

MEETING MINUTES



MEETING DATE	River Systems Advisory Committee December 6, 2017
LOCATION TIME	City Hall - Meeting Room 112 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
MEMBERS PRESENT	Mariette Pushkar (Chair), Nicola Lower, Kendall Flower, Ryan VanEngen, Eric Wilson
EXTERNAL GROUPS	Steve Chippis – Amec Foster & Wheeler, Jennifer Henshaw – Matrix Solutions, Cam Port – Cam Port & Associates
STAFF PRESENT	April Nix, Madeleine Myhill, Ken VanderWal
MEMBERS ABSENT	Barry Smith

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 declaredDeclaration of pecuniary interest or conflict of interest None
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>Ken VanderWal, Project Engineer with the City of Guelph, spoke to detailed design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Environmental Assessment (EA) has been approved, but there is now a Part II Order requestThe abutments and cultural heritage landscape are the main concernsAbutments are undermined and the suggestion is to remove and reuse them in a sympathetic designIntention is to keep footprint and road similar to its current sizeLooking to make enhancements through wildlife crossings and landscaping

- Would like to get feedback from RSAC
- Discussion around retaining wall funnel fencing for wildlife culvert
- Consultant spoke to the three alternatives
- Bridge construction will not be commencing until August – still refining
- Discussion around increased flood plain and substrate materials for stabilization
- Discussion around GRCA comments update

Delegation: Laura Murr

- Former member of RSAC and Green Plan Steering Committee
- Niska Road bisects an ecologically diverse area
- Viewscape will be greatly affected
- EA only addresses impacts directly adjacent to the road and does not consider the whole area or long term impacts
- Noted gaps in information
- Need to consider the protection of the east side of the river
- Heritage Impact Assessment not completed for the entire cultural heritage landscape which was supposed to be completed before design stage

Delegation: Hugh Whiteley

- Reviewed RSAC mandate
- Reviewed the River Systems Management Plan
- Believes there is misinformation circulating about Niska Bridge
- Provided a recommendation:
Take the time needed to prepare an evidence based recommendation – form subcommittee to gather information and do necessary liaison

Committee Discussion:

- Discussion around design
- Traffic concerns
- Ken VanderWal spoke to traffic component of EA – will not be rerouting traffic down this area

Moved by Nicola Lower and seconded by Kendall Flower,

THAT the River System Advisory Committee support the following in relation to the preliminary alternative design options on the east and west banks, under the bridge and the road:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of abutment removal subject to the protection and enhancement of fish habitat including shoreline stabilization and water quality improvements, natural substrates along the banks beneath the bridge; • Consideration for terrestrial habitat enhancement including wildlife crossings, invasive species management, opportunities for foraging and fauna movement within the landscape restoration plan. • A SWM strategy that incorporates additional SWM water quality measures beyond incorporation of OGS; • Minimization of encroachment into the adjacent natural areas from the road and bridge footprints; and, • Preparation of a wildlife construction protocol, dewatering plan, sediment and erosion control plan and a phasing/ staging plan; <p>THAT the River System Advisory Committee be provided an opportunity to collaborate with Heritage Guelph and review r the environmental addendum and supporting reports 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>NHAP Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adele Labbe and April Nix provided a project update and discussed engagement models <p>Approval of June 17, 2017 meeting minutes:</p> <p>Moved by Kendall Flower and seconded by Ryan Van Engen,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried Unanimous</p> <p>Approval of September 13, 2017 meeting minutes:</p> <p>Moved by Nicola Lower and seconded by Eric Wilson,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried Unanimous</p>
3.	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Moved by Ryan VanEngen and seconded by Kendall Flower,</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried Unanimous</p>