- The location of any underground storage tanks should be investigated in the report. Measures should be identified to ensure the integrity of these tanks and to ensure an appropriate response in the event of a spill. The ministry's Spills Action Centre must be contacted in such an event.
- Since the removal or movement of soils may be required, appropriate tests to determine contaminant levels from previous land uses or dumping should be undertaken. If the soils are contaminated, you must determine how and where they are to be disposed of, consistent with *Part XV.1 of the Environmental Protection Act* (EPA) and Ontario Regulation 153/04, Records of Site Condition, which details the new requirements related to site assessment and clean up. Please contact the appropriate MECP District Office for further consultation if contaminated sites are present.

Servicing, Utilities and Facilities

- The report should identify any above or underground utilities in the study area such as transmission lines, telephone/internet, oil/gas etc. The owners should be consulted to discuss impacts to this infrastructure, including potential spills.
- The report should identify any servicing infrastructure in the study area such as wastewater, water, stormwater that may potentially be impacted by the Master Plan projects.
- Any facility that releases emissions to the atmosphere, discharges contaminants to ground or surface water, provides potable water supplies, or stores, transports or disposes of waste must have an Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) before it can operate lawfully. Please consult with MECP's Environmental Permissions Branch to determine whether a new or amended ECA will be required for any proposed infrastructure.
- We recommend referring to the ministry's [environmental land use planning guides](#) to ensure that any potential land use conflicts are considered when planning for any infrastructure or facilities related to wastewater, pipelines, landfills or industrial uses.

Mitigation and Monitoring

- Contractors must be made aware of all environmental considerations so that all environmental standards and commitments for both construction and operation are met. Mitigation measures should be clearly referenced in the report and regularly monitored during the construction stage of the Master Plan projects. In addition, we encourage proponents to conduct post-construction monitoring to ensure all mitigation measures have been effective and are functioning properly.
- Design and construction reports and plans should be based on a best management approach that centres on the prevention of impacts, protection of the existing environment, and opportunities for rehabilitation and enhancement of any impacted areas.
- The proponent's construction and post-construction monitoring plans must be documented in the report, as outlined in Section A.2.5 and A.4.1 of the MEA Class EA parent document.

Consultation

- The report must demonstrate how the consultation provisions of the Class EA have been fulfilled, including documentation of all stakeholder consultation efforts undertaken during the planning process. This includes a discussion in the report that identifies concerns that were raised and **describes how they have been addressed by the proponent** throughout

the planning process. The report should also include copies of comments submitted on the Master Plan by interested stakeholders, and the proponent's responses to these comments (as directed by the Class EA to include full documentation).

- Please include the full stakeholder distribution/consultation list in the documentation.

Class EA Process

- There are several different approaches that can be used to conduct a Master Plan, examples of which are outlined in Appendix 4 of the Class EA. **The Master Plan should clearly indicate the selected approach for conducting the plan**, by identifying whether the levels of assessment, consultation and documentation are sufficient to fulfill the requirements for Schedule B or C projects. Please note that any Schedule B or C projects identified in the plan would be subject to Part II Order Requests under the Environmental Assessment Act, although the plan itself would not be. **Please include a description of the approach being undertaken (use Appendix 4 as a reference).**
- Any identified projects should also include information on the MCEA schedule associated with the project.
- The report should provide clear and complete documentation of the planning process in order to allow for transparency in decision-making.
- The Class EA requires the consideration of the effects of each alternative on all aspects of the environment (including planning, natural, social, cultural, economic, technical). The report should include a level of detail (e.g. hydrogeological investigations, terrestrial and aquatic assessments, cultural heritage assessments) such that all potential impacts can be identified, and appropriate mitigation measures can be developed. Any supporting studies conducted during the Class EA process should be referenced and included as part of the report.
- Please include in the report a list of all subsequent permits or approvals that may be required for the implementation of the preferred alternative, including but not limited to, MECP's PTTW, EASR Registrations and ECAs, conservation authority permits, species at risk permits, MTO permits and approvals under the *Impact Assessment Act*, 2019.
- Ministry guidelines and other information related to the issues above are available at <http://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/environment-and-energy>. We encourage you to review all the available guides and reference any relevant information in the report.

Amendments to the EAA through the Covid-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020

Once the EA Report is finalized, the proponent must issue a Notice of Completion providing a minimum 30-day period during which documentation may be reviewed and comment and input can be submitted to the proponent. The Notice of Completion must be sent to the appropriate MECP Regional Office email address.

The public can request a higher level of assessment on any of the Schedule B or Schedule C projects identified in the Master Plan if they are concerned about potential adverse impacts to constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. In addition, the Minister may issue an order on his or her own initiative within a specified time period. The Director (of the Environmental Assessment Branch) will issue a Notice of Proposed Order to the proponent if the Minister is considering an order for the project(s) within 30 days after the conclusion of the comment period on the Notice of Completion. At this time, the Director may request additional information from the proponent. Once the requested information has been received, the Minister will have 30 days within which to make a decision or impose conditions on your project(s).

Therefore, the proponent cannot proceed with the Master Plan projects until at least 30 days after the end of the comment period provided for in the Notice of Completion. Further, the proponent may not proceed after this time if:

- a Section 16 Order request has been submitted to the ministry regarding potential adverse impacts to constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights, or
- the Director has issued a Notice of Proposed order regarding the project(s).

Please ensure that the Notice of Completion advises that outstanding concerns are to be directed to the proponent for a response, and that in the event there are outstanding concerns regarding potential adverse impacts to constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights, Section 16 Order requests on those matters should be addressed in writing to:

Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
minister.mecp@ontario.ca

and

Director, Environmental Assessment Branch
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Floor
Toronto ON, M4V 1P5
EABDirector@ontario.ca

A PROPONENT'S INTRODUCTION TO THE DELEGATION OF PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF CONSULTATION WITH ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are specific to this document and may not apply in other contexts:

Aboriginal communities – the First Nation or Métis communities identified by the Crown for the purpose of consultation.

Consultation – the Crown's legal obligation to consult when the Crown has knowledge of an established or asserted Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that might adversely impact that right. This is the type of consultation required pursuant to s. 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. Note that this definition does not include consultation with Aboriginal communities for other reasons, such as regulatory requirements.

Crown – the Ontario Crown, acting through a particular ministry or ministries.

Procedural aspects of consultation – those portions of consultation related to the process of consultation, such as notifying an Aboriginal community about a project, providing information about the potential impacts of a project, responding to concerns raised by an Aboriginal community and proposing changes to the project to avoid negative impacts.

Proponent – the person or entity that wants to undertake a project and requires an Ontario Crown decision or approval for the project.

I. PURPOSE

The Crown has a legal duty to consult Aboriginal communities when it has knowledge of an existing or asserted Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that may adversely impact that right. In outlining a framework for the duty to consult, the Supreme Court of Canada has stated that the Crown may delegate procedural aspects of consultation to third parties. This document provides general information about the Ontario Crown's approach to delegation of the procedural aspects of consultation to proponents.

This document is not intended to instruct a proponent about an individual project, and it does not constitute legal advice.

II. WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO CONSULT WITH ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES?

The objective of the modern law of Aboriginal and treaty rights is the *reconciliation* of Aboriginal peoples and non-Aboriginal peoples and their respective rights, claims and interests. Consultation is an important component of the reconciliation process.

The Crown has a legal duty to consult Aboriginal communities when it has knowledge of an existing or asserted Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that might adversely impact that right. For example, the Crown's duty to consult is triggered when it considers

issuing a permit, authorization or approval for a project which has the potential to adversely impact an Aboriginal right, such as the right to hunt, fish, or trap in a particular area.

The scope of consultation required in particular circumstances ranges across a spectrum depending on both the nature of the asserted or established right and the seriousness of the potential adverse impacts on that right.

Depending on the particular circumstances, the Crown may also need to take steps to accommodate the potentially impacted Aboriginal or treaty right. For example, the Crown may be required to avoid or minimize the potential adverse impacts of the project.

III. THE CROWN'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE DELEGATED CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Crown has the responsibility for ensuring that the duty to consult, and accommodate where appropriate, is met. However, the Crown may delegate the procedural aspects of consultation to a proponent.

There are different ways in which the Crown may delegate the procedural aspects of consultation to a proponent, including through a letter, a memorandum of understanding, legislation, regulation, policy and codes of practice.

If the Crown decides to delegate procedural aspects of consultation, the Crown will generally:

- Ensure that the delegation of procedural aspects of consultation and the responsibilities of the proponent are clearly communicated to the proponent;
- Identify which Aboriginal communities must be consulted;
- Provide contact information for the Aboriginal communities;
- Revise, as necessary, the list of Aboriginal communities to be consulted as new information becomes available and is assessed by the Crown;
- Assess the scope of consultation owed to the Aboriginal communities;
- Maintain appropriate oversight of the actions taken by the proponent in fulfilling the procedural aspects of consultation;
- Assess the adequacy of consultation that is undertaken and any accommodation that may be required;
- Provide a contact within any responsible ministry in case issues arise that require direction from the Crown; and
- Participate in the consultation process as necessary and as determined by the Crown.

IV. THE PROPONENT'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE DELEGATED CONSULTATION PROCESS

Where aspects of the consultation process have been delegated to a proponent, the Crown, in meeting its duty to consult, will rely on the proponent's consultation activities and documentation of those activities. The consultation process informs the Crown's decision of whether or not to approve a proposed project or activity.

A proponent's role and responsibilities will vary depending on a variety of factors including the extent of consultation required in the circumstance and the procedural aspects of consultation the Crown has delegated to it. Proponents are often in a better position than the Crown to discuss a project and its potential impacts with Aboriginal communities and to determine ways to avoid or minimize the adverse impacts of a project.

A proponent can raise issues or questions with the Crown at any time during the consultation process. If issues or concerns arise during the consultation that cannot be addressed by the proponent, the proponent should contact the Crown.

a) What might a proponent be required to do in carrying out the procedural aspects of consultation?

Where the Crown delegates procedural aspects of consultation, it is often the proponent's responsibility to provide notice of the proposed project to the identified Aboriginal communities. The notice should indicate that the Crown has delegated the procedural aspects of consultation to the proponent and should include the following information:

- a description of the proposed project or activity;
- mapping;
- proposed timelines;
- details regarding anticipated environmental and other impacts;
- details regarding opportunities to comment; and
- any changes to the proposed project that have been made for seasonal conditions or other factors, where relevant.

Proponents should provide enough information and time to allow Aboriginal communities to provide meaningful feedback regarding the potential impacts of the project. Depending on the nature of consultation required for a project, a proponent also may be required to:

- provide the Crown with copies of any consultation plans prepared and an opportunity to review and comment;
- ensure that any necessary follow-up discussions with Aboriginal communities take place in a timely manner, including to confirm receipt of information, share and update information and to address questions or concerns that may arise;

- as appropriate, discuss with Aboriginal communities potential mitigation measures and/or changes to the project in response to concerns raised by Aboriginal communities;
- use language that is accessible and not overly technical, and translate material into Aboriginal languages where requested or appropriate;
- bear the reasonable costs associated with the consultation process such as, but not limited to, meeting hall rental, meal costs, document translation(s), or to address technical & capacity issues;
- provide the Crown with all the details about potential impacts on established or asserted Aboriginal or treaty rights, how these concerns have been considered and addressed by the proponent and the Aboriginal communities and any steps taken to mitigate the potential impacts;
- provide the Crown with complete and accurate documentation from these meetings and communications; and
- notify the Crown immediately if an Aboriginal community not identified by the Crown approaches the proponent seeking consultation opportunities.

b) What documentation and reporting does the Crown need from the proponent?

Proponents should keep records of all communications with the Aboriginal communities involved in the consultation process and any information provided to these Aboriginal communities.

As the Crown is required to assess the adequacy of consultation, it needs documentation to satisfy itself that the proponent has fulfilled the procedural aspects of consultation delegated to it. The documentation required would typically include:

- the date of meetings, the agendas, any materials distributed, those in attendance and copies of any minutes prepared;
- the description of the proposed project that was shared at the meeting;
- any and all concerns or other feedback provided by the communities;
- any information that was shared by a community in relation to its asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights and any potential adverse impacts of the proposed activity, approval or disposition on such rights;
- any proposed project changes or mitigation measures that were discussed, and feedback from Aboriginal communities about the proposed changes and measures;
- any commitments made by the proponent in response to any concerns raised, and feedback from Aboriginal communities on those commitments;
- copies of correspondence to or from Aboriginal communities, and any materials distributed electronically or by mail;

- information regarding any financial assistance provided by the proponent to enable participation by Aboriginal communities in the consultation;
- periodic consultation progress reports or copies of meeting notes if requested by the Crown;
- a summary of how the delegated aspects of consultation were carried out and the results; and
- a summary of issues raised by the Aboriginal communities, how the issues were addressed and any outstanding issues.

In certain circumstances, the Crown may share and discuss the proponent's consultation record with an Aboriginal community to ensure that it is an accurate reflection of the consultation process.

c) Will the Crown require a proponent to provide information about its commercial arrangements with Aboriginal communities?

The Crown may require a proponent to share information about aspects of commercial arrangements between the proponent and Aboriginal communities where the arrangements:

- include elements that are directed at mitigating or otherwise addressing impacts of the project;
- include securing an Aboriginal community's support for the project; or
- may potentially affect the obligations of the Crown to the Aboriginal communities.

The proponent should make every reasonable effort to exempt the Crown from confidentiality provisions in commercial arrangements with Aboriginal communities to the extent necessary to allow this information to be shared with the Crown.

The Crown cannot guarantee that information shared with the Crown will remain confidential. Confidential commercial information should not be provided to the Crown as part of the consultation record if it is not relevant to the duty to consult or otherwise required to be submitted to the Crown as part of the regulatory process.

V. WHAT ARE THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES' IN THE CONSULTATION PROCESS?

Like the Crown, Aboriginal communities are expected to engage in consultation in good faith. This includes:

- responding to the consultation notice;
- engaging in the proposed consultation process;
- providing relevant documentation;

- clearly articulating the potential impacts of the proposed project on Aboriginal or treaty rights; and
- discussing ways to mitigate any adverse impacts.

Some Aboriginal communities have developed tools, such as consultation protocols, policies or processes that provide guidance on how they would prefer to be consulted. Although not legally binding, proponents are encouraged to respect these community processes where it is reasonable to do so. Please note that there is no obligation for a proponent to pay a fee to an Aboriginal community in order to enter into a consultation process.

To ensure that the Crown is aware of existing community consultation protocols, proponents should contact the relevant Crown ministry when presented with a consultation protocol by an Aboriginal community or anyone purporting to be a representative of an Aboriginal community.

VI. WHAT IF MORE THAN ONE PROVINCIAL CROWN MINISTRY IS INVOLVED IN APPROVING A PROPONENT'S PROJECT?

Depending on the project and the required permits or approvals, one or more ministries may delegate procedural aspects of the Crown's duty to consult to the proponent. The proponent may contact individual ministries for guidance related to the delegation of procedural aspects of consultation for ministry-specific permits/approvals required for the project in question. Proponents are encouraged to seek input from all involved Crown ministries sooner rather than later.

Client's Guide to Preliminary Screening for Species at Risk

***Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Species at Risk Branch, Permissions and Compliance
DRAFT - May 2019***

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1.0 Purpose, Scope, Background and Context

1.1 Purpose of this Guide

This guide has been created to:

- help clients better understand their obligation to gather information and complete a preliminary screening for species at risk before contacting the ministry,
- outline guidance and advice clients can expect to receive from the ministry at the preliminary screening stage,
- help clients understand how they can gather information about species at risk by accessing publicly available information housed by the Government of Ontario, and
- provide a list of other potential sources of species at risk information that exist outside the Government of Ontario.

It remains the client's responsibility to:

- carry out a preliminary screening for their projects,
- obtain best available information from all applicable information sources,
- conduct any necessary field studies or inventories to identify and confirm the presence or absence of species at risk or their habitat,
- consider any potential impacts to species at risk that a proposed activity might cause, and
- comply with the *Endangered Species Act* (ESA).

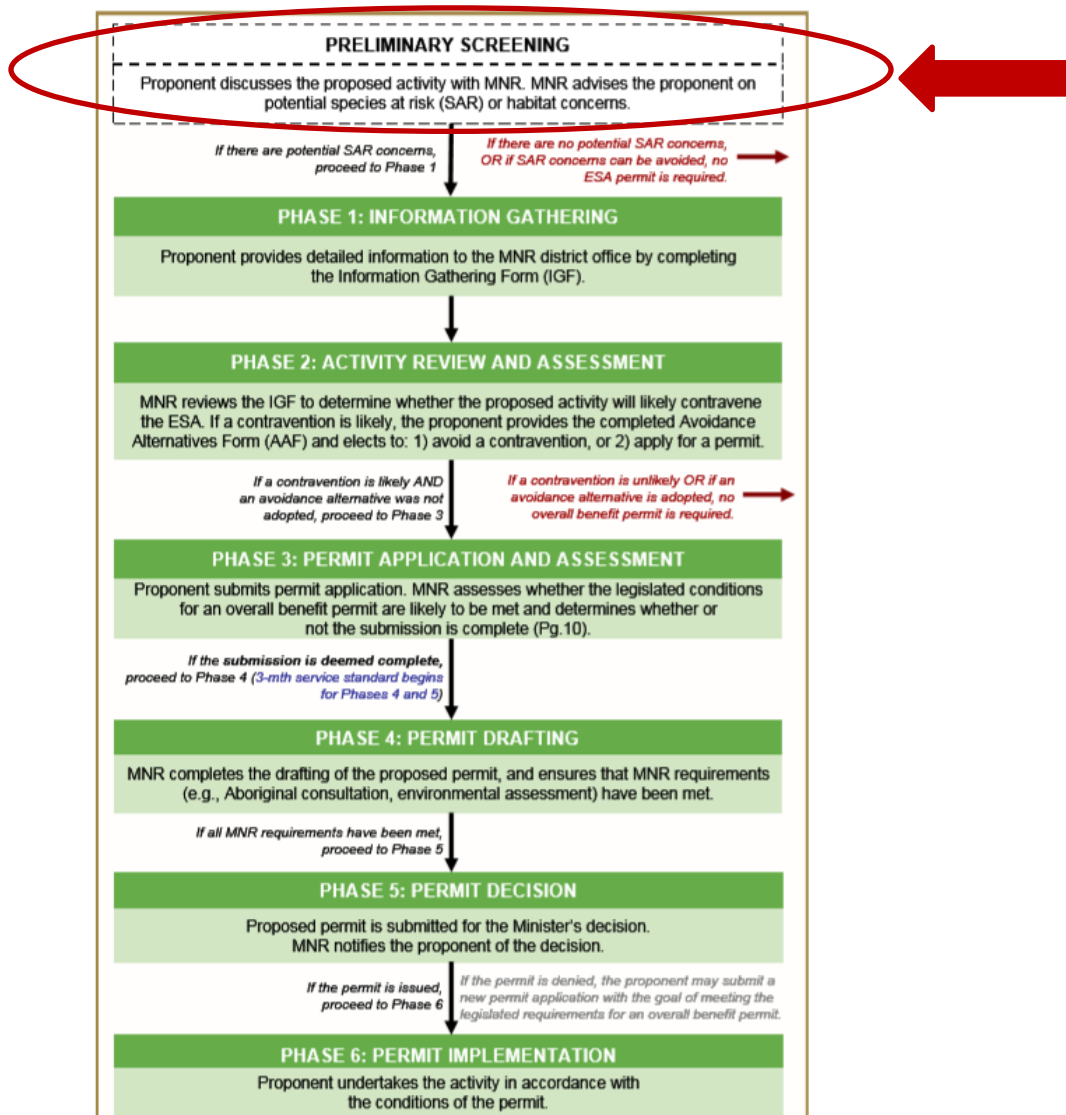
To provide the most efficient service, clients should initiate species at risk screenings and seek information from all applicable information sources identified in this guide, at a minimum, prior to contacting Government of Ontario ministry offices for further information or advice.

1.2 Scope

This guide is a resource for clients seeking to understand if their activity is likely to impact species at risk or if they are likely to trigger the need for an authorization under the ESA. It is not intended to circumvent any detailed site surveys that may be necessary to document species at risk or their habitat nor to circumvent the need to assess the impacts of a proposed activity on species at risk or their habitat. This guide is not an exhaustive list of available information sources for any given area as the availability of information on species at risk and their habitat varies across the province. This guide is intended to support projects and activities carried out on Crown and private land, by private landowners, businesses, other provincial ministries and agencies, or municipal government.

1.3 Background and Context

To receive advice on their proposed activity, clients must first determine whether any species at risk or their habitat exist or are likely to exist at or near their proposed activity, and whether their proposed activity is likely to contravene the ESA. Once this step is complete, clients may contact the ministry at SAROntario@ontario.ca to discuss the main purpose, general methods, timing and location of their proposed activity as well as information obtained about species at risk and their habitat at, or near, the site. At this stage, the ministry can provide advice and guidance to the client about potential species at risk or habitat concerns, measures that the client is considering to avoid adverse effects on species at risk or their habitat and whether additional field surveys are advisable. This is referred to as the “Preliminary Screening” stage. For more information on additional phases in the diagram below, please refer to the *Endangered Species Act Submission Standards for Activity Review and 17(2)(c) Overall Benefit Permits* policy available online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/species-risk-overall-benefit-permits>



2.0 Roles and Responsibilities

To provide the most efficient service, clients should initiate species at risk screenings and seek information from all applicable information sources identified in this guide prior to contacting Government of Ontario ministry offices for further information or advice.

Step 1: Client seeks information regarding species at risk or their habitat that exist, or are likely to exist, at or near their proposed activity by referring to all applicable information sources identified in this guide.

Step 2: Client reviews and consider guidance on whether their proposed activity is likely to contravene the ESA (see section 3.4 of this guide for guidance on what to consider).

Step 3: Client gathers information identified in the checklist in section 4 of this guide.

Step 4: Client contacts the ministry at SAROntario@ontario.ca to discuss their preliminary screening. Ministry staff will ask the client questions about the main purpose, general methods, timing and location of their proposed activity as well as information obtained about species at risk and their habitat at, or near, the site. Ministry staff will also ask the client for their interpretation of the impacts of their activity on species at risk or their habitat as well as measures the client has considered to avoid any adverse impacts.

Step 5: Ministry staff will provide advice on next steps.

Option A: Ministry staff may advise the client they can proceed with their activity without an authorization under the ESA where the ministry is confident that:

- no protected species at risk or habitats are likely to be present at or near the proposed location of the activity; or
- protected species at risk or habitats are known to be present but the activity is not likely to contravene the ESA; or
- through the adoption of avoidance measures, the modified activity is not likely to contravene the ESA.

Option B: Ministry staff may advise the client to proceed to Phase 1 of the overall benefit permitting process (i.e. Information Gathering in the previous diagram), where:

- there is uncertainty as to whether any protected species at risk or habitats are present at or near the proposed location of the activity; or
- the potential impacts of the proposed activity are uncertain; or
- ministry staff anticipate the proposed activity is likely to contravene the ESA.

3.0 Information Sources

Land Information Ontario (LIO) and the Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) maintain and provide information about species at risk, as well as related information about fisheries, wildlife, crown lands, protected lands and more. This information is made available to organizations, private individuals, consultants, and developers through online sources and is often considered under various pieces of legislation or as part of regulatory approvals and planning processes.

The information available from LIO or NHIC and the sources listed in this guide should not be considered as a substitute for site visits and appropriate field surveys. Generally, this information can be regarded as a starting point from which to conduct further field surveys, if needed. While this data represents best available current information, it is important to note that a lack of information for a site does not mean that species at risk or their habitat are not present. There are many areas where the Government of Ontario does not currently have information, especially in more remote parts of the province. The absence of species at risk location data at or near your site does not necessarily mean no species at risk are present at that location. On-site assessments can better verify site conditions, identify and confirm presence of species at risk and/or their habitats.

Information on the location (i.e. observations and occurrences) of species at risk is considered sensitive and therefore publicly available only on a 1km square grid as opposed to as a detailed point on a map. This generalized information can help you understand which species at risk are in the general vicinity of your proposed activity and can help inform field level studies you may want to undertake to confirm the presence, or absence of species at risk at or near your site.

Should you require specific and detailed information pertaining to species at risk observations and occurrences at or near your site on a finer geographic scale; you will be required to demonstrate your need to access this information, to complete data sensitivity training and to obtain a Sensitive Data Use License from the NHIC. Information on how to obtain a license can be found online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-natural-heritage-information>.

Many organizations (e.g. other Ontario ministries, municipalities, conservation authorities) have ongoing licensing to access this data so be sure to check if your organization has this access and consult this data as part of your preliminary screening if your organization already has a license.

3.1 Make a Map: Natural Heritage Areas

The Make a Natural Heritage Area Map (available online at http://www.gisapplication.lrc.gov.on.ca/mamnh/Index.html?site=MNR_NHLUPS_NaturalHeritage&viewer=NaturalHeritage&locale=en-US) provides public access to natural heritage information, including species at risk, without the user needing to have Geographic Information System (GIS) capability. It allows users to view and identify generalized species at risk information, mark areas of interest, and create and print a custom map directly from the web application. The tool also shows topographic information such as roads, rivers, contours and municipal boundaries.

Users are advised that sensitive information has been removed from the natural areas dataset and the occurrences of species at risk has been generalized to a 1-kilometre grid to mitigate the risks to the species (e.g. illegal harvest, habitat disturbance, poaching).

The web-based mapping tool displays natural heritage data, including:

- Generalized Species at risk occurrence data (based on a 1-km square grid),
- Natural Heritage Information Centre data.

Data cannot be downloaded directly from this web map; however, information included in this application is available digitally through Land Information Ontario (LIO) at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/land-information-ontario>.

3.2 Land Information Ontario (LIO)

Most natural heritage data is publicly available. This data is managed in a large provincial corporate database called the LIO Warehouse and can be accessed online through the LIO Metadata Management Tool at <https://www.javacoeapp.lrc.gov.on.ca/geonetwork/srv/en/main.home>. This tool provides descriptive information about the characteristics, quality and context of the data. Publicly available geospatial data can be downloaded directly from this site.

While most data are publicly available, some data may be considered highly sensitive (i.e. nursery areas for fish, species at risk observations) and as such, access to some data maybe restricted.

3.3 Additional Species at Risk Information Sources

- The Breeding Bird Atlas can be accessed online at <http://www.birdsontario.org/atlas/index.jsp?lang=en>
- eBird can be accessed online at <https://ebird.org/home>
- iNaturalist can be accessed online at <https://www.inaturalist.org/>
- The Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas can be accessed online at <https://ontarionature.org/programs/citizen-science/reptile-amphibian-atlas>
- Your local Conservation Authority. Information to help you find your local Conservation Authority can be accessed online at <https://conservationontario.ca/conservation-authorities/find-a-conservation-authority/>

Local naturalist groups or other similar community-based organizations

- Local Indigenous communities
- Local land trusts or other similar Environmental Non-Government Organizations
- Field level studies to identify if species at risk, or their habitat, are likely present or absent at or near the site.
- When an activity is proposed within one of the continuous caribou ranges, please be sure to consider the caribou Range Management Policy. This policy includes figures and maps of the continuous caribou range, can be found online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/range-management-policy-support-woodland-caribou-conservation-and-recovery>

3.4 Information Sources to Support Impact Assessments

- Guidance to help you understand if your activity is likely to adversely impact species at risk or their habitat can be found online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/policy-guidance-harm-and-harass-under-endangered-species-act> and <https://www.ontario.ca/page/categorizing-and-protecting-habitat-under-endangered-species-act>
- A list of species at risk in Ontario is available online at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/species-risk-ontario>. On this webpage, you can find out more about each species, including where it lives, what threatens it and any specific habitat protections that apply to it by clicking on the photo of the species.

4.0 Check-List

Please feel free to use the check list below to help you confirm you have explored all applicable information sources and to support your discussion with Ministry staff at the preliminary screening stage.

- ✓ Land Information Ontario (LIO)
- ✓ Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC)
- ✓ The Breeding Bird Atlas
- ✓ eBird
- ✓ iNaturalist
- ✓ Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas
- ✓ List Conservation Authorities you contacted: _____

- ✓ List local naturalist groups you contacted: _____

- ✓ List local Indigenous communities you contacted: _____

- ✓ List any other local land trusts or Environmental Non-Government Organizations you contacted: _____

- ✓ List and field studies that were conducted to identify species at risk, or their habitat, likely to be present or absent at or near the site: _____

- ✓ List what you think the likely impacts of your activity are on species at risk and their habitat (e.g. damage or destruction of habitat, killing, harming or harassing species at risk): _____
