
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Memorandum PDD-M02-2019 LPRCA Riverine Flood Hazard Mapping Update Study



For Consideration by Council in Committee on June 18, 2019

To: Mayor Hewitt and Members of Council
From: Justin Miller, Planner

The Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) has initiated a scoped study to update its riverine floodplain mapping within a few priority communities, including Jarvis and surrounding rural area. The study began in April (2019) and is scheduled to be completed in February 2020. Accurate floodplain mapping is critical to minimizing the risk to life and property, to support emergency management and to plan for long-term flood mitigation, where feasible. LPRCA's current floodplain mapping is 40+ years old and is primarily sourced from a 1977 study. The proposed study will utilize recent advances in hydraulic modeling and updates to provincial technical guidelines. The end result for the priority communities will be more accurate floodplain mapping that better illustrates the extent of riverine flooding in accordance with current provincial standards. This will serve to provide additional information for planning the use of a property (e.g. to avoid hazardous areas during construction) and to better prepare for emergency situations (e.g. flood avoidance/rescues situations).

LPRCA's watershed jurisdiction covers five different Counties: Haldimand, Norfolk, Brant, Oxford and Elgin Counties. Current funding opportunities allow for updates to be made only to a few priority areas within LPRCA's jurisdiction. Within Haldimand County, three sections of watercourses are proposed to be updated: a tributary to Sandusk Creek near Garnett, a tributary to Sandusk Creek that flows through Jarvis, and a tributary to Sandusk Creek east of Jarvis. Please see (Attachment 1) for the proposed project locations.

The initiated study will include: background review, base map preparation, flood hazard mapping preparation, an update to National Disaster Mitigation Program risk assessment information template (required as a condition of federal funding), a final report and six public information centres. Three public information centres (PIC's) will be held throughout LPRCA's jurisdiction two times during the study's duration. The PIC's are currently proposed for some time in late June 2019 and January 2020; due to the geography to be covered by this study, PIC's are intended to be held in Vienna (Elgin County), Simcoe (Norfolk County) and Tillsonburg (Oxford County) – meaning that interested Haldimand County residents would attend the PIC's scheduled to be held in Simcoe given that is closest and would present the content for the County's portion of the study. Staff will communicate dates of the PIC's to Council as they are confirmed and will ensure there are press releases and other communications to Haldimand residents using the County's website and social media platforms.

The study is being undertaken at no additional cost to Haldimand County, and Planning staff have been engaged as part of the project team, which includes the consulting engineers (Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions), staff from the member Counties and LPRCA. At completion, the study will more accurately reflect the riverine flood hazard in three locations of Haldimand County as noted above. This technical information will be of use to Haldimand County, LPRCA and others when it comes to minimizing the risk to life and property due to riverine flooding.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) Study Area.