
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Report PDD-30-2020 LPRCA Riverine Flood Hazard Mapping Update For Consideration by Council in Committee on October 6, 2020



OBJECTIVE:

To present the Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) Riverine Flood Hazard Mapping Update report as completed by LPRCA and approved by their Board of Directors on August 5, 2020.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Report PDD-30-2020 LPRCA Riverine Flood Hazard Mapping Update be received;
2. AND THAT the LPRCA Riverine Flood Hazard Mapping Update be approved for use in future County projects and initiatives, including Official Plan Update, flood response planning and infrastructure assessments.

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Reviewed by: Shannon VanDalen, MCIP, RPP, CMMI, Manager of Planning and Development

Respectfully submitted: Mike Evers, MCIP, RPP, BES, General Manager of Community & Development Services

Approved: Craig Manley, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA), with support from the Federal National Disaster Program, recently completed a series of riverine studies within LPRCA's watershed jurisdiction to produce up-to-date and accurate riverine flood information for some settlement areas. In Haldimand County, these updated locations included the areas of Jarvis and Garnet and the tributaries to Sandusk Creek. This mapping will be used to inform projects and policies, and guide development in a way that safely addresses the riverine flooding hazards in the areas previously described.

BACKGROUND:

Under LPRCA's delegated responsibility to represent the provincial interest with respect to natural hazards under Section 3.1 of the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020, LPRCA is providing the updated riverine mapping to its partner municipalities. LPRCA will use the information from this project to provide technical advice and comment on applications made under the *Planning Act*, and also, to support the preparation of municipal Official Planning and Zoning By-law documents. The updated floodplain mapping will be used to update the area regulated by LPRCA under Ontario Regulation 178/06 in the study areas, with anticipated delivery to municipalities later this fall.

ANALYSIS:

Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) has updated its flood hazard mapping for portions of its watershed jurisdiction. The work was partially funded through the Federal Government of Canada's National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP). The project was initiated in April 2019 and completed in March 2020. The study involved the update of the riverine (watercourse-based) flood hazard mapping for selected, typically more vulnerable/flood susceptible watercourses, and is a separate project from the recently completed Haldimand County Lake Erie Hazard mapping project.

Previously approved floodplain/flood hazard mapping for the LPRCA watershed was quite dated, originating between 1977 and 1987. Given the advancement in hydraulic modelling tools since that time, the current project provides an opportunity to modernize and update the hydraulic modelling and associated flood hazard mapping. Recently completed LiDAR topographic data (as collected for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry) is available for the Lake Erie extent, which generally includes the Grand River watershed and areas west, which includes the entirety of the LPRCA jurisdiction. This data formed the basis of the current flood hazard mapping update.

The LPRCA jurisdiction encompasses the Municipality of Bayham, the Town of Tillsonburg, most of Norfolk County and portions of Haldimand County, the County of Brant, and the Townships of Malahide, Norwich, and South-West Oxford. The area encompasses some 2,782 km of area and is home to approximately 102,000 people. Primary watercourses/watersheds within LPRCA's jurisdiction include:

- Big Otter Creek
- Big Creek
- Lynn River
- Nanticoke Creek
- Sandusk Creek

Within Haldimand County, portions of Sandusk Creek in the areas of Jarvis and Garnet were examined as part of this study (Attachment 1 – Study Area). Two public information sessions were held throughout the duration of the study; for Haldimand County residents these sessions were held in Simcoe on November 27, 2019 and February 27, 2020. Based on the information available to Planning staff, the feedback from County residents was very limited and no significant issues were raised.

The new mapping provides more accurate information, allowing residents and first responders to better understand how Sandusk Creek and potential flooding impacts their locations. The changes to the mapping will have variable impacts – some property owners will experience new mapping that shows less flood prone areas on their properties, and others may experience more; as a result, there is no overarching impact conclusion that can be made. Of note, for those properties that have existing development and which now see increased coverage, the existing development can remain and new development, including renovations, additions, etc. may still be permissible subject to LPRCA permission, including necessary flood proofing, where required. This information will be made available through the LPRCA's website and administered by its staff as part of development review moving forward. The new mapping will be incorporated into County planning documents moving forward – i.e. Official Plan and Zoning By-law.

FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Not applicable.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACTS:

In addition to the public information sessions, the following groups were notified of the project: Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario, National Farmers Union, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and Six Nations of the Grand River.

REPORT IMPACTS:

Agreement: No

By-law: No

Budget Amendment: No

Policy: No

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Study Area.