

MEETING MINUTES



MEETING DATE	River Systems Advisory Committee February 21, 2018
LOCATION TIME	City Hall - Meeting Room B 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT	Nicola Lower (Chair), Kendall Flower, Alex Grosse, Ryan VanEngen, Eric Wilson
EXTERNAL GROUPS	Sal Spital – North South Environmental
STAFF PRESENT	April Nix, Madeleine Myhill, Ken VanderWal
MEMBERS ABSENT	Barry Smith, Mariette Pushkar

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION
1	<p>Welcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Roll call and certification of quorum Attendance was noted and quorum was declared. Introduction of RSAC’s newest member – Alex Grosse. ▪ No declaration of pecuniary interest or conflict of interest
2	<p>Agenda:</p> <p>Niska Road Bridge Detailed Design</p> <p>April Nix, Environmental Planner with the City of Guelph, reviewed the staff report and provided comments from an environmental planning perspective.</p> <p>Sal Spital from North South Environmental spoke to the culvert design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considered one of the best management practices to permit safe crossings for amphibians • Working to better understand the topography of the area • ACO design allows for increased ambient air moisture and inviting environment • 45-75 m spacing between culverts with wildlife funnel/exclusion fencing • The crossing structures are not designed for larger turtles – do not want to encourage them crossing • Not looking to enhance the habitat, but to mitigate impacts

- Wildlife crossing work has been a focal point as it is an ecological linkage
- Deer movement signs will remain and traffic calming measures will be in place as the treeline proximity to the road does cause visibility difficulties
- Discussion around monitoring for wildlife crossings and opportunities for public engagement
- Discussion around fencing and the potential restriction of deer movement
- Intentions to have conversations with Puslinch Township regarding culverts on the other side of the river
- Discussion around stormwater management plan
- Concerns about sediment control – will be using straw bales
- Discussion around environmental monitoring details – will be using the same consultants that are monitoring Eastview
- Suggestions to promote this project and its benefits to the environment through public engagement and regular communication
- Discussion around closures and efforts to people from trampling through
- Vegetation removals will be happening in late March and early April based on review of constraint periods for wildlife groups

RSAC went in Committee to discuss.

Moved by Kendall Flower and seconded by Ryan VanEngen,

Staff recommends that the River System Advisory Committee provide the following as it relates to the Niska Rd EA:

THAT the River System Advisory Committee support the following in relation to the mitigation plans design options:

- **That the City use a qualified environmental inspector through construction to ensure construction mitigation measures are implemented and maintained;**
- **That the City seek opportunities to optimize and reduce dewatering as much as possible;**
- **Implement an effectiveness monitoring program for the crossing structures and a post construction monitoring program to assess the success of implemented mitigation measures as outlined in the EIS addendum.**

THAT the River System Advisory Committee be provided an opportunity to review the bridge design and supporting reports and provide further input into the advancement of the detailed design phase of the Niska Rd project.

AMENDMENT

Moved by Kendall Flower and seconded by Ryan VanEngen,

	<p>Staff recommends that the River System Advisory Committee provide the following as it relates to the Niska Rd EA:</p> <p>THAT the River System Advisory Committee support the following in relation to the mitigation plans design options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the City use a qualified environmental inspector through construction to ensure construction mitigation measures are implemented and maintained; • That the City seek opportunities to optimize and reduce dewatering as much as possible; • That the City implement robust sediment and erosion control measures with ongoing monitoring and maintenance; • Implement an effectiveness monitoring program for the crossing structures and a post construction monitoring program to assess the success of implemented mitigation measures as outlined in the EIS addendum, and; • That the City pursue opportunities for community outreach to raise awareness related to project progress and environmental design elements and to share updates on post construction monitoring (i.e. wildlife crossing monitoring). <p>THAT the River System Advisory Committee be provided an opportunity to review the bridge design and supporting reports including the landscape and restoration plans and fisheries offsetting plans and provide further input into the advancement of the detailed design phase of the Niska Rd project.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried Unanimous</p> <p>Approval of December 6, 2017 meeting minutes:</p> <p>Moved by Ryan VanEngen and seconded by Kendall Flower,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried 1 abstained, 4 moved</p> <p>Next meeting: March 14, 2018 joint with EAC</p>
3.	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Moved by Alex Grosse and seconded by Eric Wilson,</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 pm.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried Unanimous</p>