
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Memorandum ECW-M03-2019 Norfolk County Water Supply Project Update For Consideration by Council in Committee on December 10, 2019



To: Mayor Hewitt and Members of Council

From: Tyson Haedrich, M. Eng., P. Eng., General Manager of Engineering & Capital Works

At the September 17, 2019 Council in Committee meeting staff were given direction through the following resolution:

*THAT subject to adoption by Norfolk County Council, Resolution 12, approved by Norfolk County Council in Committee on September 3, 2019 regarding the desire to work with Haldimand County to explore the feasibility of extending water services to Norfolk County, be endorsed in principle;
AND THAT staff be directed to work with staff from Norfolk County to explore options, costing agreement principles, phasing, timing and operating parameters in this regard and report back to Council by December 2019.*

Since the Council direction was provided, County staff have met three times with Norfolk County staff with the last meeting including the CAO's from both counties. As a result of the meetings the following action items related to the project have been completed:

- A draft Project Overview Statement was developed (see Attachment 1).
- An outline of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was developed.
- The current status of Norfolk County's Water Supply Strategy was discussed.
- The project management structure and resource requirements were discussed.
- The potential for identifying the project for submission to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) Green Fund grant program was discussed.

Based on the outcomes of the meetings, it is clear that a Haldimand water supply to Port Dover and potentially Simcoe is an option for Norfolk County to address its current water servicing challenges. However, in order to effectively evaluate the Haldimand option, Norfolk County has indicated that the water rate would have to be calculated to complete the financial component of the review.

In order to provide this information, Haldimand and Norfolk have agreed to complete a water rate study that will identify water rates based on a set of cost recovery and revenue principles, for a Haldimand supply to Norfolk. The rate study is expected to take up to six months to complete and will provide Norfolk with the information required to make a decision related to proceeding with the project. In addition to the rate study, staff will be reviewing existing Environmental Assessment records, including master servicing plans, to determine alignment and support of the project goal. A meeting has been proposed for January to jointly discuss progress on these two items.

It is also clear that given the timing of a decision to proceed an application to the ICIP grant program is not an option at this time, however, an additional Green Fund application with increased funding is expected later in 2020 and if the project is proceeding an application would be recommended.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Project Overview Statement